DE  5310 | THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

3 sem. hrs.

I. Course Description

This course is an expository and reading study of the Sermon on the Mount with emphasis on the practical and spiritual application and upon the theological issues and various interpretations therein.

II. Course Objectives

At the end of this course, you should be able to:

A. Appreciate the message of the Sermon on the Mount as God’s Word for our salvation and growth.

B. Explain the special theological difficulties raised by the Sermon on the Mount.

C. Propose solutions to the theological difficulties raised by the Sermon on the Mount.

D. Compare and contrast the ways the Pharisees handled the law with the way Christ fulfilled the law.

E. Apply key principles from the Sermon to contemporary life and ministry.

F. Honor God with your life by being different from the world.

III. Course Materials


IV. Course Requirements

A. Book Evaluations

For each of the textbooks, the student will write a 6-9 page critical evaluation. The evaluation will follow the format listed below. "Critical evaluation" means that the student is to read the entire text carefully and thoughtfully, with a view to analyzing the author's strengths and weaknesses relative to the demonstration of his main thesis(es). Papers should utilize the following guidelines:

1-2 pages of summary, synthesizing the author's overall message, noting his purpose for writing and the book's main thesis(es). This is not a "book report." Do not merely "restate" the book's contents.

3-4 pages of critical ("evaluative") interaction with the book's content, noting the strengths and weaknesses of the author's arguments as related to the book's main thesis(es). Here, the student will point out areas of agreement/disagreement with the author, including reasoned judgment as to reasons for agreement/disagreement.

2-3 pages of synthesis, articulating an understanding of how the text has helped or will help the student in personal life and ministry.

B. Term Paper

The student will write a 10-12 page paper on any theme in the Sermon in which Christ and the Pharisees interpreted the Law differently. The student will consider this theme in its Old Testament context and discuss where the Pharisees erred in their interpretation. He/she will then explain Christ's teaching, considering how Christ both corrected Pharisaical teaching and fulfilled the Law himself. The paper should be written with a view to make relevant contemporary applications of Christ’s teaching. The student should investigate the theme in at least ten 10 sources other than Scripture and annotate them properly in the paper.

C. TriNet Online Discussion

The student is required to participate in the discussion areas of TriNet. Thoughtful responses should be given to at least one question in each discussion area, and responses to the comments of other students are encouraged.

D. Final Exam

At the end of the course the student will take a closed-book exam. The exam will be a cumulative exam, covering all ten lectures.
All assignments should be submitted directly to your Course Tutor using the icon within your TriNet course labeled with your course tutor’s name. Exams should be mailed by your proctor to the address below. Course work may be submitted by mail if necessary.

Distance Education
Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
2065 Half Day Road
Deerfield, IL 60015

For help formatting your papers, feel free to reference the TIU Style and Format Guide which can be obtained from the DE Resources area of TriNet or from the Trinity Library website.

If you have questions related to your assignments, please contact your Course Tutor in TriNet. All other questions should be directed to the Distance Education office (email or 847-317-6554).

V. Course Grading

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Book Evaluations</td>
<td>30% (15% each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TriNet Discussion</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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VI. Course Bibliography


Stassen, Glenn H. “Grace and Deliverance in the Sermon on the Mount.” Review and Expositor 89 (1992), 229-244.
