

EXTRA CREDIT OPTIONS
BST 101/BI 501
OLD TESTAMENT

Want to boost your point total and reinforce what we're learning in class and prepare for exams???? You are welcome to pursue any of the following extra credit options. Points will be assigned based on the amount of work done, as well as the quality of the work and thought (up to 5 course points maximum per project, usually for 3).

1) **Make a family tree of the Patriarchs in Genesis.** Show the different generations, marriages, and relationships.

2) Listen to the **soundtrack of the musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.** Write a brief critical interaction paper (need not be typed, just legible). How did the performance give you a new appreciation for/perspective on Genesis 37-50? Which parts disturbed you? Why? How close was the retelling to the actual Biblical story? Where did it take poetic license/make significant changes/distort?

3) Make a **timeline of the Old Testament** for your own reference and for teaching others. Include significant Biblical characters and events, the history of God's people, and secular history of the period. May be done on paper or as a multi-media presentation.

4) Read a **historical novel based on the life of an Old Testament character.** Write a brief critical interaction paper (need not be typed, just legible). How did the book's historical fiction give you a new appreciation for the Biblical story? Was it helpful to have the author fill in details that are not mentioned in the Biblical text? Did the portrayal help you to understand the cultural background better? Was the recounting faithful to the Biblical text? Did the author take liberties with the text, or even distort what was said in the Bible?

5) Listen to ***The Ancient Faith*, the musical trilogy by Michael Card** which tells the story of the Old Testament. Write a brief (need not be typed, just legible) interaction paper to share your evaluation of the creative work that Card has done. Do his songs catch the essence of what you believe to be the message of the Old Testament and its theology? Why or why not? Did listening to these pieces help you understand any parts of the Old Testament better? If so, how and why? (Not extra credit if you elect to do this for the journal.)

6) Read **Philip Yancey, *The Bible Jesus Read*.** Write a brief (need not be typed, just legible) critical interaction paper that evaluates the book. Did reading this work help you better to understand/"catch the flavor of" the Old Testament? If so, how and why?

7) **Make a parallel chart and timeline of the kings of Israel and Judah** from the beginning of the Divided Kingdom to the fall of Jerusalem (i.e., c. 930-587 BC).

8) **Make a timeline of the prophets of Israel and Judah** from the 8th century through the post-exilic period. Correlate the prophets with the locations of their activity (North, South, in exile, etc.) and the significant events of the day which impacted their ministries.

9) Research and create a visual display of **clothing and style in Ancient Israel.**

10) Build a scale model of **the Wilderness Tabernacle.** Document your work by writing a brief description (1-2 pages) of your process and then either bringing the model to class to show the

instructor or by taking pictures to include with your written description.

11) Order Tim Dowley and Peter Pohle, Solomon's Temple Model: The Illustrated History of Solomon's Temple (A Kregel Pictorial Guide). Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2003. Build the cardboard scale model of **Solomon's Temple** included in the book. Document your work by writing a brief description (1-2 pages) of your process and then either bringing the model to class to show the instructor or by taking pictures to include with your written description.

12) Research and create a visual display or model of an **Israelite four room house**. Write a brief description (1-2 pages) of what life would have been like there.

13) Research ancient Israelite and Near Eastern **military armor and equipment**. Create a visual display of models arrayed in this armor and using this equipment.

14) Research the topography and military strategies of a particular **battle in the history of ancient Israel**. Create a diorama and brief description (1-2 pages) of the battle.