

TUCSON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Master of Theology Th.M 99 Weeks

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 BIBLICAL 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 KOINE GREEK.....	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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TOTAL	72 Credits 99 Weeks

COURSE DESCRIPTION

1: Graduate Writing, Research and Presentation

Prof. C. Smalley

Master Thesis Introduction

Thesis Guidelines

Format Requirements

Reference Manuals

Proposal Writing

Research

Methodology

Presentation

Proposal Submission

2: Biblical Theology

Text: Geerhardus Vos

3: Survey of the Old Testament *(10 major sections of the Old Testament studied)*

Text: A Survey of the Old Testament - Andrew E. Hill and John H. Walton

4. Old Testament Theology *(7 major areas of Old Testament Theology studied)*
Text: Old Testament Theology - 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"

5: Biblical Hebrew

Ancient Hebrew Research Center – Jeff Benner

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."

Psalm 119 - 42 min

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

6: OLD TESTAMENT EXEGESIS

Text: Old Testament Exegesis by Dr. Douglas Stuart

Stuart provides a step-by-step guide to writing an exegetical paper on the Old Testament.

This book takes into account the latest advances in methodology as well as resources.

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

Text: Making Sense of the New Testament – Craig L. 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

Text: Making Sense of the New Testament – Craig L. 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)
Text: *Theology of the New Testament: A Brief Account* – 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: KOINE GREEK

Text: Basics of Biblical Greek – William D. Mounce

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

11: NEW TESTAMENT EXEGESIS

Text: New Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors - Gordon D. Fee

Building on the belief that the task of exegesis is to understand the divine-human intention locked within the biblical text, Gordon Fee provides a lucid step-by-step analysis of exegetical procedures that has made New Testament Exegesis a standard textbook for nearly two decades. Now more than ever, with an updated, newly integrated bibliography and an appendix directly addressing reader-response criticism, this essential, classic guide will assist students, scholars, and clergy in coming to grips with the New Testament.

12: CHURCH HISTORY I

Text: Holiness and the will of God: Perspectives on the theology of Tertullian - Dr. Gerald Bray

Bray examines the history of the early church with particular reference to the great Latin theologian, Tertullian.

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*)

Text: Tudor Church Reform : the Henrician canons of 1535 and the Reformation – Dr. Gerald Bray

Lesson 1

Lesson 2

Lesson 3

Lesson 4

Lesson 5

Lesson 6

Lesson 7

Lesson 8

Henry the 8th

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

Text: Life's Ultimate Questions : an introduction to philosophy - 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)

Text: Life's Ultimate Questions : an introduction to philosophy - Dr. Ron Nash

Text: Worldviews in Conflict : Choosing Christianity in a World of Ideas - 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

Text: Worldviews in Conflict : Choosing Christianity in a World of Ideas - Dr. Ron Nash

Text: Faith and Reason - 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

16: SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY I

Text: Systematic Theology - Norman L. Geisler

Text: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit : relationships, roles, and relevance – Bruce Ware

Text: Renewal Theology: God, the world and redemption – J. Rodman Williams

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

Text: Systematic Theology - Norman L. Geisler

Text: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit : relationships, roles, and relevance – Bruce Ware

Text: Renewal Theology: God, the world and redemption – J. Rodman Williams

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 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 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: HOMILETECS

Text: Christ Centered Preaching - 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

MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL DEGREES

There is a big difference between a Master's or Doctoral thesis. The difference includes both the length (the Master's thesis is 20 - 30,000 words and a ThD thesis is 80 - 100,000 words) and the depth of analysis. As a rule of thumb, the Master's thesis would include a major review of the subject and two major pieces of analysis and does not need to be an original work. The ThD thesis would include a larger review and three/four major pieces of analysis, as well as, bringing an original contribution to the Theology field. Each of the analytical pieces would be of a standard which could be published in an appropriate academic journal. Taken full-time, the Master and ThD programs would take a minimum of 3.5 to 4.5 years respectively.

There is a two-part enrolment process. Students enrol using the application forms and submitting their Official Transcripts for review. Next, they will be contacted by Administration for an interview and final acceptance. Once accepted into the Master or Th.D program, the student next prepares a detailed thesis abstract and will verbally explain their research and method approach to their Advisor. If approved, the student is fully enrolled.

In the Master's program, the student will take a full caseload of classes while working toward thesis completion in 2.5 years.

The Th.D program will involve an additional 1 or 2 years, depending upon the level of research and the progress of the thesis. All Th.D students are expected to be Graduate Student Instructors on a part-time basis throughout the year(s).

Given this, we are normally only prepared to accept students for ThD study if they have the following:

- a very strong an average mark of 3.2+
- a suitable research topic which can be supervised within the Seminary
- the necessary research skills (or the demonstrated ability to acquire them)
- access to adequate library facilities (a Master's thesis could require the careful reading of 150 academic journal articles and a ThD could require 450)
- access to adequate computer facilities
- a commitment to spend a minimum of 6 days per month on campus each year

Both degrees are available by full and part-time study and by on-campus and by distance education. One suggestion which we make is that distance students consider spending a semester with us early in their candidature if possible. This will enable them to make substantial progress on their thesis, take any coursework which may be helpful to their research and develop a good working relationship with their supervisors and other members of staff. The advantage of distance education is that students are able to continue living and working where they are but can still undertake postgraduate studies. However, distance education requires great self-discipline and perseverance. Students would need to devote around ten hours per week to their thesis throughout the year.