

JEWISH PERSPECTIVES ON YESHUA IN THE NT

Dr. Golan Broshi

Day and time of course:

Mondays, February 26 – May 20 16:00-19:00 (ZOOM)

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School year: 2024

Course Description

"Salvation is of the Jews. Amongst all the religious systems existing in the world, there are but two deserving of attentive consideration, and they are both of Jewish origin, and were once exclusively confined to the Jewish nation. They are now known by the names of Judaism and Christianity; but it must never be forgotten that the latter is as entirely Jewish as the former. The Author of Christianity was a Jew. The first preachers of Christianity were Jews. The first Christians were all Jews; so that, in discussing the truth of these respective systems, we are not opposing a Gentile religion to a Jewish religion, but comparing one Jewish creed with another Jewish creed" (Dr. A. McCaul, The Old Paths, 1837, p. 1). This course will unpack the quote above, by focusing on the Jewish roots of the New-Testament writings.

Course Goals

- 1. To present the Jewish and Hebraic nature of the Messianic faith, as expressed in the NT.
- 2. To show the intertextual connections between the New Testament and the Tanakh.
- 3. To clarify the relationship between the church and the Jewish people, in light of the plan of God for salvation.

Learning Outcome

- 1. The students will have better understanding of the Jewish nature of the Christian faith.
- 2. The students will better appreciate the textual relations between the NT and the Tanakh.
- 3. The students will possess a clearer perception for the relations between gentile believers and Israel, concerning the plan of God for redemption.

Course Structure

All lessons will be held through a Zoom format, consisting of lectures and interactive discussions between all participants. There will be 10 three-hour live zoom lectures (with breaks). Recordings will be available to registered students.

Requirements and Grading

Active participation: students are required to participate during all lectures and fulfill any		
given assignments for the next lesson		
Reading Assignment: students are required to choose two books from the list below (under		
"Must Read"); or two articles from the "Dates, Topics and Reading" list, and submit two		
written reports, consisting of the following: 1- write a short summary for the chosen book;		
200 words; 2- write a personal critique (i.e., feedback/reflection) for the book; 200 words		
Final paper: students are required to choose a topic from the list below (under "Dates,		
Topics and Reading") and present a paper consisting of the following: 1- exposition of the		
topic (introduction); 2- presentation of at least two opposing sides concerning the chosen		
subject; 3- conclusion: the student's personal viewpoint on the chosen topic (in total: 800		
words, using at least 4 bibliographical citations, apart from the Bible)		
Total Grade	100%	

Main Texts

- The Bible
- Must Read: choose *two books* from the list below, to complete Reading Assignment: (see full description of these books in the Bibliography)
 - 1. Bar-Asher Siegal. Michal. Jewish-Christian Dialogues on Scripture in Late Antiquity: Heretic Narratives of the Babylonian Talmud.
 - 2. Beale, G. K. Handbook on the New Testament use of the Old Testament: Exegesis and Interpretation.
 - 3. Blum, Edwin & Rydelnik, Michael (Eds.). The Moody Handbook of Messianic Prophecy: Studies and Expositions of the Messiah in the Old Testament.
 - 4. Boyarin, Daniel. The Jewish Gospels: The Story of the Jewish Christ.
 - 5. Boyarin, Daniel. Border Lines: The Partition of Judaeo-Christianity.
 - 6. Brown, Michael L. The Real Kosher Jesus: Revealing the Mysteries of the Hidden Messiah.
 - 7. Cohen, Shaye J. D. The Beginnings of Jewishness: Boundaries, Varieties, Uncertainties.
 - 8. Dunn, James D. G. (Ed.). Jews and Christians: The Parting of the Ways, A. D. 70 to 135.
 - 9. Evans, Craig & Mishkin. David (Eds.). A Handbook on the Jewish Roots of the Christian Faith.
 - 10. Mishkin, David. Rabbi & Redeemer: Discovering Yeshua in the Gospel of John.
 - 11. Fredriksen, Paula. When Christians Were Jews: The First Generation.
 - 12. Lapide, Pinchas. Israelis, Jews, and Jesus, Doubleday, 1979.
 - 13. Levine, Amy-Jill, The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus.
 - 14. Neusner, Jacob, Green, William S. & Frerichs, Ernest S. (Eds.). Judaisms and their Messiahs at the Turn of the Christian Era.
 - 15. Reinhartz, Adele. Befriending The Beloved Disciple: A Jewish Reading of the Gospel of John
 - 16. Stern, David H. Restoring the Jewishness of the Gospel: A Message for Christians.
 - 17. Yuval, Israel Jacob. Two nations in your womb.

Dates, Topics and Reading

(see full description of the articles in the Bibliography)

26.02	Introduction; the Biblical Idea of Messiah; Paradise lost; the hope and goal of the Torah	Seth D. Postell. "Messianism in Light of Literary Strategy."
04.03	Between the New and Old testaments; the beginning of Judaism and Jewish theology; the parting of the ways	Kenneth Grayston. "The Parting of the Ways."
11.03	The New Testament in the Tanakh; the authors of the Jewish Gospels and Paul	Thomas E. Phillips "When Did Paul Become a Christian?: Rereading Paul's Autobiography in Galatians and Biography in Acts."
18.03	The Messiah in the Jewish Apocrypha, the Qumran scrolls and in the Oral-Law	Israel Jacob Yuval. "Christianity in Talmud and Midrash: Parallelomania or Parallelophobia?"
25.03	The synoptic Gospels and the Tanakh; Messiah as Moses and as Israel	Severino, J. Croatto. "Jesus, Prophet like Elijah, and Prophet-Teacher like Moses in Luke-Acts."
01.04	The apologetic and polemic aspects of the Gospel of John, as a Jewish defense for a divine and suffering Messiah	David C. Mitchell. "The Fourth Deliverer: A Josephite Messiah in 4QTestimonia."
08.04	Jewish perspective of Acts: Peter and Paul; the debate between two Judaisms over the conversion of gentiles and the quest after the true way of the Bible	Louis H. Feldman. "Conversion to Judaism in Classical Antiquity."
15.04	The Hebraic nature of the letters of Paul: A journey of a religious Jew from the Yeshiva to the Ecclesia	Matthew Thiessen. "Paul's Argument against Gentile Circumcision in Romans 2:17-29."
22.04	Passover Eve, no class	
29.04	Passover Holiday, no class	
06.05	The Epistle to the Hebrew: Christ as Priest after the order of Melchizedek; the lost tribes of the house of Israel in the Epistles of Peter and Judah	George Howard. "Hebrews and the Old Testament Quotations."
13.05	Independence Day, no class	
20.05	The letters of John, Revelation and the return to the Garden of Eden; Summery	Paula Gooder. "Eden and Beyond: Images of Paradise in Biblical and Extra-Biblical Literature."

General Bibliography

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- 2. Bar-Asher Siegal. Michal. Early Christian Monastic Literature and the Babylonian Talmud. Cambridge University Press, 2013.
- 3. Bar-Asher Siegal. Michal. Jewish-Christian Dialogues on Scripture in Late Antiquity: Heretic Narratives of the Babylonian Talmud. Cambridge University Press, 2019.
- 4. Beale, G. K. The Right Doctrine from the Wrong Texts? Essays on the Use of the Old Testament in the New. Baker Books, 1994.
- 5. Beale, G. K. Handbook on the New Testament use of the Old Testament: Exegesis and Interpretation. Baker Academic, 2012.
- 6. Bailey, Kenneth E. Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes: Cultural Studies in the Gospels. Society for Promoting Christain Knowledge, 2008.
- 7. Becker, Adam H. (Ed.). The Ways that Never Parted: Jews and Christians in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages. Fortress Press, 2007.
- 8. Blum, Edwin & Rydelnik, Michael (Eds.). The Moody Handbook of Messianic Prophecy: Studies and Expositions of the Messiah in the Old Testament. Moody Publishers, 2019.
- 9. Bock, Darrell L. & Wallace, Daniel B. Dethroning Jesus: Exposing Popular Culture's Quest to Unseat the Biblical Christ. Thomas Nelson, 2010.
- 10. Bock, Darrell L. & Glaser, Mitch (Eds.). To the Jew First: The Case for Jewish Evangelism in Scripture and History. Kregel Academic & Professional, 2008.
- 11. Bowman, Robert M. Jr. & Komoszewski, J. Ed. Putting Jesus in His Place: The Case for the Deity of Christ. Kregel, 2007.
- 12. Boteach, Shmuley. Kosher Jesus. Gefen Publishing House, 2012.
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- 17. Brown, Michael L. The Real Kosher Jesus: Revealing the Mysteries of the Hidden Messiah. Frontline, 2012.
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- 20. Cohen, Abraham. The parting of the ways: Judaism and the rise of Christianity. Published for the World Jewish Congress, 1954.
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- 26. Dauermann, Stuart. The Rabbi as a Surrogate Priest. Pickwick Publications, 2009.
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- 32. Evans Craig. Fabricating Jesus. IVP Books, 2008.
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- 34. Evans, Craig & Mishkin, David (Eds.). A Handbook on the Jewish Roots of the Gospels. Tyndale House Publishers, 2022.
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- 40. Fredriksen, Paula. Paul: The Pagans' Apostle. Yale University Press, 2017.
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