

BLS 573A EXPOSITION OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION 2 Credits

Lecturer: Rev. Dr. Keith Shubert

About Lecturer

Rev. Dr. Keith Shubert is an ordained minister with the Conservative Baptist (USA) and has been a staff member of Campus Crusade for Christ, International since 1971. He initially ministered among university students at Virginia Tech and Temple University prior to assuming regional leadership and national training responsibilities. Between 1979 and joining the faculty of EAST in 2009, he taught Bible classes at three seminaries: International School of Theology (USA) as an Assistant Professor; Dallas Theological Seminary (USA) as an adjunct faculty; and at the International Graduate School of Leadership formerly International School of Theology-Asia (Philippines) as a Professor. In addition to his regular teaching responsibilities he has taught Bible and theology classes in over 30 countries. He is married to Jeannette and together they enjoy leading study tours to the lands of the Bible.

Academic Year : 2009/10, 3rd Quarter (Jan 25 – Apr 30, 2010)
 Day & Time : Tuesdays, 9.00 – 10.50 am
 Dates : Jan 26
 (dates could be Feb 2, 9, 23
 subject to change) Mar 2, 9, 23, 30
 Apr 6, 13, 20
 Final Exam to be on Apr 28
 Venue : EAST ASIA SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
 1, Dorset Road, Singapore 219486. Tel: 6291-9744

CLASS SYLLABUS

Class Description

Exposits Revelation with special emphasis on the development of a proper methodology for interpreting this epistle. Attention will be given to historical (chronological, political, cultural, and geographical settings) and topical analysis. Special consideration will be given to selected interpretive issues, such as the kingdom of God, the millennium, the future role of Israel, and the interpretation of prophecy.

Class Pre-requisites:

None

Objectives

KNOW

- A. State concisely the primary purpose of the Book of Revelation, including its central idea, occasion, and historical context.
- B. Comprehend to a greater degree some of the controversial passages in Revelation and the methodology necessary to interpret them.
- C. Explain the doctrinal contribution of the Revelation especially in the following areas: Eschatology, Christology, Soteriology, and Peripatology.

- D. Explain the basic structure of Revelation following John's thought flow or logical argument.
- E. Recognize and identify the location of key passages in Revelation.
- F. Comprehend better how to interpret the Old and New Testaments.

BE

- G. Appreciate the character of God.
- H. Value the salvation (past, present, and especially future) He provided.
- I. Recognize God's perspective on persecution in the life of the Church and the saint.

DO

- J. Develop further in one's own ability of personal inductive Bible study.
- K. Apply the principles contained in Revelation to her or his personal life and Bible study as well as to ministry in the contemporary church and world.

Textbook

The New American Standard Bible will be utilized in class. You can use what you wish, but the class notes will be with the New American Standard Bible in mind. While there are no textbooks, Dr. Tom Constable's class notes are extremely beneficial. To obtain, please visit www.soniclight.com/Constable. Also note the publications listed in the bibliography later in this syllabus.

Class Schedule (January 25-April 30, 2010)

This class meets each Tuesday morning from 9-10:50 for the entire quarter. The last week is the final exam. The class begins promptly with a quiz. Below is the schedule for the class.

<u>Session #</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
<i>Week One</i>		
JAN 26 #1 & 2	Introduction to the class Revelation 1-3	
<i>Week Two</i>		
FEB 02 #3 & 4	Revelation 4-5	
<i>Week Three</i>		
FEB 09 #5 & 6	Revelation 6-8	INFORMAL PAPER #1
<i>Week Four</i>		
FEB 16	Chinese New Year	
<i>Week Five</i>		
FEB 23 #7 & 8	Revelation 9-11	
<i>Week Six</i>		
MAR 02 #9 & 10	Revelation 12-13	INFORMAL PAPER #2
<i>Week Seven</i>		
MAR 09 #11 & 12	Revelation 14-15	
<i>Week Eight</i>		
MAR 16	Mid-Term Break	

<i>Week Nine</i>		
MAR 23 #13 & 14	Revelation 16-18	
<i>Week Ten</i>		
MAR 30 #15 & 16	Revelation 19-20	FINAL PAPER DUE
<i>Week Eleven</i>		
APR 06 #17 & 18	Revelation 21	
<i>Week Twelve</i>		
APR 13 #19 & 20	Revelation 22	
<i>Week Thirteen</i>		
APR 20	Make Up Day	
<i>Week Fourteen</i>		
APR 28	FINAL EXAM	

Course Requirements

A. ATTENDANCE. It is expected that you attend each session of this class. Should you need to be absent, you remain responsible for all of the material. Please have a classmate record the session for you.

Attendance is counted as a single assignment comprising 10% of your final grade. You meet the requirements of this assignment completely IF you attend all of the sessions. The incidents of arriving late, leaving early, or coming in late after the class break are your responsibility to note. Should you misstate the attendance facts on the Attendance Report, such would be counted as cheating and dealt with appropriately. The last page of this syllabus has an attendance sheet that you will hand in at the final exam.

B. RESEARCH PAPER . Write a research paper on Revelation 19-20. Proceed paragraph by paragraph, explaining what is meant and described in each paragraph. Since this is a research paper, you will need to include background material, meanings of individual words, thought patterns, and so forth. Some of this will need to be obtained from resource materials. Thus this assignment involves research. In addition to encyclopedias and commentaries, you will need to utilize at least four journal articles. You will also need to make sure that your paper is formatted correctly according to the standard set by EAST.

In your introduction, make sure you include a single paragraph on the background of the book and two paragraphs on the context of these two chapters. One paragraph will summarize the material before (1-18) and the other the two chapters after this passage (21-22). The introduction need not be very long or detailed.

In your conclusion, you will need to summarize your work. This will involve not only the synopsis of your findings, but also how you relate the incidents located in 19-20 to your understanding of events in the future.

This is a time sensitive assignment. That is because it is unfair for one student to sit in class and hear the exposition of this passage, then include important elements within one's exegetical paper while other students who are more skilled in time management are not able to do so. Therefore, for every day or part of a day this assignment is late, a 10% reduction in grade will be assessed. In other words, if you hand this assignment in two hours after the class is over, then 10% will be taken from your grade. If you would hand it in at 6 am the following morning, then a second 10% would be subtracted from your score. Weekend days also count as days which incur grade reduction. If you have any questions about this, please contact the instructor as soon as you can.

- C. WEEKLY REVIEW.** Daily quizzes form a major part of the learning process. One or more quizzes will be given almost every class session. Each quiz will be comprehensive from the first day of class. The purpose is to encourage the student to learn the material for a lifetime of ministry rather than cram for immediate grades. Quizzes cannot be made up. The quizzes will comprise 10% of your final grade.
- D. FINAL EXAM.** Chapter memorize portions that we have covered in class. By this I mean that you need to think your way through the entire book of Romans chapter by chapter, knowing the basic content of each chapter. An explanation will be presented in class. The final exam will comprise 40% of your final grade.
- E. EXTRA CREDIT.** It is not important to me that you learn my way. It is important to me that you learn. Therefore, you may choose to do an assignment that is not listed above for additional credit. Thus you have choices regarding what assignments you are to complete. However, you must submit the proposed assignment to me in writing. If I should agree and sign in writing, you can then complete that assignment. In some cases, this assignment may be time sensitive. The amount of extra credit obtained will be determined by the nature and extent of the work accomplished successfully.

Class Grading

Please note that some assignments are time sensitive. In other words, they must be handed in before a certain date. In addition, one can complete additional assignments for extra credit to improve his or her grade. These also may be time sensitive.

Plagiarism continues to be problematic here at EAST. Thus any cheating (this includes plagiarism, copying, working with others on an assignment, etc.) will be treated seriously. [Note the Ten Commandments where God asserts that YOU SHALL NOT STEAL and YOU SHALL NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS.] The affected assignment will be counted as a zero without an opportunity to make up that assignment or substitute another assignment for it. Furthermore, you will be asked to turn in previous assignments for a more careful perusal of other problems. The *Student Handbook* details other potential disciplinary actions as well. If you have any questions at all, please, please contact me first.

Attendance	10%
Daily quizzes	10%
Research Paper	40%

Final exam	40%
TOTAL	100%

Class Philosophy

It is the educational philosophy of this instructor that he has not taught until the student has learned. Thus education is a cooperative venture between the instructor and the student. Therefore, please take the initiative to spend as much time as you need with the teacher. His email address is kshubert@east.edu.sg.

It is the biblical philosophy of this instructor that Scripture is a lifetime study. Every biblical exercise of study adds something fresh to our souls (teaching, reproof, correction, training in righteousness – 2 Timothy 3:16). Biblical study is something like peeling an onion. Each time you work on a particular biblical study in the narratives, the product should help you better understand not only other narrative material, but also God's entire Revelation.

It is the personal philosophy of this instructor to make this class as meaningful to the student personally and to his or her ministry as possible. To this end, much time will be directed to biblical content and related background while a comparatively small amount of time will be given to introductory material. This class is designed to answer the questions most often encountered in the real world of ministry.

Disabilities

It should be noted that EAST does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the operation of any of its programs and activities. The student has the responsibility of informing the instructor of any disabling condition that will require modifications to avoid discrimination. If there are any concerns or questions, please contact the instructor so we can discuss the matter.

Class Courtesy

It is common courtesy that cell phones be quieted during class and that individual conversations be limited to the content of the lecture. If at all possible, please do not disrupt the class by coming in late or leaving class during the lecture. Therefore, please **turn off** any phones, beepers, alarm watches, and anything else that beeps, howls, groans, or whistles! Except for cases of emergency, these types of communication devices should not be allowed to cause classroom disturbances.

Exhortations

- A. Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things, which are written in it; for the time is near. (1:3)
- B. "Fear God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters." (14:7)
- C. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on . . . that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them." (14:13)

Bibliography

Barclay, William, *Letters to the Seven Churches*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1957.

- Hemer, Colin J. *The Letters to the Seven Churches of Asia in Their Local Setting*. Sheffield Academic Press, 1986.
- Mounce, Robert H. *The Book of Revelation*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1977.
- Morris, Leon. *The Book of Revelation: An Introduction and Commentary*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, revised, 1999.
- Ramsay, William M. *The Letters to the Seven Churches of Asia*. London: Hodder and Stoughton, n.d.
- Stott, John R.W. *What Christ Thinks of the Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1958.
- Swete, Henry Barclay. *The Apocalypse of St. John*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, n.d.
- Tenney, Merrill C. *Interpreting Revelation*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1957.
- Walvoord, John F. *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1966.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

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Sessions / Date	<u>Absent</u>	Late at beginning	Late after break	Left early
#1 & 2 01/26				
#3 & 4 02/02				
#5 & 6 02/09				
#7 & 8 02/23				
#9 & 10 03/02				
#11 & 12 03/09				
#13 & 14 03/23				
#15 & 16 03/30				
#17 & 18 04/06				
#19 & 20 04/13				
Make Up 04/20				

NAME _____ Box # _____