

ST 5202 -- THEOLOGY II: THE GOSPEL OF GOD
TRINITY EVANGELICAL DIVINITY SCHOOL
Extension Program at Hudson, OH
Dr. Henry M. Knapp, Instructor
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STUDENT SYLLABUS

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Title: Theology II: The Gospel of God.
Course number: ST 5202
Credit hours: Three
Course dates/times: TBA.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Rev. Dr. Henry M. Knapp
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COURSE DESCRIPTION (from TEDS catalog)

ST 5202 Theology II: The Gospel of God - 3 Hours

This course focuses on the gospel, the economy of salvation, the incarnation of the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The course begins by treating the human condition as now fallen, and sin as the backdrop of the gospel. Attention then turns to the work of Christ, particularly the atonement and accomplishment of redemption as the content of the gospel. The course then considers the application and consummation of redemption by examining the work of the Holy Spirit, the nature, mission, and destiny of the church as the gathered people of God as the climax of the gospel. The course concludes with a consideration of how the gospel story ends, for believers and unbelievers in the glory of God's being all in all in the new heaven and the new earth. Prerequisite: [ST 5201](#).

REQUIRED COURSE TEXTBOOKS

1. Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*. (chs, 31-57).
2. John Stott, *The Cross of Christ*.
3. DA Carson, *The Difficult Doctrine of the Love of God*.
4. RC Sproul, *Chosen by God*
5. JI Packer, *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*.
6. Anthony Hoekema, *Saved By Grace*.
7. John Stott, *Baptism & Fullness*.
8. Edmund Clowney, *The Church*.
9. Robert Clouse, ed., *The Meaning of the Millennium*.

COURSE EVALUATION

Overall assessment

The final grade for this course will be based upon the following elements:

1. Four reflection papers (20%)
2. Reading report (20%)
3. Reflection paper on Stott, *The Cross of Christ* (10%)
4. Position paper (20%)
5. Final assessment essays (30%)

NOTE: because of the accessibility of email, late papers for any reason will be automatically docked the equivalent of one letter grade.

Reflection papers. There are four (4) reflection papers. After each weekend, reflect on what we have discussed so far in the course. These notes should be worked on as soon after the classtimes as possible (emailed to me within seven days). They can easily take the form of random thoughts about the subject covered in class—bullet points, phrases, questions, comments, objections. Simply fill two to four pages (single spaced) with your thoughts concerning the topics we have covered in class. Be sure to touch on at least three different class topics. **DO NOT SUMMARIZE THE CLASS!** Rather, I'm looking especially for your interaction with the topic—what did you see new? What didn't make sense? What objections could you, or someone else, have? Where might the teaching of the Bible here be helpful in ministry? Do not overthink these papers! They are simply to help you reflect (and to give me insight into your reflections) on the material. These papers can be very, very rough—I just want to be able to read them.

Reading report. Students will be asked to hand in a self-assessment concerning the amount of the assigned material actually read. The Reading Report is attached. Readings should be done in anticipation of the material covered in class. Following the Course Outline below will guide you.

Reflection paper on Stott. Due two weeks after our last class. 4-5 page single-spaced paper interacting with Stott's *Cross of Christ*. Note the "interacting": **DO NOT SUMMARIZE** the book, but *interact* with it—what did you like, not like, find helpful, challenging, useful in ministry (how?), controversial to others, etc.? NOTE: worth more than regular "reflection" papers, so put in more time/thought.

Final Assessment essays. Due two weeks after our last class. Do *either* (a) or (b):

- (a) Research Paper. Choose a topic relevant to the class—check with me first! A list of possible paper topics will be available on request. The topics will correspond to those touched on during the class, however, necessary research will extend beyond classroom content. These papers must cover the material from a biblical perspective, though other extra-biblical insights, include the views of the author, are permissible and expected.
- (b) Answer, in short essays, six-eight questions which will largely cover the topics touched on by the class. Questions will be handed out at the end of the last class. While not as much research is required here, much more personal interaction and argumentation is expected.

Position paper. NOTE: worth more because of extra reading/thinking/research required. Due two weeks after our last class together, these four to six page single-spaced papers should (1)

in a paragraph or so, summarize the issue at hand, (2) outline the various alternative positions, (3) briefly, yet clearly, articulate arguments in favor of each position <this can (should?) be in the form of a bullet-point list, including scriptures!>, (4) quickly assess the strength and/or weakness of these arguments <how persuasive is each argument and the overall position>, and (5) indicate your own position, including how strongly or tentatively you hold to it. The bulk of this paper should be focused on demonstrating that you understand and can appreciate the strengths of alternative positions, yet also be able to critically evaluate them. **I'm more interested in your ability to articulate all the positions faithfully, than in which position you hold.**

Position paper topics. Choose **ONE** of the following for your papers:

- A. The Gifts of the Spirit—are they operative today? If so, how, and how frequently should we expect them to be evident?
- B. Women in Ministry—what does the Bible teach regarding the proper ministry roles of men and women? May godly, gifted women rightly serve as teaching elders in the church? Are there limitations/restrictions binding today?
- C. The Sacrament of Baptism—what is the meaning of baptism? To whom and in what manner is baptism to be applied? Is there a connection with OT circumcision? What is the effect of baptism?
- D. The Nature of Hell—how is hell best understood? What are the ministry and gospel implication of hell?
- E. The Millennium—how is the 1000 year reign of Christ to be understood? How does it “fit” with biblical timeline (and, what IS that biblical timeline)?
- F. Communion—why are there differences in Catholic and Protestant views of the Lord’s Supper? What support is there for each position?
- G. Church Government—how does Christ, as Head of the Church, intend for the earthly church to be structured and organized?
- H. Eternal Security—it is possible to lose one’s salvation? How do we think about people who have back-slid? Or, full-blown apostasy? What about texts like Hebrews 6 & 10?
- I. Other? I’m open to whatever. If you have a particular interest... let me know.

The following resources might help...

- a. Stanley N. Gundry and James R. Beck, eds. *Two Views on Women in Ministry*.
- b. William Crockett, ed., *Four Views on Hell*.
- c. John Armstrong, ed., *Understanding Four View on Baptism*.
- d. Wayne Grudem, ed., *Are the Miraculous Gifts for Today? Four Views*.
- e. Robert Clouse, ed., *The Meaning of the Millennium*.

COURSE POLICIES

Academic Integrity. Deliberate infraction of Trinity’s policy and guidelines regarding academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. For details about these general guidelines, you may see the student handbook. Failure to adhere to these guidelines, will result in failing the class. The handbook also spells out a grievance procedure to which you may refer as necessary.

Attendance (from TEDS). Students are required to attend **each and every** session throughout the entire course period. Due to the nature of Extension classes, attendance at all

sessions is especially important with weekend courses. Missing even an hour of a weekend class means a significant portion of the required contact with the instructor and learning community has been lost. For this reason, students missing any portion (hours) of an Extension course can result in a grade reduction; missing more than one weekend class session **will** result in a grade reduction and possibly **failing** the course.

In the case of **extreme** emergency or unforeseen circumstances (family emergencies, death, etc.) the student should contact the instructor and secure the necessary permission to miss time in a class and make up the missed class time and assignments. Vacations, ministry responsibilities and travel plans are not considered emergencies and such requests will be denied. As the schedule for the Extension courses is set ahead of time, students should plan ahead to be sure they will be able to make it to all class sessions before they register. If the emergency necessitates a longer absence the student should contact the Dean of Students to request an extension of time, or in rare instances a withdrawal from the class without penalty.

Late Assignments. Because of the accessibility of email, late papers for any reason will be automatically docked the equivalent of one letter grade.

Computer policy. I strongly encourage all students to leave all laptops, tablets, etc. behind when they come to class. Contrary to what you might believe, you are not a master of multitasking. A bevy of neuroscientists, psychologists, and management experts converge in their judgment that multitasking and serious study don't mix (evidence for their conclusions are available on request). Russell Poldrack, prof of psychology at UCLA: "even if you can learn while distracted, it changes how you learn to make it less efficient and useful." NOTE: I am *not* officially banning computers (it's up to you whether you wish to bring them), but you are not permitted to check email, surf the web, game, or engage in any other activities not directly related to the class. Thanks.

OVERVIEW OF COURSE CALENDAR AND SCHEDULE

The Atonement—Redemption Accomplished

- I. Introduction to the Work of Christ
- II. The Question of, and Need for, the Atonement
- III. Models of the Atonement
 - A. Christus Victor
 - B. Moral Influence
 - C. Substitutionary Sacrifice

Soteriology—Redemption Applied

- I. Augustine and Pelagius
- II. The Doctrine of Grace
- III. Calvinism and Arminianism

Pneumatology

- I. The Person of the Spirit
 - Deity ; Attributes ; Relationships

- II. The Work of the Spirit
 - A. In Redemptive History
 - B. In Scripture
 - C. In individual believers
- III. The Christian, the Church, and the Spirit
 - A. The baptism of the Spirit
 - B. Pentecostalism
 - C. The gifts of the Spirit
 - D. The fruit of the Spirit

Ecclesiology

- I. The Nature of the Church
 - A. Biblical images of the Church
 - B. Characteristics of the Church
 - C. The Marks of the true Church
- II. Israel, the Church, and the People of God
- III. The Purpose, Unity, and Purity of the Church
- IV. Church Government
 - Episcopal ; Congregational ; Presbyterianism
- V. Church Office and Discipline
 - A. Elders/Deacons
 - B. Women in ministry
- VI. Christian Worship
 - A. The nature and purpose of Worship
 - B. Liturgy... or not?
- VII. The Sacraments
 - A. Sacraments—purpose and effect
 - B. Various views on the sacraments ; Baptism ; The Lord’s Supper

Eschatology

- III. Eschatology—introduction
 - A. The end times & last days
 - B. The Kingdom of God
 - C. The Parousia, Resurrection, and Final Judgment
 - D. Individual vs. Cosmic Eschatology
- IV. Individual Eschatology
 - A. The reality of the Final Judgment
 - B. The question of hell
 - C. Death
 - D. Bodily resurrection
 - E. The intermediate state
 - F. Heavenly rewards, etc.
- V. Cosmic Eschatology—Millennial Views
 - Postmillennialism (Dispensational & Historic) ; Postmillennialism ; Amillennialism
- VI. An evangelical consensus...

Reading Report

ST 5202—Theology II: The Gospel of God

Name _____

Please, honestly, give the percentage of the reading requirements you have read for the term (100% means that you have read all the particular work, 50% means that you read half of it, etc.).

_____ Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology* (chs, 31-57).

_____ John Stott, *The Cross of Christ*.

_____ Edmund Clowney, *The Church*.

_____ Anthony Hoekema, *Saved By Grace*.

_____ DA Carson, *The Difficult Doctrine of the Love of God*.

_____ RC Sproul, *Chosen by God*

_____ JI Packer, *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*.

_____ John Stott, *Baptism and Fullness*.

_____ Robert Clouse, *The Meaning of the Millennium*.

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