

David Bartlett

Robert Wilson

## **The Old Testament in the New**

Yale Divinity School

June 12-16, 2017

9:00-11:30

### **Syllabus**

The purpose of this course is to consider issues that are raised when Christians teach and preach from the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. We will discuss two related issues.

First, how do Christians think theologically about and preach on texts that prove to be theologically and practically problematic: texts that raise questions of supersession; texts that seem to condone violence; texts that deal with Israel as promised territory; texts that lead to consideration of relationships among the three major monotheistic religions—Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Second, what are some New Testament texts where the author uses the Old Testament theologically and homiletically? Do these texts provide help in guiding us in Christian use of those texts, or do they simply make a difficult issue more difficult?

We will be looking at particular texts and considering quite directly how they might be a source for our sermons. We have constructed the syllabus by first choosing New Testament texts that refer to or seem to have in mind texts or issues raised by early Christian reflections on the Old Testament. We have then tried to identify the Old Testament texts involved. Each session of the course will look first at a selection of Old Testament texts to see what they seem to mean in their own literary and theological context, and then we will look at several New Testament texts that focus on the same texts or issues. The theological points we will examine are all complex, so we cannot treat every relevant text, but we hope to be able to raise some important issues and facilitate a discussion of how Christians might preach from the Old Testament texts.

**Please bring Bibles to class each day, either in hard copy or in e-form.** The instructors will be using the NRSV translation, but if you have other versions, please bring them. It may be instructive to see how different translations handle certain sensitive issues.

## **Monday, June 12**

Introduction to the Class

Reading the Old Testament for Teaching and Preaching (Wilson)

Seeing the Old Testament in the New (Bartlett)

Coffee Break

### Basic NT Interpretations of OT Texts

Deuteronomy 6:5; Leviticus 19||Matthew 22:34-40//Mark 12:28-31//Luke 10:25-28; cf. Matthew 19:19.

## **Tuesday, June 13: The Death of the Beloved Son**

Psalms 22||Mark 15 and parallels

Coffee Break

Genesis 22||John 3:14-21

## **Wednesday, June 14: The Election of Israel**

Genesis 15; 17; Exodus 4:22-23; 19:4-6; Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 7:9-16; 28; Amos 3:1-2; 9:7-8; Hosea 1—4; 11; Jeremiah 31; Isaiah 42||Galatians 3; cf. Romans 9—11

Coffee Break

Genesis 16; 21||Galatians 4:1—5:1

## **Thursday, June 15: God and Violence**

Deuteronomy 20; Joshua 2; 9; 10; 11:19-20; 13:1-7; 16:10; 17:12-13||Revelation 19:11-21; Matt.26:47-52//John 18:1-11.

Coffee Break

Isaiah 2:1-4; Micah 4:1-3; Isaiah 9:2-21; 11:1-16; Joel 3:1-21||Romans 13; Romans 12:14-21; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28; Revelation 21:1-8

## **Friday, June 16**

### Welcoming the Stranger

Genesis 12:1-3; 41: 38-43; cf. Exodus 1:8-10; Exodus 12:48-49; 22:21; 23:9; Leviticus 19:9-10, 33-34; 25:23; Numbers 15:14-16; Deuteronomy 10:12-19 [but cf. Deuteronomy 14:21]; Deuteronomy 24:17-21; 27:19; Isaiah 11:6; Jeremiah 7:5-7; 22:1-5; Ezekiel 47:21-23 [but cf. Ezra 9—10]; Malachi 3:1-5; Ruth; Jonah; Matthew 25:31-46; Romans 15:7-13; 3<sup>rd</sup> John

### Coffee Break

### Concluding Discussion