

I. Overview

Welcome to Cornerstone Bible Institute – Saturday Sessions! The title of this class is **Theology I: Bibliology and Theology Proper**. It will be our joy during this quarter to study the doctrine of the Bible and the attributes of God. Thank you for joining us and we trust that you will be richly blessed as we study God’s Word together!

Reading:

Our supplementary reading assignments will be from Wayne Grudem’s Systematic Theology (blue cover). This is an excellent resource and we will be using it for the Theology II, III and IV classes as well.

Meeting Times: Twice monthly, Saturday mornings, 8:00-11:00am at the church office in Anaheim.

Class Schedule:

- 8:00-8:10 Administration and Opening Prayer
- 8:10-9:00 **Teaching Session #1**
- 9:00-9:10 Break
- 9:10-10:00 **Teaching Session #2**
- 10:00-10:10 Break
- 10:10-11:00 **Teaching Session #3**

Supplementary Assignments:

Cornerstone Bible Institute is a church ministry, not a seminary classroom. Therefore, we desire any assignments to serve you and not enslave you. We understand that many of you are making a considerable sacrifice just to be here on Saturdays and that you have a very busy schedule during the week. We understand if you cannot complete all of the assignments or if you cannot make all of the sessions (of if you need to leave early). Come and be blessed as much as you can!

- **Reading** - Systematic Theology by Wayne Grudem is an excellent resource and we trust you will be richly blessed as you read and internalize this fine work. Our reading schedule will have you completing the entire systematic theology in a year as you go through the four courses. If by God’s grace you are able to partake of this reading, we know it will produce much joy and spiritual fruit in your life!
- **Reflection** – At the end of the class, you will be given the opportunity to write a 1-2 page (double-spaced) devotional reflection on one topic of your choosing. To be clear, this is not a research paper or a Bible Study paper. It is more like a journal-like, diary-like reflection on one of the things you were taught in this class. For example, you can choose to write this assignment on “The Love of God” and simply write some ways that you were impacted while learning about God’s love.

II. Calendar

Date	Teaching Session	Supplementary Assignments Due
3/14	Bibliology #1	
4/11	Bibliology #2	Grudem, Chapters 1, 2, 4, 7
4/25	Theology Proper #1	Grudem, Chapters 3, 5, 6, 8
5/9	Theology Proper #2	Grudem, Chapters 9-12
5/23	Theology Proper #3	Grudem, Chapters 13-16
6/6	Theology Proper #4	1-2 Page Reflection Essay

III. Contacts

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SESSION #1: INTRODUCTION TO SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

I. What is Systematic Theology?

- Systematic Theology is the process of _____, _____ and _____ all that the Bible has to say about a particular _____.

Four Steps Involved:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

“Systematic theology is any study that answers the question, ‘What does the whole Bible teach us today?’ about any given topic.” (Grudem)

- Exercise - Write down three things you know about Jesus:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Congratulations! You’re a systematic theologian!

- The result of doing systematic theology is what we call _____.

“Doctrine is what the whole Bible teaches us today about some particular topic” (Grudem)

- Doctrines can be divided into _____ categories and _____ categories.

e.g. Doctrine of Salvation vs. Doctrine of Justification, Doctrine of Election

- Major Doctrines Studied Throughout Church History:

Name	Doctrine of	Covered in:
Bibliology	<i>The Bible</i>	Theo I
Theology Proper	<i>God</i>	Theo I
Christology	<i>Christ</i>	Theo II
Pneumatology	<i>The Holy Spirit</i>	Theo II
Angelology	<i>Angels, Satan, Demons</i>	Theo II
Anthropology	<i>Man</i>	Theo III
Harmartiology	<i>Sin</i>	Theo III
Soteriology	<i>Salvation</i>	Theo III
Ecclesiology	<i>The Church</i>	Theo IV
Eschatology	<i>End Times</i>	Theo IV

Study of Bibliology:

- Session #1: Introduction to Systematic Theology
- Session #2: God’s Grace in Revelation
- Session #3: The Inspiration of Scripture
- Session #4: The Inerrancy of Scripture
- Session #5: The Sufficiency of Scripture
- Session #6: Nuts and Bolts (Preservation, Transmission, and Translation of Scripture)

- **Systematic Theology is possible because God is a God of _____, not chaos.**

1 Cor. 14:33 – for God is not a God of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

1 Cor. 14:40 – But let all things be done properly and in an orderly manner.

- **Systematic Theology is possible because of the _____.**

“Analogia Scriptura” - _____ interprets _____.

👉 **Technical Note:** The Term “Systematic Theology” in Biblical Scholarship differs from the terms “Biblical Theology” and “Historical Theology”.

Systematic Theology: What does the _____ teach about a particular topic?

Biblical Theology: What does one _____ of the Bible teach about a particular topic? E.g. Psalms, Paul

Historical Theology: How did the church at a certain _____ in church history understand a particular doctrine?

II. Why Study Systematic Theology?

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

Jeremiah 15:16 – Thy words were found and I ate them, And Thy words became for me a joy and the delight of my heart; For I have been called by Thy name, O LORD of hosts.

C.H. Spurgeon – It is blessed to eat into the very soul of the Bible until, at last, you come to talk in Scriptural language, and your spirit is flavored with the words of the Lord, so that your blood is Bibline and the very essence of the Bible flows from you.

III. How Should We Study Systematic Theology?

Main Point: We Should Study Systematic Theology with _____.

John 14:26 – But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

1 Corinthians 2:12-13 – Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

- Application: we will be combining _____ with _____.

SESSION #2: GOD’S GRACE IN REVELATION

Introduction

(1) God’s _____ is the most powerful force in the world today (Gen. 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26, 31)

Isaiah 55:10-11 – “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, And do not return there without watering the earth, And making it bear and sprout, And furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater; So shall My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

2 Corinthians 4:6 – For God, who said, “Light shall shine out of darkness,” is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

- Wrong Mentality: “I am _____ and everyone else is _____”.
- Right Mentality: “I am in _____ and God has given to me His _____.” (Eph. 4:17)

(2) Distinguishing God’s truth from Satan’s lies is a matter of _____.

Deuteronomy 32:46-47 – “Take to your heart all the words with which I am warning you today, which you shall command your sons to observe carefully, even all the words of this law. For it is not an idle word for you; indeed it is your life.

- Balanced Attitude: We are _____ but we are _____ about truth (Humble Orthodoxy)

I. What is Revelation?

- Definition: God’s _____ to us certain truths that we would otherwise not be able to _____.

Paul Enns – “[Revelation is] that act of God whereby He discloses Himself or communicates truth to the mind, whereby He makes manifest to His creatures that which could not be known in any other way.”

Two Broad Categories:

(1)

(2)

II. What is General Revelation?

- General in _____
- General in _____

Psalm 19:1-2 – The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. Day to day pours forth speech, And night to night reveals knowledge.

Romans 1:18-20 – For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

Characteristics of General Revelation:

(1)

“day to day”/ “night to night” (Ps. 19:2)

(2)

“line has gone out through all the earth/ utterances to the end of the world” (Ps. 19:4)

(3)

“telling of the glory of God”/ “work of His hands” (Ps. 19:1)

“invisible attributes/ eternal power/ divine nature” (Rom. 1:20)

- Men’s Response to General Revelation (Rom. 1:18):

KEY IDEA: General revelation is sufficient to _____, but not sufficient to _____.
(John 14:6, 1 Tim. 2:5, Rom. 10:14-15)

- God is _____ to all, but _____ to some.
- Another aspect of general revelation: God’s revelation in _____.

Rom 2:14-15 – For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness, and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them, on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

III. What is Special Revelation?

- Special Revelation focuses on God's revelation of His _____ in the _____.

Hebrews 1:1-2 – God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

Galatians 1:11-12 – For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

Characteristics of Special Revelation:

(1)

(2)

(3)

Note Psalm 19:1-6 (general revelation) versus Psalm 19:7-14 (special revelation)

SESSION #3: THE INSPIRATION OF SCRIPTURE

Introduction

- God’s special revelation is an expression of His _____ towards us because we have all rejected His general revelation.
- What is the quality and character of this special revelation?

I. What is the “Inspiration of Scripture” mean?

KEY TEXT #1: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

“All Scripture” --

Matthew 22:29 – But Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures, or the power of God.”

John 13:18 – . . . it is that the Scripture may be fulfilled, ‘He who eats My bread has lifted up his heel against Me.’

“Inspired by God” –

Two elements in inspiration:

(1)

(2)

End Result: God’s very words being recorded _____

Psalm 12:6 – The words of the LORD are pure words; As silver tried in a furnace on the earth, refined seven times.

KEY TEXT #2: 2 Peter 1:20-21

But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

“Moved by the Holy Spirit” –

Two Illustrations:

(1)

Acts 27:14-15 – But before very long there rushed down from the land a violent wind,. . . and when the ship was caught in it, and could not face the wind, we gave way to it, and let ourselves be driven along.

(2)

🔥 Definition of Inspiration:

Inspiration is the _____ whereby He _____ His Word through _____ in such a way that the end result is His perfect Word _____ no matter what subject it speaks to.

Paul Enns: “Inspiration may be defined as the Holy Spirit’s superintending over the writers so that while writing according to their own styles and personalities, the result was God’s Word written – authoritative, trustworthy, and free from error in the original autographs.

Edward J. Young: “Inspiration is a superintendence of God the Holy Spirit over the writers of the Scriptures, as a result of which these Scriptures possess Divine authority and trustworthiness and, possessing such Divine authority and trustworthiness, are free from error.”

Charles Ryrie: “Inspiration is. . . God’s superintendence of the human authors so that, using their own individual personalities, they composed and recorded without error His revelation to man in the words of the original autographs.”

II. What are Some Inadequate Views of Inspiration?

- (1)
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)
- (5)

III. What was Jesus' View of the Inspiration of the Bible?

- (1) Inspiration of the _____ (Plenary Inspiration)

Matthew 5:17 – Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill.

Luke 24:44 – “These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

John 10:35 – . . . the Scripture cannot be broken. . .

- (2) Inspiration of the _____

Gospel Reference	OT Quotation
Matthew 4:4	Deuteronomy 8:3
Matthew 4:7	Deuteronomy 6:13
Matthew 4:10	Deuteronomy 6:16
Matthew 21:42	Psalms 118:22
Matthew 12:18-21	Isaiah 42:1-4

- (3) Inspiration of the _____ (Verbal Inspiration)

John 8:58 – Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am.”

Exodus 3:14 – And God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM”; and He said, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

- The entire force of this statement hinged in the _____ of _____.

Also see Matthew 22:43-44 in reference to Psalm 110:1; John 10:34-35 in reference to Psalm 82:6

(4) Inspiration of the _____ and even the _____ of the letters.

Matthew 5:18 – For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law, until all is accomplished.

“jot or tittle” (KJV) –

IN SUM: **Jesus believed in**

- The Inspiration of the Whole (Plenary Inspiration)
- The Inspiration of the Parts
- The Inspiration of the Words (Verbal Inspiration)
- The Inspiration of the Letters
- The Inspiration of the Parts of the Letters

We sum this up in saying we believe in _____, _____ inspiration.

Some additional considerations:

- (1) Paul had an _____ that the NT Scripture was being written during his time and equated the NT with the OT in weight and authority.

1 Timothy 5:18 – For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing,” and “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”

Deuteronomy 25:4 – “You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing.”

Luke 10:7 – And stay in that house, eating and drinking what they give you; for the laborer is worthy of his wages.

- (2) Peter had an awareness of _____ writings as being inspired and acknowledged those writings as Scripture.

2 Peter 3:15-16 – just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.

IV. **What should be our response to the doctrine of inspiration?**

- (1) We stand in awe of _____.

- (2) We become _____ as engineers and _____ as artists

- (3) We _____ the unleashing of God’s power in His _____.