

**AN OUTLINE
OF
BIBLICAL DOCTRINE
(SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY)**

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LESSON 1: INTRODUCTION TO SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

A. IMPORTANCE OF BIBLICAL DOCTRINE

- Eternal salvation (2 Thess. 2:10-12; 2 Tim. 2:3-4)
- Personal victory over sin (Jn. 8:31-32; 17:17; Phil. 1:9-11)
- Edification and unity of the church (Eph. 4:11-16)
- Defence of the faith against false teachers and heresies (Titus 1:9; Jude 3)
- Explanation of the faith to unbelievers (1 Pet. 3:15)
- Conveyance of the faith to the next generation (Deut. 6:1-9; 2 Tim. 1:14; 2:2)

B. DEFINITION OF SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

1. **Theology** – etymologically: the study of God

2. Kinds of Theology

- **Biblical Theology** – of specific eras or authors in the Bible (e.g. Pauline theology)
- **Historical Theology** – development of doctrine in history
- **Dogmatic Theology** – theology as expressed through the creeds and confessions
- **Systematic Theology** – systematic exposition and arrangement of Biblical doctrines

3. Nature of Systematic Theology

- At a basic level it is a topical study of the Bible (e.g. God, Christ, salvation, angels)
- Systematic and integrated arrangement of what the Bible teaches

4. Major Categories of Systematic Theology

Bibliology – Scripture

Theology proper – God

Christology – Christ

Pneumatology – Holy Spirit

Angelology - angels

Anthropology – man

Hamartiology – sin

Soteriology – salvation

Ecclesiology – church

Eschatology – last things (the future)

C. SOURCE AND METHOD OF SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

- Source: Scripture
- Method: exegesis → classified arrangement → organization and integration

D. DEVELOPMENT OF SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

- Systematic theology has developed through church history
- Relationship between systematic theology and historical theology
- Place of heresy, error, and controversy in the development of systematic theology
- Purpose and value of the creeds and confessions in church history

E. DANGERS OF SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

- Proof-texting, taking Scripture out of context to support a view
- Turning Biblical truth into merely a philosophy or a worldview (cf. 1 Thess. 2:13; Heb. 4:12)
- Intellectualism, scholasticism, arrogant love of knowledge (cf. Matt. 23:23-24)
- Over-systematizing, unwarranted speculation (Deut. 29:29)
- Love of controversy (2 Tim. 2:23; Titus 3:9)

LESSON 2: DOCTRINE OF SCRIPTURE (BIBLIOLOGY)

A. KEY SCRIPTURES

- Old Testament: Josh. 1:6-9; Ps. 1, 19, 119; Prov. 13:13-14; 30:5-6; Eccl. 12:9-12; Is. 55:8-13
- New Testament: Mat. 5:17-19; Jn. 8:31-32; 17:17; 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:14-17; Heb. 4:12; James 1:17; 1 Pet. 1:23; 2 Pet. 1:16-21; Rev. 22:18-19

B. WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES REGARDING ITSELF

1. Identification of Scripture - a clearly defined body of written literature

- Josh. 1:8 – *this book of the law* (cf. Deut. 17:18; 31:9-11; Jn. 5:46-47)
- Lk. 24:44 – *written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms*
- 2 Tim. 3:16 – *all Scripture* (γραφη - that which is written) (cf. Jn. 5:39; 2 Pet. 3:16)
- Prov. 30:6 – *add thou not unto his words* (cf. Rev. 22:18-19)

2. Origin of Scripture

a. **Scripture is divine revelation**

- *Thus saith the Lord* (415x); *the Lord said* (219x); *word of the Lord* (258x)
- *Word of God* (49x); *law of the Lord* (21x); *commandment(s) of the Lord* (59x)

b. **Scripture is inspired by God** (2 Tim. 3:16)

- *Inspired* - θεόπνευστος (theopneustos) – *God-breathed* – spoken by God
- **Verbal** inspiration – the words are inspired (2 Sam. 23:2; Jer. 1:9; 1 Cor. 2:10-13)
- **Plenary** inspiration – all the words are inspired (Matt. 5:18; 2 Tim. 3:16)
- Applies to the original Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek autographs

c. **Scripture was given through the prophets** (Heb. 1:1-2; 2 Pet. 1:20-21)

3. Nature of Scripture

- Scripture is true (Ps. 19:9; Dan. 10:21; Jn. 8:31-32; 17:17; Titus 1:2; James 1:18)
 - **Infallible / inerrant** – without error in doctrine, facts, history, or science
- Scripture is authoritative (Prov. 13:13; Deut. 29:18-20; 2 Tim. 4:2)
- Scripture is good (Ps. 19:7-10; 119:7,39)
- Scripture is powerful (Is. 55:11; Eph. 6:17; 1 Thess. 2:13; Heb. 4:12; cf. 2 Cor. 10:3-6)
- Scripture is sufficient (2 Tim. 3:15-17; 2 Pet. 1:3-4)
- Scripture is clear (Ps. 119:105; Is. 8:20; Acts 17:11)
- Scripture is complete (Rev. 22:18-19)

C. HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENTS, CONTROVERSIES, ERRORS

- Definition and recognition of the canon (1st-4th centuries)
- Higher criticism / Theological Liberalism (19th c.) – attack on the historicity of the Scriptures
- Neo-orthodoxy (20th c.) – “the Bible contains the Word of God” – subjectivism
- Charismatic Movement (20th c.) – ongoing prophecy

LESSON 3: DOCTRINE OF GOD, PART 1 (THEOLOGY PROPER)

A. KEY SCRIPTURES

- Old Testament: Gen. 1:1; 17:1; Ex. 3:14; 34:6-7; Lev. 11:44; Deut. 4:39; 6:4; 32:4; 1 Sam. 2:1-10; 1 Chr. 29:10-13; Ps. 29,93,99,103,139; Jer. 10:1-16; Is. 40-48; 57:15; Dan. 4:34-37; Nah. 1:1-7
- Matt. 28:19; Rom. 1:1-7; 11:33-36; Rev. 4-5; 20:11-15; 22:1-5

B. THE NAMES OF GOD

- *Elohim* (God) – 2,550x in OT (Gen. 1:1)
- *Adonai* (Lord) – 449x in OT (Gen. 15:8)
- *Yahweh* (LORD; Jehovah) – 6,828x in OT (Gen. 2:4, see esp. Ex. 3:13-15)
- Compound names (e.g. *El Shaddai – God Almighty; Jehovah Jireh – The Lord Provides*)
- Other names (*The Almighty, The Most High, The Rock, The Holy One, Jealous*)

C. THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

1. Essence

- **personality** – God is a Person
- **simplicity** – God is indivisible
- **unity** – God is one (monotheism)
- **triunity** – God is Three-in-One

2. Greatness

- **aseity** – God is self-existent
- **omnipotence** – God is all-powerful
- **omniscience** – God is all-knowing
- **omnipresence** – God is everywhere present
- **eternality** – God is eternal
- **immutability** – God is unchanging
- **omnisapience** – God is all-wise
- **incomprehensibility** – God beyond our comprehension

3. Goodness

- **holiness** – God is separate from His creation, separate from sin and evil
- **righteousness and justice** – God acts in accordance with His character
- **truth and faithfulness** – God is genuine, without deceit, and keeps His Word
- **mercy** – God has pity towards those in misery
- **grace** – God shows unmerited favor toward sinners
- **love** – God is self-revealing, self-giving for the benefit of His creation
- **longsuffering** – God is slow to anger and patient toward sinners
- **jealousy** – God protects and defends His own glory

D. GOD AND THE CREATION

- Transcendent, distinct, separate, incomprehensible (Ps. 99; Is. 6:1-4; 55:8-9)
- Immanent, present, involved, knowable (Ex. 29:45-46; Acts 17:24-28; Heb. 1:1-3)
- Isaiah 57:15

E. THE WORKS OF GOD

- Creation (Gen. 1-2; Ps. 104)
- Sovereign Rule (Ps. 29:10; 93:1-2; Rom. 11:36)
- Redemption (Ps. 3:8; Is. 59:16; Rom. 8:29-32)

F. HISTORICAL ERRORS

- Pantheism / panentheism – denies Creator / creature distinction
- Deism – denies the immanence of God in His creation and written revelation
- Unitarianism – denies the Trinity
- Process theology / open theism – denies immutability, omniscience, sovereignty

LESSON 4: DOCTRINE OF GOD, PART 2 (THEOLOGY PROPER)

A. THE DEFINITION OF THE TRINITY

The doctrine that there is one only and true God, but in the unity of the Godhead there are three coeternal and coequal Persons, the same in substance but distinct in subsistence (Warfield, Works, 2:133).

B. BIBLICAL TESTIMONY OF THE TRINITY

1. Old Testament

- a. Unity of God is established in the OT (Deut. 6:4; Is. 43:10-11; 46:9)
- b. Triunity of God is intimated in the OT
 - Plural form of the divine name *Elohim*
 - Use of plural pronouns with reference to God (Gen. 1:26; 3:22; 11:7; Is. 6:8)
 - Distinctions made between God and God (Ps. 45:6-7; 110:1; Is. 44:6; Hos. 1:7)
 - The Angel of the Lord (Gen. 16:2-13; 22:11-16; 31:11-13; Ex. 3:2-5; Judg. 13:20-22)
 - Word and Wisdom of God personified (Ps. 33:4,6; Prov. 8:12-31)
 - Deity of the Messiah (Is. 7:14; 9:6; 40:3,10; Micah 5:2; Zech. 14:3-4)
 - References to all three Persons in one verse (Ps. 33:6; Is. 61:1; 63:8-12)

2. New Testament

- Unity of God affirmed (Jn. 17:3; 1 Cor. 8:4; 1 Tim. 2:5)
- Deity attributed to three Persons (Jn. 6:27; Heb. 1:8; 1 Cor. 3:16)
- Three Persons mentioned together as co-equal (Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14; Eph. 4:4-6)
- Three Persons are distinct (Matt. 3:16-17; 17:1-6; Jn. 1:1-2; 14:16; 17:1-5)
- Doctrine of the Trinity was revealed through the gospel

In a word, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are the fundamental proof of the doctrine of the Trinity (Warfield, 2:146).

C. NATURE OF THE TRINITY

- There is in God one indivisible essence (unity and simplicity of God)
- There are three distinct Persons in the one God
- The whole undivided essence of God belongs equally to each of the three Persons
- The three Persons are coequal and coeternal
- The Son is eternally begotten of the Father (eternal generation)
- The Spirit is eternally proceeding from the Father and the Son (eternal spiration)

D. HISTORICAL CONTROVERSIES, ERRORS

- Subordinationism – denies coequality of the essence of the Persons
- Tritheism – denies the unity of the essence of the Godhead
- Modalism (Sabellianism, Patripassianism) – denies the distinction of the Persons

LESSON 5: DOCTRINE OF CHRIST (CHRISTOLOGY)

A. PROPHECIES REGARDING CHRIST (e.g. Gen. 3:15; 49:8-12; Nu. 24:15-19; Ps. 2, 110; Is. 9:6-7; 11,53)

B. LIFE OF CHRIST

1. Incarnation (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)

- Virgin birth & sinless life
- 3 ½ year ministry in Israel – teaching and miracles
- Trial, death, burial, resurrection, ascension

2. Present Ministry of Christ (Heb. 1:3; 4:14-16; 8:1; 1 Pet. 3:22)

3. Future Return and Reign of Christ on the Earth (Matt. 24-25; Rev. 19-22)

C. NAMES OF CHRIST - Lord Jesus Christ, Son of Man, Son of God, Son of David, Emmanuel, Shepherd, Lion of Judah, Word of God, The Lamb, etc.

D. PERSON OF CHRIST (Jn. 1:1-18; Rom. 1:3-4; Phil. 2:5-11; Col. 1:15-18; 2:9; Heb. 1; Rev. 1:5-7; 5)

1. Pre-existence and Eternality of the Son (Is. 9:6; Mic. 5:2; Jn. 1:1-3,30; 3:17; 8:58; 17:5; Gal. 4:4; Col. 1:16-17; Heb. 1:1-3,8; Rev. 1:8)

2. The Incarnation - the eternal Son took on flesh (Jn. 1:14; Rom. 1:3-4; Gal. 4:4; Phil. 2:6-8; 1 Tim. 3:16)

a. **His Humanity** (Matt. 4:2; Lk. 2:7,40,52; 19:41; Jn. 4:6-7; 11:35; 19:30; Acts 17:31; 1 Tim. 2:5)

b. **His Deity**

- Attributes of God (Matt. 8:24-32; 18:20; Lk. 5:4-8; Jn. 1:47-49; 11:43-44; Heb. 13:8)
- Works of God (Mk. 2:5-12; Jn. 1:3; 5:36; 6:1-14; 9:32-33; Col. 1:16-17; Heb. 1:2-3)
- Received Worship (Matt. 21:15-16; Jn. 5:23; 9:35-38)
- His Declarations (Matt. 26:63-64; Jn. 5:17-18; 8:58-59; 10:30-33; 14:9; Rev. 1:8)
- His Names (Lk. 20:41-44; Jn. 5:25; 10:36; Rom. 10:9)
- Declarations of Scripture (Jn. 1:1; 12:37-41; 20:28; Rom. 9:5; Phil. 2:6; Col. 2:9; Titus 2:13; Heb. 1:8; 1 Jn. 5:20)

c. **Hypostatic Union** - relationship between His human and divine natures

- 100% God . . . 100% man . . . one theanthropic Person: (two natures, one Person)
- Council of Chalcedon (451):

*One and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-begotten, to be acknowledged in two natures, **inconfusedly, unchangeably, indivisibly, inseparably**, the distinction of natures being by no means taken away by the union, but rather the property of each nature being preserved, and concurring in one Person and one Subsistence, not parted or divided into two persons, but one and the same Son, and only begotten, God the Word, the Lord Jesus Christ.*

d. **Kenosis** (Phil. 2:7 – κενωω – to empty, make empty)

- Of what did Christ empty himself?
- Christ, in his humility, laid aside the independent use of his divine attributes
- Christ, in his humility, took on the limitations of humanity (Phil. 2:7b-8)

E. OFFICES / WORK OF CHRIST

- **Prophet** (Deut. 18:15; Lk. 13:33; Jn. 3:11-13; 8:26-29; Heb. 1:1-2) – speaks for God
- **Priest** (1 Tim. 2:5; Heb. 2:17; 3:1; 4:14-16; 5:1-10; 7:1-28; 10:11-14) – intercedes for man
- **King** (2 Sam. 7:12-16; Ps. 2; Is. 9:6-7; Matt. 25:31; Jn. 18:33-37; Rev. 20:4) – reigns over man

F. HISTORICAL CONTROVERSIES, ERRORS

- Docetism (2nd c.) – denied the real humanity of Christ – his humanity was only apparent
- Adoptionism (2nd c.) – Christ was a man, who was then adopted as the Son of God
- Arianism (4th c.) – Christ was the first and highest created being, not equal with the Father
- Nestorianism (5th c.) – Christ was in essence two persons (one human, one divine)
- Eutychianism (5th c.) – monophysitism – Christ had only one nature
- Monothelitism (7th c.) – Christ had only one will (an extension of monophysitism)
- Socinianism (16th c.) – unitarian rationalism, denied the atoning work of Christ
- Modern Liberalism (19th c.) – denied the deity of Christ

LESSON 6: DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (PNEUMATOLOGY)

A. KEY SCRIPTURES (Jn. 14-16; Acts 2; Rom. 8; 1 Cor. 6:19; Gal. 5:16-26; Eph. 5:18-21; 2 Pet. 1:21)

B. PERSONALITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (Jn. 14:16-17,26; 16:13-14; Acts 10:19-20; 13:2; Rom. 8:26-27)

- The Spirit is not an impersonal force, but a Person, having intellect, will, emotions, etc.

C. DEITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- Divine Names (Spirit of God, Spirit of the LORD, Spirit of Christ, Eternal Spirit, Spirit of Truth, Spirit of Glory)
- Divine Attributes (Job 33:4; Ps. 139:7-8; Rom. 1:4; 8:11; 1 Cor. 2:10-11; Heb. 9:14; 1 Jn. 5:6)
- Divine Works (Gen. 1:2; Job 33:4; Matt. 12:28; 1 Cor. 6:11; Eph. 1:17; Titus 3:5; 1 Pet. 3:18)
- Divine Associations (Matt. 12:31-32; 28:19; Acts 5:3-4; 28:25-27; 2 Cor. 13:14; 1 Pet. 1:2)

D. SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- Dove (Mat. 3:16); pledge (Eph. 1:14); seal (Eph. 1:13); fire (Acts 2:3); oil (1 Jn. 2:20); water (Jn. 7:37-39); wind (Jn. 3:8)

E. WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- Creation (Gen. 1:2; Job 33:4)
- Revelation and inspiration of Scripture (2 Sam. 23:2; 2 Pet. 1:21)
- Conviction of sin (Jn. 16:8-11)
- Regeneration and sanctification of the believer (Titus 3:5; 1 Pet. 1:2)

F. PROGRESSIVE REVELATION REGARDING THE SPIRIT

- Ministry in the OT (Gen. 1:2; Ex. 31:1-5; Judges 14:5-6,19; 2 Sam. 23:2)
- Ministry in the life of Christ (Matt. 3:16-17; 4:1; Lk. 4:1,14,16-21; Rom. 8:11; 1 Pet. 3:18)
- Anticipation of the coming of the Spirit in the Gospels (Matt. 3:11-12; Jn. 7:37-39; 14-16)

- Coming of the Spirit in Acts / explanation of the doctrine of the Spirit in the epistles

G. MINISTRY OF THE SPIRIT IN THE LIFE OF THE BELIEVER

- Baptism of the Spirit (Acts 1:5; 1 Cor. 12:13; cf. Rom. 6:1-4)
- Sealing of the Spirit (2 Cor. 1:22; Eph. 1:13; 4:30)
- Indwelling of the Spirit (Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 6:19)
- Filling of the Spirit (Eph. 5:18-21; cf. Gal. 5:22-23; Col. 3:16-17)
- Illumination of the Spirit (1 Cor. 2:9-16; Eph. 1:17-18; 1 Jn. 2:20-27)
- Gifts of the Spirit (1 Cor. 12:1-12; cf. Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:28-31; Eph. 4:11; 1 Pet. 4:10)
- Comfort, help, assurance, intercession (Jn. 14:16-18; 16:7; Rom. 8:16,26-27)
- Guide into truth (Jn. 16:13-15)

H. HISTORICAL CONTROVERSIES, ERRORS

- What is the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit? (Matt. 12:31-32)
- Denial of His personality and deity (forms of unitarianism)
- Definition and nature of Spirit baptism – Does it always coincide with conversion?
- Continuation of revelatory and sign gifts (e.g. Pentecostal / Charismatic Movement - 20th c.)

LESSON 7: DOCTRINE OF ANGELS (ANGELOLOGY)

A. ANGELS (Job 38:6-7; Ps. 91:11-12; 103:20-21; Is. 6:1-4; Ez. 1; Dan. 10; Matt. 22:30; Lk. 1:11-38; Eph. 3:10; 6:12; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:4-14; 13:2; 2 Pet. 2:11; Rev. 5:11; 12:7)

1. Nature of Angels (Heb. 1:14; Mk. 12:25; Lk. 20:36; Heb. 12:22)

- *Angel* in both Hebrew and Greek means *messenger* or *sent one* (cf. Ps. 103:30-21)
- Created spirit beings, moral, intelligent, do not marry, cannot die, not in the image of God
- Higher than man (Heb. 2:7; 2 Pet. 2:11)
- Innumerable (Heb. 12:22; Rev. 5:11)

2. Classification of Angels

- Hierarchy (Dan. 10:13; Eph. 3:10; Col. 1:16)
- Cherubim and seraphim (Gen. 3:24; Ex. 25:17-22; Is. 6:1-3; Ez. 1)
- Named angels
 - Michael the Archangel (Dan. 10:13; Jude 9; Rev. 12:7)
 - Gabriel (Dan. 8:16; Lk. 1:19,26)

3. Ministry of Angels

- General statements (Ps. 34:7; 91:11-12; 103:20-21; Heb. 1:14)
- Specific examples (Gen. 3:24; 19:15-16; Dan. 10; Matt. 13:39-42,49-50; Acts 5:19; 10:1-8; 12:1-11; 27:22-24; Rev. 7:1-2; 8:6; 12:7; 14:6-11; 16:1)
- In the Life of Christ (Matt. 2:13,19-20; 4:11; 28:2-7; Lk. 1:11-38; 22:43; Acts 1:10-11)

B. DEMONS (Deut. 32:17; Ps. 106:37; 1 Sam. 18:10; 1 Kings 22:21-22; Matt. 4:24; 8:16,28-34; 12:24-28; 25:41; 1 Cor. 10:20-21; Eph. 6:12; 1 Tim. 4:1; James 2:19; 2 Pet. 2:4; Jude 6; Rev. 9:1-11,20; 12:3-9; 16:14; 18:2)

- Origin – fallen angels (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 12:3-9; cf. Gen. 1:31-2:3)
- Activity – torment (Lk. 13:11,16; 2 Cor. 12:7), tempt (Gen. 3:1-5; 1 Thess. 3:5), deceive (Matt. 13:19; 2 Cor. 4:4; 1 Tim. 4:1; Rev. 16:14), possess (Matt. 8:28)

- Hierarchy (Eph. 6:12)
- Judgment (Matt. 8:29; 25:41; 2 Pet. 2:4; Jude 6)

C. SATAN (Gen. 3; Job 1-2; 1 Chron. 21:1; Is. 14; Ez. 28; Zech. 3:1-2; Matt. 4:1-11; 16:23; Lk. 13:16; 22:3; Jn. 8:44; 12:21; Acts 5:3; 26:18; 1 Cor. 5:5; 2 Cor. 2:11; 4:4; 11:3,14-15; Eph. 2:2;6:11; 1 Thess. 2:18; 2 Thess. 2:9; 1 Tim. 3:6-7; 2 Tim. 2:26; Heb. 2:14; James 4:7; 1 Pet. 5:8-9; 1 Jn. 3:8; Jude 9; Rev. 12-13; 20:1-10)

- Origin and fall (Is. 14:4-17; Ez. 28:11-19)
- Names – Satan, Devil, Evil One, Serpent, Lucifer, Dragon, Beelzebul, Belial, Abaddon, Apollyon, god of this world, ruler of this world, prince of the power of the air
- Nature – an angel (created, personal, moral, limited spirit)
- Character – evil (Jn. 17:15), destroyer (Jn. 8:44), liar (Jn. 8:44), deceiver (2 Cor. 11:3,14-15), accuser (Rev. 12:10)
- Judgment (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 20:10)

LESSON 8: DOCTRINES OF MAN (ANTHROPOLOGY) AND SIN (HAMARTIOLOGY)

A. MAN (Anthropology)

1. Creation of Man (Gen. 1-3)

- His origin (Gen. 2:7) – created from the dust, received the breath of life
- His nature (Gen. 1:26-27; Eccl. 7:29) – made in the image of God
- His mandate (Gen. 1:26-28; 2:15-17) – multiply and have dominion over the earth
- Marriage and family (Gen. 2:20-25)
- Immortality of the soul (Jn. 5:28-29)

2. Constitution of Man

- Material and immaterial parts of man – body and soul (cf. Gen. 2:7)
- Aspects of the immaterial part: spirit, soul, heart, mind, conscious, will, emotions
- **Dichotomy** (body and soul) v. **trichotomy** (body, soul, and spirit) (cf. Gen. 2:7; 1 Thess. 5:23)

3. Origin of the Individual Soul (immaterial part of man)

- **Traducian theory** – the soul is received through generation from the parents
- **Creation theory** – each soul is created individually by God

4. Obligation and Judgment of Man (Ex. 20:1-17; Eccl. 12:12-13; Matt. 22:37-40)

B. SIN (Hamartiology)

1. Fall of Man

- Historical record (Gen. 3)
- **Original sin** – Adam's sin is imputed to all (Rom. 5:12-21) – Adam was our federal head
- Man is born in sin (Ps. 58:3; Eph. 2:3; 1 Pet. 1:18) – inherited guilt and pollution

2. Nature of Sin

- Biblical terminology: sin, transgression, trespass, iniquity, wickedness, ungodliness, evil, unrighteousness, rebellion
- Sin is rebellion against God's law and a violation of His character (1 Jn. 3:4; Rom. 3:23)
- Sin is rooted in pride (Is. 2:11-12)
- Sin is fundamentally an internal condition (Eph. 4:17-19; Titus 3:3)
- Sin is expressed in words and deeds

3. Consequences of Sin

- **Guilt** – condemnation, the state of being liable to punishment for violation of the law
- **Penalty** – physical death, spiritual death, eternal death (Gen. 2:17; Ez. 18:4)
- **Pollution** – sin results in corruption of the whole man, he is essentially unclean (Is. 64:6)
- **Shame** – feeling of disgrace, dishonor, consciousness of guilt
- Bondage (Jn. 8:34)
- Unrest (Is. 57:20-21)
- Under God's wrath (Jn. 3:36; Eph. 2:3; Rom. 1:18)

4. Man's Condition

- a. **Total Depravity** – man's whole being (body and soul) has been corrupted by the Fall
- b. **Total Inability** – man is unable to change his situation
 - Man is unclean (Is. 64:6; Rom. 8:8) – he is unable to please God
 - Man is blind (2 Cor. 4:4) – he is unable to perceive his real condition
 - Man is impotent (Jer. 13:23) – he is unable to change his condition
 - Man is spiritually dead (Eph. 2:1; Rom. 3:10-18) – he is unable to seek God

C. HISTORICAL CONTROVERSIES, ERRORS

- Pelagianism (4th c.) – denial of original sin, man is basically good
- Semi-Pelagianism (5th c.) – divine grace and human free will work together in salvation
- Arminianism (17th c.) – denied total depravity

LESSON 9: DOCTRINE OF SALVATION (SOTERIOLOGY)

A. GOD'S PROVISION FOR SALVATION: ATONEMENT

1. Old Testament Background (Gen. 3:21; Ex. 12:13; Lev. 16:30; 17:11; Is. 53; Jn. 1:29)
2. The Atonement Accomplished by Christ on the Cross
 - **Penal** – Christ's death paid the penalty for our sin (Is. 53:5-6)
 - **Substitution** – Christ died in our place (Is. 53; Titus 2:14; 1 Pet. 2:24)
 - **Satisfaction** – Christ satisfied the just demands of the law (Rom. 3:25-26; Col. 2:14)
 - **Propitiation** – Christ appeased the wrath of God (1 Jn. 2:2)
 - **Expiation** – Christ washed our sins away (Lev. 16:30; Ps. 103:12; Mic. 7:19)
 - **Redemption** (Mk. 10:45; Col. 1:13-14) – Christ purchased us from sin
3. The Resurrection (Rom. 1:4; 1 Cor. 15:12-22) – proof that Christ's offering of himself was accepted

B. GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

1. Eternity Past

- **Foreknowledge** (1 Pet. 1:2) – God set His love on us from all eternity
- **Election** (Eph. 1:4; 2 Thess. 2:13; 1 Pet. 1:2) – God chose us in Christ in eternity past
- **Predestination** (Eph. 1:5; Rom. 8:29) – God determined to make us into the image of Christ

2. Conversion

- **Regeneration / New Birth** (Jn. 1:12-13; 3:1-21; Titus 3:5-7) – God makes us spiritually alive through the forgiveness of our sins, giving us a new heart
- **Justification** (Rom. 3:24-5:21; Gal. 2:16; 3:24; Phil. 3:9; Titus 3:7) – God declares the sinner righteous through faith, based on the imputed righteousness of Christ
- **Faith** (Jn 1:12; Rom 3:28; 2 Thess 2:13; Heb 11:1,6) – belief in Christ as revealed in Scripture

- **Repentance** (Prov. 9:6; 28:13; Is. 55:7; Lk. 3:8-14; Acts 3:19; 17:30) – the sinner acknowledges, confesses, and forsakes his sin and turns toward God for mercy
 - **Spirit baptism / union with Christ** (1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 2:20; 3:27; Rom. 6:3-4) – the believer is spiritually united to Christ in his death and resurrection
 - **Indwelling of the Spirit** (Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; Eph. 1:13-14) – We are the temple of the Holy Spirit
3. Sanctification (Rom. 8:13; Eph. 5:25-27; 2 Cor. 3:18; Gal. 5:22-23; 1 Thess. 5:23; Heb. 13:20-21; 1 Pet. 1:13-17) – God is progressively making us holy through faith in and obedience to the Scriptures
 4. Glorification (1 Jn. 3:2; 1 Cor. 15:42-53) – We shall be made perfect in holiness when Christ returns
 5. Perseverance (Jn. 5:24; 6:44; Rom. 8:29-39; Eph. 1:13-14; 1 Jn. 2:18-19; 5:13) – those who are born again will persevere to the end

C. HISTORICAL CONTROVERSIES, ERRORS

1. Historical Controversies

a. **Augustine v. Pelagius** (4th c.)

- Augustinianism – total depravity of man, salvation by grace
- Pelagianism – man is basically good, can earn his salvation
- Semi-Pelagianism – man and God cooperate in salvation

b. **Calvinism v. Arminianism** (17th c.) – Synod of Dort (1618-19)

- Calvinism (TULIP) – man is saved by grace alone
- Arminianism – man must cooperate with God in salvation

2. Errors Regarding Soteriology

- Unbiblical, subjective views of the atonement – denial of substitution
- Sacramentalism – salvation through sacraments and rituals
- Legalism – salvation by works
- Antinomianism – license, denial of the necessity to keep God’s commandments
- Perfectionism – Christians can reach a state of moral perfection in this life
- Mysticism – salvation defined as a non-rational, inexpressible experience
- Theosis – salvation is the deification of man – man and God united in a mystical state
- Gnosticism – salvation through secret, mystical knowledge
- Asceticism – there is spiritual merit in severe self-denial, severe fasting, self-inflicted pain
- Monasticism – equates asceticism and mysticism with separation from the world

LESSON 10: DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH (ECCLESIOLOGY)

A. NATURE OF THE CHURCH

1. Definition of the Church

- a. **Universal Church** – all true believers from Pentecost to the rapture (Col. 1:18; Eph. 5:25)
 - Baptism of the Spirit / members of the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13)
- b. **Local Church** – local assembly of professing believers (1 Thess. 1:1; Rev. 2:1)
 - Elders and deacons
 - Preaching of the Word
 - Practice of the ordinances (baptism and Lord's supper)

2. Metaphors of the Church

- Body of Christ (Rom. 12:4-5; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; Eph. 4:15-16; Col. 1:18) – Christ is the Head
- Bride of Christ (Jn. 3:29; Eph. 5:22-33; 2 Cor. 11:2; Rev. 19:7) – Christ is the Bridegroom
- Temple of God (1 Cor. 3:9-17; Eph. 2:20-22; 1 Pet. 2:4-8) – Christ is the Cornerstone

3. Mission of the Church (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Eph. 4:11-16; Col. 1:28-29; 1 Tim. 3:15; 1 Pet. 2:9)

- Glorify God (Rom. 15:5-6; Eph. 3:21; 1 Pet. 2:9; 4:11)
- Uphold and adorn the truth (1 Tim. 3:15; Titus 2:1-10; Jude 3-4)
- Preach the gospel to the world (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8)
- Build up the body of Christ (Eph. 4:11-16; Col. 1:28-29; 1 Thess. 3:12-13; Jude 20)

B. THE CHURCH IN GOD'S PROGRAM

- Origin of the Church (Matt. 16:18; Acts 2; 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 2:20; 3:3-6)
- Church and Israel – distinct entities in God's program (Rom. 9-11)
- Church and the Kingdom of God – not equivalent, Church is one aspect of the Kingdom

C. ORGANIZATION OF THE LOCAL CHURCH

1. Government

- Episcopal government – rule by bishop (Lutheran, Methodist, etc.) – top down
- Presbyterian government – rule by elders (Presbyterian) – bottom up
- Congregational – rule by the congregation – independent (Baptist)

2. Leaders

- **Elders** (1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:6-9; 1 Pet. 5:1-3; elder = pastor = bishop) – spiritual leadership
- **Deacons** (Acts 6:1-6; 1 Tim. 3:8-13) – practical ministry
- Limitations regarding women (1 Cor. 11:1-16; 1 Tim. 2:11-15; 3:2-5; Titus 2:3-5) – women are not to lead or teach men in the church (no women elders or pastors)

3. Church Discipline (Matt. 18:15-20; Acts 5:1-11; 1 Cor. 5:1-13; 2 Thess. 3:6-15; 1 Tim. 5:19-21)

4. Ordinances

An ordinance can be defined as an outward rite instituted by Christ to be administered in the church as a visible sign of the saving truth of the Christian faith (Thiessen, Lectures in Systematic Theology, 323).

a. **Identification and Institution**

- Believer's baptism (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 2:38; 22:16)
- Lord's Supper / Communion (Lk. 22:15-20; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; 11:23-24)

b. **Purpose and significance** – reminders of three central truths

- Sacrificial death of Christ on our behalf
- Our union with him in his death and resurrection
- Our communion with each other in Christ as the body of Christ

D. HISTORICAL CONTROVERSIES, ERRORS

- Sacerdotalism – separation of the clergy as a priesthood
- Episcopacy – hierarchy of bishops
- Replacement theology – the church = the kingdom of God, replaced Israel (Augustine)
- State-church – union of the state and the church (Constantine / Charlemagne)
- Corruption of the ordinances - infant baptism / transubstantiation
- Dominion theology – the mission of the church is to bring the kingdom of God to earth

LESSON 11: DOCTRINE OF ISRAEL (ISRAELOLOGY)

A. KEY SCRIPTURES (Gen 12-17; Ex 12,19-24; Deut 30-33; 2 Sam 7; Is 60-66; Jer 31-33; Ez 36; Rom 9-11)

B. ORIGIN OF ISRAEL

- Patriarchs (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, twelve tribes) – Gen. 12-50
- Exodus, Passover, Sinai – birth of the nation – Exodus 19:1-6

C. HISTORY OF ISRAEL

- Patriarchal period (c. 2100 – c. 1800 B.C.) – Gen. 12-50
- In Egypt (c. 1800 – c. 1446 B.C.) – Exodus 1
- Exodus & wilderness wandering (c. 1446 – c. 1405 B.C.) – Exodus – Deuteronomy
- Conquest & judges (c. 1405 – c. 1043 B.C.) – Joshua – Judges
- United monarchy (c. 1043 – c. 930 B.C.) – 1&2 Samuel – 1 Kings 11
- Divided monarchy (c. 930 – 586 B.C.) – 1 Kings 12 – 2 Kings
- Exile / post exilic (586 B.C. – c. 430 B.C.) – Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther
- Intertestamental period (c. 430 B.C. – c. 4 B.C.) – Malachi – John the Baptist
- New Testament era (c. 4 B.C. – A.D. 70) – John the Baptist – destruction of Jerusalem

D. COVENANTS OF ISRAEL

- Abrahamic Covenant (Gen. 12, 15, 17) – promise of a people and a land
- Mosaic (Old) Covenant (Ex. 19-24) – blessing for obedience, cursing for disobedience
- Davidic Covenant (2 Sam. 7) – promise of a king
- New Covenant (Jer. 31; Ez. 36) – promise of future regeneration, eternal blessing in the land

E. RELIGION OF ISRAEL

- Mosaic Law – moral, civil, ceremonial
- Tabernacle, temple, sacrificial system
- Aaronic priesthood
- Sabbath, calendar of feasts

F. OFFICES IN ISRAEL (prophet, priest, king)

G. TEMPORARY REJECTION OF ISRAEL (Deut. 30:1-8; 32:1-43; Hos. 3:4-5; Mat. 23:34-39; Rom. 11:25-32)

- Israel would disobey God's law and experience the curses of Lev. 26 and Deut. 28
- Israel would be removed from the land and scattered over the whole earth
- In the latter days Israel would return to the Lord, be restored to the land, and be blessed

H. FUTURE GLORY OF ISRAEL

- Regathered to the land (Deut. 30:3-5; Jer. 23:3; Ez. 20:33-38; 36:24; 37:21; Matt. 24:31)
- Regenerated (Deut. 30:6; Jer. 31:31-34; Ez. 36:25-27; Zech. 12:10; Rom. 11:26)
- Delivered from her enemies (Ez. 34:28; Joel 3:9-17; Zech 12:1-9; 14:1-4)
- Christ shall rule in peace and righteousness from Jerusalem (Is. 2:2-4; 9:7; 11:1-9; Jer. 23:5-6; Zech. 14:9-11,17)

LESSON 12: DOCTRINE OF LAST THINGS (ESCHATOLOGY)

A. INDIVIDUAL ESCHATOLOGY

- Death (Gen. 2:17; 3:1-6; Eccl. 12:6-7; Ez. 18:4; Rom. 5:12; 6:23; Heb. 9:27)
- Intermediate state (Lk. 16:19-31; 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23; Rev. 20:13)
- Resurrection (Job 19:26; Dan. 12:1-3; Jn. 5:28-29; 1 Cor. 15; 1 Thess. 4:16; Rev. 20)
- Judgment (Eccl. 12:14; Mat. 12:36; Rom. 14:10; 2 Cor. 5:10; Heb. 9:27; Rev. 20:11-15)
- Heaven (Jn. 14:2; Phil. 3:20; Heb. 12:23; Rev. 21-22)
- Hell (Matt. 5:29-30; 10:28; 13:41-42, 49-50; 25:41; 2 Thess. 1:9; Rev. 14:10-11; 20:15; 21:8)

B. COSMIC ESCHATOLOGY

1. Kingdom of God in Scripture

- Universal rule of God (1 Chron. 29:10-12; Ps. 93:1)
- Mediatorial rule (Ps. 2, 110; 1 Cor. 15:24-28)
- Phases or aspects of the kingdom (past, present, future)

2. Day of the Lord (Is 2, 13; Joel; Am 5:18-20; Zeph; Zech 12-14; 1 Thess 5:2-3; 2 Pet 3:10-13; Rev 6:17)

3. Important Passages

- Relationship between Daniel and Revelation
- Dan. 9:24-27 (Seventy Weeks) – Matt. 24-25 (Olivet Discourse) – Rev. 6-20

4. Timing and Order of Events

- a. **Rapture** (Jn. 14:1-3; 1 Cor. 15:51-52; 1 Thess. 4:16-17) – the church is taken to heaven before the Great Tribulation
- b. **Great Tribulation** (Jer. 30:7; Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24; 2 Thess. 2:3-12; Rev. 6-19)
 - 7 years in length (70th week of Daniel)
 - Characterized by the wrath of God being poured out on the world (Rev. 6:17)
 - Apostasy of the church, Abomination of Desolation, reign of Antichrist

- c. **Second Coming of Christ** (Ps 2:9; Joel 3:15-17; Zech 14:4; Mat 24:30-31; Rev 1:7; 19) – Christ returns to the earth, destroys the Antichrist, and sets up his kingdom
- d. **Millennium** (Rev. 20:1-10; Is. 2:2-4; 11:6-9; 60-62; Ez. 36:28-38; Joel 3:18-21)
 - Christ reigns on the earth for 1,000 years
 - Satan is bound
 - Fulfillment of the OT kingdom promises to the nation of Israel
- e. **Great White Throne Judgment** (Rev. 20:11-15) – judgment of all the unbelieving dead
- f. **Eternal State** (Rev. 21-22) – Heaven and Hell

C. HISTORICAL CONTROVERSIES, ERRORS

1. Areas of Debate among Evangelicals

a. **Timing of the Millennium**

- Premillennialism – Christ returns before the Millennium
- Postmillennialism – Christ returns after the Millennium
- Amillennialism – there is no Millennium

b. **Nature of the Millennium**

- Dispensational Premillennialism – restoration of the nation of Israel
- Historic Premillennialism – no restoration of the nation of Israel
- Postmillennialism – the church will usher in a golden age before Christ returns
- Amillennialism – we are in the Millennium now

c. **Timing of the Rapture**

- Pre-Tribulation – the church will be taken out of the world before the Tribulation
- Mid-Tribulation/Pre-wrath – the church will be taken out in the middle of the Trib.
- Post-Tribulation – the rapture and the Second Coming are simultaneous

2. Errors Regarding Eschatology

- Annihilationism – no eternal Hell; the wicked are destroyed
- Purgatory – RCC – place where believers pay the temporal punishment of their sins
- Dating the Second Coming (e.g. Millerite movement of the 19th century – 1844)