

OLD TESTAMENT BIBLE INTERPRETATION: HEBREW SCRIPTURES
BI-605

UNITY OF HOUSTON
S.E.E. WEEK: JULY 19-25, 2020

Instructor: Sheila Gautreaux
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ABOUT YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Rev. Sheila Gautreaux—A fierce, fearless, fabulous DIVA, whose purpose is to awaken and empower all humanity for the healing of the planet.

Author of three (3 books, Praying Through A Storm; Messages and The Long Journey Home. She is currently writing her fourth book: Living the Charmed Life and plans to release a CD of original sacred songs in 2021. Unity Minister, Licensed Unity Teacher, Inspirational Speaker, Certified Radical Forgiveness Coach & Teacher, Course in Miracles Facilitator, Retired Opera Singer, Founder—Spiritual DIVAs and former spiritual columnist, Sheila has been presenting the esoteric teachings of Jesus and the Bible, along with tools for understanding and deepening the experience of prayer, meditation and forgiveness, in classes and workshops throughout the U.S., Canada and the Caribbean. Sheila is always competing with the self she was five minutes ago and striving to discover new aspects of herself moment by moment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the metaphysical interpretation of the Hebrew Scriptures in the Unity framework. Students will begin to understand and interpret the Hebrew Scriptures from a metaphysical viewpoint. The chief aim is that each student have the knowledge and skill to interpret scripture. They will learn to apply the teachings of the Hebrew Scriptures to their lives. Course will be lecture, discussion, and activities.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Our primary purpose for this course is an introduction to the metaphysical interpretation of the Old Testament—historically referred to as the “Hebrew Scriptures”—within the Unity framework. We will begin to understand and interpret the Hebrew Scriptures from a metaphysical viewpoint. The chief aim is that each of you will have the knowledge and skill to interpret scripture and apply the teachings of the Hebrew Scriptures to their lives. Course will be lecture, discussion, and activities.

We will study the heavily allegorical nature of the Old Testament, the historical and spiritual significance of the divisions of the Kingdom into Israel and Judah and the characters who played key roles in the spiritual evolution in consciousness from Genesis to Job.

We will study the overall theme of the books, the viewpoint of the authors, the relevance of the message at the time of the writing of these books, their metaphysical implications, and the relevance for us today.

This class will be conducted in several ways. While there will be open discussions here will also be individual and small group work and presentations. The intention is to provide a safe environment to explore and even actively disagree with the ideas and interpretations developed in class. Bible Maps and Historical References will be used for interpretation purposes.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to use the Metaphysical Bible Dictionary and The Revealing Word.
- Explain the metaphysical approach to interpretation and know how to use the process so they can metaphysically interpret a story on their own.
- Identify and metaphysically interpret the main Hebrew Scripture characters
- Relate the metaphysical interpretation of the Hebrew Scriptures to their spiritual journey.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & ASSIGNMENTS

- Attend each class, unless prior notification to the Instructor has been given, and arrive on time;
- Return from assigned breaks in a timely manner
- Participate in assignments and discussions that deepen and reinforce skills in metaphysical Bible Interpretation;
- Participate in class and group activities and discussions;
- Complete weekly assignments and be prepared to share with class or small group;
- Respect classmates by giving full attention when they are asking questions, presenting or sharing and avoiding side conversations;
- Refrain from criticism, condemnation or judgment of anyone, allowing each person to be right where they are in skills and consciousness; and
- For those students taking this course for SEE Credit, complete an 800-word paper on a subject to be assigned by your instructor.
 - Submit paper to: revsheila@spiritawakened.com. Please format the paper double-spaced and at least 12 pt. font.
 - Due Date: July 15

STUDENT EVALUATION

- Grading
 - S** (Satisfactory) A grade of “S” indicates that all class work is complete and the student has passed the test.
NC (No Credit)
 - IN** (Incomplete) A grade of “I” indicates a student’s class work is Incomplete and is not yet eligible for testing.
 - T** (Testing) A grade of “T” indicates that all class work is complete, but the student has not yet passed the test.
 - A** (Audit) – For individuals on the Spiritual Enrichment track and for those that take a course over for review.
 - W** (Withdrawal) - For individuals that have withdrawn from a class.
- 10 course credits are granted on successfully completing the course.

INSTRUCTOR’S COMMITMENT

I make a commitment to you that I will come to class each week fully prepared and ready to engage you in making this incredible journey into the Bible and in discovering you own abilities to create an interpretation of the Bible that speaks to you personally and provides you with spiritual resources for your life. I promise to create a safe environment, in which you may grow and explore metaphysical concepts without criticism, condemnation or judgment. I am further committed to beginning and ending on time and providing sufficient breaks for your comfort and convenience.

CLASS SCHEDULE

CLASS 1 (July 19)

Course Overview
Old Testament Overview (Hebrew Scriptures)
Old Testament Writers
Interpreting Scripture

- Maieutic Interpretation
- Metaphysics/Metaphysical Interpretation
- Using Revealing Word
- Using Metaphysical Bible Dictionary
- Interpretation Process
- Allegories of Genesis

Creation Stories (Gen.1\2)
Expulsion from Garden (Genesis 3)
Cain & Abel (Gen. 4)
Noah & The Flood (Gen. 6-8)
Noah Drunk (Genesis 9)
Tower of Babel (Genesis 11)

CLASS 2 (July 20)

Patriarchs of the Old Testament
Abram; Isaac; Jacob; Joseph; Moses; and Joshua
Significance of Name Changes

CLASS 3 (July 21)

Judges of the Old Testament –History and Overview
Sodom and Gomorrah—Lot's Wife & The Pillar of Salt

CLASS 4 (July 22)

Joseph
Joshua
Complete Presentations on Judges

CLASS 5 (July 23)

Transitions as a Process for Life
Historical Books of the OT: I & II Kings—Division of the Kingdom (Judah & Israel)
Prophets of the Old Testament
Ezekiel
Malachil
Exercise: Final Interpretation
Lessons From the Old Testament
Class Wrap-Up