

SESSION ONE

Systematic Theology

I. Part 1 Studying God (Theology)

- a. Systematic Theology
- b. Advantages
- c. Disadvantages

II. Part 2 Knowing God

- a. God Reveals Himself to Humans
 - i. General Revelation- Ps 19.1; Rom 1.20
 - ii. Special Revelation – Heb 1.1-2; Ex 33.11
 - iii. God speaks through his church – 1 Tim 3.15
- b. Bibliology
 - i. Inspiration – 2 Tim 3.16
 - ii. Illumination – Eph 1.17-18; Jn 16.12-15
 - iii. Inerrancy and Authority – Autographs vs. Transmission
 - 1. “The Bible is completely inerrant and authoritative in all that it actually purports to say.”

III. Part 3 What God is like (Theology proper)

- a. The Characteristics of God
 - i. God is Spirit – Jn 4.24

- ii. Omnipresence – Jer 23.23-24
- iii. Omniscience – Jn. 3.20; Heb 4.13
- iv. Omnipotence – Eph. 1.18-23
- v. Impassible ?? – Acts 14.15
- vi. Immutability – Ps 33.11; Num 23.19
- vii. Goodness – Ps 73.25
- viii. Holiness – 1 Pet 1.16
- ix. Justice – Deut 32.4
- x. Perfection – Deut 32.4
- xi. Patience – Exod 34.6
- xii. Love – 1 Jn 4.8; Jn 3.16
- xiii. Wrath – Rom 1.18, 28

b. Three in oneness

- i. God is Three Persons – 2 Cor 13.14; Mat 28.19-20
- ii. Each person is fully God – Jn 1.1-4
- iii. God is one – Deut 6.4

IV. Part 4 What God Does (Theology proper)

- a. Gods plan – Three Theories about God’s Will and Ours – Acts 2.23; Eph 1.4-

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- i. Absolute Free Will, or degrees thereof
- ii. Script Theory
- iii. Ship Theory

- b. God's original work: Creation – Gen 1.1; Col 1.17; Heb 11.3
- c. God's continuing work: Providence – Acts 17.26-28
- d. God's special agents: angels and demons (Angelology)

V. Part 5 Humanity (Theological Anthropology)

- a. The Origin of Humanity – Gen 1.26-28
- b. The image of God in humanity – Gen 9.6
 - i. Views of men and women:
 - ii. Egalitarianism – Gal 3.28-29
 - iii. Complementarianism – 1 Cor 11.3; 1 Tim 2.11-12
 - iv. Moderate Complementarianism – 1 Tim 3.1-2

VI. Part 6 Sin (Hamartiology)

- a. The nature, source, results of sin – Gen 3.1-5 → Gen 4.6-8
- b. The magnitude and social dimension of sin – Is 51.4
- c. Federal Headship of Adam – Rom 5.12
- d. Total Depravity? – Mark 7.21-23; Jer 17.9; Gen 6.5; Is 53.6
- e. Complete or Pervasive?

VII. Part 7 The person of Christ (Christology)

- a. The deity of Christ – Col 2.9
- b. The humanity of Christ – Heb 4.14-16
- c. The unity of the person of Christ – Phil 2.5-8

- d. The Virgin Birth of Christ – Isa 7.14; Luk 1.33
 - i. In order to be born “free” from sin?
 - ii. Just a miracle to illustrate his Deity and Humanity?
 - iii. Just an occasion to fulfill prophecy?

VIII. Part 8 The work of Christ (Christology)

- a. The ministry of Christ
- b. Atonement
 - i. Limited – 1 Jon 4.10; Eph 5.25
 - ii. Unlimited – 1 Jon 2.2; Jon 3.16

IX. Part 9 The Holy Spirit (Pneumatology)

- a. The Person of the Holy Spirit – Jn 14.
- b. The Work of the Holy Spirit
 - i. Comforter – Jn 14.26
 - ii. Helper – Jn 14.26
 - iii. Empowerer – Acts 1.8
 - iv. Guider – Jn 14.26
 - v. Teacher – Jn 14.26
 - vi. Rebuker – Acts 5.3
- c. Issues regarding the Holy Spirit
 - i. Sign Gifts? Cessationism? 1 Cor. 12

X. Part 10 Salvation (Soteriology)

- a. What? – Col 3.1-4
 - i. Salvation from the Condemnation of Sin (Justification) – Rom 8.1
 - ii. Salvation from the Power of Sin (Sanctification) – Heb 10.14
 - iii. Salvation from the Presence of Sin (Glorification) – 1 Cor 15.42-43; Col 3.4
- b. How?
 - i. The Death of Jesus/Blood of Christ – 2 Cor 5.21
 - ii. Belief – Rom 10.9
 - iii. How much must you know? – Gen 15.6
 - iv. What, if anything, must accompany belief –
 - 1. Baptism? - 1 Pet. 3.21
 - 2. Repentance? – Mark 1.15
 - 3. Works of some kind? James 2.17
 - 4. Nothing at all? Eph 2.8-9
- c. Who?
 - i. Those predestined to believe – Eph 1.3-12
 - ii. Those who choose to believe – Rom 10.9

XI. Part 11 The church (Ecclesiology)

- a. The Church exists in both Universal and Local form
- b. Contemporary expressions of church are diverse, but typically share universal features

- i. Some form of government/authority
 - ii. Gathering
 - iii. Worshipping
 - iv. Teaching
- c. Is the Bible Descriptive or Prescriptive? – Acts 2.42-44
- d. Church and Israel
 - i. Covenant Theology – Church replaces Israel
 - ii. Dispensational – Church is a “parenthesis” in God’s plan, God is still committed to ethnic/National Israel

XII. Part 12 The last things (Eschatology)

- a. The second coming
 - i. Unexpected – Mat 24.44
 - ii. Unknown time – Mat 24.36
 - iii. Visible and Unmistakable – Mat 24.30
 - iv. Imminently – Rev 22.20
 - v. Delaying – 2 Pet 3.4-9
- b. Millennial and tribulation views – Rev. 4-20
 - i. Pre-Millennial
 - ii. Post-Millennial
 - iii. Amillennial