Systematic Theology I (2ST508), Scripture, God, and Man  
Fall Term, 2012  
Course Handbook

Thursdays, 9-12

Instructor, John M. Frame

My stated office hours this term are Tuesdays, 8-11 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: Louis Schieferdecker

His email, mirrorimage1018@gmail.com. Feel free to talk or write to him about any course matters. Give your papers to him, rather than Dr. Frame, by email, or in hardcopy. He will do the bulk of the grading in the course. In case of a dispute over a grade, please talk to him first. Then if you cannot resolve the matter, Dr. Frame will be happy to arbitrate.

Texts and Abbreviations:

CW: “A Common Word Between Us and You”  


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, Systematic Theology: Chapters on Man, Sin, Covenants (ST)  
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”
Frame, *The Islamic Doctrine of God* Lecture Outline (IDG)
Frame, *The Islamic Doctrine of Scripture* (IDS)

**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.


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


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, the Study Guide comes at the end of the written materials, and we will deal with it the same way. Note: The material on Islam will be presented as lectures, without study guides.

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, Sept. 24, to its closing on Saturday, Sept. 29. You are responsible to know in advance when the library is open and closed. 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 2-5 above:

Passing work on assignments 2-5: A.
Passing work on three of four assignments: B.
Passing work on two of four: C.
Passing work on one of four: D.
No passing work: F.

Weekly Assignments

All dates are Thursdays.

Aug. 23: 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”

Aug. 30: 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.

Sept. 6: The Acts of God

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.
Sept. 13: 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. 20: The Trinity; The Islamic Doctrine of God

DG and DGSG, Chapters 27-29.
Westminster Confession of Faith, 2
Westminster Larger Catechism, 9-11
Frame, IDG Lecture Outline

Sept. 24-29: MIDTERM EXAMINATION. Take the exam in the library, any time from its opening on Monday the 24th to its closing on Saturday the 29th, if indeed the library is open then. Finding the library’s schedule is your responsibility. The exam will deal only with the Doctrine of God, that is, the assignments made through Sept. 20.

Sept. 27: The Word of God

DWG and DWGSG, Chapters 1-7.

Oct. 4: 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. 11: NO CLASS (Reading week)

Oct. 18: The Written Word

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

Oct. 25: The Transmission of Scripture

  DWG and DWGSG, 33-34, 38-40

Nov. 1: Person Revelation; Islamic doctrine of Scripture.

  DWG and DWGSG, 41-46
  Frame, IDS, Lecture Outline

Nov. 8: The Creation and Nature of Man

  Frame, ST, Chapter on Man. Discussion on key terms and questions at end.
  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. 15: Sin

  Frame, ST, Chapter on Sin. Discussion of key terms and questions at the end.
  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. 22: THANKSGIVING: no class.

Nov. 29: Covenants

Frame, ST, Chapter on Covenants. Discussion of key terms and questions at end. JM, 47-59.
SD: Frame, “God’s Covenants.” Be prepared to define key terms and answer study questions at the end of this article.
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 (Grand Rapids: Baker, four volumes) and is invaluable.
Bratt, J., ed., The Heritage of John Calvin (1973). Essays on 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.
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.


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.


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).


Not much argument here, but good summary statements, proof
texts, historical surveys, analytical bibliographies.

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.

Van Til, Cornelius, Christian Apologetics, 1-22. Van Til’s
summary of the Reformed faith.

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).

Baillie, John, The Idea of Revelation in Recent Thought
(NY: Columbia Univ. Press, 1956). Handy summary of
the views of Barth, Brunner, Bultmann, Cullmann,
Tillich, and other liberal and neo-orthodox thinkers.

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:

Limited inerrancy.

Berkhoef, Louis, Introduction to Systematic Theology (Grand
Rapids: Baker, 1979). Deals with theological method and
the doctrine of revelation-Scripture.

Berkouwer, G. C., General Revelation (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans,
1955).
--, Holy Scripture (Grand Rapids, Eerdmans, 1975).
A sophisticated statement of a limited inerrancy
position.

Bloesch, Donald, Holy Scripture (Downers Grove, Inter-Varsity

Boice, James M., ed., The Foundation of Biblical Authority
(Zondervan, 1978).

Bruce, F. F., The Canon of Scripture (IVP, 1988)
Carson, D., and Woodbridge, J., ed., Scripture and Truth
(Zondervan, 1983).

--, 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.


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.


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.

--, and Preus, R., eds., Hermeneutics, Inerrancy and the Bible (Zondervan, 1984). Papers of the second ICBI conference, on
hermeneutics.


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.


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. Premillennial.


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.

Davis, John Jefferson, Foundations of Evangelical Theology
(Grand Rapids: Baker, 1984).
Dooyeweerd, H., In the Twilight of Western Thought, 113-172.
Dutch philosopher’s critique of the method of classical
Reformed theology. Somewhat confused in my opinion.
Elwell, Walter, ed., Evangelical Dictionary of Theology (Baker,
Erickson, Millard, Christian Theology (Baker). Middle of the
road evangelicalism. Amyraldian.
See significant articles here on the nature and method
of theology, particularly those by Hodge (Reformed),
Mullins (Baptist emphasizing experience),
De Wolf (liberal), Hordern (neo-orthodox), Van Til
(Reformed), Tillich (radical liberal), Bultmann
(radical liberal), and Gill (language analyst).
Ferguson, Sinclair, and Wright, David F., ed., New Dictionary
of Theology (Downers Grove: IVP, 1988).
Frame, John, Cornelius Van Til: An Analysis of His Thought
(Phillipsburg: P&R, 1995). Chapters 4-14 deal in
various ways with Van Til’s concept of theology.
Gaffin, R., “Contemporary Hermeneutics, WTJ 31:2 (May, 1969),
129-144.
---, “Geerhardus Vos and the Interpretation of Paul,” in
Gaffin argues that systematic theology should be controlled
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).

“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).

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.


--, 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.


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.


**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.
Henry, Carl F. H., God, Revelation and Authority V (Waco:
Word, 1982). 19.95. 443. h.

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.

276. p.


29.95. 430. h. Former liberal, now evangelical, somewhat traditionalist.

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


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


--., Systematic Theology. I. Very liberal.

--., “God,” in Selected Shorter Writings I, 69-74.
--., “Godhead,” Ibid., 75-81.


Open Theism

Advocates


Boyd, Gregory, God of the Possible (Grand Rapids, Baker, 2000).


LaCugna, Catherine, God For Us (NY: Crossroad, 1992).

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


**Critiques**


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.
Frame, John M., Apologetics to the Glory of God (P&R, 1994).
Gerstner, John, The Problem of Pleasure (P&R, 1983). Building 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?
Hick, John, Evil and the God of Love. Advocates Irenaean “soul-making” theodicy.
Peterson, Michael, ed., The Problem of Evil: Selected Readings
ancient and modern writers.
Tada, Joni Eareckson, and Estes, Steven, When God Weeps (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997).
19.99. 254. H.
Whitney, Barry L., What Are They Saying About God and Evil?

Miracle

Calvin, Institutes I (LCC), 200ff, 207ff, on “natural law.”
Hooykaas, R., Natural Law and Divine Miracle.
Kuyper, Abraham, Principles of Sacred Theology, 413-28, 481-504.
Moule, C. F. D., Miracles (1965).
Swinburne, Richard, The Concept of Miracle (London: Macmillan,
Tennant, F. R., Miracle and its Philosophical Presuppositions.
Vos, G., Biblical Theology, 250f.
Warfield, B. B., Miracles Yesterday and Today, Real and
Counterfeit (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1918, 1965). Classic
argument for cessationism
--. “The Question of Miracles,” in Selected Shorter Writings II, 167-204.

_Providence_

Berkouwer, G. C., The Providence of God (Grand Rapids:
Eerdmans, 1952). 3.50. 280. h.
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.
Flavel, John, The Mystery of Providence (London: Banner of Truth,
Reviewed by Frame in WTJ 56:2 (Fall, 1994), 438-442.
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.
Houston, James M., I Believe in the Creator (Grand Rapids:
Moltmann, Jurgen, God in Creation (San Francisco: Harper,
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.


Gerstner, John, A Predestination Primer


Murray, John, Calvin on Scripture and Divine Sovereignty, 55-71.
--, “The Sovereignty of God,” pamphlet.


--, 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.

Sproul, R. C., Chosen By God (Wheaton: Tyndale, 1989).
11.95. 213. h. Good popular treatment.
Spurgeon, Charles H., Spurgeon on Sovereignty (Macdill AFB, Florida:
Tyndale Bible Society, nd.) 110. p.
110. p.
Von Wright, Georg Henrik, Causality and Determinism (NY:
Columbia UP, 1974). 143. h. Philosophical discussion.
1.50. 112. h. His classic work on the order of the divine decrees.
“Predestination,” in Biblical and Theological Studies, 270-333.
“The Significance of the Confessional Doctrine of the Decree,” in Selected Shorter Writings
I, 93-102.
“Some Thoughts on predestination,” Ibid., 103-109.
Critique of “open theism.”
Zanchius, Jerome, Absolute Predestination (Marshallton, DE:
National Foundation for Christian Education, nd.) 1.95.
126. p. Classic Reformed work.
Zens, Jon, Election: a Present Truth For the Church (Nashville:

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

Cullmann, O., Christ and Time. Argues that God is in time.


h. Calvinist philosopher defends the atemporality of God.


Pink, A., The Attributes of God.

Sanderson, John W., Mirrors of His Glory (Phillipsburg: P&R, 1991). 235. p. Reformed theologian discusses biblical images of God, beyond the usual attributes (husband, shepherd, etc.)


p.

Spurgeon, Charles H., Spurgeon on the Attributes of God (MacDill AFB, FL: Tyndale Bible Society, nd.). 109. P.


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.
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).
Mavrodes, George, Belief in God (NY: Random House, 1970). A very important philosophical work.

Islam


“A Common Word Between Us and You”
http://www.yale.edu/faith/acw/acw.htm.


Cragg, Kenneth, Call of the Minaret.


covers not only the content of the Koran, but describes Muslim attitudes toward it and compares them with Christian views of the Bible.


Ghaffari, Ebrahim, Strategies for Sharing the Gospel with Muslim University Students in the U.S., Iranian Christians International, Inc., P.O. Box 25607, Colorado Springs, CO 80936.

Gibb, H. A. R., *Mohammedanism*


Guillaume, Alfred, *Islam*.


Lingel, Morton, Nikides, ed., *Chrislam: How Missionaries Are Promoting an Islamized Gospel.* This has been a resource for those who have been very concerned of late about contextualization methods being used in the Islamic world. The PCA has a study committee looking at this. I was on an EPC work group that gave a brief assessment of what is going on. Some of the concerns of the book may be exaggerated if my friends working in the Muslim world are correct. But the book does represent a perspective within the conservative Reformed community and it raises legitimate issues.


Margoliouth, D.S. *Mohammed and the Rise of Islam* (C.P. Putnam’s Sons, 1931). This is my favorite treatment of the subject. Margoliouth was a Messianic Jew—the son of a rabbi. He was a great linguist and philologist who taught Islamic studies at Oxford and really knew his way around the primary sources. He “exposes Muhammad for the charlatan he was” as one reviewer put it. Scholarly, but written with dry wit. Available in other editions.


Bibliog.


Morey, Robert. *The Islamic Invasion* (Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 1992). Although the quality of Morey’s arguments is somewhat uneven, there’s a lot of good material here, and the book has more apologetic punch than Nazir-Ali’s. Morey also has the most reliable theology of any of these writers. Popular reading level. Bibliography.

--*, *Winning the War Against Radical Islam* (Christian Scholars Press, 2002).


http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/276497/ten-years-later-new-world-michaelnovak?
Pearse, Meic, *Why the Rest Hates the West*. IVP, 2004


Shenk, David, in conversation with a Muslim, Badru Kateregga in "A Muslim and a Christian in Dialogue”.


Siegel, Bill, *The Control Factor*


Swartley, Keith, ed. *Encountering the World of Islam* (Colo Springs: Biblica, 2005). Written along the lines of the Perspectives reader, this is considered the basic training book for the Frontiers mission organization.


Watt, W. Montgomery. *The Faith and Practice of Al-Ghazali*. This is a memoir of a Sufi mystic theologian, often considered to be Islam’s greatest thinker. Al-Ghazali suffered a crisis of faith as a young man. Gives the reader a window into the mind of Muslim. Easy to read.


**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/: From Westminster Seminary, a very comprehensive catalogue of theological resources on the web. Do browse this one!

15. 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.


18. http://www.frame-poythress.org/: Articles and some books by your instructor and by his theological soul-mate, Vern Poythress.


21. http://www.rts.edu. The RTS site, and many others, such as 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.


25. [www.radicalislam.org](http://www.radicalislam.org) Also on Islam.

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

Course: 2ST510, Scripture, God and Man  
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</strong>&lt;br&gt;(oral &amp; written)</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>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
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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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<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 in America and worldwide.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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</tbody>
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| **Church/World** | Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues. | Minimal | Not too much here on denominations or world-Christianity, but the course does focus on convictions that the whole }
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>In-depth treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oral and written, of essential biblical, theological,</td>
<td></td>
<td>of some fundamental</td>
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<tr>
<td>historical, and cultural/global information,</td>
<td></td>
<td>and often difficult</td>
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<tr>
<td>including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td></td>
<td>theological issues.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scripture</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Significant knowledge of the original meaning of</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>The method of the</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to</td>
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<td>course is to focus</td>
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<td>research further into the original meaning of</td>
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<td>on biblical texts</td>
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<td>Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of</td>
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<td>that deal with</td>
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<td>modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of</td>
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<td>theological questions.</td>
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<td>original languages and hermeneutics; and</td>
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<td>Not, however, a</td>
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<td>integrates theological, historical, and</td>
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<td>course in the</td>
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<td>cultural/global perspectives.)</td>
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<td>technical exegesis</td>
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<td><strong>Reformed Theology</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>of original language</td>
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<td>Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and</td>
<td></td>
<td>texts. Applies that</td>
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<tr>
<td>practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bible study to a</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>number of historical</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids</td>
<td></td>
<td>and modern</td>
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<td>the student’s sanctification.</td>
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<td>discussions.</td>
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<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of</td>
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<td>The topics covered</td>
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<td>God.</td>
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<td>constitute our</td>
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<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed</strong></td>
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<td>Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an</td>
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<td>I try to present</td>
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<td>appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians,</td>
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<td>distinctively</td>
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<td>especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the</td>
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<td>Reformed positions</td>
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<td>Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians;</td>
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<td>those who disagree.</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
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