Systematic Theology III
Christology, Soteriology, and Eschatology

Syllabus
ST522
Fall 2012

Dr. Douglas F. Kelly
Reformed Theological Seminary
Course Overview
Systematic Theology III – ST522
Dr. Kelly

TEXTBOOKS:
• The Bible
• The Westminster Confession of Faith
• Louis Berkhof, Systematic Theology
• John Calvin, Institutes of the Christian Religion
• John Murray, Redemption Accomplished and Applied
• Douglas Kelly, Systematic Theology, Vol. II (in manuscript format, to be purchased at start of course)
• Douglas Kelly, Revelation: A Mentor Commentary (Christian Focus, 2012)

STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE:
Lectures and readings will deal with five major topics:

1. CHRISTOLOGY
   We study the person and work of Christ based on exegesis of Scripture with reference to relevant historical church councils and confessions.

   Required reading for Christology:
   • Kelly, Systematic Theology, Vol. II: Chapters 1-5, 7-11

2. SOTERIOLOGY
   We study the application of Christ's work of redemption, the order of salvation and its benefits. We shall survey the exegetical basis and theological implications of:
   • Union with Christ
   • Calling
   • Regeneration
   • Conversion
   • Faith
   • Justification
   • Adoption
   • Sanctification
   • Perseverance

   Required reading for Soteriology:
   • Syllabus material
   • Murray, Redemption Accomplished and Applied

3. ESCHATOLOGY
   We study the exegetical basis and theological implications of the doctrine of Last Things, including:
   • Death
   • The intermediate state
   • The return of Christ
   • The resurrection
   • The final judgment
Required reading for Eschatology:

- *Syllabus* material
- Calvin, *Institutes*, III.25 (pp. 987-1008)
- Berkhof, *Systematic Theology*, 695-737
- Kelly, *Revelation*:
  - Introduction, pp. 10-12 (read the section called, 'A Second Reason')
  - pp. 19-21 (read the section called 'When Was Revelation Written?)
  - Read the following chapters: 2, 3, 10, 13-15, 17, 19, 23, 24, 27, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35, 42, 44, 45, 47-49, 52-56, 58, 59, 65.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Do the required reading.
2. Learn the content conveyed in lectures.
4. Prepare an essay: 8 pages (typed, double spaced). Topics are in course notes. Due at the beginning of class on Thursday, October 18, 2012.
5. Two exams:
   a. A mid-term exam covering what has been done up to that point. This exam should last between one and two hours. Take extra care to be familiar with what has been covered up to this point in Kelly, *Systematic Theology, Vol. II*. To be taken in class on Thursday, October 4, 2012.
   b. A final exam, covering what has been done since the mid-term. It should take about two hours, though you may have more time if you wish. It will be taken during exam week.
Essays

Choose one of these four topics of current interest. Write a brief (8 pages only) essay on it, typed and double-spaced. (Do not do much quotation in such a short essay).

A. Discuss “The New Perspective on Paul,” particularly as regards Justification. Make reference to such scholars as N.T. Wright, Sanders and Dunn.

B. “Evangelicals and Catholics Together”: The current debate and your assessment of it. Deal with theological issues; not personalities.

Refer to such sources as
- “Evangelicals and Catholics Together...” in First Things (May 1994, pp. 15-22);
- R.C. Sproul ministries, Table Talk Nov., 1994, and also the Feb. 1995 issue:
- C. Colson, “Why Catholics are our Allies” in Nov. 14, 1994 Christianity Today,
- J.I. Packer, “Why I signed it” in Dec. 12, 1994 CT
- McGrath’s “Do we still need the Reformation...” in the same edition.
- Check for more recent articles in CT and Table Talk.

You could (but do not need to) refer to such works as Scott Hahn’s Rome, Sweet Home and John Gerstner’s Rome, Not Home, plus any other material you deem relevant.

You may refer to the following new books:

C. Deal with your assessment of “The Jesus Seminar”: its presuppositions methodology and influence.


For general background, you may wish to refer to:

D. The doctrine of Adoption in Reformed theology and its specific relevance for pastoral counseling (deal with its application to one of these four areas: ‘self-image’, depression, divorce, child-abuse).

Possible references re adoption:
- John L. Girardeau, Discussion of Theological Questions (chapter on ‘adoption”).
• Francis R. Beattie, *The Presbyterian Standards: An Exposition of the Westminster Confession and Catechisms* (Section on ‘adoption’).
• C. John Miller, paper, “Orphans vs. Sons.”
# Course Objectives Related to MDiv Student Learning Outcomes
## With Mini-Justification

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<tr>
<th>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</strong></td>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scripture</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reformed Theology</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed/ Evangelistic</strong></td>
<td>Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<td><strong>Preach</strong></td>
<td>Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<td><strong>Worship</strong></td>
<td>Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Shepherd</strong></td>
<td>Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Church/World</strong></td>
<td>Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.</td>
<td><strong>Moderate</strong></td>
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