Systematic Theology I (2ST508), Scripture and God
Fall Term, 2010
Course Handbook

Tuesdays, 2-5 PM

Instructor, John M. Frame

My stated office hours this term are Wednesdays, 8-9:30 and 11-12 AM, others by appointment. I’m in my office most mornings, and if my door is ajar I’ll be happy to see you. Feel free to write me at jframe@rts.edu. I will probably give a better answer to your question by email than in person, but I realize that sometimes face-to-face meetings are better.

Teaching Assistant, Jonathan (Jonny) Dyer

Jonny has done great work in my courses, and as teaching assistant in several courses. I believe he can answer most all of your questions, both about procedures and course content. Do feel free to write him, jonnywdyer@googlemail.com. He will be writing and grading the class exams, with my assistance. If you have a problem with an exam or with your grade, please talk to him first. If you can’t come to agreement with him, I’ll be willing to arbitrate.

Texts and Abbreviations:

RC: Reformed Confessions, any edition (available online for download at http://www.tulip.org/refcon/, or for reading at http://www.creeds.net/reformed/creeds.htm.)
SD: Supplementary Documents (available at www.reformedperspectives.org. Click on “Hall of Frame,” then on this course.)
Frame, Doctrine of God (Lecture Outline) (DGLO)
Frame, Doctrine of God Study Guide (DGSG)
Frame, Doctrine of the Word of God Study Guide (DWGSG)
Frame, Doctrine of the Word of God (Manuscript of forthcoming book) (DWG)
Frame, Doctrine of Man (Lecture Outline) (DMLO)
Frame, “Introduction to the Reformed Faith”
Warfield, “A Brief and Untechnical Statement of the Reformed Faith”
Van Til, “Nature and Scripture”
John Murray, “The Attestation of Scripture”
Frame, “In Defense of Something Close to Biblicism”
Frame, “Traditionalism”
Recommended:

The Collected Works of John M. Frame (P&R and Bits and Bytes, 2008), Vol. 1: three CDs or one DVD, including six books, many articles, and 70 hours of audio lectures on MP3s, including my lectures on Scripture and God. This volume focuses on systematic theology. Vol. 2 will deal specifically with apologetics, vol. 3 with ethics and worship. It costs a lot, but the cost per book (and other materials) is pretty low.

John Frame, Perspectives on the Word of God (Wipf and Stock, 1999).


Anthony Hoekema, Created in God’s Image (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994).

Meredith G. Kline, Images of the Spirit (Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 1999). Important work on the image of God, among other things.


Systematic Theologies: Hodge, Bavinck, Berkhof, Grudem, Reymond

Objectives

1. To give reasons for confidence in the absolute authority of Scripture as God’s Word.

2. To show that disbelief and disobedience to Scripture are inconsistent with faith in Jesus Christ.

3. To present God as covenant Lord and ways of speaking about him consistent with his Lordship as revealed in Scripture.

4. To elicit a greater love for our Triune God and his revelation.

5. To help students to better understand themselves as the image of God, fallen into sin, in constant need of the redeeming work of Christ.
Assignments

1. Class attendance is required. I won’t call the roll, but students who are often absent or late without excuse will be penalized.

2. You are asked to complete all reading assignments on the days indicated below. For the first and second parts of the course (Doctrine of God, Doctrine of the Word of God) I have supplied Study Guides (DGSG, DWGSG). For each class period, you are to prepare the material for the lesson assigned for that day. That means, you should be prepared to define any of the key terms or answer any of the questions. During these parts of the course, I will not lecture, as a rule, but will call on individual students to respond to Study Guide questions and define Key Terms. I may also ask questions that are not on the Study Guide, to determine how well you understand the issues. In the Doctrine of Man unit, there will be no study guide. I will be lecturing from the lecture outline provided.

3. Midterm Test on the Doctrine of God unit (everything we have covered to that point). The test will be given in the library, and you may take it any time from the opening of the library on Monday, Oct. 26, to its closing on Saturday, Oct. 31. Important note: Please do not use exams from past years to study for the Midterm or the Final. If you do, it will be considered cheating.

4. Final Exam, only on the Doctrine of the Word of God and Doctrine of Man units (material covered since the midterm). Time and place will be announced. See important note under 3, above.

Grading

All assignments will be graded on a pass-fail basis. Your final grade will be calculated thus, based on assignments 2-4 above:

Passing work on assignments 2-4: A.
Passing work on two of three assignments: B.
Passing work on one of three: C.
No passing work: F.

Weekly Assignments

All dates are Tuesdays.

Aug. 31: Introduction to the Doctrine of God

DG, 1-46, 80-115.
DGSG, Lessons 1-3, 5-7.
SD: Frame, “Introduction to the Reformed Faith”
Warfield, “A Brief and Untechnical Statement of the Reformed Faith”

Sept. 7: God’s Sovereignty, Human Responsibility, Evil

DG, Chapters 4, 8, 9. For assignments in DG, you may find it helpful to consult DGLO as well, which provides an outline of DG. We may occasionally use that outline in class as well. Large Roman numerals in the outline correspond to chapter numbers in the book.
DGSG, Questions on the above chapters (similarly each week from now on).
Second Helvetic Confession, 9.
Westminster Confession of Faith, 3.1, 9.1-5.


DG and DGSG, Chapters 13-16 (Notice that we are skipping some material.)
RC
Belgic Confession, 14-16.
CD: First Head, Articles 1-18 and Rejection of Errors
Heidelberg Catechism, 26-28.
Second Helvetic Confession, 6-7, 10.
Westminster Confession of Faith, 3-5.
Westminster Larger Catechism, 12-19.
Westminster Shorter Catechism, 7-11.

Sept. 21: Attributes of God

DG 19-26 (Omitting some more topics.)
DGSG
Lesson 19: questions 2, 9, 10
20: 3, 5, 7, 10, 17
21: 1, 4, 6, 9
22: 7, 8-11, 12, 13
23: 2, 10, 11
24: 4, 5, 8, 9
25:1, 3, 10, 13
26: 2, 3, 4
RC:
Westminster Confession of Faith, 2
Westminster Larger Catechism 7-8
Westminster Shorter Catechism, 4-5.

Sept. 28: The Trinity
DG and DGSG, Chapters 27-29.
Westminster Confession of Faith, 2
Westminster Larger Catechism, 9-11

Oct. 4-9: MID-TERM EXAMINATION. Take the exam in the library, any time from its opening on Monday the 4th to its closing on Saturday the 9th. The exam will deal only with the Doctrine of God, that is, the assignments made through Sept. 28.

Oct. 5: The Word of God

DWG and DWGSG, Chapters 1-7.

OCT. 12: NO CLASS, READING WEEK.

Oct. 19: Nature and Media of the Word

DWG and DWGSG, 8-15.
SD: Van Til, “Nature and Scripture” Note: Don’t get tied up with all the philosophers here.
    Focus on Van Til’s basic comparison and contrast between the attributes of natural and scriptural revelation.
RC
    Belgic Confession, Articles I-VII
    Confession of 1967, I, C, 2
    Canons of Dordt, Third and Fourth Heads, I-V
    Heidelberg Catechism, Questions 1-3, 19, 21-23, 67
    Second Helvetic Confession, I-II
    Westminster Confession of Faith Chapters 1, 14.
    Westminster Larger Catechism, Questions 1-5
    Westminster Shorter Catechism, Questions 1-3

Oct. 26: The Written Word

DWG and DWGSG, 16-23, 26, 29-32.
    Frame, “In Defense of Something Close to Biblicism”
    Frame, “Traditionalism.”

Nov. 2: The Transmission of Scripture

DWG and DWGSG 33-34, 38-40

Nov. 9: Person Revelation
Nov. 16: The Creation and Nature of Man

DMLO 1-16
JM, 1-46, 60-66
Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter 4.
Westminster Larger Catechism, Q 17.
Westminster Shorter Catechism, Question 10.
Belgic Confession 14

Nov. 23: Sin

DMLO 16-23, 26-28.
JM, 67-119
Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter 6.
Westminster Larger Catechism, Q 21-29.
Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q 13-20
Belgic Confession 14, 15, 17.
Canons of Dordt, Third and Fourth Heads
Heidelberg Catechism, Q 3-14.

Nov. 30: Covenants

DMLO, 23-26
JM, 47-59.
Westminster Confession of Faith, Chap. 7.
Westminster Larger Catechism, Q 30-36.
Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q 20.

Course Bibliographies

Introduction to the Reformed Faith

See also the Reformed systematic theologies listed under “Systematic Theology and Theological Method”

Bavinck, Herman, Our Reasonable Faith (Baker, 1956). Bavinck was the leading Dutch dogmatician of the late 19th, early
20th centuries. This is his brief, 568 page (!) summary of his four-volume Dogmatics. His full
Dogmatics has recently been translated into English and is invaluable.
Boettner, Lorraine, The Reformed Doctrine of Predestination
(P&R). A good, standard work.
Boice, James, Foundations of the Faith. A popular summary of
Reformed doctrine.
Calvin and his influence. Note comparisons between
Calvin and Thomas Aquinas (Breen) and between Calvin
and Arminius (Bangs).
Calvin, John, Concerning the Eternal Predestination of God
(“Calvin’s Calvinism.” His argument against Pighius on predestination.)
--, Institutes of the Christian Religion. The
definitive formulation. You must read this
before leaving seminary.
Coppes, Leonard J., Are Five Points Enough? Ten Points
of Calvinism (Manassas: Reformation Educational
Foundation, 1980).
Elwell, Walter, ed., Handbook of Evangelical Theologians
(Baker, 1993). Biographies and emphases of various
thinkers, including Warfield, Berkhof, Machen, Van Til,
Murray, Clark, Berkouwer, Schaeffer, Henry, Hoekema,
Carnell, Packer, McGrath.
Hodge, A. A., Outlines of Theology (Zondervan, 1879, 1972). A
one-volume work by the son of Charles Hodge.
Kline, Meredith, The Structure of Biblical Authority (Eerdmans,
1972). Best source for the “covenant” concept expounded
in lecture.
Kuyper, A., Lectures on Calvinism (Eerdmans, 1961). Another
“must read.” Kuyper was a great genius: philosopher,
founder of a university, newspaper editor, preacher,
founder of a new denomination, devotional writer. These
lectures seek to apply Calvinism to all areas of life,
thus expressing the major thrust of his thought.
Luther, Martin, The Bondage of the Will (Luther had great affection for this
volume, but his Lutheran successors didn’t follow its teaching. Shows
how important the doctrine of predestination was to the early Reformation.)
--, The Christian View of Man. These two books are simple
radio addresses expounding the basics of the Reformed
faith. Vivid, compelling style.
in contrasting Reformed Christianity with its “liberal” counterfeit.

McKim, Donald K., ed., Encyclopedia of the Reformed Faith (Westminster/John Knox Press, 1992). Some contributors are liberal and/or limited inerrantist, but on the whole this is a valuable reference work.

Murray, J., Calvin on Scripture and the Sovereignty of God (Baker, 1960). These articles are also found in Vol. IV of Murray’s Collected Writings (Banner of Truth, 1982).


Sproul, R. C., many popular books and tapes on Reformed doctrines, available through the Ligonier Valley Study Center in Orlando, Florida. Sproul is the best popular communicator of Reformed doctrine around. Ligonier also sells tapes and booklets by the late John H. Gerstner, Sproul’s mentor. These should not be missed.


Warfield, B. B., Calvin and Calvinism. --, Calvin and Augustine.

Revelation and Scripture

See also the various systematic theologies listed in the “Theology” bibliography below.

Archer, G., Encyclopedia of Bible Difficulties (Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 1982).


Barr, James, Fundamentalism. Critique of evangelical views of scripture.

Barth, Karl, Church Dogmatics, I/2, 457-740. Fountainhead of neo-orthodoxy.
Bavinck, Herman,
--., The Philosophy of Revelation (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1979).

Limited inerrancy.


--., Holy Scripture (Grand Rapids, Eerdmans, 1975).
A sophisticated statement of a limited inerrancy position.

Bloesch, Donald, Holy Scripture (Downers Grove, Inter-Varsity Press, 1994). Limited inerrancy.


Bruce, F. F., The Canon of Scripture (IVP, 1988)

--., Hermeneutics, Authority and Canon (Zondervan, 1986, 1995); includes essay by Frame on the internal testimony of the Spirit.

Clark, G., God’s Hammer (Jefferson, Md., Trinity Publishing Co.,1982).


Demarest, B., General Revelation (Zondervan, 1982)-- Baptist from Denver Seminary.


Hannah, J., ed., Inerrancy and the Church (Chicago, Moody Press, 1984). Like the Boice and Geisler volumes, this book is a project of ICBI.

Helm, P., Divine Revelation: The Basic Issues (Westchester, Ill.,
Crossway Books, 1982). Helm is a Christian philosopher at the King’s College, Univ. of London, England, former editor of Banner of Truth.

Henry, Carl F. H., God, Revelation and Authority, 6 volumes (Waco, Word, 1976 to 1984). The first four volumes deal with the doctrine of revelation, the last two with the doctrine of God. This is a fine work, certainly the definitive evangelical treatment to date.


Kline, Meredith G., The Structure of Biblical Authority (Grand Rapids, Eerdmans, 1972). The most significant re-thinking of the orthodox position since Warfield.

Kuyper, Abraham, Principles of Sacred Theology (Eerdmans, 1965).
Part of his Encyclopedia. Deals with the nature of theology and revelation. K. was a great Reformed leader of the 19th century.

Lewis, Gordon, and Demarest, Bruce, ed., Challenges to Inerrancy (Chicago, Moody, 1984). Another ICBI symposium, this one on theological attacks against inerrancy.

Lindsell, Harold, The Battle for the Bible (Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 1976). This states a “full inerrantist” position and attacks limited inerrancy. At points, however, it betrays a somewhat wooden hermeneutic. The limited inerrantists like to quote him as an extreme example of what they oppose.


Montgomery, John W., ed., God’s Inerrant Word (Bethany, 1975). Contains a number of useful articles by Packer, Montgomery, Pinnock, Peter Jones, R. C. Sproul, John Gerstner, and John Frame.

Morris, Leon, I Believe in Revelation (Eerdmans, 1976).

Murray, John, Calvin on Scripture and Divine Sovereignty (Grand Rapids, Baker, 1960).

Full inerrancy.
Orr, James, Revelation and Inspiration (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1969, originally published in 1910.) Fountainhead of limited inerrancy views.
Packer, J. I., Beyond the Battle for the Bible (Westchester, Ill., Cornerstone Books, 1980).
Polman, A., Barth (Presbyterian and Reformed), 16-30. Pretty good summary and critique of Barth’s view.
Radmacher, E., ed., Can We Trust the Bible? (Wheaton, Tyndale, 1979). Interesting articles by Packer, Clowney, Sproul and others.
Rogers, J., and McKim, D., The Authority and Interpretation of the Bible (N.Y., Harper, 1979)-- the definitive statement of a “limited inerrancy” position.
Runia, Klaas, Karl Barth’s Doctrine of Holy Scripture.
Stonehouse, Ned, and Woolley, Paul, ed., The Infallible Word (Phil: Presbyterian and Reformed, 1946). Collection of essays on Biblical inspiration and authority by the faculty of WTS/Phil. The contributions of Murray and Van Til are especially notable.
Turretin, F., The Doctrine of Scripture (Grand Rapids, Baker, 1981)—part of Turretin’s Institutes dealing with Scripture. Of course, the whole of the Institutes is also available now; see below under Systematic Theology and Theological Method.


-- , The Protestant Doctrine of Scripture.

Warfield, B. B., The Inspiration and Authority of the Bible (P&R). Definitive.

-- , Limited Inspiration (P&R).

Weeks, Noel, The Sufficiency of Scripture (Edinburgh, Banner of Truth, 1988). WTS graduate, teaches ancient history at Univ. of Sydney, Australia. Very stimulating.

Woodbridge, J., Biblical Authority (Zondervan, 1982)—excellent critique of the Rogers-McKim volume.


Systematic Theology and Theological Method

In this bibliography, I have included both complete systems of theology and writings about theology and theological method. You will find that many of the systematic theologies begin with discussions of theology and theological method. They are, of course, also important for our study of the Doctrine of God.

Barth, Karl, Church Dogmatics (Macmillan). The fountainhead of neo-orthodoxy. Probably the most influential theology of the 20th century. See especially I/1, 1-25, II/1, 1ff. on the nature and method of theology.

Bavinck, Herman, Reformed Dogmatics: Prolegomena (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2003). At last, Bavinck’s four-volume Dogmatics is being translated into English. This is the first volume, dealing with theological method and Scripture.


-- , Systematic Theology (Banner of Truth). Standard one-volume Reformed work. Good summary, based primarily
on Hodge and on Herman Bavinck’s four-volume Dutch work which is still untranslated into English.

Buswell, James O., Systematic Theology (Zondervan). Buswell was a professing Calvinist, though I believe he occasionally veered in an Arminian direction. Premillenial.


The seed-bed of all Reformed theology. Drink deep of it.

Chafer, Lewis Sperry, Systematic Theology (Dallas Theological Seminary Press). This seven volume work is the standard statement of “original dispensationalism.”


--, Eternal Word and Changing Worlds (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984). Concerned with “contextualization:” the process of translating scripture into the thought-forms of various cultures.


Erickson, Millard, Christian Theology (Baker). Middle of the road evangelicalism. Amyraldian.

--, ed. The Living God (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1975). See significant articles here on the nature and method of theology, particularly those by Hodge (Reformed), Mullins (Baptist emphasizing experience), De Wolf (liberal), Horden (neo-orthodox), Van Til (Reformed), Tillich (radical liberal), Bultmann (radical liberal), and Gill (language analyst).


by, and reflect the structure of, biblical theology.

--, “Systematic Theology and Biblical Theology,”
in Skilton, ed., The New Testament Student and
Theology, 32-50.

Grenz, Stanley, Theology for the Community of God (Nashville:
evangelical, but I confess I don’t find it very
interesting.

Grudem, Wayne, Systematic Theology (Grand Rapids: Zondervan,
1994). Excellent in many ways; incorporates some of
Frame’s lecture material from Grudem’s years as F’s
student. Reformed, but defends continuing charismatic
gifts.

Hodge, Charles, Systematic Theology (Eerdmans). A three-volume
work representing Old Princeton Presbyterian theology
circa 1870. Still a standard work of Reformed theology.

Hoeksema, Herman, Reformed Dogmatics (Reformed Free Publishing
Assn.) Often called a “hyper-Calvinist,” Hoeksema
denied the doctrine of common grace and left the
Christian Reformed Church to form the Protestant Reformed
Church. A very brilliant thinker.

Wittgensteinian account of the nature of theology.
See Frame’s review in WTJ 42:1 (Fall, 1979), 219-231.

Horton and I have some major differences, but I must admit that he has read a great many
historic and contemporary theologians and has illuminated their contributions. The book is,
however, essentially a “triangulation” (in terms of my “Traditionalism” paper).

Jewett, Paul K., God, Creation, and Revelation: a Neo-
“Neo-evangelical” these days tends to mean limited
inerrancy and feminism, both of which Jewett endorses.

Kelsey, David, The Uses of Scripture in Recent Theology. See
also Frame’s review in WTJ 39:2 (Spring, 1977): 328-353.
Explores the methods of modern theologians from Warfield
to Bultmann; shows that they mean very different things
when they claim to do theology “in accord with
Scripture.”

Kuyper, Abraham, Principles of Sacred Theology (Eerdmans, 1965).
Part of his Encyclopedia. Deals with the nature of

Lewis, Gordon, and Demarest, B., Integrative Theology
(Zondervan), 3 vols. Baptist writers trying to combine
historical, exegetical, biblical, and systematic
theology. I don’t think it’s very successful. That
project requires many more pages and more careful scholarship.


Murray, John, Collected Writings (4 Volumes) (Banner of Truth). Murray taught for many years at Westminster in Philadelphia. His formulations of Reformed theology are, altogether, the best available. The exegesis is thorough and cogent. Volume 2 of this set contains his basic seminary lectures in Systematic Theology. See also his articles on “Systematic Theology.” Murray was conservative in many ways, noticeably in his advocacy of the exclusive use of Psalms in worship. But his lectures were not, for the most part, reviews of Reformed traditions, but almost entirely exegetical. And in his accounts of theological method, he emphasizes independence from tradition.

Muller, Richard, Post-Reformation Reformed Dogmatics. Multivolume survey of post-Reformation theologians on the topics of systematic theology.

--., The Study of Theology (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1991). A discussion of theological method by a professor at Calvin Seminary. See my review in WTJ 56 (1994), 133-151, and Muller’s reply to me in the following issue. I am unmoved.

Pannenberg, Wolfhart, Systematic Theology (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988), 3 volumes. Pannenberg’s theology is not orthodox, despite some appearances to the contrary. He is deeply influenced by Hegelian rationalism. But the intellectual quality of his work, including the very fine distinctions he regularly draws, is quite remarkable.

Pieper, Francis, Christian Dogmatics (Concordia). A three volume orthodox Lutheran theology. Mueller (above) summarizes
this.


Rushdoony, R. J., Systematic Theology (Ross House, 1994). A two-volume Reformed work. Rushdoony is the founder of the Christian Reconstruction or Theonomy movement, and his political and social interests are evident here. It is not an exegetically developed exposition of Reformed theology; it is rather a series of the author’s thoughts relating various doctrines to his concerns. Nevertheless it is a book of some interest.


Thielicke, Helmut, The Evangelical Faith (Eerdmans). A three-volume Lutheran theology from the mid-20th century. Somewhat influenced by neo-orthodoxy, but often quite conservative.

--, A Little Exercise for Young Theologians. It’s important to read this before you get very far along in your theological study.

Tillich, Paul, Systematic Theology, 3 vols. Radically liberal, hardly affirms anything that can be recognized as Christian. A philosophy of being and non-being with some Christian language attached.

Turretin, F., Institutes of Elenctic Theology (Phillipsburg: Presbyterian and Reformed, 1994). Edited by James Dennison. Three volumes. This 17th century work was the basic textbook at Princeton Seminary before the completion of Hodge’s systematics. A brilliant and comprehensive work.


Vos, Geerhardus, Biblical Theology. On pp. 1-27, he discusses the relation of biblical theology to the other theological disciplines.
Standard Arminian work.

**Doctrine of God (General)**

Barth, Karl, Church Dogmatics II/1, 2.
Boice, James M., Our Sovereign God.
Charnock, Stephen, The Existence and Attributes of God (Sovereign Grace Book Club, no pub. data.) 802. h. Classic Reformed work.
   --, What the Bible Says About God the Redeemer (Joplin: College Press, 1987). 598. h.
Cottrell is a Westminster/Phila. Graduate and theologian in the Church of Christ. He is, I think, the most cogent theologian today writing in the tradition of classical Arminianism.
Craig, William L., The Only Wise God (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1987). 7.95. 157. p. Craig is mainly known as a philosopher and evidential apologist. This volume deals with a number of questions concerning the doctrine of God.
Davis, Stephen T., Logic and the Nature of God (Grand Rapids:
Eerdmans, 1983). 171. h. Another philosophical treatment. Davis is a “limited inerrancy” evangelical.

Farley, E., The Transcendence of God

Feinberg, John, No One Like Him: The Doctrine of God (Crossway, 2001).


Gilson, E., God and Philosophy (Thomist).


Heim, Karl, God Transcendent. Neo-orthodox.


Jungel, Eberhard, God as the Mystery of the World (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1983). 414. h. Indebted to Barth.

--, God’s Being is in Becoming.


Machen, J. Gresham, Christianity and Liberalism, 54-68.

--, God Transcendent, 17-35.


--, What is Faith? 46-83.


Ogden, Schubert, The Reality of God (Bultmannian, Process).


Pinnock, Clark, et al., The Openness of God (Downers Grove: IVP, 1994). “Open Theism.”


Open Theism

Advocates

   --, *The Foreknowledge of God* (Cincinnati: Cranston and Stowe, 1887).

Critiques

--, God and Spacelessness,” *Philosophy* 55 (March, 1980), 211-221.

Mohler, R. Albert, “Does God Give Bad Advice?” *World* 15.24 (June 1, 2000), 23.


-- et al., forthcoming volume of essays critical of Open Theism (Moscow, ID: Canon Press).


See also Reformed Confessions and Systematic Theologies under subjects of divine attributes (especially knowledge, eternity, unchangeability), God’s decrees, providence, election, effectual calling, regeneration.

*The Problem of Evil*

Adams, Jay, *The Grand Demonstration: A Biblical Study of the So-called Problem of Evil* (Santa Barbara: EastGate, 1991). I offered some criticisms of this in AGG, which Adams answered in an Appendix. Actually, I think this is one of the better books on the subject.


Gamwell, Franklin I., *The Divine Good* (San Francisco: Harper,
1990). 30.00. 223. h.
on the Reformed doctrine of the Fall, Gerstner argues
that the real problem is this: Why should God allow
fallen sinners to have any pleasure at all?
A process philosopher, Griffin reasons that God is
blameless because he is not sovereign. See Frame’s
review in Calvin Theological Journal 27:2 (Nov., 1992),
435-38.
Hick, John, Evil and the God of Love. Advocates Irenaean
“soul-making” theodicy.
Hopkins, Hugh Evan, The Mystery of Suffering (Chicago: IVP,
excellently written.
Peterson, Michael, ed., The Problem of Evil: Selected Readings
ancient and modern writers.
254. H.
Whitney, Barry L., What Are They Saying About God and Evil?

Miracle

Brown, Colin, Miracles and the Critical Mind (Grand Rapids:
Eerdmans, 1984). 12.50. 383. h. See Frame’s review
in WTJ 47:1 (Spring, 1985), 140-146.
--, That You May Believe: Miracles and Faith Then
Calvin, Institutes I (LCC), 200ff, 207ff, on “natural law.”
Cooke, Ronald, Do Miracles Then Continue? (Hollidaysburg,
Diemer, J. H., Miracles Happen: Toward a Biblical View of Nature
(Toronto: AACS, nd.) 27. p.
--, Nature and Miracle (Toronto:
UP, 1991). 247. h. Dutch Reformed thinker influenced by
Dooyeweerd. Uses broad definition of miracle.
Geisler, Norman, Miracles and Modern Thought (Grand Rapids:
Hooykaas, R., Natural Law and Divine Miracle.

Kuyper, Abraham, Principles of Sacred Theology, 413-28, 481-504.
--., You Can Do Greater Things Than Christ
Moule, C. F. D., Miracles (1965).
Tennant, F. R., Miracle and its Philosophical Presuppositions.
Vos, G., Biblical Theology, 250f.
--., “The Question of Miracles,” in Selected Shorter Writings II, 167-204.

Providence

Farley, Benjamin Wirt, The Providence of God (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1988). 257. h. Tries to be orthodox, but somewhat under the influence of Barth. See Frame’s review, in WTJ 51 (1989), 397-400.
Spurgeon, Charles, Spurgeon on the Providence of God (Macdill AFB, Florida: Tyndale Bible Society, nd.)
105. p.

Creation
I will deal with Scripture/science issues such as the creation days and evolution very sketchily in this course. Our main emphasis will be on the biblical theology of creation.

Gilkey, Langdon, Maker of Heaven and Earth (Garden City: Doubleday, 1959). 311. h. Gilkey was personally a fairly radical theologian, but this book mainly intends to present the biblical data, and most of it is well done.


The Divine Decrees, Divine Sovereignty and Human Freedom


Calvin, John, Concerning the Eternal Predestination of God (London: Clarke, 1961). 191. h. Sometimes called “Calvin’s Calvinism.” His strongest writing on the subject. --, Institutes, III.

Campbell, C. A., In Defence of Free Will (London: George

Carson, Donald A., ed., Divine Sovereignty and Human

Clark, Gordon H., Biblical Predestination (Nutley: P&R,
often cogent.
--. Predestination in the Old Testament

Coles, Elisha, God’s Sovereignty (Marshallton, DE:
National Foundation for Christian Education,

Custance, Arthur C., The Sovereignty of Grace (Phillipsburg:

Edwards, Jonathan, Freedom of the Will (New Haven: Yale UP,

Gerstner, John, A Predestination Primer
--. A Primer on Free Will (Phillipsburg:

237. h. Discussions of philosophical determinism. Some helpful
arguments against libertarian freedom.

Hughes, Philip E., But For the Grace of God (Phila:

Jewett, Paul K., Election and Predestination (Grand Rapids:

Klein, William W., The New Chosen People: A Corporate View
avoid individual election to salvation.

Klooster, Fred H., Calvin’s Doctrine of Predestination (Grand

Luther, Martin, The Bondage of the Will (London: James Clarke,
1957). 15s. 323. h. Classic work.

Murray, John, Calvin on Scripture and Divine Sovereignty, 55-71.
--. “The Sovereignty of God,” pamphlet.
--. and Stonehouse, Ned, The Free Offer of the
Gospel (Phillipsburg: Grotenhuis, nd.) 27. p. Defends the concept,
over against hyper-Calvinism. Also in Murray’s Complete Works.

Ness, Christopher, An Antidote to Arminianism (Millersville,

Packer, James I., Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God
--. The Plan of God (London: Evangelical Press,

Pannenberg, Wolfhart, The Idea of God and Human Freedom
--., et al., The Openness of God (Downers Grove: IVP, 1994). 202. h. “Open” theism, or “freewill” theism.
--., and Brow, Robert C., Unbounded Love (Downers Grove: IVP, 1994).
Schreiner, Thomas, and Ware, Bruce, ed., The Grace of God and the Bondage of the Will, 2 vols. (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1995). Reformed authors defend predestination in the context of recent debates over “open theism” and such. The focus is biblical and exegetical. Well done.
Von Wright, Georg Henrik, Causality and Determinism (NY: Columbia UP, 1974). 143. h. Philosophical discussion.
Warfield, B. B., The Plan of Salvation (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, nd). 1.50. 112. h. His classic work on the order of the divine decrees.
“Predestination,” in Biblical and Theological Studies, 270-333.
“Some Thoughts on predestination,” Ibid., 103-109.

God’s Names and Images

Here, of course, the theological dictionaries are useful. A few noteworthy titles.

Dourley, John P., The Goddess, Mother of the Trinity
Eichrodt, W., Theology of the OT, esp. 206ff, 410ff.
sources can be found here. m
Vos, G., Biblical Theology, 129-34, 253ff, 389ff.

_Divine Attributes_

Barr, James, Biblical Words for Time. Opposes Cullmann’s thesis (see below).
Cameron, Nigel M. de S., The Power and Weakness of God
    Deduces them all from aseity, makes them logically equivalent.
Cullmann, O., Christ and Time. Argues that God is in time.
    h. Calvinist philosopher defends the atemporality of God.
Hughes, Christopher, On a Complex Theory of a Simple God
Pink, A., The Attributes of God.
    images of God, beyond the usual attributes (husband, shepherd,
    etc.)
    p.
    p.
Spurgeon, Charles H., Spurgeon on the Attributes of God (MacDill AFB, FL: Tyndale Bible
    Society, nd.). 109. P.
    Argues that God is in time.

_The Trinity_

Augustine, On the Trinity
Barth, Church Dogmatics, 1/1-2.
Knight, G. A. F., A Biblical Approach to the Doctrine of the Trinity.
Rahner, Karl, The Trinity (NY: Seabury, 1974). 5.95. 120. h. Leading Roman Catholic theologian wants to equate the immanent trinity with the economic.
--., “Calvin’s Doctrine of the Trinity,” in Calvin and Augustine 189-284.
Welch, C., The Trinity in Contemporary Thought.

The Deity of Christ

Boettner, Loraine, The Person of Christ.
1.75. 38. P.
McDonald, H. D., Jesus—Human and Divine.
Metzger, Bruce, “The Jehovah’s Witnesses and Jesus Christ,” pamphlet.
Morris, Leon, The Lord from Heaven.
Taylor, Vincent, The Names of Jesus.
--. The Person of Christ in NT Teaching.
Warfield, B. B., Biblical and Theological Studies, 60-237.
--. The Lord of Glory.
--. The Person and Work of Christ, 5-319.
--. Selected Shorter Writings I, 139-157.

**The Existence of God**

See also general works in apologetics.

Frame, John, Apologetics to the Glory of God (P&R, 1994).
A very important philosophical work.
Responses by Kreeft, Flew, Craig, Parsons, Willard.


Web Sites of Interest


11. [http://www.thirdmill.org/](http://www.thirdmill.org/): Rich Pratt’s Third Millennium organization, with a worldwide vision. Articles in various languages. Magazine and forum. See also the subsite [www.reformedperspectives.org](http://www.reformedperspectives.org), which includes the magazine articles and the “Hall of Frame, and [www.reformedanswers.org](http://www.reformedanswers.org), which contains questions and answers on different topics, answered by people like Frame and Ra McLaughlin. Many of Frame’s shorter articles are available on one of these sites.


14. [http://www.wts.edu/resources/](http://www.wts.edu/resources/): From Westminster Seminary, a very comprehensive catalogue of theological resources on the web. Do browse this one!

15. [http://www.theopedia.com](http://www.theopedia.com): A theological encyclopedia, put together by mainly Reformed folks. The interesting thing is that you can add articles or edit those that are there. They are looking for young theologians to help them with this project. Sort of a Reformed Wikipedia.


21. [http://www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu). The RTS site, and many others, such as [http://campus.wts.edu/winnebago/search/search.asp](http://campus.wts.edu/winnebago/search/search.asp) (Westminster), allow you to search their library collections online. Of course, it’s also helpful to Google-search contemporary authors in order to find information about their books.


**Course Objectives Related to MDiv Student Learning Outcomes**

Course: 2ST510, Scripture and God  
Professor: John M. Frame  
Campus: Orlando, FL
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<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>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Winsomely Reform</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>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<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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<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 America and worldwide.</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>
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<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>Minimal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>In-depth treatment of some fundamental and often difficult theological issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scripture</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>The method of the course is to focus on biblical texts that deal with theological questions. Not, however, in the technical exegesis of original language texts. Applies that Bible study to a number of historical and modern discussions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reformed Theology</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Aims to expound and defend Reformed views of God, Scripture, and Man. Students read relevant portions of the confessions, though the focus is on Scripture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanctification</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>The course emphasizes that one cannot know God properly without loving and serving Him. That is the nature of the covenant. It also discusses sin, the barrier to our fellowship with God.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire for Worldview</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>The topics covered constitute our fundamental worldview. The course emphasizes that the Lordship of God is comprehensive, covering all areas of life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisomely Reformed</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>I try to present distinctively Reformed positions without demonizing those who disagree. The subjects of this course are more or less the ones on which all Christians agree, and I stress that agreement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preach</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>I try to present the course material in such a way that it can be preached to both heart and mind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Of course, the doctrine of God is the key to true worship, since he is the only suitable object of worship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shepherd</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>I believe that a biblical understanding of the course topics encourages spiritual maturity. Students are taught that our gifts and callings are validated by Scripture and are images of the nature of God himself. The course provides content to our witness to non-Christians, answering difficult questions, such as about evil and the reliability of Scripture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church/World</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>Not too much here on denomination or world-Christianity, but the course itself provides the material for this.</td>
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