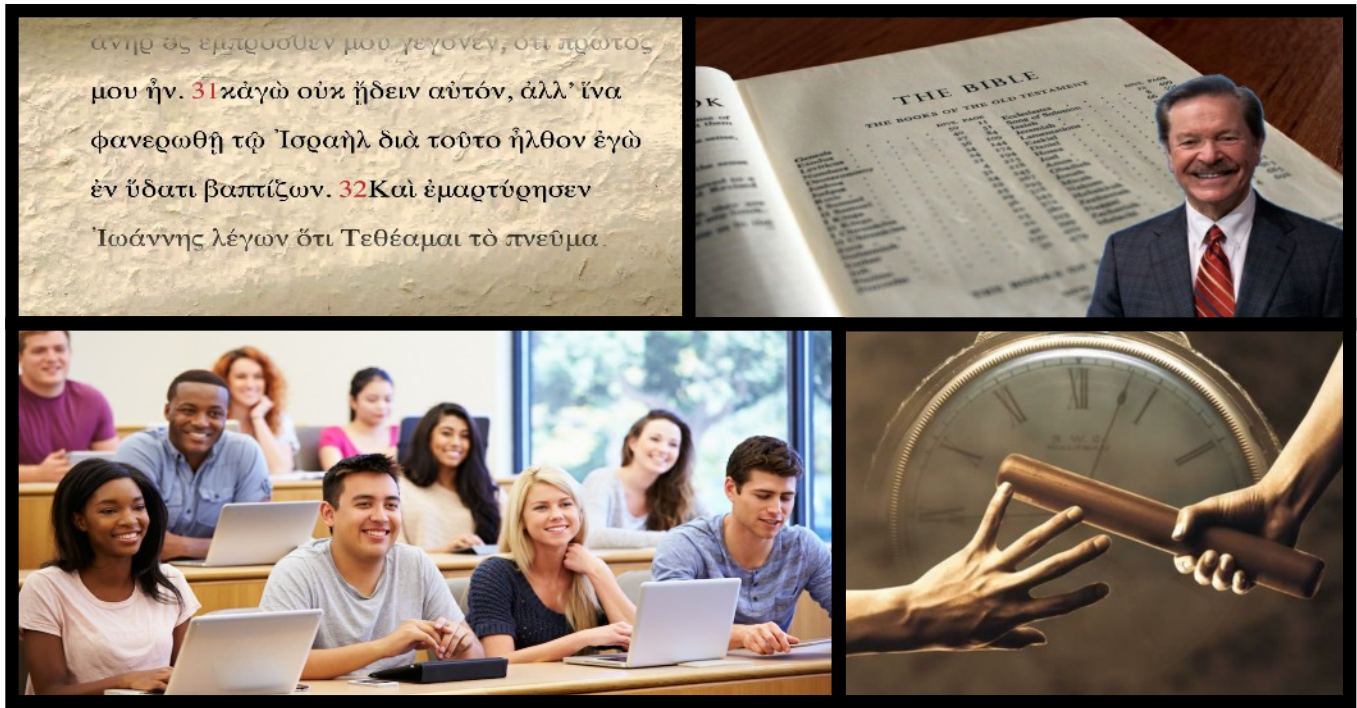


EMBASSY COLLEGE



SYLLABUS AND STUDY GUIDE

Christian Ethics

BT755

Dr. Mark Rutland

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Course Introduction and Orientation

I. Course Description

This course is a study of the general nature of Christian morals and of specific moral choices. Emphasis is placed upon Christian principles of right or good conduct and the rules or standards governing conduct. Topics include the holiness of God, life-style virtues, inner virtues and the virtues of Christ

II. Textbooks and Study Aids

- A. The Holy Bible—King James Version
- B. One other translation of the Bible chosen by the student
- C. The study guide provided by the instructor
- D. The textbook: Rutland, Mark. *The Finger of God*. Columbus: CLP, 1998.

III. Course Requirements

- A. Read the textbook several times.
- B. Study the course syllabus.
- C. Complete the final examination as assigned.

IV. Classroom Methodology

Course methodology is primarily lecture, but also open discussion at appropriate times with questions and answers.

V. Evaluation Procedure

Course evaluation is on the following basis:

- Attendance at lectures
- Final Examination

Chapter 1

The Holiness of God

VI. The Tension of Perspectives

A. Holiness and the Holy Spirit

vs.

B. Power and the Holy Spirit

C. The Character of the Primitive Church (Acts 5:1-16)

Questions: What are the strengths of the “holiness” denominations?

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VII. A Beginning Point: Who is God? (Exodus 3:1-14)

A. Erroneous Concepts of God's Holiness

B. God is Love is Holiness (1 John 4:7-8)

C. Holy, Wholly, Holey

VIII. God's Holiness and Functional Theology

A. Access to God; Drawing Nigh

B. Issues in Prayer

Assignment: Write a brief statement of true and false concepts of omnipresence and include the consequences of the false.

C. Relational Grace

D. Holiness and the Will of God (Psalm 37:3-6)

Assignment: Write a brief interpretive essay on the textual balance in this passage. Be sure to explore the tension between submission to God's will and faith in his promises.

IX. Can God Do Everything?

Question: Do you believe in a limited God? (Study James 1:13)

Chapter 2

Holiness and the Believer

I. A Philosophical Proposition

God is holy because he does not sin.

vs.

God does not sin because he is holy.

A. Nature and Action

Question: What are the theological consequences of proposition #1?

B. Holiness and Law

a) The Island of the Sirens

b) Ulysses vs. Jason

C. Right Relation to the Law

1. Under the law—receiving the law—outlaws

2. The finger of God (Luke 1 1)

a) Compare with Exodus 8:19.

b) Compare with Deuteronomy 9:10 (Exodus 31:18).