



• EDUCATION ONLINE FROM THE FRIENDS OF ISRAEL •

Online Catalog

2009-2010



Welcome to the Institute of Jewish Studies

The Institute of Jewish Studies is a uniquely focused program for committed Christians who are interested in studying the Scriptures in-depth. Since the Institute of Jewish Studies began in 1986, it has offered a program that emphasizes the place of the Jewish people and the land of Israel in understanding God's plan and purpose for the ages.

I invite you to consider all that the Institute of Jewish Studies has to offer. I believe taking courses will enrich your personal life and open your understanding of the Word of God in new and exciting ways. Our desire is to equip you as a servant of our loving Lord and Savior.

William Sutter
Executive Director

History of the Institute of Jewish Studies

The Institute of Jewish Studies began in 1986 on the campus of The Friends of Israel international headquarters in southern New Jersey. For the first ten years, it was known as the Institute of Biblical Studies. The Institute of Biblical Studies was conceived as a one-year Bible study program with a strong emphasis on studying the Bible in its historical and cultural context. The program emphasized a proper understanding of the Jewish people and the land of Israel as essential to recognizing the plan and purposes of God.

In the fall of 1996, the program was moved to the campus of Philadelphia Biblical University and the name was changed to the Institute of Jewish Studies. The name change reflected its unique emphasis on studying the Scriptures with an appreciation for Israel and the Jewish people. The Bible is a book authored by the Holy Spirit and penned by Jewish men, in a Jewish culture. So much more can be gleaned from God's Word by considering its Jewish background.

The Institute of Jewish Studies transitioned to the Internet in the fall of 2009 so that it could be expanded to a distance learning format. The quality education that we provided on campus for 23 years is now available online around the world at an affordable cost. The curriculum is structured to provide a diverse offering of courses with our unique Jewish emphasis. It is our desire to train and equip followers of Jesus Christ in the truth of God's Word.

About The Friends of Israel

The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry, Inc., was born in the fires of the Holocaust, as Adolf Hitler's infamous "final solution to the Jewish problem" was ravishing European Jewry. Although it seemed to the Jewish people that the entire world had become deaf and blind to their peril, there were those who cared.

A group of such people, committed Christians, gathered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1938 to determine how they could minister to Jewish people in their time of greatest need.

Now, over 70 years later, The Friends of Israel is a vibrant ministry, serving the mandate to "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem" (Psalm 122:6) and fulfilling its mission – a worldwide Christian ministry communicating biblical truth about Israel and the Messiah, while fostering solidarity with the Jewish people.



Mission and Purpose

The Institute of Jewish Studies exists to equip followers of the Lord Jesus Christ through the study of biblical truth with a uniquely Jewish perspective. The Institute of Jewish Studies program is designed to:

1. Give you a working knowledge of the Bible and instill a recognition of its authority in all areas of life.
2. Acquaint you with the Jewish background of Scripture as well as the basic facts of Jewish history and culture.
3. Increase your awareness of the land of the Israel, its history, geography, and current role in the world affairs.
4. Provide you with an understanding and appreciation of the role of the Jewish people in redemptive history and their relationship to the gospel of Christ.
5. Instill in you an approach of interpreting Scripture in its literal sense, involving a pretribulational, premillennial understanding of future events.
6. Enhance your opportunities to minister effectively.

Benefits of the Program

An Institute of Jewish Studies education will:

- Teach you the Jewish background, culture, and history of Scripture.
- Give you a working knowledge of the Bible.
- Broaden your understanding of Israel, and the role the Jewish people in redemptive history.
- Enrich your life and ministry.

Program Design

The Institute of Jewish Studies online program offers 20 online courses, each taught in a six week format, which will be phased in over a two year period of time. Additionally, a 21st course will be offered, the Israel Study Tour, as there are sufficient numbers of students qualified for the tour (for more information see the Institute of Jewish Studies Israel Tour section).

The online program will begin with four courses offered in the fall of 2009 and four additional courses added in the spring of 2010. All 20 courses are scheduled to be online by the spring of 2011. Courses are offered in each of two six week session periods each semester. After the initial 20 courses are online, plans are for additional courses to be added to the program.

Each course will be taught by a highly qualified instructor and class size is limited to 20 students. The courses follow a discussion driven educational design. Weekly assignments include readings, directed research, study questions, and a weekly summary. The course concludes with a critical review of the course by the student and a practical application project. Courses are graded on a letter scale of A, B, C, D or F.

The Institute of Jewish Studies offers you a great opportunity to study God's Word at an affordable cost, on a flexible schedule, and at an ideal location – your own home!



Cost

There is no cost to register as a student in the Institute of Jewish Studies. The cost to enroll in a course is \$180 per course.

Certificate Recognition

Students will be recognized with a certificate of completion when they have successfully completed 12 courses. An advanced certificate will be awarded to students who successfully complete an additional 12 courses of study. It will be possible to complete the advanced certificate as more courses are added to the initial 20 online course curriculum.

Admission

Admission to the Institute of Jewish Studies is open to committed Christians who desire to study the Word of God. There is no cost to register as a student in the Institute of Jewish Studies program. Registration, through The Friends of Israel web site, must be completed before a student can register for a course.

The curriculum is taught in agreement with The Friends of Israel Doctrinal Statement (see Doctrinal Statement section). Admission to the program does not guarantee participation in courses. The Friends of Israel reserves the right to remove any student from the program if, in the opinion of The Friends of Israel, the student behaving in a way that is disruptive to a course of the program.

Institute of Jewish Studies Israel Study Tour

Periodically, the Institute of Jewish Studies conducts a study tour to Israel. The tour is offered as a course. This exciting tour will be directed by experienced Friends of Israel personnel and a highly qualified Israeli tour guide. Upon the successful completion of eight courses, a student will qualify for the Institute of Jewish Studies study tour to Israel. The tour's itinerary will include many locations omitted on other tours to Israel and some sites on the tour will be examined more in-depth. This is a first class learning experience in every way as the land of Israel becomes the classroom. There is a cost for the study tour, however, the cost of the tour is kept to a minimum through economical accommodations and special group arrangements.



Calendar

Fall 2009 Semester

Session 1 – Begins on Monday, 8/31/2009; Ends on Friday, 10/9/2009

Courses Offered

- B171 Messianic Prophecies
- H111 Jewish Culture & Customs
- D111 Biblical Interpretation Makes a Difference
- D131 What on Earth is God Doing?

Session 2 – Begins on Monday, 10/12/2009; Ends on Friday, 11/20/2009

Courses Offered

- B171 Messianic Prophecies
- H111 Jewish Culture & Customs
- D111 Biblical Interpretation Makes a Difference
- D131 What on Earth is God Doing?

Spring 2010 Semester

Session 1 – Begins on Monday, 1/11/2010; Ends on Friday, 2/19/2010

Courses Offered

- B161 The Tabernacle: Shadows of the Messiah
- B211 Life of Christ
- D151 God's Unique Relationship with Israel
- D171 The Future
- B171 Messianic Prophecies
- H111 Jewish Culture & Customs
- D111 Biblical Interpretation Makes a Difference
- D131 What on Earth is God Doing?

Session 2 – Begins on Monday, 2/22/2010; Ends on Friday, 4/2/2010

Courses Offered

- B161 The Tabernacle: Shadows of the Messiah
- B211 Life of Christ
- D151 God's Unique Relationship with Israel
- D171 The Future
- B171 Messianic Prophecies
- H111 Jewish Culture & Customs
- D111 Biblical Interpretation Makes a Difference
- D131 What on Earth is God Doing?



Curriculum

Biblical Study

B131 **Daniel / Revelation**

Study the two apocalyptic books and their rich teaching with attention to their relationship to each other.

Online

Fall
2010

B161 **The Tabernacle: Shadows of Messiah**

Study Israel's wilderness Tabernacle and how the priesthood, services and sacrifices reveal the perfections of the Messiah.

Online

Spring
2010

B151 **Major Prophets**

Survey the Major Prophets Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel with particular attention to their messianic and prophetic teaching.

Fall
2010

B152 **Minor Prophets**

Survey the Minor Prophets with particular attention to their messianic and prophetic teaching.

Spring
2011

B171 **Messianic Prophecies**

Study the Old Testament prophecies of the coming Messiah and their fulfillment during Christ's first and second coming.

Fall
2009

B211 **Life of Christ**

Study the first coming of Jesus, the Messiah, with special attention to the Jewish background of the Gospels.

Spring
2010

B231 **Hebrews**

Examine the struggle of Hebrew Christians in the first century in this book rich in Old Testament teaching.

Spring
2011

Historical Study

H111 **Jewish Culture & Customs**

Examine the Jewish religion, its feasts, lifecycle, worship and dietary laws along with other customs and observations.

Online

Fall
2009

H121 **Holocaust & Anti-Semitism**

Examine the history of anti-Semitism including its causes and the most monumental event in history, the Holocaust.

Online

Fall
2010

H131 **Zionism: Past, Present & Future**

Study the history of Zionism, the restoration of the Jewish people to the Holy Land, with special attention to Christian Zionism and its impact.

Spring
2011

H151 **Between the Testaments**

Discover what happened from the end of the Old Testament to the beginning of the New Testament as you survey the historical events in Judea from the restoration (536 B.C) to the destruction of the Temple (70 A.D.).

Fall
2010



Historical Study(cont.)

H152 Jewish History: Ancient
Survey the historical movements of the Jewish people from their birth to the present. Online
Spring 2011

H161 The Promised Land for a Chosen People
Examine the land of Israel and how God prepared a chosen land for His chosen people. Online
Spring 2010

H153 Jewish History: Modern
Study the formation of the modern state of Israel, from the return of the Jewish people to the formation of nation, its wars and relationship to the Arab people. Online
Fall 2010

H181 The Middle East Conflict
Examine the modern conflict and the various parties involved in the conflict, with attention to the period from the Oslo accords to present. Online
Spring 2011

Practical Study

P111 Making Christ Known
Study common objections to the Christian faith and their answers, while focusing on opportunities for making Christ known to the world. Online
Fall 2010

P151 Israel Study Tour
Visit and study the Holy Land in this once in a lifetime hands on learning experience where the land of the Bible is your text book. The tour includes special lectures at biblical sites that will enhance the discovery process. Online

Doctrinal Study

D111 Biblical Interpretation Makes a Difference
Learn how to understand the Bible from God's perspective. It will make a lasting difference in your life. Online
Fall 2009

D131 What on Earth is God Doing?
Take a look at history from creation to eternity that will change the way you view the world and the direction the world is heading. Online
Fall 2009

D151 God's Unique Relationship with Israel
Study God's purpose for Israel, His covenants with Israel and how they have directed God's dealings with Israel throughout history. Online
Spring 2010

D171 The Future
Survey the unfulfilled prophetic events God has revealed in Scripture including the Rapture, Tribulation, Millennium, and New Heavens and New Earth. Online
Spring 2010



Statement of Faith

I. BIBLE

We believe that the Bible, consisting of sixty-six books, is the inspired Word of God; that every part is fully and equally inspired; and that every single word of Scripture was produced under the control of the Holy Spirit (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:21).

We also accept the Scriptures in their entirety as being inerrant (in the original writings) and infallible. For this reason we are committed to the Bible as our final authority in all matters of doctrine, faith, and practice (Mt. 5:17; Jn. 17:17).

II. GOD

We believe that there is only one true, eternal, living God, who is sovereign over all things. God can be known through the many absolute and relative attributes revealed in the Scriptures (Ex. 3:14; Dt. 6:4; Col. 1:15–17).

God is the source and sustainer of life. He, according to the counsel of His own will, decreed whatsoever comes to pass, including both His permissive will and His causal will (Isa. 14:24, 26–27; Eph. 1).

III. TRINITY

We believe, although there is only one true God, that God consists of three distinct persons, each of whom is coeternal and coequal.

We believe that the Father is God, that the Son (Jesus, the Christ-Messiah) is God, and that the Holy Spirit is God (Dt. 6:4; Jn. 1:1; 14; 6:27; Acts 5:3–4).

IV. CHRIST

We believe the Lord Jesus Christ to be absolute Deity, the eternal Son of God, who became man without ceasing to be God. In the incarnation, He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary (Isa. 9:6–7; Mt. 1:18–25; Jn. 3:16; Heb. 1:8).

We believe that Jesus Christ was both fully God and fully man at the same time (Phil. 2:5–8).

We believe that He was totally holy by virtue of His miraculous birth and sinless life (2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 4:15).

We believe that Jesus Christ voluntarily laid down His life, the just dying for the unjust, making it possible for man to be saved (Jn. 10:17; Heb. 9:14, 28; 1 Pet. 3:18).



We believe that He rose bodily from the dead on the third day after death, and that He ascended into heaven to the right hand of the Father (Jn. 2:19–22; Acts 1:9–11; Heb. 1:3).

We believe that, presently, He is our Intercessor and Advocate, the only true Mediator between God and man (1Tim. 2:5; Heb. 4:14; 7:25; 1 Jn. 2:1).

V. HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that the Holy Spirit is Deity, a divine person of the Godhead. He is not a force, but is truly a person and is equal with the Father and the Son (Acts 5:3–4).

We believe that the Holy Spirit gives spiritual gifts to all believers at the moment they are regenerated, and that these gifts are to be used for the edification and perfecting of the believers in the Church. We believe that the miraculous and sign gifts were given for a unique purpose to the first-century Church, but that they ceased at the end of that century (Rom. 12:3–8; 1 Cor. 12—14; Eph. 4:7–16; Heb. 2:3–4).

VI. MAN

We believe that God created man directly and instantaneously from the dust of the ground. Man was created in the image of God and was able to have intimate fellowship with God (Gen. 1:26–27; 2:7).

We believe that all of humanity fell away from God when Adam first sinned, and that the fall resulted in both physical and spiritual death for man. In this fallen condition, man was left totally depraved and unable to remedy his own situation (Gen. 3:6–13; Rom. 5:12–21; 1 Cor. 15:21–22; Eph. 2).

VII. SIN

We believe that sin is anything that does not conform to the character and nature of God (1 Jn. 3:4).

We believe that all mankind sinned in Adam, the head of the human race, and that each human being has a sin nature, and also has committed personal sin (Rom. 1:18; 3:23; 5:12; 1 Jn. 1:8–10).

VIII. SALVATION

We believe that salvation is the act of God whereby man is brought into a proper relationship with God. It is that act where spiritually dead man is made spiritually alive (Ps. 3:8; Jon. 2:9; Eph. 2:1–2).

We believe that this is accomplished by the grace of God through man's faith in the death (shed blood), burial, and bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 15:1–4; Eph. 2:8–10).



We believe that salvation involves three things for the believer: deliverance from the penalty of sin at the moment of regeneration; victory over the power of sin during the Christian life; and deliverance from the presence of sin at glorification.

We believe that salvation positionally sanctifies the believer, but that the believer needs to experience, in his daily life, progressive sanctification (Rom. 6:14; 2 Cor. 5:21; Phil. 3:20–21).

IX. SATAN AND ANGELS

We believe in the existence of the person of Satan. He was created by God as the greatest of angels, but later rebelled against God. After he fell, he organized his own kingdom, which consists of both evil angels and unregenerate man. He is currently the ruler-god of this age. Satan's ultimate goal is to overthrow God. He seeks to keep the unsaved from becoming saved. He seeks to hinder and destroy the Christian's testimony and ministry for God.

We believe that both Satan and his evil angels will be consigned to the eternal Lake of Fire after the Millennium (Isa. 14:12–17; Ezek. 28:11–19; Mt. 25:41; Jn. 8:44; Rev. 20:7–10).

We believe that there is an innumerable host of angels who remained faithful and true to God. They are servants to the Most High God and are ministering spirits to those who are heirs of salvation (Ps. 91:11–12; Mt. 4:6; Acts 12:7–10; Rev. 7:11).

X. CHURCH

We believe that the true Church is a universal, invisible, living organism and that it is the "body of Christ" who is Himself the head of this body. The universal Church is made up of regenerate, redeemed believers only (1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:22–23; 5:23; Col. 1:18).

We believe that the Church began on the day of Pentecost; that every believer was indwelt/baptized by the Holy Spirit into the one body of Christ, which is the Universal Church (Jn. 14:16–17; Acts 1:4–5; 2:1–4; 1 Cor. 12:13).

We believe that the Scriptures teach that there are to be local churches. These churches are to be the visible representation of the body of Christ in the local community. Local churches are to observe the ordinances of Christ and seek to do the will of God (Mt. 28:19–20; Acts 20:28; 1 Cor. 1:2; 11:23–28).

We believe that the local church should be totally committed to the edifying (developing to maturity) of the believers and also should have an active outreach in evangelism (1 Cor. 14; Eph. 4:11–16).



XI. ISRAEL

We believe that Israel is God's chosen national people (Gen. 28:13). In God's sovereign will, Israel serves as a channel of His blessing to the entire world (Gen. 12:3) for His glory (Isa. 43:7), and His witness to the nations (Isa. 43:10). God's election of Israel for this unique relationship is irrevocable (Ro. 11:28-29).

We believe Israel is distinct from the church and central to God's plan, past, present, and future. The unfulfilled prophecies given to Israel in the Old Testament will find their literal fulfillment in Israel at a future time (Ps. 105:6-10).

XII. ESCHATOLOGY

We believe in the premillennial and pretribulational return of Jesus Christ. This means that Christ's return for His Bride (the Church) is imminent and therefore can happen at any moment (1 Th. 4:13-17; 5:6).

We believe that, following the Rapture of the Church; the seven-year Tribulation Period (Daniel's 70th week, or the Time of Jacob's Trouble) will take place (Dan. 9:24-27; 2 Th. 2:3-4).

We believe that following the Tribulation, the Millennium will begin. It will be brought about by the literal, physical, visible, bodily return of the Lord Jesus Christ to the earth to rule and to reign for one thousand years (Zech. 14:1-4; Rev. 19:20).

XIII. ETERNAL STATE

We believe in the eternal punishment of the lost and the eternal bliss of the redeemed (Jn. 3:16; Rev. 20:11-15).