



## **ISRAEL, THE MIDDLE EAST, AND THE ETERNAL STORY**

### **SYLLABUS**

Sarah Sutherland, Adjunct Professor

#### **Class Duration:**

- eight weeks

#### **Course Textbooks:**

- *It Must Be Finished: Making Sense of the Return of Jesus* by Samuel Whitefield
- selections from *The Bible*

#### **Course Description:**

Most of what is recorded in the Bible took place in the Middle East. The Bible teaches that in the last days, the focus of the world will again shift back to the Middle East and Israel, where life on earth will end as Jesus makes His return. Today we are witnessing these events begin to fall into place. Biblical history is rooted in Middle Eastern countries, and a large part of the prophecies spoken over these countries are yet to be fulfilled. Even so, many people in the West are unaware of these end-time events. As believers in Christ, we understand that God still has many plans for the Middle East and that Gentiles are also called to understand and engage in these events. This beautiful, foundational story of Israel will be unfolded in this class.

#### **Course Goals and Objectives:**

Students will

- understand the eternal storyline is God's continually unfolding story of His plan from the beginning of time through the end of time
- be given a foundational understanding of Israel and the Middle East
- understand how Gentiles are also called to live in light of this story

- recognize the need to partner with God in His story through prayer
- identify the eternal story and explain biblically how Israel fits into it
- explain Israel's past, present, and future role in this story
- describe some challenges Israel has faced in this role
- explain the role of Gentiles in Israel's current state
- compare/contrast the viewpoints of present-day Western Christians with the promises to Ishmael and the prophecy in Isaiah 19:23-25

### **Class Structure:**

- video lectures
- lecture quizzes
- textbook quizzes
- written assignment

### **Assessments:**

- **Reading and Quiz Schedule:**

Week One	<i>It Must Be Finished: Making Sense of the Return of Jesus</i> - Chapters 1-2 Lecture Quiz 1 Textbook Quiz 1
Week Two	<i>It Must Be Finished: Making Sense of the Return of Jesus</i> - Chapters 3-4 Lecture Quiz 2 Textbook Quiz 2
Week Three	<i>It Must Be Finished: Making Sense of the Return of Jesus</i> - Chapters 5-6 Lecture Quiz 3 Textbook Quiz 3
Week Four	<i>It Must Be Finished: Making Sense of the Return of Jesus</i> - Chapters 7-8 Lecture Quiz 4 Textbook Quiz 4
Week Five	<i>It Must Be Finished: Making Sense of the Return of Jesus</i> - Chapters 9-10 Lecture Quiz 5 Textbook Quiz 5
Week Six	<i>It Must Be Finished: Making Sense of the Return of Jesus</i> - Chapters 11-12 Lecture Quiz 6 Textbook Quiz 6
Week Seven	<i>It Must Be Finished: Making Sense of the Return of Jesus</i> - Chapters 13-14 Lecture Quiz 7 Textbook Quiz 7
Week Eight	<i>It Must Be Finished: Making Sense of the Return of Jesus</i> - Chapters 15-17 Lecture Quiz 8 Textbook Quiz 8

- **Writing Assignment and Rubric:**

Details can be found within the course 'Assignment' tab on the student portal.

*\*\* A final grade of 70 or above must be achieved to pass this class.*