

Theology Thursdays
Bibliology, Theology Proper & Christology
Teaching Notes

Bibliology

1. Introduction

1. Introduction to Theology Thursdays

1. Why Study Theology? Ill: I love you but don't want to know you.

2. Subjects

1. Bibliology - The Doctrine of the Bible (Metabiblical study)

2. Theology Proper - The Doctrine of the Father

3. Christology - The Doctrine of Christ

4. Pneumatology - The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

5. Angelology - The Doctrine of Angels

6. Anthropology/Harmotology - The Doctrine of Man and Sin

7. Soteriology - The Doctrine of Salvation

8. Ecclesiology - The Doctrine of the Church

9. Eschatology - The Doctrine of the End Times

3. Format

1. Prayer – Lecture – Small Groups

2. Team Approach

4. Material: “*Biblical Doctrine: A Systematic Summary of Biblical Truth*” MacArthur & Mayhue, eds. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2017

2. Bibliology: God's Word

1. Introduction to Biblical Theology:

1. Why should we begin with Bibliology?

2. How is the Bible different from other books?

3. How do we know we can trust the Bible?

2. Inspiration

1. General vs. Special Revelation

2. Definition of Inspiration

1. Verbal - the words themselves

2. Plenary - the entirety of Scripture

3. Original Autographs
 1. Not verse divisions, maps, study points, footnotes, interpretive translations, etc.
4. Used People, Pens and Personal Writing Styles
 3. Hebrews 1:1-3, 2 Peter 1:20-21, 2 Timothy 3:16
3. Authority - Why does the Bible have authority?
 1. Because it is Inspired by God, and...
 2. Because God Has Absolute Authority 1 Tim 1:17
4. Sufficiency - Is the Bible all we need?
 1. Psalm 19:7-11, Psalm 119:105, 2 Tim 3:15-17
 2. Definition of Sufficiency: "The Scriptures provide everything we need to live out the Christian life."
 1. Doesn't mean that we do not need other writings.
 2. What about "no creed but the Bible...?"
5. Inerrancy & infallibility
 1. Definition of inerrancy: without error in the original manuscripts
 2. Definition of infallibility: unable to lead astray or fail
 3. Jesus on the inerrancy of Scripture: John 17:7, Matthew 5:18, John 10:35
6. Preservation
 1. God has preserved his Word.
 2. How do we know this?
 1. A word on Textual Criticism & Bible Translations
 1. Scribal Errors, Omit and Additions, Reasoning (E.g, John 7:53-8:11)
 2. Formal vs. Informal Equivalence
7. Canonicity
 1. RCC vs. Protestant views on canonicity
 1. Determine or decree vs. discover and discern
 2. Internal Evidence + Authorship, Doctrinal Consistency, Acceptance
 3. Grudem on Jesus and NT Writers: "*Jesus and the New Testament authors quote various parts of the Old Testament Scriptures as divinely authoritative over 295 times, but not once do they cite any statement from the books of the Apocrypha or any other writings as having divine authority.*" (Note: "*Jude 14–15 does cite 1*

Enoch 60:8 and 1:9, and Paul at least twice quotes pagan Greek authors (see Acts 17:28; Titus 1:12), but these citations are more for purposes of illustration than proof. Never are the works introduced with a phrase like, "God says," or "Scripture says," or "it is written," phrases that imply the attribution of divine authority to the words cited. (It should be noted that neither 1 Enoch nor the authors cited by Paul are part of the Apocrypha.) No book of the Apocrypha is even mentioned in the New Testament."

1. Catholic Bible Includes: Tobit, Judith, Wisdom, Sirach, Baruch, I and II Maccabees - plus sections of Esther and Daniel which are absent from the Protestant OT. Protestant Christians do not accept these writings as inspired by God and refer to them as the "Apocrypha".

8. The Bible in the Local Church

1. Public Reading, Preaching and Teaching
2. Final Authority for Faith and Practice
 1. Truth vs. False Teaching (2 Timothy 4:3-4)

9. The Bible in the Life of a Believer

1. Know, Cherish, Obey, and Apply
2. 1 Thessalonians 2:13, 1 Peter 2:2, Matthew 4:4

Theology Proper

1. Introduction

1. Why Study God?
2. Relationship with Bibliology and Theology Proper

2. God Exists

1. Biblical Proofs (Primary Evidence)
2. Knowability vs. Incomprehensibility of God
3. Natural Proofs (Secondary Evidence)
 1. Ontological (Man Thinks He Exists therefore he must), Cosmological (Ultimate Cause) and Teleological (Design = Designer) and Moral Arguments
 2. Response: Weak proofs, but strong testimonies

3. God's Names

1. Yahweh (and Compounds)
 1. Yahweh-Yireh (provider)

2. Yahweh-Nisse (banner)
3. Yahweh-Shalom (peace)
2. El (and Compounds)
 1. Elohim (Why it's Plural)
 2. El-Elyon (God most High)
 3. El-Shadai (Almighty)
4. God's Attributes
 1. Incommunicable Attributes (Unique to God)
 1. Independence
 2. Immutability
 3. Eternality
 4. Omnipotence
 5. Omniscience
 6. Omnipresence
 7. Perfection
 2. Communicable Attributes (Transferred to Man) image bearers
 1. Spiritual
 2. Good
 3. Holy/Righteous
 4. Will
5. The Triune God
 1. Explanation
 2. OT Evidence
 3. NT Evidence
 4. Word 'Trinity' Not in the Bible (Still true?)
6. God's Decree
 1. Characteristics
 2. Objections and Responses
7. God's Providence
 1. Preservation of the Universe
 2. Concurrence of All Events
 3. Governance of All Things
8. The Problem of Evil

1. John Frame's Classic Problem of Evil
 1. Premise 1: All powerful God would be able to prevent evil
 2. Premise 2: All good God would want to prevent evil
 3. Premise 3: There is evil
 4. Conclusion: God is not all powerful and/or all good.
 2. Response: Theodicy
 3. Biblical perspective of Evil
9. Glorifying God
1. Definition of Glory
 2. Biblical Evidence for God's Purpose to Glorify Himself
 3. Why God's Glory is the Greatest Good

Christology

1. Introduction

1. Where we left off: Don't name your kid Ichabod
 1. DQ: What is God's glory?
 1. The manifestation of his perfections. (Ill: Pianist)
 2. How do we give God glory?
 2. God's Glory and us: 1 Peter 1:7-9, 2 Cor 3:18
 3. Our Greatest Good: Romans 5:2, Romans 8:18
2. From Bibliology comes Christology (Review)
 1. DQ: Why does the Bible hold sway in our lives?

2. The Person of Christ

1. Hypostatic Union:
 1. Fully God
 1. YAHWEH used of Jesus: Hebrews 1:10-12 (cf. Psalm 102) Matthew 3:3 (cf. Isaiah 40:3)
 2. Attributes of Deity:
 1. Omnipotence (Matthew 8:26-27)
 2. Eternality: Before Abraham Was, I AM: John 8:58
 3. Creator: John 1:1-3, Colossians 1:16
 4. Omniscience: Mark 2:8, John 21:17, John 1:48

5. Omnipresence: (Not affirmed during earthly ministry) Matthew 18:20
3. Significance of Deity? (DQ: What is the big deal about Jesus' deity?)
 1. Salvation is of the Lord
 2. Only an infinite God could bear the full penalty of sins of all people who would believe in him.
 3. Only God can forgive sin. Mark 2:5-7
 4. We worship Christ. Phil 2:10, Matthew 14:33
2. Fully Man
 1. Incarnation: John 1:14
 2. Virgin birth: Matt 1:18
 1. DQ: Significance of the Virgin Birth?
 1. Salvation is of the Lord
 2. United Full Deity and Full Humanity
 3. True Humanity, With No Inherited Sin (Luke 1:35)
 3. Real Human Body
 1. Human Weaknesses?
 1. Became tired: John 4:6
 2. Became thirsty: John 19:28
 3. Slept: Mark 4:38
 4. Died
 4. Sinlessness: 2 Corinthians 5:21, Hebrews 4:15
 1. DQ: Could Jesus have sinned? (Think about the temptation). Was his temptation real.
 1. Wayne Grudem: The Bible tells us that “Jesus was tempted” and “Jesus was fully man” and “Jesus was fully God” and “God cannot be tempted.”
 5. Significance of the Humanity of Christ?
 1. Identified with us
 2. Suitable Sacrifice
 3. He had to be able to die
3. Kenosis Theory
 1. Philippians 2:7
4. Combining the Natures

3. The King of kings and Lord of Lords

1. Philippians 2:9-11

2. Revelation 22:6-21

3. In Jesus, God's glory is revealed to us. And this is our greatest good.

4. Small Group Questions

1. How does it help us to consider the person of Christ? How does it help us to know that Jesus is like us? How does it help us to know that he is not like us?

2. What about Christ is difficult for you to understand?

3. Why is God's glory our greatest good?