

**4PT526 Worship      Summer 2009 [Atlanta]  
[3 Credit Hours]**

**Instructor:     Dr Derek W. H. Thomas**

**I Course Description**

In 1544, Emperor Charles V called for the Diet of the Holy Roman Empire to meet at Speyer. Martin Bucer, Strassburg reformer, urged Calvin to write a statement of the doctrines and necessity for the Reformation. What emerged was Calvin's *The Necessity for Reforming the Church*, a book which Calvin's friend and successor, Theodore Beza, thought the most powerful and important book of his time. What was Calvin's chief concern? Worship!

This course will investigate as many of the issues of worship as time will permit. The canvas is vast: what does the Bible teach about worship? How are we to integrate both Old and New Testament materials for the church today? What does church history teach us? What are the issues facing the church today?

But what does the latest RTS Catalog say?

The biblical foundations of worship, including music, worship strategies, creative styles, and worship for special occasions, are considered in this course. The goal is to prepare students to be worshippers and effective leaders in worship.

**II Course Objectives**

To acquaint the student with the relevant materials of biblical and historical debate on worship

To facilitate the student to become a leader of worship that is both dignified and sensitive to current cultural norms

To engage the student in debate over issues currently of major controversy within the Reformed churches

**III Course Requirements**

**A. Lectures and attendance**

Many of these sessions will be in the form of seminars, to facilitate classroom discussion. Attendance, therefore, is an absolute requirement.

**B. Reading Assignments**

**Required Texts:**

Ashton, Highes, Keller *Worship By The Book* Zondervan, 2002

John Frame *Worship in Spirit and Truth* Nutley, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed, 1996.

Bard Thompson *Liturgies of the Western Church* Fortress Press, 1980

Larry Hurtado *At the Origins of Christian Worship* Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1999.

Derek Thomas, Ligon Duncan and Philip Ryken (Eds.) *Give Praise to God: A Vision for Reforming Worship* NJ Presbyterian and Reformed, 2003

Robert Vasholz *Benedictions* Christian Focus Publications, 2007

\_\_\_\_\_ *Calls to Worship*, Christian Focus, 2008

Terry Johnson *Leading in Worship* Covenant Foundation.

I do not require book-reports but you can expect to be examined on the contents of these works. Showing that you are familiar with them will improve your grade.

### **C. Practical Requirement (40%)**

#### i. 10 Written Prayers. (20%)

The practice of extemporary praying is a good one and one for which our puritan and Presbyterian forefathers fought hard to maintain. But even these traditions called for what they termed “studied prayers”: prayers that had been planned and thought through and then delivered without notes. We will discuss the merits of this in class.

#### **How should I go about writing these prayers?**

I suggest you take a Psalm and meditate on it. Then begin to formulate the ideas and word structures of the psalm, adapting them for suitability in 20<sup>th</sup> century parlance. Follow the order of thought in the psalm where appropriate. Grading someone’s prayers poses some problems. Still, a measure of objectivity will be attempted. Grading will depend on such things as style, wording, biblical content, structure.

Each prayer should be typed. (I will not accept illegible scribbles). Font size 10. *Times New Roman*. One page exactly (no more, no less). On another page, I want you to give me a paragraph by way of what it is you hope to accomplish in this prayer. Is it thematic? Is it based on some texts of Scripture? Etc.

Although I haven't made these required texts, I do recommend that you purchase the following books to help you in public prayer. They will prove to be invaluable to most of you.

Hughes Oliphant Old *Leading in Prayer: A Workbook for Worship*  
(Grand Rapids, Mich: Eerdmans, 1995)

Terry L. Johnson *Leading in Worship* Oak Ridge, TN: The  
Covenant Foundation, 1996

Arthur Bennett *A Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers  
& Devotions* Edinburgh: The Banner of Truth, 1975

C. H. Spurgeon *Spurgeon's Prayers* Fearn, Ross-shire: Christian  
Focus Publications, 1993

Mathew Henry *A Method for Prayer* Fearn, Ross-shire: Christian  
Focus Publications, 1993

Prayers should reflect these issues/topics and clearly numbered:

1. The Doctrine of the Trinity
  2. The Gospel
  3. The Need for Sanctification, especially in the area of addiction to pornography
  4. The sanctity of the life of the unborn
  5. Infant-baptism (Baptists may choose adult baptism)
  6. The Lord's Supper
  7. A wedding
  8. A Funeral of the sudden death of a teenager
  9. A Funeral of the death of a Christian in old age
  10. A prayer based on a passage of Scripture of your choosing
- ii. Order of Service/Bulletin (20%)

2 Complete Worship Bulletins are to be completed by the end of the semester. Full details as to requirements will be given in class. One must include the Lord's Supper. A "Worship Guide" is also expected.

#### **D. Comprehensive Final Exam (60%)**

The final exam will cover the lecture **and reading material** in a comprehensive way. Students can expect to be asked both factual and integrative questions. **Students can expect to be asked examination questions on all of the reading material.** The quizzes and the final exam will be proctored. Proctors must either be a RTS faculty member or a pastor. You must provide the TA ([alackey@rts.edu](mailto:alackey@rts.edu)) with the name of your proctor as soon as possible to facilitate the taking of your quizzes and the final exam. All of the assigned work will be turned in at one time. All work must be completed by August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

### **Biblical Terms for Worship**

	<b>Greek</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
1	λειτουργέω	Serve, perform service
	λειτουργία ας	Service, gift
	λειτουργικός ή όν	Employed in ministering
	λειτουργός οϋ	Minister, servant
2	σέβομαι	Venerate, worship
	σέβασομαι	Fear, worship
	εϋσεβέω	Worship, show piety toward
	θεοσέβειά ας	Reverence toward God, godliness
	θεοσεβής ές	Worshipping God, pious
	σέβασμα	Object of worship or veneration
	σεβαστός ή όν	Reverend, venerable
3	λατρεύω	Serve, worship
	λατρεία	Service of God (according to Levitical law Heb 9:6)
4	εϋλογέω	Bless, praise, consecrate
	Εϋλογία	blessing; praise; consecration; gift, contribution (2 Cor 9.5); flattery (Ro 16.18); έπ εϋλογίαις bountifully (2 Cor 9.6)
	εϋλογητός ή όν	blessed; praised; the Blessed One (of God Mk 14.61)
	εϋλογημένος	Favoured, blessed
5	εϋλάβειά ας	Reverence, veneration
	εϋλάβέομαι	Beware, fear, reverence
	εϋλαβής ές	Reverencing God, pious, religious, devout
6	προσκυνέω	Prostrate [kiss toward]
	προσκυνητής οϋ	Worshiper
7	θρησκείά ας	Religious worship, ceremonies
	θρησκός όν	Religious, fearful
8	προσεύχομαι	Offer prayers, pray

	προσευχή ἥς	Prayer, place of prayer Acts 16:13,16
9	προσέρχομαι	Come to, approach 1 Tim 6:3; associate with Acts 10:28
10	εὐχαριστέω	Give thanks, be thankful, be grateful (Rom 16:4)
11	φοβέομαι	to fear
12	κάμψει πᾶν γόνυ	(idiom) to bow the knee Rom 14:11
13	ὀνομάζων τὸ ὄνομα κυρίου	2 Tim 2:19. Idiom “to name the name of the Lord”

	Hebrew	Meaning
1	שָׁחָה	Bow down (see Hill 6-7)
2	עָבַד עֲבָדָה עֲבוּדָה	Serve, servant, service (see Hill 4-5)
3	בָּרַךְ בִּרְכָה בִּרְכָה	Kneel, bless, praise, salute, curse (used euphemistically)
4	שָׁרַת	Minister, serve (Num 4:12; 2Ch:24:14) (see Hill 5-6)
5	יָרָא	Fear (see Hill 3-4)
6	קָרָא	Call
7	פָּלַל	Intervene, intercede
8	עָתַר	Entreat
9	שָׁאַל	Ask, inquire
10	שָׁלַל	Shine, glorify; shout, praise
11	יִלְנַן לְאַפְהַתָּה דְנָא לִפְּיָא שְׁבַח	Praise, laud
12	סָגַד	Prostrate oneself, used in Isa 44:15,17,19; 46:6 only.
13	קָרַב	Approach, draw near
14	כָּבַד	Honor, glorify
15	גָּדַל	Become great, magnify, [tower]
16	רוּם	Lift up, extol
17	דָּרַשׁ	Seek, inquire (see Hill 2-3)
18	סָגַד	Do homage, prostrate oneself (Dan. 3:5-7, 10-12, 14-18, 28)
19	נָפַל	I fall down on my face
20	נָגַשׁ	Draw near, approach
21	הִלְךְ	Walk, “Come” Isa 55:1,3
22	חָנַן	Be gracious (Hithpael – implore favour)
23	יָדָה	Confess, praise, give thanks (Psa. 32:5)