



BBS Study Week Syllabus

The Kingdom of Israel (OLD05a)

Overview

The reigns of Saul, David and Solomon mark a significant point in the history of Israel and this module examines their contribution to God's plan and the changing role of the nation during this period.

This is one of our Old Testament Modules forming part of our *Applied Biblical Studies* course. Students working towards a British Bible School award will receive 5 Module Credits upon completion of all given assignments.

Module content

- Recognising and understanding context are important in our study of Scripture, and we will begin by considering the historical, cultural and theological settings of the texts.
 - The geography of the once-holy land plays a significant part in the history of Israel, so we will explore the terrain and see how this affected this significant part of Israel's history.
 - The lives and reigns of these three kings will be examined to understand the ways in which God worked through them to reveal himself to Israel.
 - Memorable events recorded in these texts will be explored with a view to helping students understand their real significance in the story of God and his people.
 - The subject of Biblical archaeology will be considered in light of a number of sites featured in the books.
 - The relationship between the text and the student of Jesus today will be explored as we consider some of the missional aspects of the texts.
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Module outline

Unit 1 – Israel and kingship

Unit 2 – The reign of king Saul

Unit 3 – The life and reign of king David

Unit 4 – The reign of king Solomon

Unit 5 – The legacy of the kingdom

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this module the student will:

- understand something of the origin and nature of the primary texts;

- be familiar with the events and characters that shaped this part of the story of God;
- better understand the complexity of relationships between God and the principal characters involved;
- have a deeper understanding of the meaning of the texts studied, in light of the message of Scripture as a whole;
- recognise the significance of kingship and related themes within the story of Israel;
- understand something of the role of the prophetic word within the history of the revelation of God;
- be able to identify ways in which these texts have relevance to matters of discipleship and leadership today.

Student assignments

These are optional but are required for those wishing to complete all Learning outcomes and attain Module credit towards a British Bible School award. Details of assignments will be made known during the Study Week. Assignments are due to be submitted by 9th February 2023. For further guidance, please consult the Student Handbook available on our website.

1. Attend all sessions of the Study Event (this is expected of all who enrol on the Module).
2. Read assigned book and write brief personal assessment.
3. Compose and submit **one** of the following:
 - a. A 300 word article, intended for publication, on an aspect of the Kingdom of Israel.
 - b. A 4 to 5 minute audio recording or podcast on an aspect of the Kingdom of Israel.
4. Write a 2,000 word essay on any one of the following: *
 - a. "David, the shepherd king"
 - b. "Lessons from Bathsheba"
 - c. Further options t.b.c.

For further guidelines, please consult the Student Handbook. Assignments should be submitted by e-mail to study@britishbibleschool.com with "ECP assignment" in the Subject field and your name clearly indicated. Assignments should generally be submitted within six months of the completion of class sessions at the latest.

* You may, if you would prefer, write two x 1,000 word articles on two of the topics listed. Please supply word count. Word limits are to be observed +/- 10%.

Learning and assessment

Applicable to entire Module NEW03 – including completion of additional assignments.

Assignment	Time allocation	Outcome
Class presentations	16 hours	16 x 1 hour sessions
Reading plus assessment	6 hours	As assigned
Article/recording	8 hours	Choice of options
Essay (including reading)	20 hours	2,000 words
Total	50 hours	

Cost

The cost for the week will be £180. This is all inclusive and will include accommodation, food, and study materials. Bedding will also be included if booking is made before 23rd October.

Details of week

Dates: Monday to Friday, 6th to 10th November 2023

Location: Bassenfell Manor, Bassenthwaite, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 4RL

Teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway, Mark Hill

Programme – 6th to 10th November 2023

Monday:

17.00 – Arrivals	13.45 – Free afternoon
19.00 – Tea/dinner	16.45 – Session 4
20.00 – Introductions	18.00 – Tea/dinner
22.00 – Goodnight	19.00 – Session 5

Tuesday – Thursday:

07.30 – Morning devotions	20.00 – Evening activities
08.00 – Breakfast	22.00 – Good night
09.00 – Session 1	
10.15 – Session 2	
11.15 – Morning coffee	
11.45 – Session 3	
13.00 – Luncheon	

Friday:

07.30 – Morning devotions
08.00 – Breakfast
09.00 – Final Session
10.15 – Pack up
11.00 – Departure

Class schedule

I. Israel, the land and kingship

- A. Israel at the time of the monarchy (incl. primary texts for module)
- B. The land of these three kings
- C. Kingship in the ancient world

II. The reign of king Saul

- A. Samuel and the making of a king
- B. The rise and fall of Saul
- C. Saul, Jonathan and David – the conflict

III. The life and reign of king David

- A. David: from shepherd to king
- B. David and Bathsheba
- C. The family of David
- D. A man after God's heart

IV. The reign of king Solomon

- A. The politics and wisdom of Solomon
- B. The 'Golden Age' of Israel?
- C. Solomon and the house of God
- D. Seeds of division

V. The legacy of the kingdom

- A. The prophets and the kingdom
- B. The kingdom of heaven

Additional notes

We have left the afternoons free to enable participants to relax or explore something of the local area.

Evening activities are yet to be finalised, but we anticipate times of enjoying each other's company in a more relaxed atmosphere.

All meals will be provided. Refreshments will be available throughout the week in the tea/coffee bar. Participants are invited to bring along homemade cakes or biscuits to share with others if they so wish.

There is wi-fi available at the manor, though students will be asked to keep devices muted during class sessions.