Tuesdays, 2-5 PM

Instructor, John M. Frame

My stated office hours this term are Wednesdays, 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, Josh Leim

Josh did terrific work as a student in the course, and then last year as a teaching assistant. I’m delighted to have him back another year. I believe he can answer most all of your questions, both about procedures and course content. Do feel free to write him at joshleim@hotmail.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 (Lecture Outline) (DWGLO)
Frame, Doctrine of the Word of God Study Guide (DWGSG)
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, “Covenant and the Unity of Scripture”
Frame, “In Defense of Something Close to Biblicism”  
Frame, “Traditionalism”

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.

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 part of the course (Doctrine of God) I have supplied a Study Guide (DGSG). 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 this part of the course, I will not lecture, as a rule, but will call on individual students to respond to Study Guide questions. I may also ask questions that are not on the Study Guide, to determine how well you understand the issues. I will not grade your answers, but your class participation may lead me to nudge your grade up a bit (for exceptional performance) or down a bit (if you are regularly absent, late, or unprepared).

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. 29, to its closing on Saturday, Nov. 3. This exam will be worth 50% of your final grade. 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 unit (material covered since the midterm). This exam will be worth 50% of your final grade. Time and place will be announced. See important note under 3, above.
Weekly Assignments

Aug. 28: 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. 4: God’s Sovereignty, Human Responsibility, Evil

CTR, God’s Sovereignty, Human Responsibility, Evil.
    Irenaeus, 179-80.
    Origen, 184-85.
    Augustine, 199-200.
    Bonaventure, 215-216.
    John Owen, 221-222.
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. 11: Philosophy of Lordship, Miracle and Providence

DG, Chapters 10-14.
RC
    Belgic Confession, 15.
    Second Helvetic Confession, 6.
    Westminster Confession of Faith, 2, 5.
    Westminster Larger Catechism, 18-19.
    Westminster Shorter Catechism, 11.

Sept. 18: Creation and the Decrees

CTR
    Tertullian, 181-82.
    Origen, 183-84.
    Swinburne, 230-33.
DG and DGSG, Chapters 15-16.
RC
    BC 14, 16.
    CD: First Head, Articles 1-18 and Rejection of Errors.
Sept. 25: Names and Images of God; Moral Attributes

CTR:
- Juliana of Norwich, 216-218.
- Jewett on Non-inclusive Language, 248-250.
- Anne Carr, 251-53.
- Anselm on God’s Compassion, 210.
- Sarah Coakley, 253-55.
- DG and DGSG, 17-21.

RC:
- Westminster Confession of Faith, 2.1-2 (review)
- Westminster Larger Catechism 7 ("")

Oct. 2: God’s Knowledge and Power

CTR:
- Aquinas on Omnipotence, 214-15.
- DG and DGSG, Chapters 22-23.

Oct. 9: God, Time, and Space; God’s Aseity

DG and DGSG, Chapters 24-26.
CTR:
- Origen on God’s Suffering, Changelessness, 185-87.
- Spinoza, 222-23.
- Moltmann on Divine Suffering, 226-30.
- Küng on Immutability, 239-42
- Jüngel on Divine Suffering, 242-43.

Oct. 16: No class. Reading week.

Oct. 23: The Trinity

DG and DGSG, Chapters 27-29.
CTR:
Irenaeus, 180-81.
Gregory of Nyssa, human analogies, 187-90.
Gregory of Nazianzen, 192-93.
Hilary of Poitiers, 193-94.
Augustine, 194-99.
Epiphanius on Sabellianism, 204-205.
Cyril on the Spirit, 205-206.
Richard of St. Victor on love within the Trinity (review), 211-212.
Thomas A Kempis on Speculation, 219-20.
Schleiermacher, 223-24.
Leonardo Boff, 234-36.
Robert Jenson, 236-39.
Walter Kasper, rationality, 246-248.
Paul Jewett, 248-50 (review).
Sarah Coakley, social models, 253-55, review.

Oct. 29-Nov. 3: MID-TERM EXAMINATION. Take the exam in the library, any time from its opening on Monday the 29th to its closing on Saturday the 3d. The exam will deal only with the Doctrine of the God, that is, the assignments made through Oct. 23.

Oct. 30: The Word of God

Have available DWGLO. Look over pp. 1-9.
   Barth, on revelation, 146-48.
   Orr, on centrality of revelation, 140-43.
   Herrmann, on nature of revelation, 143-46.
   Brunner, 148-50.
   Packer, nature of revelation, 166-68.
   Spener, 118-120, on importance of the Scriptures.

DG, 469-75 (review).
DWGSG, Lesson 1
PWG, vii-viii, 1-16.

Nov. 6: The Media of the Word

CTR
   Martin Luther on Revelation in Christ, 98-100.
   John Calvin on the Natural Knowledge of God, 100-102.
   Sir Thomas Browne, 115-117.
   Zinzendorf, 120-22.
Edwards, 122-23.
Paley, 123-27.
Gerard Manley Hopkins, 137-38.
Thomas Torrance on Karl Barth’s Natural Theology, 168-171.

DWGLO, 9-14
DWGSG, Lesson 2
SD: Van Til, “Nature and Scripture” Don’t worry about all the philosophers discussed in this article. I’m mainly interested in his argument for the parallel between nature and Scripture, as to their necessity, authority, perspicuity, and sufficiency.
PWG, 19-24

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 I, XIV
Westminster Larger Catechism, Questions 1-5
Westminster Shorter Catechism, Questions 1-3

Nov. 13: The Inspiration of Scripture

CTR
Jerome, 87—89.
Rudolf Bultmann on Demythologization, 150-52.
James I. Packer on the Nature of Revelation, 166-68, review.

DWG, 14-21.
DWGSG, Lesson 3.
GI, 3-22, 39-53, 151-193, 229-264, 276-287.
PWG, 24-35.
SD: John Murray, “The Attestation of Scripture”

Nov. 20: The Inerrancy of Scripture

CTR
Karl Rahner on the Authority of Scripture, 145-49.

DWG, 21-35.
DWGSG, Lesson 4.
GI, 22-36, 57-113, 267-304.
SD: Frame, “Covenant and the Unity of Scripture.”

Nov. 27: Necessity, Clarity, and Sufficiency of Scripture

CTR, (Scripture and Tradition)
Irenaeus, 79-80,
Tertullian, 82-84.
Cyril, 85-87.
Vincent of Lerins, 89-91.
Trent, 103-104.
Formula of Concord, 109-110.
Francis White, 117-118.
Johann Mohler, 127-29.
Gore, 138-40.
Karl Rahner, 152-56 (review).
Meyendorff, 165-66.
*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 172-75.

DWG, 35-41.
DWGSG, Lesson 5.
SD: Frame, “In Defense of Something Close to Biblicism.”
Frame, “Traditionalism”

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.


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.

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.
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.


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).


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.


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).


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).

--., Fundamentalism and the Word of God (Grand Rapids, Eerdmans, 1958). A classic exposition of the historic protestant view.


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.


historical and biblico-theological treatment of canonicity.


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.


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.


Elwell, Walter, ed., Evangelical Dictionary of Theology (Baker,
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), Hordern (neo-orthodox), Van Til (Reformed), Tillich (radical liberal), Bultmann (radical liberal), and Gill (language analyst).


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.


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.


See Frame’s review in WTJ 42:1 (Fall, 1979), 219-231.
Horton, Michael S., Covenant and Eschatology (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002). 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-Evangelical Theology (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991). “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.”


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.


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.
Cottrell, Jack, What the Bible Says About God the Creator
--, What the Bible Says About God the Redeemer
(Joplin: College Press, 1987). 598. h.
--, What the Bible Says About God the Ruler
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.
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).
10.95. 382. p. Historical.
Freddoso, Alfred J., ed., The Existence and Nature of God
Gilson, E., God and Philosophy (Thomist).
Grant, Robert M., The Early Christian Doctrine of God (Charlottesville: University Press of
--, Gods and the One God (Phila: Westminster
Hasker, William, God, Time, and Knowledge (Ithaca: Cornell UP,
Heim, Karl, God Transcendent. Neo-orthodox.
Henry, Carl F. H., God, Revelation and Authority V (Waco:
Word, 1982). 19.95. 443. h.
--, God, Revelation and Authority VI (Waco: Word,
1983). 19.95. 566. h. Evangelical. Volumes I-IV deal with
the doctrine of Scripture. V-VI deal with the doctrine of God.
Comprehensive.
Jungel, Eberhard, God as the Mystery of the World (Grand Rapids:
--, God’s Being is in Becoming.
Kaiser, Christopher, The Doctrine of God (Westchester: Crossway,
Kaufman, Gordon D. The Theological Imagination (Philadelphia:
is an imaginative construct.
Kenny, Anthony, The God of the Philosophers (Oxford: Clarendon
Knox, D. Broughton, The Everlasting God (Welwyn: Evangelical
Dispensationalist.
Machen, J. Gresham, Christianity and Liberalism, 54-68.
--. God Transcendent, 17-35.
--. What is Faith? 46-83.
276. p.
--. ed., Divine and Human Action (Ithaca:
29.95. 430. h. Former liberal, now evangelical, somewhat traditionalist.
Ogden, Schubert, The Reality of God (Bultmannian, Process).
(1975). 47. P. Classic evangelical work.
Pannenberg, Wolfhart, Metaphysics and the Idea of God (Grand Rapids:
Many American evangelicals follow his lead.
Reformed treatment.
Pinnock, Clark, et al., The Openness of God (Downers Grove: IVP, 1994). “Open Theism.”
Pratney, W. A., The Nature and Character of God (Minneapolis:
advocate of “moral government” theology, similar to
open theism.
Smith, Ronald Gregor, The Doctrine of God (Phila.: Westminster
Sontag, Frederick, and Bryant, M. Darrol, eds., God: The
Contemporary Discussion (NY: Rose of Sharon Press,
world religions. See Frame’s review in WTJ 46:1 (Spring, 1984), 198-205.


--. 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).


--. “God Limits His Knowledge,” in David and Randall Basinger, Predestination and Free Will (Downers Grove: Inter-Varsity Press, 1986).
--et al., The Openness of God (Downers Grove, IL: Inter-Varsity Press, 1994). ("OG," below.)

Rice, Richard, God’s Foreknowledge and Man’s Free Will (Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1985).


**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.


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.


Miracle

Brown, Colin, Miracles and the Critical Mind (Grand Rapids:
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).
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.
Reviewed by Frame in WTJ 56:2 (Fall, 1994), 438-442.

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

Berkouwer, G. C., Divine Election (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1960). 4.50. 336. h. Tries to shave the rough edges off
of the Reformed doctrine. Not successful in my judgment.

Boettner, Loraine, The Reformed Doctrine of Predestination

Bonar, Horatius, God's Will, Man's Will, and Free Will
(Wilmington: National Foundation for Christian

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.


--, 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.


“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.
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.
Calvinist philosopher defends the atemporality of God.
Hughes, Christopher, On a Complex Theory of a Simple 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.)
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.
Bowman, Robert M., Jehovah's Witnesses, Jesus Christ, and the 
McDonald, H. D., Jesus—Human and Divine.
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.

Bahnsen, Greg, and Stein, Gordon, The Great Debate: Does God Exist? Taped debate, 
    Available from Covenant Tape Ministry.
Braine, David, The Reality of Time and the Existence of God 
Davis, Stephen T., God, Reason, and Theistic Proofs 
    BL200.D38 1997
Frame, John, Apologetics to the Glory of God (P&R, 1994).
    Critiques the arguments of Thomas Aquinas.
    A very important philosophical work.

Web Sites of Interest

2. **http://www.reformed.org/apologetics/**: Center for Reformed Theology and Apologetics.
5. **http://www.creeds.net/reformed/creeds.htm**: Reformed creeds and confessions available online.
8. **http://www.rctr.org/**: Resource index on various theological topics.
11. **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.