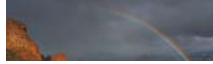


ST 2, The Doctrines of Anthropology and Christology



Reformed Theological Seminary
Washington D.C.
Revised Syllabus

6ST514 (2 Credits)¹
The Reformed Presbyterian Church of Bowie
Spring 2009
Friday 7:30 – 10, Saturday 9 – 4

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Course Description:

Goals

1. To increase understanding and confidence in historic Christian doctrine.
2. To present our creation and fall in Adam and our new creation in Christ, and ways of speaking of them faithful to Scripture.
3. To elicit a greater love for Christ our Lord.

Texts

Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics*, Volumes 2 and 3 (HB 2 and HB 3). (If you have trouble ordering this or other books from Amazon, try the Westminster Seminary bookstore at www.wtsbooks.com). Focus your reading by using the Study Guide found on iqweb.

John V. Fesko, *Last Things First: Unlocking Genesis 1-3 with the Christ of Eschatology* (Ross-shire: Christian Focus, 2007).

¹ Taking the systematic theology courses in sequence (despite statements to the contrary), though not required, will increase your ability in theology. However, first-time students may like to look at J. van Genderen and W. H. Velema, *Concise Reformed Dogmatics*, or J. I. Packer, *Concise Theology* (they are not assigned).

John M. Frame, “Law and Gospel” available at

<http://www.chalcedon.edu/articles/0201/020104frame.php>

Richard B. Gaffin, “‘Life-Giving Spirit’: Probing the Center of Paul’s Pneumatology” on iqweb.

Donald MacLeod, *The Person of Christ* (Downers Grove, Ill.: Intervarsity, 1998).

John Murray, *The Covenant of Grace, A Biblico-Theological Study* (Philipsburg, N.J.: P&R, 1988).

Vern S. Poythress, “The Church as A Family: Why Male Leadership in the Family Requires Male Leadership in the Church,” available at http://www.frame-poythress.org/poythress_articles/1990TheChurch.htm

The *Westminster Confession of Faith* (WC) and the *Westminster Shorter Catechism* (SC).

Lecture Outline

In Adam:

1. The Creation Covenant.
2. The Image of God.
3. Origin and transmission of sin.
4. Nature of sin.

In Christ:

5. The Covenant of New Creation (Grace).
 - 5.1. nature of covenant – unilateral, bilateral, future oriented
6. The Covenant Mediator.
 - 6.1. Christ as covenant servant
 - 6.2. theanthropic person (unipersonality). John 1:1-4; Heb 1; Col 1:15-20
 - 6.3. summary of controversies
 - 6.4. “communication of attributes”
7. Christ in Humiliation.
 - 7.1. “all his life, especially in his death.” miracles of Jesus
 - 7.2. N T terms for redemption
 - 7.3. centrality of penal substitution
8. Christ in Exaltation.
 - 8.1. the resurrection as the redemption of Christ
 - 8.2. “even after his exaltation, there remains much for Christ to do.”

Assignments

1. Class attendance is required. I will not 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 dates indicated below. Completed reading will be worth 10% of your final grade. I will ask about it on the final exam.

Weekend Assignments

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lecture Topics</u>	<u>Required Reading</u>
March 6-7	<i>In Adam:</i> 1. The Creation Covenant 2. The Image of God 3. The Origin and Transmission of Sin 4. The Nature of Sin	1. <i>Last Things First</i> , all. WC Chapter 4 and Chapter 7. 2. HB 2: Chapters 11-13; “The Church as Family.” 3. HB 3: Chapter 1 and HB 3: Chapter 2-3. WCF Chapter 6. 4. HB 3: Chapter 4.
April 24-25 Midterm due.	<i>In Christ:</i> 5. The Covenant of New Creation (Grace) 6. The Covenant Mediator	5. Murray, <i>The Covenant of Grace</i> , all; HB 3: Chapter 5; Frame, “Law and Gospel.” 6. HB 3: Chapter 6; MacLeod, <i>The Person of Christ</i> , all. WC Chapter 8.
June 5-6	7. Christ in Humiliation 8. Christ in Exaltation	7. HB 3: Chapter 7. 8. HB 3: Chapter 8; Gaffin, “Life-Giving Spirit”
June 13 Final Exam due		

3. Midterm Exam on the Doctrine of Anthropology (everything we have covered to that point). This 2-hour exam will be posted on iqweb, and you may take it any time from Saturday April 18th until Friday, April 24th. The exam is due at the beginning of class on Friday, April 24th. I do not accept late exams. This exam will be worth 45 % of your final grade.

4. Final Exam, on the Doctrine of Christology (all material covered since the midterm). This 3-hour proctored exam will be on iqweb. It is due in hard copy (please no electronic exams) postmarked by June 13th. Please mail it to me at 13939 Malcolm Jameson Way, Centreville, Virginia 20120. The exam will be worth 45% of your final grade.

One part of the final exam will cover Christ and Modern Theology. Describe and evaluate a view of Christ found in Chapter 10 of Macleod, *The Person of Christ*.

5. Memorize and recite (any translation) 2 Corinthians 5:17-6:2 and *Westminster Shorter Catechism* 21. I will ask about this on the Final Exam.

Approximate Time Investment

Lectures	25 hours
Reading	46 hours

Midterm Exam (2 hours, plus preparation)	15 hours
Memorization	3 hours
Final exam (3 hours, plus preparation, including material from Macleod)	30 hours
Total	120 hours

Appendix

Policy on Late Assignments

Simply put, late exams are **not** accepted based on the following rationale:²

- a. The issue is not so much an inconvenience to the professor. If that were the primary issue, then he would grade late papers because it is fundamental to his Christian commitment to put the interests of others before his own.
- b. The issue concerns the apparent laxity with which extensions are often granted. This is not Christian education. Wisdom is living within boundaries. The cosmos exists because the Creator provided boundaries for air, water, land. Moreover, he provided temporal boundaries for seasons. Without boundaries, the cosmos would degenerate back into anarchy. It is the essence of Christian living that we live within boundaries. Liberals want no boundaries. They want freedom without form, liberty without law, lovemaking without marriage. This is a fundamental battle. It is distressing when Christians do not show respect for boundaries and when students do not respect temporal boundaries.
- c. Wisdom also entails knowing the goal and devising a strategy to achieve it. Students must be aware from the syllabus what is required of them and should be able to strategize a successful model to achieve it. Laxity and uncertainty with regard to deadlines actually confuse the students and militate against a good Christian education. Paradoxically, “grace” sounds Christian and pastoral and “law” sounds non-Christian; but, sometimes so-called “grace” and “pastoral concerns” encourage libertarianism and in truth is non-Christian and non-pastoral. Consciously or unconsciously students realize that there is a fudge factor here, enabling them to rationalize their not turning in work on time.
- d. The issue also pertains to spiritual life, a subject on which a seminary rightly prides itself. However, the spiritual life includes self-control, discipline, etc. Students reap good fruit from hard work.”

The Westminster Shorter Catechism on Anthropology and Christology

Q. 12. What special act of providence did God exercise toward man in the estate wherein he was created? □ A. When God had created man, he entered into a covenant of life with him, upon condition of perfect obedience; forbidding him to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, upon the pain of death.

² Adapted from Professor Bruce K. Waltke.

Q. 13. Did our first parents continue in the estate wherein they were created? □ A. Our first parents, being left to the freedom of their own will, fell from the estate wherein they were created, by sinning against God.

Q. 14. What is sin? □ A. Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.

Q. 15. What was the sin whereby our first parents fell from the estate wherein they were created? □ A. The sin whereby our first parents fell from the estate wherein they were created was their eating the forbidden fruit.

Q. 16. Did all mankind fall in Adam's first transgression? □ A. The covenant being made with Adam, not only for himself, but for his posterity; all mankind, descending from him by ordinary generation, sinned in him, and fell with him, in his first transgression.

Q. 17. Into what estate did the fall bring mankind? □ A. The fall brought mankind into an estate of sin and misery.

Q. 18. Wherein consists the sinfulness of that estate whereinto man fell? □ A. The sinfulness of that estate whereinto man fell consists in the guilt of Adam's first sin, the want of original righteousness, and the corruption of his whole nature, which is commonly called original sin; together with all actual transgressions which proceed from it.

Q. 19. What is the misery of that estate whereinto man fell? □ A. All mankind by their fall lost communion with God, are under his wrath and curse, and so made liable to all miseries in this life, to death itself, and to the pains of hell forever.

Q. 20. Did God leave all mankind to perish in the estate of sin and misery? □ A. God having, out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life, did enter into a covenant of grace, to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a redeemer.

Q. 21. Who is the redeemer of God's elect? □

A. The only redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was, and continueth to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person, forever.

Q. 22. How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man? □ A. Christ, the Son of God, became man, by taking to himself a true body and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost in the womb of the virgin Mary, and born of her, yet without sin.

Q. 23. What offices doth Christ execute as our redeemer? □ A. Christ, as our redeemer, executeth the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.

Q. 24. How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet? □ A. Christ executeth the office of a prophet, in revealing to us, by his word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.

Q. 25. How doth Christ execute the office of a priest? □ A. Christ executeth the office of a priest, in his once offering up of himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God; and in making continual intercession for us.

Q. 26. How doth Christ execute the office of a king? □ A. Christ executeth the office of a king, in subduing us to himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies.

Q. 27. Wherein did Christ's humiliation consist? □ A. Christ's humiliation consisted in his being born, and that in a low condition, made under the law, undergoing the miseries of this life, the wrath of God, and the cursed death of the cross; in being buried, and continuing under the power of death for a time.

Q. 28. Wherein consisteth Christ's exaltation? □ A. Christ's exaltation consisteth in his rising again from the dead on the third day, in ascending up into heaven, in sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and in coming to judge the world at the last day.