

Men's Study for Winter/Spring 2017

THEOLOGY - a brief biblical overview of systematic theology

Overview of Topics for Our Study: We will cover roughly one topic per meeting

Theology proper – The study of the character of the Triune God

Bibliology and Biblical theology – The study of the Bible

Anthropology and Hamartiology – The study of the nature of humanity and sin

Christology – The study of Christ

Pneumatology – The study of the Holy Spirit

Soteriology – The study of salvation

Angelology – The study of angels

Ecclesiology – The study of the church

Eschatology – The study of the end times

Review

1. What is the *aseity* of God?
2. How would you argue for the a) authority, b) inspiration and c) inerrancy of the Bible?
3. What the essential components of human nature before and after the fall?
4. Could Christ have sinned?

Pneumatology – The study of the Holy Spirit's Work

Preparation Questions - Think through These Before the Study

1. What do we mean by calling?
2. How do external and internal calling differ?
3. What elements are included in external calling?
4. In what sense is it universal?
5. What purpose does it serve?
6. How is the internal related to the external calling?
7. Are we conscious of it?
8. To what end is it directed?
9. What different meanings has the word 'regeneration'?
10. What is it in the most restricted sense?
11. What is the nature of the change wrought in regeneration?
12. Is regeneration a work of God alone or of God and man?
13. Is the Word used as an instrument in regeneration?
14. Is regeneration absolutely necessary? Proof.
15. What is the order of calling and regeneration?

Read Berkhof chs. 19-20 pp 104ff (answer the questions at the end of the chapter)

<http://allsaints-church.com/files/ChristianDoctrineBerkhof.pdf>

Key Verses

Isa. 9:6. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Jer. 23:6. "In His days shall Judah be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely; and this is His name whereby He shall be called: Jehovah our righteousness."

John 1:1. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Mark 16:15, 16. "And He said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation ("every creature," Auth. Ver.). He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that does not believe shall be condemned."

Matt. 22:14. "For many are called, but few are chosen."

Acts 13:46. "And Paul and Barnabas spake out boldly, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first be spoken to you. Seeing ye thrust it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles."

b. Calling of the reprobate:

Prov. 1:24-26. "Because I have called, and ye have refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man hath regarded; but ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh in the day of your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh."

1 Pet. 3:19, 20a. "In which also He (Christ) went and preached unto the spirits in prison, that previously were disobedient, when the long-suffering of God waited in the days of Noah."

Confer also the parables in Matt. 22:1-8, 14; Luke 14:16-24. c. Seriousness of this calling:

Prov. 1:24-26, cf. above under b.

Ezek. 18:23, 32. "Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked? said the Lord Jehovah; and not rather that he should return from his way and, live?... For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dies, saith the Lord Jehovah: wherefore turn yourselves, and live." Cf. also 33:11.

Matt. 23:37. "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, that kills the prophets, and stones them that are sent unto her! how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, and ye would not."

d. The necessity of regeneration:

Jer. 13:23. "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? Then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil."

John 3:3, 7. "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God.... Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."

e. Regeneration and the Word:

Jas. 1:18. "Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of His creatures."

1 Pet. 1:23. "Having been begotten again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, through the word of God, which lives and abides."