

# BIBL 546: FOUR SHORT LETTERS FROM PAUL

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May 23 – June 3; 8:30 – 11:30 am

2 or 3 graduate credit hours; or 2 audit hour

In-person, live online & Recorded

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The shorter letters of Paul (Colossians, Philippians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians) are sometimes ignored. But they have much to offer Christians in our age, as the Apostle deals with specific issues that often sound a lot like today's headlines. In this course, we will set the context of each of these letters and then carefully read together each one. At the end of the course, the student should have a greater appreciation not only of these letters but also of the overall NT message.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

**Upon the successful completion of this course, students should have a clearer understanding of:**

1. Reproduce in some detail (2-3 points per chapter) the contents of Paul's letters to the Thessalonians, Colossians, and Philippians.
2. Describe the circumstances in which each letter was written (place written, date, reason for writing).
3. Identify key theological contributions made by each letter.
4. Identify key issues in the letters and some of the main viewpoints scholars have taken on those issues and one's own view on the issues.
5. Identify contributions each letter and/or passages within each letter make to the way we live out our faith in each of our contexts.
6. Be better able to interpret and apply the Word of God.

## COURSE OUTLINE

**Day 1 May 16** First Thessalonians Introduction, 1:1-2:20

**Day 2 May 16** First Thessalonians 3:1-4:18

**Day 3 May 16** First Thessalonians 5

**Day 4 May 16** Second Thessalonians 2-3

**Day 5 May 16** Colossians Introduction, 1:1-20

**Day 6 May 16** Colossians 1:21-2:23

**Day 7 May 17** Colossians 3:1-4:18

**Day 8 May 18** Philippians: Introduction, 1:1-2:4

**Day 9 May 19** Philippians 2:5-30

**Day 10 May 20** Philippians 3:1-4:23

## REQUIRED TEXTS

Cohick, Lynn H. *Philippians*, 1-262. The Story of God Bible Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013.

Donfried, Karl P. and Marshall, I. Howard. *A Theology of the Shorter Pauline Letters*, 2-173. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993.

Lincoln, Andrew A. and Wedderburn, A. J. M. *A Theology of the Later Pauline Letters*, 3-74. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993.

Marshall, I. Howard. *1 and 2 Thessalonians: A Commentary*, 2-233. Vancouver: Regent College, 2002 (reprint, 1983).

Wright, N. T. *The Epistles of Paul to the Colossians and to Philemon: An Introduction and Commentary*, 19-163. TNTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986.

Please Note: This Course Information Sheet is meant to assist in selecting courses. The official syllabus should be consulted for more detailed information. A full syllabus with drop deadlines, policies, and course assignment details is available on Moodle for registered students: [moodle.regent-college.edu/login](https://moodle.regent-college.edu/login)

