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General Catalog



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Tulare Missionary Baptist Church



The Tulare Missionary Baptist Seminary is owned and operated by the
Tulare Missionary Baptist Church.

*1902 West Prosperity Avenue
Tulare, CA 93274*

*Mailing Address:
Post Office Box 1550
Tulare, CA 93275-1550
(559) 688-3927*

ADMINISTRATION AND FACULTY

Administration

Dewayne Hoppert - President

James Rudd - Registrar

Faculty

Teachers are selected based on their expertise in a particular area, their degree qualifications, and their availability for service.

Most of our teachers are pastors of area churches, and the school is indebted to these churches for sharing their pastors in the important work of Christian education.

The current faculty consists of the following members:

Dewayne Hoppert, ThB, BBL, MBL, DBL

Scott Brooks, BBL, ThM, MBL, ThD

Harold Hoppert, MS

Billie Sue Hoppert, BA

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you for your interest in the Tulare Missionary Baptist Seminary. This is a serious Bible school! This school was established in the fall of 1995 after much prayerful consideration. The purpose of this school is to provide the highest degree of excellence and integrity of educational opportunities for men who seek to prepare for the ministry.

We do not make preachers in this school; rather, we are committed to equipping those whom God has called into the ministry of His Word with the tools necessary to ascertain the accurate meaning of the Scriptures.

This school is owned and operated by the Tulare Missionary Baptist Church. We intend to provide the very best Bible education possible at the minimum cost. While the curriculum of this school is designed for Pastors, our doors are open to all Christian workers, especially from our sister churches, who desire to increase their knowledge of the Bible.

We currently offer all courses necessary to complete the 2-year Associate of Theology and Associate of the English Bible, the 4-year Bachelor of Theology and the Master of Theology programs. Additionally we offer a Bachelor of the English Bible program to those students who want to learn all they can without a study of Greek and Hebrew. In addition to these programs, under extraordinary circumstances, the Doctor of Theology program may be made available to those outstanding students who demonstrate aptitude and commitment to pursue excellence in their study of the Bible.

Obviously, all that has been accomplished and that which is proposed is dependent upon the blessings of our great God.

We covet the prayers of our brethren in this undertaking to the end that this school will be of value to the churches of the Lord Jesus Christ!

We welcome inquiries from anyone desiring information regarding any aspect of this school and the programs of study available.

Dewayne Hoppert, DBL
President

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

1. We believe in the plenary, verbal inspiration and inerrancy of the whole Bible as originally written, and that the Bible is the all sufficient rule of faith and practice (Psalm 119:160; II Timothy 3:16, 17).
2. We believe in the personal triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, equal in Divine Perfection (Matthew 28:19).
3. We believe in the Genesis account of Creation (Genesis 1, 2).
4. We believe that Satan is a fallen angel, the archenemy of God and man, the unholy god of this world, and that his destiny is the eternal lake of fire (Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28: 11-19; Matthew 25: 41; II Corinthians 4: 4; Ephesians 6: 10 - 17; Revelation 20:10).
5. We believe in the virgin birth and sinless humanity of Jesus Christ (Matthew 1:18-20; II Corinthians 5:21; I Peter 22:22).
6. We believe in the Deity of Jesus Christ (John 10:30; John 1:1,14; II Corinthians 5:19).
7. We believe the Holy Spirit is the divine Administrator for Jesus Christ in His churches (Luke 24:49; John 14:16, 17; Acts 1:4,5,8; Acts 2:1-4).
8. We believe that miraculous spiritual gifts were done away when the Bible was completed, and that the abiding spiritual gifts are faith, hope and love (I Corinthians Chapters 12-14).
9. We believe that man was created in the image of God and lived in innocence until he fell by voluntary transgression from his sinless state, the result being that all mankind are sinners (Genesis 1:26; Genesis 3:6-24; Romans 5:12, 19).
10. We believe that the suffering and death of Jesus Christ was substitutionary for all mankind, and is efficacious only to those who believe (Isaiah 53:6; Hebrews 2:9; I Peter 2:24; I Peter 3:18; II Peter 3:9; I John 2:2).
11. We believe in the bodily resurrection and ascension of Christ and the bodily resurrection of His saints (Matthew 28:1-7; Acts 1:9-11; I Corinthians 15:42-58; I Thessalonians 4:13-18).
12. We believe in the pre-millennial, personal, bodily return of Christ as the crowning event of the Gentile age. This event will include the resurrection of the righteous, and the Millennium will be followed by the resurrection of the unrighteous unto eternal punishment in the lake of fire (John 14:1-6; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; II Thessalonians 2:8; Revelation 19; Revelation 20:4-6; Revelation 20:11-15; Revelation 21:8).

13. We believe that the depraved alien sinner is saved wholly by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, and the requisites to regeneration are repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Luke 13:3,5; John 3:16, 18; Acts 20:21; Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2: 8, 9), and that the Holy Spirit convicts sinners, regenerates, seals, secures, and indwells every believer (John 3:6; John 16:8, 9; Romans 8: 9-11; I Corinthians 6: 19, 20; Ephesians 4: 30; Titus 3:5).
14. We believe that all who trust Jesus Christ for salvation are eternally secure in Him and shall not perish (John 3:36; John 5:24; John 10:27-30; Romans 8:35-39; Hebrews 10:39; I Peter 1:5).
15. We believe that God deals with believers as His children, that He chastises the disobedient, and that He rewards the obedient (Matthew 16:27; Matthew 25:14-23; John 1:12; Hebrews 12:5-11; II John 8; Revelation 22:12).
16. We believe that Jesus Christ established His church during His ministry on earth and that it is always a local, visible assembly of scripturally baptized believers in covenant relationship to carry out the Commission of the Lord Jesus Christ, and each church is an independent, self-governing body, and no other ecclesiastical body may exercise authority over it. We believe that Jesus Christ gave the Great Commission to the New Testament churches only, and that He promised perpetuity of His churches (Matthew 4:18-22; Matthew 16:16; Matthew 18:15-18; Matthew 28:19,20; Mark 1:14-20; John 1:35-51; Ephesians 3:21).
17. We believe that there are two pictorial ordinances in the Lord's churches: Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Scriptural baptism is the immersion of penitent believers in water, administered by the authority of a New Testament church in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Lord's Supper is a memorial ordinance, restricted to the members of the church observing the ordinance (Matthew 28:19,20; Acts 8:12, 38; Romans 6:4; I Corinthians 5:11,13; I Corinthians 11:1, 2:17-20, 26).
18. We believe that there are two divinely appointed offices in a church, pastors and deacons, to be filled by men whose qualifications are set forth in Titus and Timothy.
19. We believe that all associations, fellowships, and committees are, and properly should be, servants of, and under control of the churches (Matthew 20:25-28).
20. We believe in the complete separation of church and state (Matthew 22:21) and affirm our belief in civil obedience unless the laws and regulations of civil government run contrary to the Holy Scriptures (Romans 13:1-7; I Peter 2:13-15).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Statement of Purpose

The Tulare Missionary Baptist Seminary was founded for the purpose of teaching the Word of God to pastors and other church workers. The Purpose of the school is to impart Bible knowledge, Bible study skills, and other related ministry applications. No attempt is made to offer or provide a non-Biblical education.

Educational Philosophy

An absolute confidence in the Bible as the inspired, inerrant, and authoritative Word of God shapes the educational philosophy of the Tulare Missionary Baptist Seminary. These divinely inspired Scriptures are able to make one wise unto salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and to thoroughly equip the child of God for every good work.

Support

The seminary is a faith ministry of the Tulare Missionary Baptist Church financially supported by offerings of interested churches and individuals. As a 501-(c)3 nonprofit organization, the seminary welcomes contributions from all who wish to give.

The seminary does not accept any government aid of any kind.

Church-School Relationship

The school is owned and operated by the Tulare Missionary Baptist Church and is subject to the will of the Tulare Missionary Baptist Church. We want to commend ourselves to her favor as she favors us with her spiritual, moral, and financial support. Each student is expected to be active in the church of his membership.

Admissions Policy

Admission to the Tulare Missionary Baptist Seminary is available to all serious, like-minded students of the Bible.

Affiliation

The Tulare Missionary Baptist Seminary primarily serves the churches of the American Baptist Association. It is these churches and members of these churches who provide the financial support for the Seminary. The School welcomes students from other affiliations who meet admission requirements.

Tulare Missionary Baptist Library

This library maintains vital material in conjunction with the courses offered in all divisions of the curriculum.

Accreditation and Recognition

The seminary, an independent institution of higher learning, has never sought accreditation from any national or regional accrediting agencies recognized by the United States Department of Education.

The seminary is a member of the American Baptist Association of Theological Schools, and accepts its Catalog of Uniform Standards.

Even though the seminary is not accredited, we are an institution of higher education. The level of training is expected to be high. The expectation of the student should be one of higher education. Our standards are not diminished because we are not accredited. Our courses will test the best of students while being sensitive to the needs of all students.

This is a **SERIOUS BIBLE SCHOOL** where integrity of curriculum and excellence in instruction are the guiding principles. No attempt is made to provide a secular education. This school is not accredited by any state or regional agency; therefore, the value to the student is found solely in the quality of the education received.

ACADEMIC AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Admissions

The Seminary was founded for the purpose of training pastors, missionaries, and other church workers. No attempt is made to provide a liberal arts education. Emphasis is placed upon teaching Bible knowledge, Bible study skills and related ministry applications. Only those desiring this specialized training should apply for admission.

Sincerity of commitment to the ideals of Christian life style and service is expected of all students. Respect for the doctrinal teaching of the Seminary and Tulare Missionary Baptist Church is required. Admission is a privilege to be given and not a right to be demanded. Although not required for admission, a high school diploma or equivalent is required for graduation.

Students from other approved schools may, upon review, receive credit where applicable for work completed, provided that an official transcript of the work is presented and that the grade is "C" or above. Credit for Bible courses will be granted at the discretion of the Administration. The office of the registrar must document all student transfer credit approval in order to receive the appropriate credit.

Admission to one program of study does not constitute admission to any other program. Separate application must be made for each program of study. Fees and tuition may be different for each program.

Students who withdraw must reapply for admission. Admission granted for any semester may be extended for one semester by the request to the applicant.

Procedure

1. Contact the Registrar for an application form at:

Email: jrudd@tularembc.com

Or

Tulare Missionary Baptist Seminary Registrar
Post Office Box 1550
Tulare, CA 93275

2. Submit with your application for admission the following:
 - A. A high school or college transcript.
 - B. A \$ 10.00 non-refundable application fee.
 - C. A brief statement of medical history and present condition of health.
3. Return the application, transcript, statement of health, and application fee to the Registrar's Office before the due dates given in the current Calendar.

No decision regarding admission will be made until all material requested has been received.

The school reserves the right to alter or amend the requirements for admission in any manner which the Administration deems necessary and proper for the fulfillment of the objectives of the school.

Applicants may be accepted, accepted provisionally, or rejected. All applicants will be notified of action taken as quickly as possible.

Dismissal

Any student who conducts him/herself in a manner unbecoming to a Christian will be dismissed.

Registration

All students should register during the scheduled registration days. Late registration may be accepted during the first week of classes, but a late registration fee is charged to all students registering after the scheduled registration days.

Attendance

Absences: Students are expected to be in attendance at all class sessions of the course for which they are registered. Those students missing more than one week of class sessions, including those missed through late registration, will be assigned make-up work by the instructor. Students missing more than three weeks of class sessions in any one course will receive credit for the course only after approval by the Administration.

Late Attendance: Each instructor will set and administer his own late attendance policy. Generally, arriving late for classes three times will be counted as an absence. Every student is expected to be present on time for all assigned classes.

Auditing Courses

Students enrolled in regular courses of study that wish to attend other classes but not for credit may audit a course or courses. The student's attendance record will be kept, but no test will be taken or grades given for the course. The same fees are charged for auditing as for credit, and all admission and registration procedures must be followed.

Adding Courses

Courses may be added during the week after classes have begun. Addition of the class must be done in the Registrar's office.

Withdrawal

A student may withdraw from a class within the first six weeks of classes. Withdrawal during the first two weeks will result in a non-punitive grade of "W." After the first two weeks of classes a grade of "WP" (withdrawal passing) or "WF" (withdrawal failing) will be given. No course may be dropped after the first six weeks of a semester. Should a student find it necessary to withdraw, he must report to the Registrar and complete the necessary forms in order to make his withdrawal official. Failure to do so will result in a grade of "F."

Grading System

All academic work is graded according to the following standards:

A	Outstanding	4 Grade Points
B	Above Average	3 Grade Points
C	Average	2 Grade Points
D	Below Average	1 Grade Points
I	Incomplete	0 Grade Points
W	Withdraw	0 Grade Points
WP	Withdraw Passing	0 Grade Points
WF	Withdraw Failing	0 Grade Points

Grades are recorded for each semester and a permanent transcript is kept for each student.

Incomplete Grades

An incomplete grade will not be posted to the student's permanent transcript. If the instructor has not notified the Registrar of a grade change within two weeks after the semester has ended, a grade of "F" will be assigned and posted on permanent records.

Academic Probation

Any student who does not maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or better during a given semester will be placed on probation for one semester during which he shall have the opportunity to raise his grade average. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from classes. Re-admittance will be gained only by approval of the Registrar.

Classification

Undergraduate students are classified according to the credit they have accumulated. The classifications are used to determine eligibility to enroll in certain classes. These classifications do not always relate to years in attendance.

0-28 semester hours credit	Freshman
29-60 semester hours credit	Sophomore
61-90 semester hours credit	Junior
More than 90 semester hours credit	Senior

Students with a Bachelor's degree from this school are recognized as having a graduate classification. Those holding a bachelor's degree from a school that is a member of the American Baptist Association of Theological Schools may be recognized with graduate classification after review of their transcript by the administration. Any student carrying 12 or more hours is considered to be full-time for classifications purposes.

Tuition and Fees

Direct financial support from fellowshipping churches makes the following tuition schedule possible:

TUITION: \$50.00 PER SEMESTER HOUR.

The maximum tuition charged is \$500.00 per semester.

Tuition may be paid in four monthly installments as follows:

1/4 at registration

1/4 in 30 days

1/4 in 60 days

1/4 in 90 days

All other fees are payable in full at registration.

REGISTRATION FEE: \$10.00 per semester, per class in which the student is enrolled, not to exceed a total of \$50.00. This includes library fees, yearbook fees, etc. No portion of this fee is refundable. The spouse of a Seminary student may have registration fees waived. All other fees apply.

LATE FEES: Students registering after the stated registration dates will be charged an additional \$10.00 late registration fee.

APPLICATION FEE: \$10.00. The fee must accompany the application for admission. This fee is not refundable.

AUDITING FEES: Fees for those auditing classes are the same as those taking classes for credit.

PLEASE NOTE: The above fee schedule is in effect at the time of publication. The school reserves the right to change any fee without notice. Contact the Registrar for a current fee schedule.

Refund Policy

Application Fee and Registration Fees are not refundable.

Tuition and other fees:

Prior to first scheduled class	100%
Within first two weeks	80%
Two to four weeks	60%
Four to six weeks	40%
After six weeks	0%

Awards and Scholarships

Churches and individuals have established annual scholarships to be awarded to deserving students. These scholarships are awarded to those students who evidence both genuine need and loyalty to the work of the Lord and the churches of the American Baptist Association. The amount for the scholarship is determined by the donation of the church or individual.

Financial Support

Cash contributions on a regular monthly basis received from T.M.B.C., other churches and individuals provide for more than 95% of the operational expenses. Student registration fees and tuition cover only a very small percentage of the general expenses of the Seminary.

Since there is no large monetary endowment fund from which to draw support, the regular operation of the Seminary is solely dependent upon liberal regular contributions. The endowment for this school shall be in the lives of the students who shall serve the Master in His churches around the world. These men and women will give the Seminary a return on its endowment by encouraging others to join them in liberal and regular contributions to this ministry of Christian education.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

PLEASE NOTE: The following information is intended to be used as a guide. The curriculum detailed below is not intended to be a list of all courses offered or required during every semester of study. The administration of the school reserves the right to add, delete, or change any course or degree requirement at any time and for any reason. Current information concerning our curriculum is published in an annual supplement to this general catalog. You may obtain a copy from the office of the Registrar.

Course Numbering System

First Number = Year of the course

Second Number

0 = Seminar

1= 1st Semester, 2nd required

2= 2nd Semester, 2 Semester course

3= 1st Semester only

4= 2nd Semester only

Third Number= Hours credit for the course

Course Sequence

Some courses are prerequisite to others. Every course is not offered in every semester. We strongly recommend that the student take the course in sequence as described in the following certificate plans. This will allow for certain completion of certificate requirements in the shortest time possible.

Seminars

Short seminar courses will be offered from time to time. Subjects will vary according to the current needs of the student body. For a student to receive credit for the seminar he must have attended a minimum of 90% of the sessions scheduled. No partial credit will be given.

CERTIFICATE PLAN

Associate of Theology

The certificate, "Associate of Theology," will be awarded to those students who have satisfactorily completed the following 64 semester hours of work with a grade point average of 2.0 or better.

This certificate is an initial course of study and is required to pursue the Bachelor of Theology program.

Freshman Year

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
English	112	English	122
Western Civilization	112	Western Civilization	122
O.T. Survey	132	N.T. Survey	142
Bible Analysis & Doctrine	114	Bible Analysis & Doctrine	124
Homiletics	112	Homiletics	122
Introduction to Gospels	112	Introduction to Gospels	122
Bible Customs	132	Introduction to Bible Language	142
Total Hours	16	Total Hours	16

Sophomore Year

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
Greek	214	Greek	224
Church History	232	Galatians	242
Hermeneutics	212	Hermeneutics	222
Christian Writing	232	Wisdom Books	242
Ministry Practicalities	232	Church Administration	242
Bible Geography	212	Bible Geography	222
O.T. History	232	N.T. History	242
Total Hours	16	Total Hours	16

Associate of the English Bible

The certificate, "Associate of the English Bible," will be awarded to those students who have satisfactorily completed the following 64 semester hours of work with a grade point average of 2.0 or better.

This certificate is an initial course of study and is required to pursue the Bachelor of the English Bible program.

Freshman Year

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
English	112	English	122
Western Civilization	112	Western Civilization	122
O.T. Survey	132	N.T. Survey	142
Bible Analysis & Doctrine	114	Bible Analysis & Doctrine	124
Homiletics	112	Homiletics	122
Introduction to Gospels	112	Introduction to Gospels	122
Bible Customs	132	Introduction to Bible Language	142
Total Hours	16	Total Hours	16

Sophomore Year

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
Genesis	214	Genesis	224
Church History	232	Galatians	242
Hermeneutics	212	Hermeneutics	222
Christian Writing	232	Wisdom Books	242
Ministry Practicalities	232	Church Administration	242
Bible Geography	212	Bible Geography	222
O.T. History	232	N.T. History	242
Total Hours	16	Total Hours	16

Bachelor of the English Bible

The Bachelor of the English Bible is designed for those students who desire to deepen their knowledge of the Bible. A study of the original languages of the Bible is not included. This certificate will be awarded to those who have satisfactorily completed the prescribed 128 semester hours of study with a grade point average of 2.0 or better.

Freshman Year

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
English	112	English	122
Western Civilization	112	Western Civilization	122
O.T. Survey	132	N.T. Survey	142
Bible Analysis & Doctrine	114	Bible Analysis & Doctrine	124
Homiletics	112	Homiletics	122
Introduction to Gospels	112	Introduction to Gospels	122
Bible Customs	132	Introduction to Bible Language	142
Total Hours	16	Total Hours	16

Sophomore Year

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
Genesis	214	Genesis	224
Church History	232	Galatians	242
Hermeneutics	212	Hermeneutics	222
Christian Writing	232	Wisdom Books	242
Ministry Practicalities	232	Church Administration	242
Bible Geography	212	Bible Geography	222
O.T. History	232	N.T. History	242
Total Hours	16	Total Hours	16

Junior Year

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
Matthew	314	Matthew	324
1st Samuel	332	2nd Samuel	342
Hermeneutics	312	Hermeneutics	322
Pastoral Epistles	332	Daniel	342
Ephesians	332	Job	342
Hebrews	312	Hebrews	322
Acts	312	Acts	322
Total Hours	16	Total Hours	16

Senior Year

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
Luke	414	Luke	424
Romans	432	Revelation	442
General Epistles	412	General Epistles	422
1 Corinthians	432	2 Corinthians	442
Harmony of Gospels	432	Post Exile Prophets	442
Church Epistles	432	Pastoral Care	442
Isaiah	432	Preaching Skills	442
Total Hours	16	Total Hours	16

Bachelor of Theology

The Bachelor of Theology program is designed for those preparing for the pastoral ministry. This certificate may be awarded to those who have satisfactorily completed the prescribed 128 semester hours of work with a grade point average of 2.0 or better.

Freshman Year

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
English	112	English	122
Western Civilization	112	Western Civilization	122
O.T. Survey	132	N.T. Survey	142
Bible Analysis & Doctrine	114	Bible Analysis & Doctrine	124
Homiletics	112	Homiletics	122
Introduction to Gospels	112	Introduction to Gospels	122
Bible Customs	132	Introduction to Bible Language	142
Total Hours	16	Total Hours	16

Sophomore Year

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
Greek	214	Greek	224
Church History	232	Galatians	242
Hermeneutics	212	Hermeneutics	222
Christian Writing	232	Wisdom Books	242
Ministry Practicalities	232	Church Administration	242
Bible Geography	212	Bible Geography	222
O.T. History	232	N.T. History	242
Total Hours	16	Total Hours	16

Junior Year

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
Greek	312	Greek	322
Hebrew	314	Hebrew	324
Hermeneutics	312	Hermeneutics	322
Pastoral Epistles	312	Pastoral Epistles	322
Ephesians	332	Daniel	342
Prophets	312	Prophets	322
Acts	312	Acts	322
Total Hours	16	Total Hours	16

Senior Year

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
Greek	412	Greek	422
Hebrew	412	Hebrew	422
General Epistles	412	General Epistles	422
Harmony of Gospels	432	Revelation	442
Corinthians	432	Romans	442
Philippians & Colossians	432	Hebrews & Galatians	442
Evangelism	432	Preaching Skills	442
Ezekiel	432	Pastoral Care	442
Total Hours	16	Total Hours	16

Master of Theology

Students who have graduated from the Bachelor program of this school may earn an advanced degree by satisfactorily completing 24 hours of additional classroom work, four hours of independent study as a graduate assistant, and writing a 25,000-word thesis. The student must have a cumulative G.P.A. of 2.50 or better in the undergraduate studies and must maintain a G.P.A. of 3.00 or better in the graduate studies. All requirements must be completed within three years of the start date.

Students holding an equivalent Bachelor Degree from a member school of the American Baptist Association of Theological Schools may be enrolled in the Master's Program after review of their transcript by the administration. Any undergraduate deficiencies must be remedied before a degree will be granted.

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
Greek	512	Greek	522
Hebrew	512	Hebrew	522
Systematic Theology	514	Systematic Theology	524
Philosophy of Religion	532	Comparative of Religion	542
Pentateuch	532	Prophecy	542
Total Hours	12	Total Hours	12

Please note: For the Master of Theology, the student must complete the required classroom courses as well as four hours of independent study as a graduate assistant. In addition, the student must write an acceptable thesis of 25,000 words.

Doctor of Theology

By its very name a course of study resulting in the awarding of a Doctor of Theology is, and must always remain, an extraordinary program. As such, there will be no application process. However, from time to time, the Administration and Faculty of this school shall review the academic record and subsequent accomplishments of those outstanding students who have earned a Master of Theology from this school.

Under exceptional circumstances, consideration for entrance into this program of study may be given to those outstanding students who have not graduated from this school. Under such circumstances, the candidate must be known by those in the Faculty and Administration of this school. The academic record and subsequent pastoral history of the candidate must demonstrate excellence and integrity as well as unquestioned fidelity to the Lord Jesus Christ and His precious Word. Under these exceptional circumstances, the final determination to extend an invitation to enter the program will be at the sole discretion of the Trustees.

Where such a review reveals extraordinary dedication to the Lord Jesus Christ, Christian character, and obvious academic potential, the Administration and Faculty may recommend to the Trustees that such an individual be invited to enter an intense program of study leading to the awarding of the Doctor of Theology. Obviously, individuals afforded this opportunity and successful in the completion of the requirements will be exemplary in their Christian deportment, temperament and academic potential.

Should the candidate accept the invitation, he will submit a three level outline of his proposed area of investigation. Following the receipt of such an outline, the Faculty and Administration shall appoint a committee consisting of no less than three men holding valid Doctoral degrees for the purpose of supervising and assisting the candidate through his course of study.

Following approval of an outline of proposed study, the committee shall notify the candidate of such approval. At the same time the committee shall select seven different topics of research related to, and supportive of, the approved topic for the final thesis. The candidate may choose any five of these topics for writing five required research papers. These five required research papers shall be between five and ten thousand words each.

This formal notification will serve as the official starting time for completion of the Doctoral Program. The candidate shall be allowed twelve months in which to complete and submit the five required research papers. He will then have twelve months to complete the research and writing of a fifty thousand word thesis on his approved topic.

In addition to the research and writing of the five research papers and the final thesis, the candidate shall appear before the Faculty and Administration of this school and defend the conclusions reached in his thesis. This oral defense of the thesis will be presented before the Faculty and Administration at a special meeting of the Tulare Missionary Baptist Church. This meeting is designed to demonstrate the competence of the candidate as well as to provide an opportunity to remember and celebrate “those things which are most surely believed among us.”

Following the successful defense of his thesis before the Faculty, Administration and sponsoring church, the candidate will be acknowledged as having successfully completed all requirements for the “Terminal Degree” and awarded the title Doctor of Theology.

In order to maintain the highest degree of excellence and integrity, this school will not offer “honorary doctoral degrees” under any circumstances.

Non-Certificate Program

A student may elect at any time to enter a non-certificate program of study. The student is then free to choose as he will from all courses offered; however, no certificate will be granted regardless of the number of courses completed. Individual requirements and course prerequisites must be met for each individual course attempted and a record of all work attempted and completed will be kept.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PLEASE NOTE: The following is intended to be a guide, generally describing the courses we offer. It is not intended to be a list of all courses offered or required during every semester of study. The administration reserves the right to add, delete, or change any course or certificate requirement at any time and for any reason. Please contact the school for more information about any course and current list of courses.

Bible Courses

Bible Analysis & Doctrine 114, 124

This is a course of Bible study methods. The student is required to learn basic rules of interpretation. The aim of the course is to enable the student to study the Scriptures for himself and become his own commentator on the Bible.

Additionally, this course is given to a study of the fundamental doctrines of the Bible. This course is designed to give the beginning student an introduction to the basic teachings of the Scriptures and at the same time an exercise in methods of study given in first semester. This is a required course in every degree program.

Hermeneutics 212, 222, 312, 322

Hermeneutics is the science of interpretation. Since all documents must be interpreted, it is necessary to learn principles that govern accurate interpretation. This class provides such principles and introduces the student to many useful tools that aid in correctly interpreting the Bible.

Prerequisites: Bible Analysis; O.T. & N.T. Survey; Introduction to Bible Languages; enrollment in Greek.

O.T. Survey 132

N.T. Survey 142

These courses are a thematic book-by-book survey of the sixty-six books of the Bible. Consideration is given to the human authorship, general theme, purpose, organization, content, and style of each book. These courses are designed to give the student a general introduction to each book and overall knowledge of the general content of the complete Bible. Every book of the Bible is read and reviewed during the two courses. These are required courses in every degree program.

Prophecy 542

An overview of prophetic passages in the Bible showing the completion of all things in Christ.

Prerequisites: Admission to the graduate program.

Systematic Theology 514, 524

At least ten of the major doctrines of the Bible are studied throughout the year, five each semester. An effort is made to show the interrelationship and harmony of all of these fundamental doctrines. The doctrines regarding the Bible, God, man, angels and the Holy Spirit are studied in the fall semester. The doctrines regarding Christ, salvation, the kingdom, the church and the end times are studied during the spring semester. Formal papers not less than 5,000 words are written on each of these subjects after the class discussion is complete on that particular subject. This requires the student to thoroughly examine each subject and how it relates to the others in order to write a paper that is not in conflict with what has been written before or what may be written later.

Prerequisites: Admission to the graduate program.

New Testament Studies

Acts 312, 322

An exegetical study of the book of Acts with particular emphasis upon the work of the Holy Spirit in the establishment and growth of New Testament churches.

Prerequisites: Hermeneutics 212, 222 and Greek 214, 224.

1st Corinthians 432

An exegetical study of 1 Corinthians. The study encompasses the background to the city and the culture of the Greek world. The doctrines and practical applications of the passages are made. The student should finish with a working knowledge of the outline of the book and the dilemmas Paul faced as he both served the church and wrote the letters.

2nd Corinthians 442

A detailed exposition of this important letter Paul wrote to the church at Corinth, in which he dealt with errors in this church. A detailed commentary will be required.

Ephesians 332

A verse-by-verse exegesis of this inspired prison epistle written by the Apostle Paul during his first Roman imprisonment. Students are challenged to understand the cultural, geographical and spiritual background of the church at Ephesus in order to properly interpret and apply the spiritual principles taught by the Apostle. The student will be taught that these Biblical principles are real and applicable to present day New Testament Churches. Class discussion includes how to teach and apply these great truths to current times.

Prerequisites: New Testament Survey, First year Greek, first year Hermeneutics, and third year classification.

Harmony of the Gospels 432

This course of study harmonizes the Gospels both chronologically and theologically.

Prerequisites: Hermeneutics 212, 222, 312, 322.

Matthew 314 & 324

This class will consist of a detailed exegesis of the Gospel according to Matthew. Matthew, writing particularly to Jewish readers, deals extensively with the subject of the kingdom of God. He recorded many of the parables Jesus spoke to His disciples regarding this marvelous concept, detailing the commitment required of those who serve in His kingdom.

Matthew records the account of the life of Christ from His virgin birth through His death, burial, resurrection and ascension back to Heaven. Obviously, the rejection of Israel as His personal representatives and replacing them with His Assembly (Church) occupies a prominent place in this Gospel. The student will be required to write a commentary each semester.

Luke 414 & 424

The Gospel of Jesus Christ recorded by the Greek physician Luke will be thoroughly studied in these classes. The Holy Spirit used the keen intellect of Luke to explain, in detail, the virgin birth and the terrible suffering endured by the Lord.

As with Matthew, Luke records the wonderful teachings of the Savior. This class, designed for the senior student, will serve as a powerful reminder of the tremendous price the Lord paid for the redemption of mankind. The student will be required to submit a detailed commentary for each semester.

Pastoral Epistles 312, 322

A course in the exegetical study of I & II Timothy and Titus. Emphasis is placed upon present day application of the pastoral principles divinely recorded in these books.

Prerequisites: O.T., N.T. Survey; and a Junior classification.

Romans 432

A verse-by-verse exegesis of this inspired epistles presentation of the plan of salvation and its effect upon the life of the believer. Since this epistle is the most comprehensive and systematic declaration of the theology of salvation, effort is given to analyzing and comprehending the depth of the divine plan of redemption and its life-changing power in the believer-disciple. A disciples thorough knowledge of what is granted in salvation will instill a burning desire to share this knowledge with an unbelieving world.

Revelation 442

The Apocalypse, or Revelation, is the unveiling of the glory of the risen Lord Jesus Christ who will return as Sovereign Judge of the wicked and King of Kings over the earth. Revelation is a graphic and symbolic study of future events, as well as a literal narrative of the wrath of a Righteous God upon sin. It will reveal the glory God has prepared for His people in the end of the ages. A practical approach will be followed in the study of the last book of the Bible.

General Epistles 412, 422

A verse-by-verse exegesis of the general letters, James through Jude. Since James, I Peter, II Peter and Jude were written to Jewish

Christians before the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem in 70 A.D., every effort is made to understand the difficulties these believers endured. These letters reveal much about the persecutions and their responses to them, thus giving present day believers divine principles by which they may successfully overcome the trials of life. I John, the open letter to all believers, is examined as though it were written to the individual believer today, in order to give him or her an assurance of salvation. II and III John are examined as personal letters written to individuals known by the concerned aged Apostle to instruct, encourage, and/or warn them regarding individuals who may bring them harm.

Prerequisites: New Testament Survey, First year Greek, enrollment in Second year Greek, enrollment in Hermeneutics, and third year classification.

Hebrews 312, 322

An expository study of Hebrews that focuses on the superiority of the Messiah, Jesus, to the Old Testament system of sacrificial worship will be made in this study. The New Covenant inaugurated by Jesus shows the preeminence of the Christ in the work of redemption of mankind.

Galatians 242

This powerful book deals with the contrast between the Law and works. Paul wrote with great spiritual insight regarding the proper relationship between binding legalism and the liberating power of the grace of God.

Introduction to the Gospels 112, 122

A study of the person and work of Christ as revealed in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. This study researches the rich background of the New Testament in regards to the groups of people, culture and politics of the era.

In addition, attention is given to the time markers in the Gospels. Attention is given to the various divisions of the life of Christ and how each division influences the gospel message.

The study includes a view of the harmony of the Gospels. It entails making a harmony of the Passion Week and a study of the details of that week.

This study involves both the harmony of the events and a study of these events and their impact on the lives of the first century people.

New Testament History 222

This course is designed to give the student a basic foundation in the historical events of the life and ministry of Christ. It will bring to light some of the social, cultural and political attitudes that prevailed prior to the birth and life of Christ. This course also deals with the early historical events of the church as found in the book of Acts and the epistles. Much emphasis is given to the missionary journeys of the Apostle Paul.

Philippians, Colossians 432

A verse-by-verse exegesis of the inspired prison epistles written by the Apostle Paul while in his first Roman imprisonment. Students are challenged to understand the cultural, geographical and spiritual background of each of these churches in order to properly interpret and apply the spiritual principles taught by the Apostle Paul. The student will be taught that these Biblical principles are real and applicable to present day New Testament Churches. Class discussion includes how to teach and apply these great truths to current times.

Old Testament Studies

Old Testament History 232

This course is designed to give the student a foundation in the history of the Hebrew people as found in the Old Testament. Along with discussing major events in their history, the student will also learn many of the important geographical locations in the history of the Hebrews as well. This study will cover all of the Old Testament from the Creation to the close of the Prophets and will also deal in some degree with the intertestamentary period.

Genesis 214 & 224

Without question, Genesis is one of the most important books of the Bible. As the name implies, this is a book of "Beginnings." This intense study of Genesis will provide a solid background that will give the student essential information in his quest to learn the basic facts of the Bible.

The student will be required to write a comprehensive commentary on the book. Additionally there will be regular tests to enhance this important learning experience.

1st and 2nd Samuel 332 & 342

This exegetical study will cover the transition of the leadership of Israel from the Judges to the monarchy. This dramatic and disobedient action by Israel led to the tragic downfall of King Saul and God's rejection of him from the throne. The end of 1st Samuel deals with the dramatic events as Saul attempted to retain his office by pursuing David in an attempt to kill God's choice to replace him. The rise of David from a shepherd boy to the king reflects his development as the leader of God's people.

2nd Samuel chronicles the life of David. This unvarnished view of one of the greatest men in the Bible deals with great exploits, as well as personal moral failure. Yet, God convicted David of his sin, forgave him when he confessed and nurtured him as he dealt with tragedy in his family. This study will be encouraging for all men whom God calls for service.

Job 342

A thorough study of this terribly misunderstood book will help the student determine the value of a trusting walk by faith in God, even when things seem to be spinning out of control. The value of this book is found in understanding that God is always working purposely and profitably in the lives of His children. The student will be required to write a commentary on this book.

Old Testament Prophets

The books of Old Testament prophecy are studied by both exegesis and exposition. The purpose of God for Israel and its ultimate accomplishment are studied and related to New Testament Christianity. Special study is made of reference to Christ. The student will also learn the timeless principles by which God deals with man.

Prerequisites: O.T. Survey and Bible Analysis.

Daniel 342

An exegetical study of the book with an emphasis on the character of the prophet. The analysis of the prophecies in the book will include a view of the application today as well as an examination of their impact on the era of Daniel.

Ezekiel 432

An analysis of the structure of the book of Ezekiel and the methods used by Ezekiel to communicate the Word of God.

Prophets (Isaiah) 312, 322

Isaiah is known as the "Mt. Everest of Hebrew Prophecy." The course will be a thematic approach to understanding God's eternal plan and purpose for his people. A major portion of Isaiah is given to developing the theme of the "Messiah," the Anointed Holy One, in the grand and majestic style of the "Paul of the Old Testament," as he has been called. Isaiah treats both advents of the Messiah, while reaching back to the eternal counsels of God and creation, and looking forward to the time of reaction of new heavens and a new earth. No other prophet has written with such eloquence about the glory of God.

Pentateuch 532

A study of the first five books of the Old Testament. This study covers detailed looks at the foundational stories of theology. The covenants are examined and the impact on all of the Old Testament. Special attention is paid to the nations in this section and their influence on Israel. The laws and love of God are examined.

Prerequisites: Admission to the graduate program.

Wisdom Books 242

An exegetical study of the Wisdom Books with particular attention given to Job. Introduction to ancient wisdom literature, Hebrew poetry and the relation of the Psalms to the rest of the Bible.

Christian Education

Bible Customs 132

Bible Customs is a study informing the student of the manners and customs of Bible lands during the time the Bible was being written. Such an understanding is necessary to a proper interpretation of the Scriptures.

Bible Geography 212, 222

This course provides basic and detailed information about the physical features of Bible lands. The discoveries of archaeology and geographical facts are used to bring the Scriptures to light. A study of Bible History is also included since such a study is essential to an understanding of geographical and archaeological data.

Church Administration 242

Biblical models of Godly leadership and group dynamics are studied with applications to specific situations encountered by church leaders. Planning effective group decision making and personal time management are included in the course instruction.

Church History 232

A study acquainting the student with the historical facts of the perpetuity of the church Jesus established. An earnest study of church history is a source of enlightenment and inspiration as the student studies the cost of Baptist heritage.

Comparative Religion 542

This course studies the major religions of the world. Emphasis is placed on their philosophies and a contrast/comparison is made of their major beliefs. Attention is given to New Age and the problems of religion as is seen in our modern world.

Prerequisites: Admission to the graduate program.

Evangelism 432

The primary purpose of this course is to lead the student into an accurate understanding of his role in Biblical evangelism. The Bible is the source book of the course. Any book studied is evaluated in the light of the Word of God. The way of salvation and Scriptural examples are clearly presented. Extensive memorization of key passages of Scripture is required. The student is taught to make evangelism his life style, understanding the importance of his life style testimony.

Ministerial Practicalities 232

A course dealing with the practical, day-to-day work of the ministry. Ministerial ethics, the call to preach, ordination services, worship services, prayer meetings, administration of baptism and the Lord's Supper, weddings, and funerals are among the many subjects included in this rapidly moving survey course. The basic rules of parliamentary procedure are taught as used in church business meetings, associational meetings, etc.

Pastoral Care 442

A study examining the need and function of pastoral care ministry within the context of Biblical Christianity and the New Testament Churches. The student will be able to establish a basic philosophy from which to practice pastoral care and counseling functions. This course is designed to help provide understanding of the qualifications of the counselor, the counseling process, and the working tools (skills) necessary for an effective counseling ministry in the twenty-first century. The importance of human relationships, the effects of sin, and the role of emotions in life, marriage and family will be emphasized. A contrast will be made between secular humanist counseling philosophy and Biblical Christian truth as it guides the formation and practice of pastoral counseling and ministry.

Philosophy Of Religion 532

Designed to help the student identify "vain philosophy" and reinforce his belief in God as the Creator of all things. Ancient and modern philosophies are identified and compared with the teachings of the Old Testament and Jesus Christ. This course will help the student to witness to people from a non-Christian background.

Prerequisites: Admission to the graduate program.

Western Civilization 112, 122

The majority of students are the cultural products of Western civilization; most of our graduates will minister to Western peoples. In this context, an insight into the saga of western man is essential. This course deals with the origins of Western civilization in the time before Christ up to the modern period following World War II.

Communication

Christian Writing 232

This course deals with communication through the written word. The kinds of writing normally needed in the ministry are stressed, with special emphasis being given to pastoral writing. A thorough knowledge of English grammar is essential before taking the course.

Prerequisites: English 112-122 or equivalent, the first semester is a prerequisite to the second.

Homiletics 112, 122

This beginning course in homiletics deals with the preparation and planning of sermons. Outline skills are stressed. The course provides study of the various methods of sermon development indicating the strengths and weaknesses of each.

Preaching Skills 442

A comprehensive study that will examine in-depth the means of communicating the Word of God in such a way as to be faithful both to God and to those to whom we preach. This course will examine the Messenger, the Message, the Motive, and the Method of Preaching. Special attention will be given to the priority and power of Expository Preaching.

Language

English 112, 122

These courses are designed to acquaint students with little prior knowledge of the structure of their language with the methods and goals of our English department. Much of the class consists of discussion and exercise in the basic components of English grammar. The courses are open to first year students who wish to pursue serious studies into Bible languages. Goals of the course are to provide the student with the skills needed to master other languages, as well as to increase the understanding of the English language so that better communication may result between the student and those to whom he ministers.

Greek 214, 224, 312, 322, 412, 422

The rudiments of grammar will be completed. Vocabulary will be learned. A study of Greek Syntax will be made with the student making application of the rules of syntax in his translations. The student will progress to more difficult passages of the Greek New Testament. The student will be expected to read, translate, and write a commentary of a specific passage (to be determined by the instructor).

Prerequisites: English 112-122 or equivalent, and Introduction to Bible Languages 212-222.

Greek 512, 522

An advanced Greek course in which more difficult passages of the Greek New Testament are translated. Entire books or sections of books in the New Testament are examined in light of Greek grammar and syntax. The student should become more skillful in translating and commenting on any part of the Greek New Testament.

Prerequisites: Greek 214 – 422 and graduate classification.

Hebrew 314, 324, 412, 422

This series of courses will continue to develop the student's knowledge of Hebrew grammar. The courses will continue to focus on the more advanced principles of the Hebrew language. The study of Hebrew grammar is continued with a special emphasis on verb structure and use. The course will develop the student's ability to translate from the Hebrew Bible. The course will also focus on syntax and Hebrew idiom.

Prerequisites: English 112-122 or equivalent, and Introduction to Bible Languages 212-122.

Hebrew 512, 522

An advanced Hebrew course in which selected texts of the Hebrew Bible will be translated and explained taking note of Hebrew syntax and idioms. The student will be exposed to different styles of Hebrew passages from the Law, Prophets, and Psalms.

Prerequisites: Hebrew 314 – 422 and graduate classification.

Introduction To Bible Languages 142

This course is designed to provide the student with a basic working knowledge of the Greek and Hebrew alphabet, as well as some basic concepts relative to Greek and Hebrew grammar. This is a preparatory course designed to help ease the language student into the more advanced concepts of the Greek and Hebrew languages.

Prerequisites: English 112-122 or equivalent.

Seminars

Short courses will be periodically offered. Subjects will vary according to the current needs of the students and the school. For a student to receive credit for the seminar he must have attended a minimum of 90 percent of the sessions scheduled. No partial credit will be given. Potential seminars to be offered include:

Computer Literacy Seminar
Study Skills Seminar

Seminar credit may be given for regular courses successfully completed which are not required in a particular certificate plan. Such decisions will be made by the administration.