ST IV (2ST524)
Ecclesiology and Sacraments

January 18-22, 2010
Mon to Fri, 8:30am to 3:30pm

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Course description
This course is an introduction to the doctrines of the church and the sacraments. We will explore the centrality of the church in the work of Christ and examine the nature, structure, leadership and marks of the church, leading to a discussion of the sacraments of the church: baptism and the Lord’s Supper. Topics include the following: high and low views of the church, Simon Peter and the foundation of the church, the significance of Pentecost, Paul's metaphors for the church, church officers, marks of the church, baptism, and the Lord's Supper.

Texts
J. Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, Book IV
E.P. Clowney, *The Church*
J. Murray, *Christian Baptism*
Alexander Schmemann, *For the Life of the World*
Cyprian, *On the Unity of the Catholic Church* (electronic)
Paul Zahl, “Bible-based Verticality” (electronic)

Other helpful texts on Church and Sacraments (but not required)
I.H. Marshall, *Last Supper, Lord’s Supper*
R.B. Kuiper, *The Glorious Body of Christ*
G. Vos, *The Kingdom of God and the Church*

Evaluation
30% Exam—based on lectures and readings
10% Calvin reading assignments
10% Clowney reading report
10% Murray reading report
10% Schmemann reading report
30% Paper—Please write a 1,500 word paper on any topic related to the course.
Course Schedule

Monday
   I. Introduction: Overview of the Doctrine of the Church
   II. The Building of the Church
       A. The foundation of the church in the promise of Christ, Matt.16:18
       B. The Church Jesus builds
       C. Church and Kingdom
       D. The "Peter Saying"
       E. The Pattern of Church building
          i. Mk.1:13-14 prototype
          ii. The significance of Pentecost
          iii. The pattern in Acts

Tuesday
   III. The Nature of the Church
       A. Church as fulfillment of covenant community
       B. Church as the assembly of Christ
       C. Central designations and images of the Church

Wednesday
   IV. Leadership and Organization
       A. Organization in Gospels
       B. Organization in Acts
       C. Eldership
       D. Diaconate
       E. Ministry of Women in early church

V. Attributes of the Church and Marks of the Church

Thursday
   VI. Sacraments
       A. Introduction and definition
       B. Number of sacraments
       C. Sign and Seal
       D. Covenant

VII. Baptism
       A. Significance
       B. Mode of baptism
       C. Subjects of baptism

Friday
   VIII. Lord’s Supper
       A. Institution
       B. Function
       C. Meaning
          i. Memorial
          ii. Blessing
          iii. Communion
          iv. Proclamation
          v. Anticipation
       D. The Presence of Christ
Calvin Assignments

Please just write a few sentences for each question.

Calvin, *Institutes*, Book IV
Why are there external aids? Why a Church? What is the Church? What is the standard by which true worship is measured? What does the Church do? How is discipline administered? For what purpose did God institute discipline? How does Calvin define a sacrament? What sacraments does Calvin admit? What does Baptism achieve? What happens in the Lord's Supper? Can you figure out what the Catholic position on the Lord's Supper is that he is rejecting? Why does he reject it? Why was the Supper instituted? What good does it do? How do the words of consecration work for Calvin?

Calvin, *Institutes*, pp. 1276-1359 (Book IV, Chapter XIV-XVI)
1. According to Calvin, why is the Word important in the sacrament? Give detail.
2. How can the word “sacrament” be variously used?
3. What does Calvin think of rebaptisms? Why?
4. What do you make of Calvin’s “seed (of repentance and faith)” in the infants of believers

Calvin, *Institutes*, pp. 1359-1484 (Book IV, Chapters XVII-XIX)
1. List the terms in which Calvin describes our communion with Christ in the Sacred Supper. Be expansive and give details.
2. Why is Calvin so upset about the Roman Mass?
3. What Roman sacraments does Calvin deny and why?
4. What does Calvin think of Roman orders and why?
Title: __________________________________________

Author: __________________________________________

1. Did you read the entire book?

2. Summarize in one paragraph the thesis and argument of the text.

3. Summarize in one paragraph the author’s method of proving her or his thesis. How does she or he “get there”?

4. For you, what are some of the main points of the book?

5. What were some key points or passages that you think are relevant for a course on the church and sacraments?

5. Internal positive assessment: Assuming the author’s point of view and being aware of what the author hoped and intended to do, write at least two paragraphs about some strengths of the text. To what extent did the author “pull it off” and accomplish a significant part of what she or he intended?

6. Internal negative assessment: Assuming the author’s point of view and being aware of what the author hoped and intended to do, write at least two paragraphs about some weaknesses of the text. How many of your reservations about the text can be expressed from a point of view intrinsic to the text or assuming the author’s point of view?

7. External positive evaluation: From your perspective and evaluating things in terms of your own commitments and purposes, what are some strengths of the text? Please write at least two paragraphs.

8. External negative evaluation: From your perspective and evaluating things in terms of your own commitments and purposes, what are some weaknesses of the text? Please write at least two paragraphs.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><em><em>MDiv</em> Student Learning Outcomes</em>*</th>
<th><strong>Rubric</strong></th>
<th><strong>Mini-Justification</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>4 reading reports and 1 paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scripture</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Lectures are a blend of systematic theology and scriptural expositions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reformed Theology</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>We go through the WCF on church and sacrament, as well as read Calvin and Clowney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sanctification</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>Devotions related to lecture each day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire for Worldview</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Focusing on church in Christian and reformed worldview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winsomely Reformed</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Reading an Orthodox author on church and dealing lots with Catholicism and non-denominational/bible church views.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preach</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>For MDiv students I encourage them to use their papers for teaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>We discuss the implications for ecclesiology on worship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shepherd</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>Generally related to theme of course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church/World</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>I also teach Church and the World, so many of the themes of how culture relates to ecclesiology are intertwined.</td>
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