

Year 1 of the Study of the Hebrew Bible

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The Penn West Academy has four regular sessions during the academic year.

The dates for 2020-2021 are:

September 11-12, 2020

October 16-17, 2020

March 12-13, 2021

May 7-8, 2021

Texts for the Course

Introduction to the Hebrew Bible (second edition) by John J Collins

Suggest **NRSV** particularly Oxford Annotated Bible with the Apocrypha

Outline for the Year

Theme--- Endings and Beginnings

Intertestamental Literature and the Pentateuch

Bible Gateway is a great source to see various translations online

The Bible Project website does awesome short summaries and literally draws a picture of what's in most books in the Protestant version of the Bible

The Intertestamental Period

September 11-12, 2020

The Bible that most Protestants have in the pew end the "Old Testament" end with Malachi, and with maybe a blank page before the "New Testament" book of Matthew.

It presents an appearance that nothing happens between the two major collections.

This is a totally wrong deception. Like "Columbus sailed the Ocean Blue" and the 2020 election cycle occurred on successive days.

Maps for the Hebrew scriptures shows a small area of the middle east --- Israel and some areas to the north west.

Maps for New Testament require the addition of maps north to Turkey and east to at least Italy

Class Assignments:

Read the books of First and Second Maccabees. Two versions of a major revolt in Israel.

Read Text Introduction to Hebrew Bible, Second Edition by John L Collins Pages 584-590 & Keep an eye on hart on page 583 which shows the sweep of major events

No written assignments this time

October 16-17, 2020

The Book of Genesis

Class Preparation:

Watch Bible Project video and print out on Genesis

Read Text Introduction to Hebrew Bible, Second Edition by John L Collins... pages 85-105

Scan though the text of Genesis focus from 11:26- 50:26

Assignment: The book of Genesis is about Beginnings and more

I think of it mainly as a tribal history.

Indulge my perspective and please write 2-3 pages about what is important to a tribe in general and what event in this book was a tribal crisis and how it was resolved. We will share these in class.

March 12-13, 2021

The Book of Exodus and Leviticus

View Bible Project video on these 2 books and look at the chart that they create

Read Text Introduction to Hebrew Bible, Second Edition by John L Collins... pages 125- 140 especially the chart on page 130 on Lists of the Ten Commandments

No written assignment

May 7-8, 2021

Numbers and Deuteronomy

Watch Bible Project videos and print outs on these two books

Read Deuteronomy 1:1 to 4:43

No written assignment