

Systematic Theology I

COURSE OVERVIEW

Description

Systematic theology answers the question, “What does the whole Bible teach us today about any given topic?” When we speak of *systematic* theology we mean the orderly arrangement of the study of God into logical, topical divisions. This is the first of three classes. Part I covers the Doctrine of the Word, God, and Man.

This class is not an exposition of the 1689 Confession. However, the teacher should read relevant paragraphs in the class so the participants can behold these truths in our church’s documents. It should remind the people that the Confession is an assistance in controversy, a confirmation of faith, a means of edification in righteousness, and a source of church unity.

Expectations and Goals

1. Biblically Grounded
2. Historically Informed
3. Applied for Today
4. Lived Out

COURSE MATERIALS

Source Materials

The 1689 London Baptist Confession of Faith

Systematic Theology, Wayne Gruden (except on the Trinity, Spiritual Gifts, and Millennium)

Ten Critical Truths of the Canon, Michael Kruger

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Topic	Class Summary
Week 1	Introduction & the Doctrine of the Word Part I David White	First, this class answers: What is systematic theology? Why should Christians study it? Then, it will cover the canon of Scripture, teaching what belongs and does not belong in the Bible and why. (Reference 1689 Ch. 1)

Week	Topic	Class Summary
Week 2	Doctrine of the Word Part II David White	This class will expound upon the inerrancy and infallibility of Scripture. (Reference 1689 Ch. 1).
Week 3	Doctrine of the Word Part III	The class teaches on the critical attributes of Scripture: Authority, Sufficiency, Necessity, and Clarity (Reference 1689 Ch. 1)
Week 4	The Attributes of God Part I	This class is a survey of God's incommunicable attributes and shows the ways he is utterly different from his creation (Reference 1689 Ch. 2).
Week 5	The Attributes of God Part II	This class is a survey of God's communicable attributes and shows the attributes God shares with humankind (Reference 1689 Ch. 2).
Week 6	The Holy Trinity Part I Michael Lopes	This intro to the Trinity will teach three essential truths: God is one God; the one God eternally exists in three distinct persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and that each person is truly and fully God (Reference 1689 Ch. 2)
Week 7	The Holy Trinity Part II Michael Lopes	This class addresses the ontological unity and economic distinctions among the persons of the Trinity. The ontological distinctions among the Father, Son and Spirit are found only in their eternal relations. Their economic distinctions are understood by the roles each fulfills in accomplishing in their unified purpose in creation history. (Reference 1689 Ch. 2)

Week	Topic	Class Summary
Week 8	Doctrines of Creation Part I	This class answers why, how, and when did God create the universe? God created all things out of nothing for his own glory and created everything very good? It may also address how the fall alters our experience of creation. (Reference 1689 Ch. 4).
Week 9	Doctrines of Providence	This class teaches that God decrees and controls all things, and yet our actions have real meaning and consequence. (Reference 1689 Ch. 3& 5)
Week 10	Doctrines of Creation Part II	This class covers how God created man in his image with a body and soul. Furthermore, it explains why God created male and female (marriage and sexuality), and how they are different, fixed, ontological, and embodied realities that complement one another.
Week 11	Doctrines of Sin	This class covers the definition, origin, and the punishment of sin, as well as the doctrine of inherited sin and total depravity (Reference 1689 Ch. 6).

Additional Comments:

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