

SYLLABUS

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY I

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines what the Bible teaches regarding four areas of doctrine: 1) The Bible. Special focus is given to the Bible's authority, inspiration, canonicity, inerrancy, and sufficiency. 2) God. Special focus is given to the personality of God, the attributes of God, and the decrees of God. 3) Man. Special focus is given to the nature of man and the sinfulness of man. 4) Salvation. Special focus is given to the atonement of Jesus and to conversion. The students will learn the value of a systematic study of God's Word to discern how to live, think, serve, and worship God. A Christ-like life is the main objective of all study of theology.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Doxological Objective: The students will learn the value of a systematic study of God's Word regarding the subjects of the Bible, God, Man and Salvation. This study will help us to discern how to love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength. A Christ-like life that worships God is the main objective of all study of theology.
2. Ministerial Objective: The students will be able to communicate to unbelievers and to fellow Christians what the Bible says about itself, about God, about ourselves and about salvation. They will be able to identify and defend against various attacks made against the Bible within the church. The students will be able to communicate more clearly the person of God to others who do not know Him. They will be able to defend against various heretical views of God that might afflict the church. The students will be able to communicate more clearly the infinite gravity of sin and man's need for redemption. They will be able to defend against various false views of man and sin that diminish the church's effectiveness in evangelism. The students will be able to communicate the Gospel as ambassadors of God and to defend the Gospel against various attacks.
3. Soteriological Objective: The students will grasp more clearly their own need for God's grace and His provision for them in the Gospel. They will discover that the driving goal of life is to glorify God by enjoying Him forever. They will rejoice in the Gospel as God's instrument to save us from sin's penalty and power.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Requirements

The following are the requirements for those who wish to receive full credit for the completion of this twelve-week course:

1. Attendance: Attend at least ten of the twelve sessions (unless excused by the instructor).
2. Readings: Complete 100% of the assigned readings.
3. Quizzes: Receive a passing grade on the quizzes.
4. Paper: Complete three papers
5. Complete a final project

IV. COURSE TEXTBOOKS

Primary

Grudem, Wayne. *Systematic Theology*. Grand Rapids: MI. Zondervan, 1994.

V. COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1 (Sept 14)

Session 1: Introduction to Systematics
Session 2: General and Specific Revelation
Reading: Chapters 1–2

Week 2 (Sept 21)

Session 1: Revelation and Inspiration
Session 2: Clarity and Inerrancy
Reading: Chapters 5–7

Week 3 (Sept 28)

Session 1: Authority and Sufficiency
Session 2: Canonicity and Textual Criticism
Reading: Chapters 3, 4, and 8

Quiz

Week 4 (Oct 5)

Session 1: Personality of God
Reading: Chapters 9–12

Paper Due: Inerrancy/Sufficiency of Scripture

Week 5 (Oct 12)

Session 1: Goodness of God
Session 2: Triunity of God – Part 1
Reading: Chapters 13–14

Week 6 (Oct 19)

Session 1: Triunity of God – Part 2
Session 2: Decrees of God
Reading: Chapters 16–18

Week 7 (Oct 26)

Session 1: God's Work of Creation
Session 2: Origin and Nature of Man
Reading: Chapters 15, 21, and 23

Quiz

Week 8 (Nov 2)

Session 1: Man as Male and Female
Session 2: Origin and Nature of Sin
Reading: Chapters 22, 24, and 25

Project Due: The Sovereignty of God and Human Suffering

Week 9 (Nov 9)

Session 1: Results of Sin
Session 2: The Bondage of Man's Will
Reading: Handouts

Week 10 (Nov 16)

Session 1: Angels and Demons
Session 2: The Atonement of Jesus – Part 1
Reading: Chapters 19, 20, and 27

Quiz

Week 11 (Nov 30)

Session 1: The Atonement of Jesus — Part 2
Session 2: Conversion
Reading: Chapters 27 and 35

Paper Due: The Role of Men and Women or The Bondage of the Will

Week 12 (Dec 8)

Final Projects