THM SEMINAR ON WILLIAM TYNDALE AND THE ENGLISH BIBLE

June 2005

Professor: Dr. Herbert L. Samworth

Dates: 13-17 June 2005

Location: RTS Campus, Room to be announced

TEXTBOOKS: Required

Students will be required to read the following books BEFORE the seminar:

Bobrick, Benson. Wide as the Waters: The Story of the English Bible and the Revolution It Inspired (Simon and Schuster, 2001)

Daniell, David. William Tyndale: A Biography (Yale, 1994)


Recommended and Supplementary Reading:

MacCulloch, Diarmaid. The Reformation: A History (Viking, 2003) N.B. Not for the faint of heart but an encyclopedic work that integrates the reformations in various European countries into a comprehensible unity. This book places the English Reformation into its larger European context.

McGrath, A. E. Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought (Blackwell, 1998) A work of historical theology that integrates the reformation in doctrine in a similar manner as the work above although the scope of the book covers the entire period of church history not just the reformation.

Mozley, J. F. William Tyndale (SPCK, 1937) This work, to my knowledge, is out of print but, in your instructor’s opinion, it remains the single best biography of Tyndale and his work. Apparently Mr. Mozley did not have a high estimation of Tyndale when he began the study of his life, but the book is eminently sane and fair. If it is impossible to purchase a copy, seek out a library where it is located and read it.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

There will be one (1) major research paper (20+ pages) dealing with a topic or subject approved by the Professor. The complete first draft is due August 7. The final draft is due (in hard copy) on August 27, 2005.

There are, in addition, two Response Papers (7-10 pages each) on the assigned reading that are to be completed before the June class. Each paper is to be written in a formal, footnoted, summary analysis and critical response to any two chapters of the assigned reading.

These response papers will be presented informally in the morning sessions and will provide the basis for seminar discussions. In the afternoon tutorials the Professor will work with the student to help (i) assess and develop scholarly skills and (ii) to begin work on the research paper for the seminar.

Student presentations (30 minutes) of the fruits of the response paper will be followed by class discussion. Each student is to provide a copy of his/her presentation on the first day of the session. These presentations will be photocopied and distributed to the class.

The major research paper will count toward 50% of the final grade. Each of the response papers will count 25% of the final grade.

SEMINAR SCHEDULE: 9 am – Noon

June 13---------------Introduction: The English Bible before Tyndale
June 14--------------The English Reformation and its impact on Tyndale
June 15-------------Tyndale in Little Sodbury Manor and London
June 16------------Tyndale in Cologne, Worms, Hamburg, and Antwerp
June 17-----------Tyndale’s arrest, confinement, trial, and death. Aftermath and summary evaluation of William Tyndale

TUTORIALS: 1 PM – 3 PM in location to be announced
OBJECTIVES FOR THE CLASS:

The class will be conducted as a graduate seminar with three inter-related components: class lectures, student presentations, and tutorials with the instructor. The purpose of the class is to expose the student to the life of William Tyndale and the printing of the English Bible. However, for this to be accomplished, it will be necessary to place this objective in the larger context of English history and the Reformation of 1517. The goal of the program is to provide the student with gradual level critical and analytical skills, a thorough understanding of the historical events surrounding the printing of the English Bible, and promote competence in areas for thesis research.

INTERNET SCHEDULE FOR THE JUNE CLASS

Week of June 19 ---------------Travel Week

Week of June 26 ---------------3 –  5 page draft to Professor

Week of July 3------------------Response of Professor to student

Week of July 10-----------------5 –  7 pages to Professor

Week of July 17-----------------Response of Professor to student papers

Week of July 24-----------------10 – 13 pages to Professor

Nota Bene: Each student should send a copy of this draft to each of the seminar participants for feedback

Week of July 31-----------------All Students provide feedback for student paper

Week of August 7-----------------First draft of paper to Professor

Nota Bene: Each student should send a copy of this first draft to all seminar participants for feedback

Week of August 14---------------All Students provide feedback for Student Paper

Week of August 21---------------Final Draft of paper to Professor

Final Draft due August 27 2005

Nota Bene: Preliminary drafts to Professor and seminar participants should be sent via electronic mail. Final draft of paper should be in hard copy format and mailed to the Professor to arrive on or before the due date. Address is Dr. Herbert L. Samworth, 12519 Scarlett Sage Court, Winter Garden, Florida 34787. Electronic mail: hsamworth@zionshope.org; hsamworth@solagroup.org. Telephone: 407-654-8626