World Mission of the Church – WM 601

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

Paul Borthwick, D. Min

Fall, 2009: the class will meet on three weekends as follows:

- Friday, September 18: 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.
- Saturday September 19: 9:00 - 12:00; 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

- Friday, October 9: 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, October 10: 9:00 - 12:00; 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

- Friday, November 20: 6:00 - 9:30 p.m.
- Saturday, November 21: 8:30 - 12:00 p.m., 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS (* = books available from professor):

*Borthwick, Paul. How To Be a World-Class Christian (Waynesboro, GA: Gabriel/Authentic, 2000).


McQuilkin, Robertson. The Great Omission (Waynesboro, GA: Gabriel/Authentic, 2002).


Plus added reading including:
- Articles distributed in class
- Use and familiarity with websites including:
  - www.operationworld.org
  - www.lausanne.org
  - www.joshuaproject.org
- An accurate and up-to-date world map.

Purpose and Objectives of Course:

The Lord Jesus Christ has given us a command to preach the gospel to every person and to make disciples of all nations (Matt. 28:19, Mark 16:15). It is the responsibility of every Christian (and therefore every local church) to obey this command of Christ, using our varying gifts. The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to this global mandate of Christ to His Redeemed Church.

Upon successful completion of this course, the following objectives will be accomplished:

1) The student will be introduced to the world mission of the church and will be challenged to become a "World Christian".
2) The student will be given a broad overview of the biblical, historical, cultural and strategic perspectives on the world and its peoples. This includes an understanding of the progress the church has made to this date, and an exploration of the remaining challenges to the full globalization of the church planting movement.
3) The student will be introduced to the key figures and epochs in the modern, Protestant missionary movement.
4) The student will be introduced to key concepts in cultural anthropology which have contributed positively to the communication of the gospel across cultural and linguistic barriers.
5) The student will formulate a Biblical understanding of missions and be able to work through the exegesis of key, controversial passages concerning missions and the lostness of humanity. This includes being able to critique the positions of pluralism, inclusivism and exclusivism.
6) The student will grow in their appreciation of the vitality of the Christian faith and develop a greater desire to share the gospel of Christ with others, especially across cultural barriers, who currently have no (or insufficient) access to the Christian gospel.

Requirements of the Course:

1. Examinations: There will be a World Map and missions exegesis examination as well as the Scripture memory examination on Friday, October 9th and a Final Exam on Saturday, November 21. The mid-term exam will test your ability to locate countries on a world map and your knowledge of certain key passages of Scripture related to missions and your ability to follow the Biblical argument of several key passages, especially the five Great Commission texts. The Scripture Memory examination will test your ability to quote certain key passages related to
missions from the Biblical text. Finally, the Final Exam will be on the content of the course, not including the exegetical passages prior to the midterm.

2. **READING:** The required readings are essential if you are to gain a proper understanding of the course subject matter. The reading report is due by **Saturday, November 21st at 4 p.m.** You must turn in a report stating in a single figure what percentage of the texts you have read (skimming does not count). Reading reports must be turned in by the due date or there will be a 15% penalty assessed on the reading grade after 4 p.m. on November 21st. Each additional day will incur an additional 5% penalty until December 9th at 4:00 p.m. after which they will no longer be accepted for any credit. Reading reports can be submitted electronically if you include your last name and the words “reading report” in the subject line. You must receive a confirmation reply back from me to verify that it has been sent. Please send to: pborthwick@rcn.com.

Please remember to put your full name and P.O. Box # on EVERYTHING you turn in.

3. **ATTENDANCE / PARTICIPATION:** Your attendance and participation in class is both helpful and necessary in the learning process. Your questions, comments and participation are always encouraged. In consideration of the rest of the class, please turn off all cell phones, Blackberries, etc. during the instructional period. To receive full credit (100%) for participation a student can choose any two of the following. To receive half credit (50%) a student can choose any one of the following:

1. Participate in classroom discussions and interaction. Participation is defined as occasional input into the class.
2. Attend a mission-related lectureship off campus (ideas will be shared at the start of class to give you options).
3. Attend a public lecture on the theme of non-western Christianity, with prior approval of the professor.
4. Attend the noon day prayer service at least six times
5. Attend one of the Wilson open house events on Friday night

**GRADING:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scripture Memory Exam</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading of the Textbooks</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation and Attendance</td>
<td>10%</td>
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</tbody>
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The Grading Scale established by Dr. Tennent is as follows:

- A, 95-100; A-, 93, 94
- B+, 91, 92; B, 87-90; B-, 85, 86
- C+, 83, 84; C, 79-82; C-, 77, 78
- D+, 75, 76; D, 72-74; D-, 70, 71
- F, 0-69
Course Outline

This is a general outline of the topics covered in the course. All lectures are subject to change without notice, depending on the pace and make-up of the individual class.

**September 18-19: Biblical-Theological Foundations for Global Christianity**
- Syllabus and Introduction to Course
- Seven Mega-Trends Shaping Missions in the 21st Century
- Missio Dei: Preparatio evangelica, historic transmission and indigenous assimilation
- God’s Missionary Heart
- The three-fold promise made to Abraham Missions in the Old Testament
- A Closer Look at the Great Commissions: Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15, 16; Luke 24:46,47/Acts 1:8; John 20:21
- Are Those Who Haven’t Heard Really Lost?
- Critical Examination of the classic paradigm
- Towards an Evangelical Theology of Religion
- Everything Called “Missions” isn’t “Missions”
- The UPG concept; Access and viability; missions vs. evangelism;
- World A, B and C
- Taking all this theology into the local church

**October 9-10: Historical Window on World Missions**
- MID-TERM EXAMINATION: Map, Exegesis and Scripture Exams (Friday night session)
- Full Circle of Mission Strategy: A Biblical Pattern of Church in Mission
- The 30 Years that Changed the World
- Four Eras of Modern Missions Beachhead, Frontier, Unreached Peoples and Indigenous Initiated
- Key characters, movements, dates, and events
- People, movements, themes, events and issues in global Christianity
- Taking all this history into the local church

**November 20-21: Missiological Issues Facing the Global Church Today**
- Modern Missiological Techniques, Strategies, and Mega-Trends
- Towards an Evangelical Theology of Culture
- Top Ten Missiological Challenges
- Towards an Evangelical Theology of Other World Religions
- Engaging the local church in Global Issues

- **Final Examination:** Saturday, November 21st, after the lunchtime break
- **READING REPORTS DUE ON November 21st by 4:00 p.m.**
SCRIPTURE MEMORY PASSAGES:

Choose any five of the following passages from Group A and any five of the following passages from Group B to memorize. You are responsible for any five of YOUR CHOICE from Group A and any five of YOUR CHOICE from Group B for the midterm. You are encouraged to use the English translation of your choice. If you are an international student you are permitted to use a translation other than English, but you should discuss this personally with the professor.

GROUP A                             GROUP B
Old Testament                     New Testament
2. I Kings 8:59, 60                2. Matthew 28:18-20
3. I Chronicles 16:8               3. Mark 16:15, 16
10. Zephaniah 2:11                 10. Revelation 5:9, 10

Overseas Missions Practicum (attendance at the OMP Chapel on October 7\textsuperscript{th} is strongly encouraged). If you have never considered going abroad and learning first hand about cross-cultural ministry, please give the OMP program prayerful consideration. Our sponsored OMP projects for 2010 will be going to places like Morocco; Bulawayo, Zimbabwe; San Jose, Costa Rica; ministry with indigenous leaders in the Philippines Dehradune, India; and to the Shan people of Myanmar/Thailand. Other destinations on the “Uttermost parts” team could include Mexico City, Osijek, Croatia, and locations across Africa and Asia. If you want to know more, see Dr. Borthwick. The OMP program allows for both class credit and/or two mentored ministry credits!

Office Hours:
Appointments with the professor are available for all students. Since I do not have an on-campus office, all appointments are by arrangement – usually on the Friday preceding a weekend class. I can also be reached via phone (781-862-9499) or through e-mail: pborthwick@rcn.com.

The syllabi and course handouts will be available through CAMS.

Bibliography in Missions: No research paper is required for this course. Therefore a Bibliography is not included in the syllabus. However, I will provide book suggestions throughout the class as well as provide a recommended missions bibliography at the end of the class.

ARTICLES will be assigned throughout the semester. To access the articles related to the International Journal of Frontier Missions, go to: www.ijfm.org and click on “search for articles”. Ignore the Google-powered search engine which pops up. Instead type Ctrl ‘F’ (This is, of course the “find” function). A little box will pop up and you should type Alan Johnson and
hit enter. You will be immediately brought to a list of all the articles. In the on-line display the articles have shortened link titles as follows:

- Part I, Frontier Mission Movement’s Understanding, Alan Johnson
- Part II, Major Concepts of the Frontier Mission Movement, Alan Johnson
- Part III, Critical Analysis, Alan Johnson
- Part IV, Core Contributors, Alan Johnson

Alternatively, if you are unable to perform a find function, then the entire list of articles is present under www.ijfm.org/archives.htm. All of the articles in the journal have been arranged by different categories. The articles I have assigned are all under the heading, Field Governed Mission Structures / Frontier Missions and Beyond, which is the 51st and 52nd category in the list.