



Syllabus: SCS 115 Acts-Revelation

Dates/Time

January 14, 28, Feb 4, 11, and 18, 2023
2:00 – 4:00 PM

Course Instructor

Jane McCarthy LUT
Email: Jane.McCarthy@unf.edu
Cell Phone: 240 460 5925

Place

Via Zoom – link will be sent from Jane McCarthy

Sponsored by

Unity of Gaithersburg
111 Central Ave
Gaithersburg, MD

Course Description

In this course students discover inner spiritual meanings in the Christian Scripture books Acts through Revelation and apply the Unity method of interpretation to the Christian Scriptures. The Unity maieutic and metaphysical approach to interpreting scriptures aims to help one cultivate self-knowledge and make contact with the Higher Spiritual Self commonly called “Christ within” and “Christ consciousness.”

Instructor

I have been a member of Unity since 1978 when I joined the Unity Church of Washington DC. Upon finding Unity I felt like I had come home for the first time. Over the years I studied the principles by attending SEE classes at Unity Village and at Unity churches in DC, Fairfax, VA and Gaithersburg, MD. I finished my education as a Licensed Unity Teacher in 2010 focusing my work on SEE Bible classes and have visited several Middle Eastern countries including Israel, Jordan and Egypt witnessing first-hand human theological antiquity.

Course Learning Objectives

At the completion of the course students will be able to:

- ♦ Describe the historical context of the Christian Scripture books from Acts to Revelation.
- ♦ Be familiar with the content of the Christian Scripture Acts-Revelation from the Unity framework as described by Elizabeth Turner in *Be Ye Transformed*.
- ♦ Use metaphysical and maieutic interpretation of readings from books Acts through Revelation.
- ♦ Demonstrate the ability to use the Metaphysical Bible Dictionary and the Revealing Word.
- ♦ Describe a Bible story from Acts to Revelation using metaphysical or maieutic interpretation.

Required Text/Reading

- Elizabeth Sand Turner, *Be Ye Transformed* by, 1969
- Borg, Marcus, *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time*, Harper: San Francisco, 2001
- Bible (New Revised Standard Version)

Recommended Text/Readings/Videos

- *The Revealing Word* by Charles Fillmore
- *The Metaphysical Bible Dictionary* by Charles Fillmore
- Ehrman, Bart D. *Peter, Paul & Mary Magdalene: The Followers of Jesus in History and Legend*. Oxford University Press, 2006.
- Bart Ehrman, *How Jesus Became God*, Harper One, 2014.
- PBS documentary From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians
- Bart Erhman you tube: Peter, Paul and Mary Magdalene
- The Great Courses: Bart Erhman - The Acts of the Apostles
- The Great Courses: Bart Erhman - Book of Revelation
- The Great Courses: Bart Erhman - Do we have the Original New Testament?

Course Requirements and Assignments

Students will be expected to:

- Participate actively in each class activities.
- Complete reading assignments.
- Participate in creating maieutic and metaphysical Bible interpretations.
- Submit a paper after the completion of the course on a maieutic or metaphysical interpretation of a reading from one of the books from Acts to Revelation. Describe the context of the book, what happened in the story, your interpretation of it and how it may apply to your life. Due date will be determined in class. Send paper via email to Jane.McCarthy@unf.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

- S (Satisfactory) met all requirements.
- I (Incomplete) waiting for final assignment.
- AU (Audit) not seeking credentialing (no assignments required)
- NC (No Credit) did not complete final assignment within three months of the end of course and/or did not meet attendance requirements.

Ten credits will be granted when the student has successfully completed the class. Unless special permission is requested and granted, students are expected to attend all five two-hour classes.

Instructor's Commitment

As your class facilitator I will be prepared to share with you my own experiences about the metaphysical and maieutic interpretation of the Bible. I will share with you my own experiences about my personal journey. I will strive for a safe space allowing dialogue with an openness and respect for ideas and equal participation for all.

Course Schedule and Assignments

The course is divided into ten units and will be covered in five two-hour sessions. Below the topics for each unit is given along with assignments. Students will complete a pre-test, presentation, and a paper.

Unit	Topics	Assignment/Homework
Class 1 Hour 1	<p>Introductions – Your Unity background; What do you know about the New Testament? Review of syllabus, textbooks, handouts</p> <p>Go over Assignments</p>	<p>For Class 1 - Watch PBS documentary From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians:</p> <p>https://www.pbs.org/video/jesus-christ-first-christians-part-one-uosmze/</p> <p>do Pre-Test</p>

Hour 2	<p>Comments – PBS Documentary</p> <p>Slides – Overview: Acts to Revelation</p> <p>Introduction to New Testament interpretation</p>	<p>For class 2 - Read Turner p. 15- 47</p> <p>Watch The Great Courses: The Acts of the Apostles by Bart Erhman – click on link below</p> <p>https://securedownloads.teach12.com/anon.eastbaymedia-drm/courses/656/m4v/TGC_656_Lect13_NewTestament.m4v?userid=4241E230-044E-2743-0516-0DA4CF5B4668&orderid=102790599&courseid=656&FName=TGC_656_Lect13_NewTestament</p>
Class 2 Hour 1	<p>Comments – Erhman, Acts of the Apostles</p> <p>Slides – Book of Acts</p>	
Hour 2	<p>Group Discussions</p>	<p>For class 3 – Paul –</p> <p>Read Turner p 48-63;83-104; Borg chapter 9</p> <p>Listen to Bart Erhman you tube: Peter, Paul and Mary Magdalene</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UHFTJIMtOik</p>
Class 3 Hour 1	<p>Comments – Erhman, Peter, Paul and Mary</p> <p>Slides - Paul</p> <p>Romans; Ephesians 6:10-17; Faith (Hebrews 11); Love (1 Corinthians 13)</p>	
Hour 2	<p>Group Discussions</p>	<p>For Class 4 – Epistles – read Turner p 143-178; Borg chapter 9</p> <p>Watch Bart Erhman from Great Courses: Do we have the Original New Testament?</p> <p>https://securedownloads.teach12.com/anon.eastbaymedia-drm/courses/656/m4v/TGC_656_Lect24_NewTestament.m4v?userid=4241E230-044E-2743-0516-0DA4CF5B4668&orderid=102790599&courseid=656&FName=TGC_656_Lect24_NewTestament</p>
Class 4 Hour 1	<p>Comments – Erhman, New Testament</p> <p>Slides -Paul's Epistles</p> <p>1 Corinthians 3:1-6 – Temple of God</p> <p>General Epistles – Hebrews, James</p>	
Hour 2	<p>Group Discussions</p>	<p>For class 5 – Revelation; Non-Canonical Books</p> <p>Read Turner 198-219; Borg, chapter 10</p>

		<p>Watch video from Great Courses by Bart Erhman on Book of Revelation</p> <p>https://securedownloads.teach12.com/anon.eastbaymedia-drm/courses/656/m4v/TGC_656_Lect23_NewTestament.m4v?userid=4241E230-044E-2743-0516-0DA4CF5B4668&orderid=102790599&courseid=656&FName=TGC_656_Lect23_NewTestament</p>
Class 5 Hour 1	<p>Comments – Erhman, Revelation,</p> <p>Slides - Revelation</p> <p>Books outside of the New Testament</p> <p>Dead Sea Scrolls</p> <p>Nag Hammadi Writings</p> <p>Gospel of Thomas</p> <p>Gospel of Mary</p>	
Hour 2	<p>Group Discussions</p> <p>Go over Pre-Test</p> <p>Course Evaluations</p>	<p>Reflection paper for students taking course for SEE credits – set due date</p>