

# AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR BIBLICAL STUDIES

## Master of Theology (Th.M)

### Master of Theology

COURSES	CREDITS
401 - GRAD. WRITING, RESEARCH AND PRESENTATION	2
501 - BIBLICAL THEOLOGY	4
502 - SURVEY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT	3
503 - OLD TESTAMENT THEOLOGY	4
504 - ANCIENT HEBREW	3
514 - OLD TESTAMENT EXEGESIS	3
505 - NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY	3
506 - NEW TESTAMENT: GOSPELS AND JESUS	3
507 - NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY	4
517 - GREEK TOOLS FOR BIBLE STUDY	3
518 - NEW TESTAMENT EXEGESIS	3
508 - CHURCH HISTORY I	3
509 - CHURCH HISTORY II	3
510 - HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY AND CHRISTIAN THOUGHT	3
511 - ADVANCED WORLDVIEW ANALYSIS (FOUNDATIONS)	3
512 - APOLOGETICS	3
513 - ETHICS	3
601 - SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY I	6
602 - SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY II	6
300 - HOMILETICS	4
402 - THESIS PRESENTATION	3
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>72 Credits 99 Weeks</b>

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

#### 1: Graduate Writing, Research and Presentation

Master Thesis Introduction  
 Thesis Guidelines  
 Format Requirements  
 Reference Manuals  
 Proposal Writing  
 Research  
 Methodology  
 Presentation  
 Proposal Submission

#### 2: Biblical Theology

##### **Biblical Training – Dr. Miles Van Pelt**

Old Testament  
 Overview of OT Theology  
 How to think about and interpret the Old Testament  
 The Purpose Driven Bible  
 How to explain in 30 seconds the contents and message of the Bible in a way that is meaningful and informative.

Order of the OT Books: Hebrew vs. English

The order of the books in Hebrew Bibles is different from the English Old Testament because of the criteria used when putting them together.

The Hebrew Order Teaches Covenant

The order of the books in the Hebrew Bible helps us understand God's covenant.

Order and Structure of the Books in the Writings

The twelve books in the Writings are divided into two groups of six. The first six books are about covenant life. The latter six books are about life in exile.

Structure of the Christian Bible

When the books of the Old Testament are ordered according to canon and covenant, they also correspond to the order of the books in the New Testament.

Seams in the Canonical and Covenantal Structure

There is thematic organization through the Old Testament canon and massive correspondence to the arrangement of the books in the New Testament.

Gospels

Paul (and others)

### **3: Survey of the Old Testament** *(10 major sections of the Old Testament studied)* **Biblical Training – Dr. Douglas Stuart**

#### **Introduction**

The purpose of this overview of the Old Testament is to focus on the content of each of the Old Testament books, the historical events that give context to the books, and specific questions that help draw out the overarching principles contained in the Old Testament. There is also an emphasis on identifying ways to use this material that can help people in their daily lives.

#### **I. Origins**

Genesis

Genesis tells ten stories that describe origins or beginnings. These include the origin of the "heavens and earth," and the origin of specific families that are significant in God's dealings with humans.

Themes in Genesis

Themes from selected passages in Genesis about which there are interpretations that differ greatly. These include Genesis 2 regarding creation of women and their roles, Genesis 6 about the "Sons of God," and Genesis 9 about the "curse of Ham." Other themes are the story of Abraham, and God as a punisher of evil.

Exodus

The three major themes in Exodus are Israel's deliverance from Egypt, establishment of the Covenant and the Tabernacle. Other themes are how name repetition in a sentence is significant throughout Scripture, and how humility in the Jewish culture affects the actions and responses of many biblical characters.

## **II. The Law**

Law

Exodus contains both apodictic and casuistic laws. There are also paradigmatic laws which are designed to give broad guidance for specific situations that arise. The first part of Exodus is mostly stories, and the second part is mostly a record of the laws which are the basis for how they interact with God and other people.

Covenant Structure

Numerical Parallelisms

Leviticus

Numbers

Deuteronomy

## **III. The Promised Land**

Joshua

Holy War

Judges

Ruth

## **IV. The United Monarchy**

1 & 2 Samuel

Three Kings

1 & 2 Samuel, 1 Kings

## **V. Poetry and Wisdom**

Psalms

Proverbs

Job

Ecclesiastes

Song of Songs

## **VI. The Divided Monarchy**

Prophetic Books

Hosea, Amos, & Jonah

## **VII. Judah**

2 Kings

Historical Overview

Isaiah, Michah, & Nahum

## **VIII. The Last Days**

2 Kings 22-25

Jeremiah

Joel & Obadiah

Habakkuk & Zephaniah

## **IX. The Exile**

Lamentations

Ezekiel

Daniel, Esther, & Isaiah

## **X. The Return**

Background

Haggai & Zechariah

Malachi, Ezra, & Nehemiah

## **4: Old Testament Theology (7 major areas of Old Testament Theology studied)** **Biblical Training – Dr. Paul House**

### **Introductory Issues**

Introduction to the methodology of doing Old Testament Theology

Approaches to Old Testament Theology

Methodology of OT Theology

Final comments on history  
Creation in Biblical Theology

## **Law**

The Theme of the Old Testament

Discusses a possible theme that runs throughout the Old Testament. Also discusses the doctrine of creation and the doctrine of God's knowledge of the future.

The Doctrine of Creation

Discusses the essential relationship between the Creator and his people (56 min. 35 sec.)

The Purpose of the Law

After answering a series of questions, House deals with the basic purposes of the Law and the relationship between faith and the Law

Law and the Sacrificial System

Treats the purpose of the law as reflected in the sacrificial system.

Law and Faith

Discusses the role of law and salvation throughout Scripture

Prophets

## **The God of History (1)**

After discussing hermeneutical principles as to how Old Testament laws are understood in the New Testament, House goes on to discuss the God of history

## **The God of History (2)**

Develops the theme of God as Ruler of all history and its implications.

## **Messianic Promises (1)**

"God who Sends a Savior." Established the roots of the Messianic Promise in the Law and then develops the theme in connection with the Abrahamic covenant. (55 min. 3 sec.)

## **Messianic Promises (2)**

"God, who Sends a Savior (continued)." Traces the Messianic promise in connection with the Davidic covenant. (1 hr. 1 min. 15 sec.)

Servant Passages

"God, who sends a Savior (continued)." Discusses the Servant passages in Isaiah.

## Son of Man Theology

"God, who sends a Savior (continued)." Demonstrates how the Davidic promises come together into the Son of Man theology.

## Messianic Promises and the NT

"God, who Merits Worship." Traces Messianic themes from the Old Testament as they appear throughout the New Testament.

## **Worship**

"God who merits Worship (continued)."

## Writings

## **Hurting (1)**

"God who Meets the Hurting."

## **Hurting (2)**

"God who meets the Hurting (continued)."

## **Worship is a Unity (1)**

"God whose Word is a Unity."

## **Worship is a Unity (2)**

"God whose Word is a Unity (continued)."

## **5: Hebrew and Greek Tools for Bible Study**

Ancient Hebrew Research Center – Jeff Benner

Greek Tools for Bible Study – Dr. Bill Mounce

## **HEBREW**

**Introduction to Ancient Hebrew - 1 hr. 6 min.**

**Hebraic Interpretation (part 1) - 41min**

Proper interpretation of the Hebrew Bible. Are you reading your Bible correctly?

**Hebraic Interpretation (part 2) - 35min**

Proper interpretation of the Hebrew Bible. Are you reading your Bible correctly?

### **Hebraic Interpretation - 49 min**

Proper Biblical interpretation of the Hebrew Bible based on the Ancient Hebrew language.

### **On The Path (part 1) - 25 min**

A study in Hebraic meanings of some Hebrew words including tsiytsiy, mezuzah and words related to the "Way of Yahweh."

### **On The Path (part 2) - 28 min**

A study in Hebraic meanings of some Hebrew words including tsiytsiy, mezuzah and words related to the "Way of Yahweh."

### **Psalms 119 - 42 min**

The speaker is **Richard J. Varno** and discusses the Ancient Hebrew text of the first few verses of Psalm 119.

## **GREEK TOOLS FOR BIBLE STUDY**

### **Week 1: Getting Acquainted with Greek**

Greek Language

What Are Translations?

### **Week 2: The Building Blocks of Language**

English Grammar

Introduction to Phrasing

### **Week 3: How Do We Modify Ideas?**

Conjunctions, Phrases, Etc.

Fine-tuning Phrasing

### **Week 4. How Do We Describe Action?**

Greek Verbs

English Tools

### **Week 5: What Else Is in a Verb?**

Greek Verbs (non-indicative)

Word Studies

## **Week 6: How Do We Describe Things?**

English Noun System

Commentaries, History of the Bible

### **6: EXEGESIS**

Learn Exegesis for discerning the meaning of biblical texts.

Gain an understanding of the basic tools and methods of biblical exegesis.

Gain the ability to exegete and apply a text.

Understand of the textual criticism and an ability to analyze textual-critical problems.

Understand the issues involved in the study of words and concepts in Biblical texts and the ability carry out such studies.

Other studies include:

- background issues
- grammatical analysis of Biblical texts
- semantic structure of Biblical texts
- present results of an exegetical study and a coherent interpretation of a text
- decisions/insights which are most important for coming to a proper understanding and application of the text.

### **7: NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY**

**Biblical Training - Dr. Craig Blomberg**

#### **INTRODUCTION - Why and How Should You Study the New Testament?**

There are many reasons why studying the Bible is informative and profitable. Effective approaches you use to study the New Testament will take into account questions of introduction, exegesis, theology and application. Your conclusions will be affected by your presuppositions and the extent to which you allow your previous knowledge and life experience to be part of the process.

#### **Historical and Religious Background for New Testament Study**

The nations that controlled the nation of Israel prior to and during the writing of the New Testament affected the political and cultural climate in which it was written. The influence of the Greek religion and the relationship between Jews and Gentiles is an underlying theme throughout the New Testament. Roman rule in Israel and the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem in a.d. 70 are significant to both Judaism and Christianity. The four main groups in Judaism were the Pharisees, Sadducees, Essenes, and Zealots.

#### **The Canon and the Text of the New Testament**

How and why were the books in the New Testament chosen to form the canon we have today?

The three major criteria are that the writings be uniquely relevant, non-contradictory with previously acknowledged revelation and genuinely going back to an apostle or close associate of an apostle. The four Gospels have similarities and differences in their content and writing style. Matthew, Mark and Luke have so many similarities that they are called the synoptic Gospels.

John is significantly different in content and style from the other three.

## **8: NEW TESTAMENT: GOSPELS AND JESUS**

**Biblical Training - Dr. Craig Blomberg**

### **BACKGROUNDS**

#### **Political Backgrounds**

Overview of the influences of the Persian, Greek and Roman Empires on the Jewish nation. Also, a summary of the Jewish political and religious rulers and movements, and the tensions that arose between the Jews and the occupying Roman authorities.

#### **Religious Backgrounds**

Ancient philosophies and religious movements had a significant influence on peoples' beliefs and behavior in the first century. The influence of Rome and Greece was evident throughout the world. Religious groups like the Pharisees and Sadducees, and teachings of contemporary Judaism about the Messiah affected Jesus' teaching and ministry.

#### **Social Background**

One of the major influences in the social structure in Israel during the first century was the relationship and interaction between Jews and Gentiles. Various Jewish groups had differing views on how they should interact among themselves and with Gentiles.

#### **Socio-economical Background**

Matthew 8:1-17 focuses on 3 people that each represent a different socioeconomic background. They are a leper, a centurion's servant and Simon's mother-in-law.

### **CRITICISMS**

#### **Historical Criticisms**

The Gospels are historically reliable documents. Some of the main arguments and pieces of evidence pointing to the historical reliability of the Gospels are given in this lecture.

#### **Illustrations and Applications**

The gospels of Mark, Matthew and Luke have so many similarities that they are referred to as the "Synoptic Gospels." There is also material in each of these Gospels that make it distinctive from the other two.

#### **Literary Criticism**

It can be helpful to examine, from a literary perspective, the passages that record the encounters that Jesus had with Nicodemus, and the Samaritan woman.

### **GOSPELS**

#### **Introduction to Mark**

In order to understand the message of the Gospel of Mark, it is helpful to understand who the author is, the approximate date it was written, the audience to whom it was written, and the major themes of the book. The content of the book can be divided into the first 8 chapters that focus on the life and ministry of Jesus and the last 8 chapters that focus on His death and resurrection.

#### **Introduction to Matthew**

In order to understand the message of the Gospel of Matthew, it is helpful to understand who the author is, the approximate date it was written, the audience to whom it was written, and the possible sources on which Matthew relied when he was writing. Matthew begins by recording genealogy of Jesus and some of the events surrounding his infancy. Jesus' public ministry began with His baptism by John the Baptist, temptation in the wilderness and calling of the disciples. His

preaching included the Sermon on the Mount and parables which Matthew grouped together in the Gospel.

### **Introduction to Luke**

Examining the outline and structure of the Gospel of Luke reveals the main points and the focus of Luke's Gospel and the book of Acts. Luke and Matthew have some similarities as well as some elements that are distinctive.

### **Introduction to John**

Much of the material of the Gospel of John is unique, compared to the other 3 Gospel accounts. Some of John's account alternates between recording a sign that Jesus performs with a discourse about a certain subject. Chapter 12 to the end of the Gospel covers the final days of Jesus' life on earth.

## **EARLY YEARS**

### **The Historical Jesus**

Some scholars believe that historical evidence supports the Gospel accounts of Jesus' life, some think the historical evidence supports the inauthenticity of the Gospel accounts, and some think that the historical evidence is irrelevant. The different conclusions are due mainly to different presuppositions. It is possible to propose a probable time line of Jesus' life.

### **Infancy Narratives**

The Gospel accounts of Jesus' birth and early years of life show how He accurately fulfilled specific OT prophecies made hundreds of years earlier, and how His life was intertwined with that of John the Baptist. The beginning of John's Gospel is a testimony to Jesus' nature as being both fully God and fully human.

## **PUBLIC MINISTRY**

### **Christ's Adult Public Ministry**

Locations in present day Israel that are related to Jesus' infancy and the beginning of His public ministry.

### **Jesus' Early Galilean Ministry Part 1**

John the Baptist began his ministry before Jesus' public ministry. For a while their public ministries overlapped, then Jesus conducted the remainder of His public ministry without John the Baptist on the scene.

### **Jesus' Early Galilean Ministry Part 2**

Turning water into wine at the wedding in Cana was one of the first miracles Jesus performed in His public ministry. He also had conversations with Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman, and healed the nobleman's son.

### **Jesus' Early Galilean Ministry Part 3**

The Sermon on the Mount is one of the main passages showing how Jesus defines the "Kingdom of God." He also calls the disciples, redefines the family, performs healings and exorcisms, and uses parables and pronouncements to teach about who God is and how He relates to humans.

### **Jesus' Early Galilean Ministry Part 4**

Locations in present day Israel related to Jesus' early Galilean ministry.

### **Sermon on the Mount**

The Sermon on the Mount shows how the teachings of the Kingdom of God relate to the OT Law. It also includes additional NT teachings and a model prayer.

### **Jesus' Early Galilean Ministry Part 5**

Locations in present day Israel related to Jesus' early Galilean ministry.

### **Parables and Miracles**

Understanding parables as a literary form helps us interpret them accurately. Jesus performed miracles in various contexts for specific purposes.

### **Places Related to Parables and Miracles**

Locations in present day Israel related to parables Jesus said and places He performed miracles.

### **Withdrawal from Galilee Part 1**

Jesus' ministry in Galilee took place in locations like Nazareth, Cana, the Sea of Galilee and other nearby towns and areas. As Jesus was departing from Galilee, he performed miracles and taught at specific places along the way.

### **Withdrawal from Galilee Part 2**

As Jesus was teaching in Galilee, among other things, he made specific claims regarding his deity, showed how he fulfilled the Jewish festivals and taught on humility and forgiveness.

### **Withdrawal from Galilee Part 3 Pictures**

Locations in present day Israel related to Jesus' ministry.

<http://www.thirteensquares.com/gospelspectrum>

**9: NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY** *(3 major areas of the New Testament studied)*  
Biblical Training - Dr. Frank Thielman

## **GOSPELS**

### **Emergence of the Fourfold Gospel**

Emergence of the four gospels, summary of their major differences, and efforts of the early church to harmonize them.

### **Early Church Acceptance as Authoritative**

How the early church emphasized the unity of the four gospel accounts in proclaiming the "one gospel," and considered them authoritative sources for the life and ministry of Jesus, as opposed to the Gnostic gospels and other writings circulated at the time.

### **Theological Emphases (part 1)**

The four gospels each record the life and ministry of Jesus from a unique perspective while staying true to a single "gospel" message. This lecture focuses the common message and the central themes included in all of the four gospels.

### **Theological Emphases (part 2)**

A discussion of how Matthew portrays Jesus as fulfilling the traditional expectations of the Messiah as well as ways in which he went beyond the traditional expectations. Also, a discussion of specific examples in the four Gospels indicating by the Jewish leadership of Jesus as Messiah.

### **Theological Emphases (part 3)**

A discussion of why the Jewish leadership rejected Christ, from the perspective of the book of John. Also, an explanation of the meaning and significance of Christ's death.

### **Jesus as the Suffering Servant**

Luke emphasizes how Jesus, in his ministry and death, identified with the "suffering servant" prophesied in Isaiah. Although Luke affirmed the atoning aspect of Jesus' death, he focused on how Jesus' death fulfilled the role of the suffering servant. Jesus' death not only established His church, but, much like the role of the servant in Isaiah, the church's central mission was to gather the nations. This lecture also addresses the type of response each gospel writer attempts to elicit from us as we read it.

## **PAUL**

### **The Nature of Paul's Theology**

Paul's writings show that his theology is coherent. Passages in his letters that show different aspects of his theology were written to address specific concerns, not an indication that his theology was in the process of changing. Also, a discussion of the "center" of Paul's theology.

### **Theological Themes (part 1)**

The 5 major theological themes in Paul's letters are based on Pastoral issues that emerged in congregations of believers to whom Paul was writing. By examining these themes, we can understand Paul's theology more clearly, and get a glimpse of what it was like to be a Christian in the first century. This lecture covers the first two themes.

### **Theological Themes (part 2)**

The 5 major theological themes in Paul's letters are based on Pastoral issues that emerged in congregations of believers to whom Paul was writing. By examining these themes, we can understand Paul's theology more clearly, and get a glimpse of what it was like to be a Christian in the first century. This lecture covers the third and fourth of the 5 themes.

### **Theological Themes (part 3)**

The fifth of five theological emphases in Paul's letters is how he addresses false teaching. This discussion begins by examining how Paul deals with the proper relationship between the visible and invisible world. The second part of the lecture focuses on the basic structure of Paul's theology, as well as some of the similarities and differences in content and style of the last nine books of the New Testament.

## **GENERAL EPISTLES**

### **The Unity and Theological Value of Hebrews to Revelation**

The last nine books of the New Testament address some critical issues that the early church was facing. These books were written by different authors and from different perspectives but are in fundamental agreement on foundational teachings.

## **Conclusion and Summary**

### **The Unified Theological Witness of the New Testament**

Beginning with point 2b, Dr. Thielman focuses on five theological themes that are emphasized throughout the New Testament.

**10: CHURCH HISTORY I**  
**Biblical Training - Dr. Gerald Bray**

The World of the First Christians

The Relationship between Jesus and the Church

The Spread of the Church

The Latin Church: Tertullian

The Eastern Tradition: Origen

The Legalization of the Church

Church Doctrine from Nicea to Constantine

Christology

Theological Traditions of Alexandria and Antioch

The Theological Refinement of the Early Church

The Council of Calcedon and the End of the Roman Empire

Rural Evangelism and Challenging the Norms of Society

The Restoration of the Roman Empire and the Barbarian Kingdoms

**11: CHURCH HISTORY II** (*Church history up to modern times*)  
**Biblical Training - Dr. Gerald Bray**

Lesson 1

Lesson 2

Lesson 3

Lesson 4

Lesson 5

Lesson 6

Lesson 7

Lesson 8

Henry the 8<sup>th</sup>

Part A

Part B

Lesson 11

Lesson 12

Lesson 13

Lesson 14

Lesson 15

Lesson 16

Lesson 17

Lesson 18

Lesson 19

Lesson 20

Lesson 21

**12: HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY AND CHRISTIAN THOUGHT**  
**Biblical Training - Dr. Ron Nash**

**I. Pre-Socratic**

Milesians

Heraclitus, Pythagoras, Parmenides

Worldviews

Naturalism

**II. Platonic**

Introduction, Opposition

The Forms

Dualism

Rationalism

Appraisal, Creation, Tensions

Rationalism

### **III. Aristotelian**

His Life

Contrast, Substance, Causes, Categories

Incarnation

View of God, Psychology

Intellect

Law

Matter

### **IV. Hellenistic**

Introduction

Stoicism

Hedonism

Philo

Hebrews

Plotinus

### **V. Augustinian**

His Life

Confessions

Faith

Evil

Pelagianism

Donatism

Skepticism

History

Knowledge

Illumination

## **VI. Thomistic**

Background

Faith

Arguments

Law

## **VII. Modern**

### **VIII. 19th Century**

A. Kant

Understanding

Two Worlds

Response

Postmodernism

B. Hegel

C. Marx

Stages

Faces

D. Nietzsche

### **13: ADVANCED WORLDVIEW ANALYSIS (FOUNDATIONS)**

**Biblical Training - Dr. Ron Nash**

#### **Philosophy of History (part 1)**

Nash introduces the idea of World View Thinking, followed by the Philosophy of History, Collingwood's theory of history, and Bultmann and his historical idealism.

#### **Philosophy of History (part 2)**

We continue with Bultman's view of history and his idea of myth, gnosticism, and demythologizing. Nash concludes with a discussion of historical knowledge and interpersonal knowledge, and models of faith.

#### **American Political Philosophy**

An introduction to American political philosophy, and the State and Statism

## **14: APOLOGETICS**

### **Biblical Training - Dr. Ron Nash**

#### **Introduction**

#### **What is Apologetics?**

Worldviews in Conflict

Postmodern Irrationalism

The Law of Non-contradiction

Invalid Worldviews

The Problem of Evil

Introduction

Divine Omnipotence

Worldview Issues

Noetic Structure

Methodology

Objection

Rationality of Belief in God

Evidentialism

Foundationalism

Natural Theology

#### **The Existence of God**

Background

Arguments

Cosmological Argument

#### **Possible Worlds**

Introduction

Possible Worlds

Middle Knowledge

## **Miracles**

Introduction

David Hume

Two Central Miracles

Is Jesus the Only Savior

Introduction

Pluralism

Inclusivism

When a Baby Dies

The Concept of God

Open Theism

Attributes of God

Final Thoughts

## **15: ETHICS**

**Biblical Training - Dr. Ron Nash**

Introduction

Philosophical Ethics

Consequentialism (review)

The Deontological Ethic

The Virtue Ethic and Agapism

The Virtue Ethic of C.S. Lewis

Biblical Ethics

## **16: SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY I**

**Biblical Training - Dr. Bruce Ware**

### **Prolegomena**

An introduction to theology, answering the questions of what is EST (Evangelical Systematic Theology), why study EST, and how it relates to other theological disciplines.

### **Method of Evangelical Theology**

Introductory issues of how to do EST and the criteria for assessing theological formulations.

## **Cultural Contextualization; Theological Systems**

Issues of cultural Christianity, and the evangelical position of "contextualized normativity."

### **Theological Systems**

#### **Calvinism and Arminianism**

Begins with a discussion of the background to the discussion (Pelagius, Augustine, Council of Carthage, and semi-Pelagianism), and then a discussion of Luther, Calvin, Arminius, the Synod of Dort and the Five Points of Calvinism. (Also study handout lecture on Arminianism)

#### **Covenant Theology**

Covenant Theology, Dispensationalism, and their views of Israel and the church

#### **Liberalism, Neo Orthodoxy, Evangelicalism**

A discussion of these three positions and the key figures in each (Schleiermacher, Ritschl, von Harnack; Barth, Brunner, Niebuhr; Carnell, Henry, Graham)

### **Scripture**

#### **Doctrine of Scripture**

The beginning discussion of revelation and the specifics of General Revelation

#### **Special Revelation; Inspiration**

A continuation of the discussion of revelation with an emphasis on Special Revelation, moving into the topic of Inspiration (definition and key passages).

#### **Inerrancy**

A survey of the recent debate, defining inerrancy (including the relationship of hermeneutics and inerrancy), and its relationship to authority.

#### **Illumination; Canonicity**

The definition of illumination, why it is necessary, and how we come to know truth. The criteria for canonicity is then discussed and why the canon is now closed (i.e., why no more books would be accepted into the Bible).

#### **Doctrine of God**

Theism; Proof of God's existence

Why there is a need to know God, and "theism" (arguments as to whether there is a God or not).

#### **Knowledge of God; the Trinity**

Can God be known? The Doctrine of the Trinity (Scriptural basis; historical background; Monarchian heresies)

#### **The Trinity**

Continuation of the discussion of the Trinity and the church's rejection of Monarchianism

#### **Attributes of God**

Beginning of the discussion of the attributes of God's character, and how the discussion is organized.

#### **Attributes of God: love, self-sufficiency**

The related doctrines of God's self-sufficiency and his love

**Attributes of God: incommunicable**

God's incommunicable attributes are those that he does not share with us: self-existence; self-sufficiency; infinity; omnipresence; eternity

**Attributes of God: incommunicable**

Completes the discussion of God's incommunicable attributes by discussing immutability, the doctrine that God does not change.

**Attributes of God: communicable**

Discussion of those attributes of God's character that he shares (to some degree) with his creation, beginning with his intellectual attributes (omniscience).

**Attributes of God: communicable**

A continuing discussion of God's communicable attributes, both intellectual (Omniscience; truth) and moral (goodness; love).

**Attributes of God: communicable**

Continuation of the discussion of God's communicable moral attributes (love, grace, mercy; holiness, righteousness, justice) and the attributes of God's rulership (freedom; omnipotence).

**Sovereignty of God: lecture one**

The Scriptural teaching and issues related to this central question

**Sovereignty of God: lecture two**

Hyper-Calvinism, Process Theology, Arminianism, and Calvinism

**Sovereignty of God: lecture three**

Concluding discussion on Calvinism (Also, concluding discussion on Arminianism)

**Angels**

We do not have a recording of this lecture, but Dr. Ware gave us a detailed discussion of the lectures as a Word document. You will have to unzip it before Word can read it.

**Doctrine of Humanity****Introduction and Human Origins**

An introduction to the doctrine of humanity and the doctrine of humanity's origin (Adam and Eve)

**Human nature and the Soul**

Theories on the structure of the human soul (Monism, Dichotomy, Trichotomy) and the transmission of the soul (Creationism, Traducianism).

**Doctrine of Sin****Doctrine of Sin**

The Biblical teaching on sin and the nature of sin (its essence, total depravity, total inability, acts of sin, manifestation of sin).

**Original Sin**

The facets of the Fall, theories of Original Sin, and God's triumph over sin

## **17: SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY II** **Biblical Training - Dr. Bruce Ware**

### **The Person of Jesus**

#### **The Person of Jesus Christ (part 1)**

Both the Old and New Testaments teach that Jesus Christ is both fully God and fully human. The Old Testament contains specific references to His pre-incarnate existence. The New Testament teaches that the incarnation is an historical event that was prophesied in the Old Testament. Christ fulfills the roles of prophet, priest and king. His deity is emphasized by the names of God that are ascribed to Him.

#### **The Person of Jesus Christ (part 2)**

The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ had attributes belonging solely to God, and did works that were done by God alone. Christ was worshipped and accepted worship. He Himself claimed to be God.

#### **The Person of Jesus Christ (part 3)**

Christ was fully human, as well as fully God. The Old Testament prophesied it and His historical life demonstrated it. Philippians 2: 6-8 uses the word kenosis to explain the relationship between Christ's human and divine natures.

#### **The Person of Jesus Christ (part 4)**

The "impeccability" of Christ deals with the question of whether or not Christ could have sinned. The answer to this question has implications for both His life and ministry.

#### **The Person of Jesus Christ (conclusion);**

#### **The Work of Christ (part 1)**

Delegates at the Council of Chalcedon tried to explain the hypostatic union of Christ's natures. The theological bases for the work of Christ on the cross focus on the sin of humanity and God's holiness and mercy. The atonement is God's self-satisfaction through self-substitution

### **The Work of Jesus Christ**

#### **Aspects of the Atonement (part 1)**

Christ's atoning sacrifice was comprehensive. The different aspects of the atonement may be compared to light refracting through a diamond – you can see different colors, but they are all light. Three aspects of the atonement are sacrifice, substitution and redemption.

#### **Aspects of the Atonement (part 2)**

Three more aspects of the atonement are propitiation, expiation, and reconciliation. Christ's resurrection is a ratification of the efficacy of the atonement.

#### **The Work of Jesus Christ: Summary**

The most significant aspect of the past work of Christ is the atonement. Some people teach that the extent of the atonement is limited, while others teach that it is unlimited. Christ's present work is mediator and Lord. His future work is coming judge and reigning king.

### **The Holy Spirit (Also, study Gifts of the Spirit and the Body of Christ handout)**

#### **The Holy Spirit (part 1)**

Throughout Scripture, the Holy Spirit is referred to as having the attributes and performing the actions of a person. He is also shown to have the attributes of God, and is declared to be God.

Both the Old and New Testaments cite examples of the work of the Holy Spirit in empowering people.

### **The Holy Spirit (part 2)**

The work of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament is characterized by the empowerment of selective individuals for a temporary period of time, for the purpose of accomplishing a specific task. The Old Testament prophets record a vision of the role of the Holy Spirit in the latter days.

### **The Holy Spirit (part 3)**

The Holy Spirit had a central role in the life and ministry of Jesus. Many Old Testament passages prophesied the coming of a Spirit empowered Messiah. The New Testament records specific examples of the involvement of the Spirit in Jesus' life and ministry. Jesus also promises the future coming of the Holy Spirit and describes what he will do.

### **The Holy Spirit (part 4)**

At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came into the world and filled the lives of every believer. The first great work of the Holy Spirit is bringing people to Christ. He also empowers believers for service in the Church where we are remade and conformed to the image of Christ. The purpose of the gifts of the Spirit is for us to serve one another.

### **The Holy Spirit (part 5)**

The Holy Spirit has come to glorify Christ and bring attention to Jesus. He does this by empowering believers in the areas of evangelism and discipleship. There are specific gifts of the Spirit and He gives specific gifts to each believer. There is a question about whether all the gifts are still active today. There is also a distinction between people having a certain gift and God performing mighty acts.

### **The Holy Spirit (part 6)**

The Holy Spirit accomplishes the work of regeneration in a person by bringing them new life. The Spirit also indwells and fills a believer, produces fruit and gives us the freedom to become what God created us to be. The Holy Spirit is also the guarantee of the hope of our eternal future in God's presence.

### **The Doctrine of Salvation** *(Also, study Arminianist Position)*

#### **The Doctrine of Salvation**

Rob Lister, a Garret Fellow, introduces concepts that are basic to the Biblical doctrine of salvation. Salvation is both physical and spiritual, includes all of creation, it is "already, but not yet," and the goal is the glory of God. Election is a key concept in Scripture. Some people think that there is a conditional aspect to election.

#### **The Doctrine of Salvation: Calvinist Position**

Rob Lister continues by reviewing the Arminian position (conditional election), then explains the Calvinist view. The Calvinist position is based on God's sovereign rulership over everything, salvation by grace alone, and God's love and justice. There are major differences between the ideas of conditional and unconditional election.

#### **The Doctrine of Salvation (part 3)**

Among those who hold to the view of unconditional election, there are those who believe in single predestination, and those who believe in double predestination. There is also a difference between a "general call," and a "special" or "effectual call."

## **The Doctrine of Salvation (part 4)**

Continuing in the logical order of salvation, Rob Lister examines regeneration, conversion, justification, adoption and sanctification.

## **The Doctrine of Sin**

Sin is one of the most foundational and significant topics in Scripture. The doctrines of salvation and sanctification are meaningless without an accurate understanding of sin. The Old Testament teaches both the personal and corporate aspects of sin. New Testament teachings include the essence of sin and total depravity.

## **The Doctrine of the Church**

### **The Doctrine of the Church (part 1)**

Christ is Lord of the Church and it is formed by the Spirit. As a community, we testify to what God has done in our lives through the ordinances, the proclamation of the word and the testimony of our lives. We worship God together, and Jews and Gentiles are united in one community, testifying to the preeminence of our identity in Christ.

### **The Doctrine of the Church (part 2)**

The "mystery" of the Church refers to the truth that was formerly concealed, but now revealed. Another aspect of the "mystery" is the inclusion of Jews and Gentiles in one community of faith. There is some debate about whether or not Israel and the Church are the same. The "Body of Christ" and "Bride of Christ" are two metaphors used in the New Testament that refer to the Church.

### **The Doctrine of the Church (part 3)**

An additional New Testament metaphor for the Church is a "Building," which is made up of the "Cornerstone," "Foundation" and the "Living Stones." "Christ's Flock" is also a metaphor for the Church and relates to Jesus as the "Good Shepherd." There are also passages in the New Testament that give us insight into local congregations by referring to elders as the leaders.

### **The Doctrine of the Church (part 4)**

New Testament passages give specific instructions about the functions of elders in local congregations. There are also lists of qualifications for elders that emphasize character qualities. The roles and qualifications for deacons are also given.

### **The Doctrine of the Church (part 5)** *(Also study the Inclusion of Women in Ministry handout)*

The question of the role of men and women in ministry is a significant issue. The main question is, "According to Scripture, is gender particularly and uniquely relevant in assessing whether or not a person is qualified for a given ministry in a church or home?"

### **The Doctrine of the Church (part 6)**

Different denominations have chosen different models of hierarchy and leadership based on their understanding of Scripture. The two ordinances of the Church are Baptism and the Lord's Supper. They are ordained by Christ, point to the Cross, and are to be done in remembrance of what He has done for us.

## **The Doctrine of Last Things**

### **The Doctrine of Last Things (part 1)**

There is value in studying eschatology besides curiosity about what will happen in the future. The three most common views of the millennium that can be supported by Scripture are postmillennialism, amillennialism and premillennialism. Also related to eschatology is the Scriptural teaching regarding physical death and the intermediate state.

## **The Doctrine of Last Things (part 2)**

Within the premillennial position, there is a difference of opinion on whether the rapture will be pretrib, midtrib or posttrib. Regardless of your position on the millennium, there is clear teaching in Scripture about the final judgment and our eternal state. There will be a final judgment and everyone will spend eternity either in heaven or hell.

## **18: HOMELITECS (This course will be an exact review of DITS Program)** **Biblical Training - Dr. Bryan Chapell**

### **Basic issues**

Word & Witness

What's the Big Idea?

Getting started

Text Selection & Interpretation

The Road from Text to Sermon

### **Outlining & Arrangement**

Propositions & Main Points

Workshop on Homiletical Outlines

### **Parts of the sermon**

Introductions

Exposition

Workshop on Sermon Introductions

Sermon Divisions & Development

Conclusions

### **Classification of Messages**

Explanation

### **Illustrations**

Why to Illustrate

How to Illustrate

How to Illustrate (continued)

## **Application**

Application

Application (continued)

Other issues

## **Transitions & Dialogical Method**

### **Methods of Sermon Presentation**

Voice & Gesture

Dress & Style

Old Friends in New Clothes

Word & Spirit

## **19: MASTER THESIS AND PRESENTATION**