

Bible Survey II

1 Samuel to Job

Course Description

Bible Survey II is a 13-week course providing an overview of the second sixth of the Bible. It will cover a historical section spanning from the time of Samuel, the last judge of Israel, to Zedekiah, the last king of Judah. Each class will cover approximately 20 chapters of the Bible. Worksheets to help the student consider significant themes of Scripture will be provided. Class time will be divided between lecture and discussion.

Course Objectives: Bible Survey II will provide an overview of 1 Samuel through Job in which students will learn the primary

- Characters and events
- Correlations to New Testament teaching
- Personal and ministry applications

Participation

This course is open to anyone who wishes to participate, ages 14 and older. It is taught, however, on an adult level. For students not taking the class for credit, it is recommended, but not required, that they read the assigned passage each week before class and complete the homework questions.

University of ACTS Requirement for Course Credit

Grace Bible Chapel and Hillview Bible Chapel participate together in an adult training curriculum called the University of A.C.T.S. The acronym stands for Adult in-Church Training for Service. This multi-phase program is designed to ground believers in the Christian faith, to help them to grow in a knowledge of God and Christ-like maturity, and to prepare them for Christian service. This course is one of the required classes for the first phase of training. Students wishing to receive UOA credit for this class must meet the following requirements.

- Students should attend all 13 classes, unless unable to do so. To receive credit for the course, they must not miss more than three classes.
- Students should arrive on time, having read the assigned passage and completed the homework questions. They should turn in homework assignments to the discussion group leader at the end of class. To receive credit for the course, all homework must be completed and submitted no later than two weeks after the assignment was due.
- Students must complete the final examination, receiving a score of 75% or higher.

Textbooks Recommended in addition to the Scriptures

Talk Thru the Bible, Wilkinson and Boa (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1983)

The Believer's Bible Commentary, MacDonald (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers)

Class Details

Hillview Bible Chapel

7:00 to 8:30 pm

Wednesday Evenings

Homework Assignments

The course syllabus containing the homework assignments can be downloaded from the Hillview Bible Chapel website (www.hillviewbiblechapel.org) by clicking on the Teaching tab and selecting University of ACTS, or by typing: http://www.hillviewbiblechapel.org/page?pagename=uoa_bibleSurvey

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ASSIGNMENT SHEET

Class #	Date	Assignment Due
1		1 Samuel
2		2 Samuel
3		1 Kings
4		2 Kings
5		1 Chronicles
6		2 Chronicles
7		Quiz
8		Ezra 1-10
9		Nehemiah 1-13
10		Esther 1-10
11		Job 1-21
12		Job 22-42
13		Final Exam

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Class 1—1 Samuel

Discussion Questions

1. Consider Hannah's example in prayer (1 Samuel 1:9-18). Make a list of the elements that you believe contributed to God answering her prayer.
2. Why do you think God told Samuel to listen to Israel's request for a king, even though it was displeasing to God? What can we learn from this?
3. Why did God take the kingdom back from Saul? Why did he give it to David?
4. What were some of Saul's basic character deficiencies?
5. Do you expect to see Saul in heaven? Give your reasons.

Things to Know and Remember

People: Abigail, Achish, Ahimelech, David, Eli, Goliath, Hannah, Hophni, Ichabod, Jesse, Jonathan, Michal, Nabal, Phinehas, Samuel, Saul

Places: Shiloh, Beersheba, En-dor, Gath, Gilgal, Gibeah, Jabesh-gilead, Ziklag

Things: Ebenezer

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Class 2—2 Samuel

Discussion Questions

1. What lessons can we learn about those who mistreat us from David's lament over Saul (2 Samuel 1:17-27)?
2. List the promises in God's covenant with David (2 Samuel 7:8-17).
3. What immediately preceded God's revelation of this covenant and His decision to bless David in such a magnificent way? What application can you draw from this for your own life?
4. What parallels can you list between what David did for Mephibosheth in 2 Samuel 9 and what God has done for us?
5. David's sin with Bathsheba changed the course of his life. List the steps in David's life that led up to this sin as recorded in 2 Samuel 11.
6. List the consequences of David's sin.

Things to Know and Remember

People: Abiathar, Abishai, Abner, Absalom, Adonijah, Ahimelech, Ahithophel, Ahimelech, Amasa, Amnon, Asahel, Bathsheba, Gad, Hiram, Ish-bosheth, Joab, Mephibosheth, Nathan, Sheba, Shimei, Tamar, Uriah, Uzzah, Zadok, Ziba
Places: Hebron, Jerusalem, Jezreel, Kidron

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Class 3—1 Kings

Discussion Questions

1. What do David's last instructions to Solomon reveal about David's character in his final years?
2. What do we learn about the character of Solomon in 1 Kings 1-10?
3. List the sins and weakness in Solomon's life that led to his downfall (1 Kings 11). How could a man with the wisdom of Solomon act so foolishly?
4. Describe how King Rehoboam contributed to rebellion in his kingdom (1 Kings 12:1-24). Does this have any application in our homes or in the workplace?
5. What do we learn about God from Elijah's showdown with the prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18)?
6. As recorded in 1 Kings 19, though Elijah was a great prophet of God, he became greatly discouraged? Describe his condition. What contributed to it? How did he overcome it?

Things to Know and Remember

People: Abijam, Ahab, Asa, Ben-hadad, Elijah, Elisha, Hiram, Jehoshaphat, Jeroboam, Jezebel, Micaiah, Prophet of Judah, Queen of Sheba, Rehoboam, Solomon

Places: Aram, Jezreel

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Class 4—2 Kings

Discussion Questions

1. How do some people view salvation the same way that Naaman viewed bathing in the Jordan (1 Kings 5)?
2. What lesson can we learn from the four lepers (2 Kings 7:8-20)?
3. Describe Hezekiah's relationship with the Lord (2 Kings 18-20:21).
4. Why did Hezekiah spread the letter from Rabshakeh before the Lord (2 Kings 18:13-19:37)? Have you ever done something similar?
5. Evaluate Hezekiah's reaction to the news that he was to die (2 Kings 20)? Was it a godly or sinful response?

Things to Know and Remember

People: Athaliah, Gehazi, Hezekiah, Jehoiada, Jehu, Joash, Josiah, Manasseh, Naaman, Nebuchadnezzar, Rabshakeh, Sennacherib, Shalmaneser, Tiglath-pileser, Uzziah

Places: Assyria

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Class 5—1 Chronicles

Discussion Questions

1. Recorded in chapters 1-12 of 1 Chronicles are numerous genealogies and various lists of people. The Holy Spirit has taken great care in preserving these names. What spiritual application might there be in this for us?
2. The books of 1 Samuel through 2 Kings are mainly a political history of Judah and Israel. 1 and 2 Chronicles, on the other hand, provide more spiritual and positive history, focusing on the southern kingdom. This can be seen in the account of David bringing the ark to Jerusalem. The book of 2 Samuel gives 23 verses to the story (2 Samuel 6). The book of 1 Chronicles devotes 86 verses to the event (1 Chronicles 13, 15, 16). What in the 1 Chronicles account of the ark coming to Jerusalem caught your attention? Does your insight have any application for us today?
3. 1 Chronicles 17:16-27 records on of David's great prayers of praise. What was the occasion of the prayer? Would you agree that we as Christians have similar reasons to give praise to God? If so, pause and pray David's prayer back to God, applying it to your own life.
4. Another example of the different emphasis between 2 Samuel and 1 Chronicles is that in the latter there is no record of David's adultery with Bathsheba or his murder of Uriah. Where in the story of David's life as recorded in 1 Chronicles would you have expected to find these events?

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Class 6—2 Chronicles

Discussion Questions

1. In 2 Chronicles 1, God makes a great offer to Solomon, saying, “Ask what I shall give you” (2 Chronicles 1:7). Solomon requested wisdom. What did God think of his choice? How much do you value wisdom? How is this shown by your life choices?
2. What events led to the manifestation of the glory of God in 2 Chronicles 7:1-3? Might God pour out His Spirit among us in a similar manner? What conditions might we need to meet?
3. Did you find many references in 2 Chronicles to Solomon’s many wives who led him into idolatry? How is this in keeping with the emphasis and purpose of 1 and 2 Chronicles?
4. Though a foolish decision split the kingdom in the early years of the reign of King Rehoboam, God blessed the years that followed (2 Chronicles 10-12). This changed with time. The Egyptians made Rehoboam and Judah their subjects. What happened? How might Rehoboam’s life be a warning to us?
5. One often quoted verse from this section is found in chapter 16:9: “For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.” Explain the context of this popular verse.

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Class 8—Ezra

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think the old men wept when the foundation of the temple was laid (Ezra 3:11-13)? What application does this have for our lives?
2. What reason did Zerubbabel give for turning down the offer of assistance from the people of the land (Ezra 4:1-4)? Compare this to 2 Corinthians 6:15. What offers for assistance from people today should we, as Christians, decline?
3. Sometimes what appears at first as a trial ends up as a blessing from the Lord. Describe the trial recorded in Ezra 5 that Zerubbabel faced in building the temple. Then explain how this trial turned into a blessing, as recorded in Ezra 6.
4. Describe how Ezra reacted in chapter 9 when he became aware of sin among the Jews. Is this how you would want the elders to react to sin in the assembly? Is this how you react to sin in your own life?
5. Ezra is one of the great spiritual leaders of the Bible. List two positive character traits that you see in his life, explaining how he portrays each. Give references.

Things to Know and Remember

People: Artaxerxes, Cyrus, Darius, Ezra, Nehemiah, Sanballat, Zerubbabel

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Class 9—Nehemiah

Discussion Questions

Nehemiah was both a spiritual man and a spiritual leader. Review chapters 1-4, looking for four examples of each. Then complete the tables below.

1. Table 1

	Nehemiah: A Spiritual Man
Reference	Summary of how it was demonstrated in chapters 1 and 2

2. Table 2

	Nehemiah: A Spiritual Leader
Reference	Summary of how it was demonstrated in chapters 3 and 4

3. How did Sanballat oppose Nehemiah? How did Nehemiah respond (Nehemiah 6)?

4. Describe the reaction of the people to the reading of the Law by Ezra (Nehemiah 8). What does this indicate about these people?

5. How did Nehemiah respond to the Jews marrying Gentile wives (Nehemiah 13:23-31)? Why did he consider this sin so serious?

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Class 10—Esther

Discussion Questions

1. As you read the book of Esther, make a list of the events, which demonstrate, to you the providence of God (His supernatural care, guidance, and provision).
2. List the positive character traits that you see in Mordecai.
3. List the positive character traits that you can see in Esther.
4. How can Mordecai's words to Esther recorded in 4:14 be applied to our own lives?
5. Has there ever been a time in your life when God asked you to speak up at a difficult time and you obeyed? If so, describe the situation.

Things to Know and Remember

People: Ahasuerus, Bildad, Elihu, Eliphaz, Esther, Haman, Job, Mordecai, Uz, Zophar

Places: Susa

Things: Purim

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Class 11 - Summary of the Book of Job

Briefly summarize the content of the following sections. Try to capture the main arguments of each speaker. Write your summary in the same person and tone as the speaker. Use the original wording whenever possible. In class we will review the book through role-play, using these summaries.

1. The events leading to Job's trial (Job 1-2)

2. Job's Lament (Job 3:1-26)

3. Eliphaz' first speech (4:1-5:27)

4. Job's reply to Eliphaz (Job 6:1-7:21)

5. Bildad's first speech (Job 8:1-22)

6. Job's reply to Bildad (Job 9:1-10:22)

7. Zophar's first speech (Job 11:1-20)

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Class 11 (continued) - Summary of the Book of Job

8. Job's reply to Zophar (Job 12:1-14:22)

9. Eliphaz' second speech (Job 15:1-35)

10. Job's reply to Eliphaz (Job 16:1-17:16)

11. Bildad's second speech (Job 18:1-21)

12. Job's reply to Bildad (Job 19:1-29)

13. Zophar's second speech (Job 20:1-29)

14. Job's reply to Zophar (Job 21:1-34)

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Class 12 - Summary of the Book of Job

Briefly summarize the content of the following sections. Try to capture the main arguments of each speaker. Write your summary in the same person and tone as the speaker. Use the original wording whenever possible. In class we will review the book through role-play, using these summaries.

15. Eliphaz's third speech (Job 22:1-30)

16. Job's reply to Eliphaz (Job 23:1-24:25)

17. Bildad's third speech (Job 25:1-6)

18. Job's reply to Bildad (Job 26:1-14)

19. Job's last reply to his three counselors (Job 27:1-31:40)

20. Elihu's first speech (Job 32:1-33:33)

21. Elihu's second speech (Job 34:1-37)

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Class 12 (continued) - Summary of the Book of Job

22. Elihu's third speech (Job 35:1-16)

23. Elihu's fourth speech (Job 36:1-37:24)

24. God's first speech (Job 38:1-40:2)

25. Job's reaction to God's speech (Job 40:3-5)

26. God's second speech (Job 40:6-41:34)

27. Job's reaction to God's speech (Job 42:1-6)

28. The closing events (Job 42:7-17)