

Front Range Bible Institute

BST 603 Theology III Syllabus

Christology (Christ), Pneumatology (Spirit), Soteriology (Salvation)

Instructor Brian Shepherd

Spring 2021

Course Description

Theology III includes a study on (1) the doctrine of Christology (study of the person and work of Christ), (2) the doctrine of Pneumatology (study of the Holy Spirit), and (3) the doctrine of Soteriology (study of salvation).

The course will include classroom lectures that are primarily based upon the professor's notes, although the format will not be in a pure lecture form. Students are encouraged to participate by asking and answering questions and taking notes. Detailed notes will be provided, but the student is encouraged to make additions in the margins based upon classroom discussions that will expand and elaborate.

The course will include quizzes and exams from the materials studied. In the place of a semester paper or class project, the students will be required to memorize major Bible verses throughout the Scripture that deal with the doctrines of Christology, Pneumatology, and Soteriology. Such memorization will enrich the student's life and provide an immeasurable depth in a lifetime of evangelizing and teaching.

Course Objectives

- A. One objective of this class is to have students become familiar with orthodox Christian theology in the areas of Christology, Pneumatology, and Soteriology. To accomplish this, the professor will expose the students primarily to the orthodox views, but will also expose students to heretical and aberrant views as they have arisen throughout the ages. This will especially deal with a focus on the following issues: (1) A greatly expanded and memorized knowledge of the person and work of Jesus Christ, (2) A greatly expanded and memorized knowledge of messianic prophecy, (3) A greatly expanded and memorized knowledge of the person and work of the Holy Spirit, (4) A greatly expanded and memorized knowledge of biblical teaching on the doctrine of salvation, (5) A greatly expanded and increased knowledge of sovereign grace, and how God is at work to graciously redeem unworthy sinners.
- B. A second objective of this class is that this theological learning process would achieve its true end of producing a greater love for God and a greater desire for genuine worship. Jesus said that the Father seeks true worshippers who worship in spirit and truth. The goal of theology is more than acquisition of knowledge, it is to produce true worshippers of God.
- C. A third objective of this course is that students take the knowledge they acquire, and commit large portions of it to memory so that classroom learning results in a deeply memorized base of truth for future service.

Required Course Materials

- A. All: Professor's syllabus notes on Theology III.
- B. All: Christian Theology, 2nd ed. by Millard Erickson, Baker Books (required reading for all students).
- C. All: The Messiah in the Old Testament by Walter Kaiser (required reading for all students).
- D. All: "Predestination Answer Sheet" by Tim Dane (supplied by the professor).
- E. Master's students: George Zemek's A Biblical Theology of the Doctrines of Sovereign Grace (supplied by the professor).
- F. Master's Students: Stephen J. Wellum God The Son Incarnate (Wheaton: Crossway, 2016).

- G. All: Your own computer or at least access to a computer (You do not need to have a laptop in class, but you may use one for note-taking if you prefer).
- H. Logos Libronix Bible Software Program (highly recommended as a personal study tool, but not required for the class. Group discount may be possible through FBI).

Course Requirements

- A. Attend all classes (if a student must miss a class, he/she must obtain a DVD copy and watch the lecture).
- B. Reading
 - I. Read Millard Erickson's *Christian Theology*:
 - i. Christology (677-858)
 - ii. Pneumatology (859-898)
 - iii. Soteriology (899-1032)
 - II. Read "Predestination Answer Sheet" by Tim Dane.
 - III. Read Walter Kaiser's *The Messiah in the Old Testament* (242 pp.).
 - IV. Suggested additional resource: Read George Zemek's *A Biblical Theology of the Doctrines of Sovereign Grace*.
 - V. Suggested additional resource: Read Stephen Wellum *God The Son Incarnate* (467pp.).
- C. Take notes as appropriate.
- D. Take all quizzes.
- E. Memorize Scripture weekly and turn in written Scripture verses the following week.
- F. Respond to the weekly discussion questions and to other students' responses in weeks 2-10 as explained below.
- G. Turn in a reading report at the end of class in which you state that you completed all required reading (or indicate the percentage of reading that you did complete).

Threaded Discussions *(to be done by email and not by the ecampus for Spring 2021 session)*

- A. In each of weeks 2-10, students are to participate with the professor and with each other in an online threaded discussion involving various topics.
- B. Questions for threaded discussion are given in weeks 2-10. Each week the student must do the following:
 - I. First, the student must first make a direct reply to the question as posed by the professor. This answer should be roughly 100-200 words.
 - II. Second, the student must reply to at least one of the other students based on the answer that was given by that student (one make reply to more than one student and should feel free to do so, but he must interact with at least one). This answer should be roughly 50-100 words.
- C. The **response to each of the professor's questions** must be made by Thursday of that week in which the question is posted. Answering by Thursday will allow time for the other students to interact with you by the end of the week.
- D. The **response to at least one of the other student's answers** must be made Sunday of that same week. As noted, each person is required to respond to at least one of the other students, but is encouraged to interact with as many as you can.

Course Grading Criteria

- A. 20% Reading
- B. 20% Christology Quiz
- C. 20% Pneumatology Quiz
- D. 20% Soteriology Quiz
- E. 20% Scripture Memorization and online threaded discussions

Course Schedule

Class	Date	Topic <i>(subject to change based on progress)</i>	Weekly scripture memorization and threaded discussion questions. Scripture memorization guidelines: The goal is to help you know and memorize key texts of God's Word with relation to key doctrines of the faith (which in this course relates to Christ, the Spirit, and Salvation). Review the verses with a goal to memorizing them. When you feel you have a good grasp on knowing them, type/write out each verse with your name and week on the top. I am giving you a considerable amount of Scripture on these topics and I recognize the challenge of memorizing so much Scripture. For this reason I allow you to look back to your Bible on each one of the verses. Your recall of all these verses may not be perfect, but this exercise will be a great tool for helping you become closely familiar with many key passages. Weekly Questions guidelines: 1. The initial answer must address the professor's question directly with an answer of roughly 100-200 words. 2. You must also interact with at least one other student each week with an answer that is roughly 50-100 words. The purpose is to add to what the student said, or graciously seek to correct what you might see as an error, etc. Be tactful and kind in all that you do. Both answers must be made that week on a weekly basis.
1	4.1.21	Introduction to Christology: Historical theology The person of Christ The deity of Christ The humanity of Christ	
2	4.8.21	Christology: Messianic Christology Angel of the Lord	Begin memorizing week two Scripture: Gen. 12:1-3 (cf. 21:12; 35:9-12, but not required to be written out); 49:10; Num. 24:17; Deut. 18:15. Threaded discussion question: Do you think that Jesus was capable of sinning while here on earth? That is, was he impeccable, incapable of sinning?
3	4.15.21	Christology: The sinlessness of Christ	Turn in last week's Scripture memorization. Begin memorizing week three Scripture: 2 Sam. 7:12-16; Ps. 16:10; 22:1, 16-18; 41:9; 69:9, 20-21. Threaded discussion question: Do you believe in the eternal generation of the Son? State your belief on this issue, and support it with Scripture and theological argumentation.
4	4.22.21	Christology: The atoning death of Christ	Turn in last week's Scripture memorization. Begin memorizing week four Scripture: Ps. 89:26-27; 110:1, 4; Is. 9:6-

			7; 11:1-5; Jer. 23:5. Threaded discussion question: Explain how “imputation” takes places at three levels with reference to man’s sin and Christ’s redeeming work.
5	4.29.21	Christology: The resurrection of Christ The ascension of Christ The outpouring of Christ’s Spirit The promise of a second coming Hand out Christology Quiz	Turn in last week’s Scripture memorization. Begin memorizing week five Scripture: Ezek. 36:24-27; Mic. 5:2; Zech. 6:12-13; 9:9; 12:10. Threaded discussion question: Do you hold to the doctrine of Limited Atonement? Tell what you believe and support it with Scripture and theological argumentation.
6	5.6.21	Pneumatology: Historical theology Biblical terms and titles Turn in Christology Quiz	Turn in last week’s Scripture memorization. Begin memorizing week six Scripture: Isa. 52:13-53:12. Threaded discussion question: Does the ascension of Christ, His seating at the right hand of God, and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit mean that the kingdom of God has been inaugurated?
7	5.13.21	Pneumatology: Personality of the Spirit Deity of the Spirit	Turn in last week’s Scripture memorization. Begin memorizing week seven Scripture: Gen. 1:2; John 3:3-5; 6:63; 1 Cor. 2:14; 2 Cor. 3:16-18; 5:5; Eph. 1:13; 4:30; Titus 3:4-7. Threaded discussion question: Explain why you think the Holy Spirit should (or should not) be understood (1) as a personal being and (2) as divine.
8	5.20.21	Pneumatology: Roles of the Spirit in the Old and New Testaments Hand out Pneumatology Quiz	Turn in last week’s Scripture memorization. Begin memorizing week eight Scripture: Begin memorizing Scripture: Matt. 10:37-39; 11:25-30; 20:28; 23:37; 28:18-20. Threaded discussion question: Give some examples of continuity between the work of the Holy Spirit in the OT and the NT.
9	5.27.21	Soteriology: Key terms from the Old and New Testaments Turn in Pneumatology Quiz	Turn in last week’s Scripture memorization. Begin memorizing week nine Scripture: Lk. 9:23-26; 14:26-27; 15:10; 19:10; Rom. 3:21-26; 8:28-30. Threaded discussion question: Should Christians believe in unconditional, individual election? Support your answer with Scripture and theological argumentation.
10	6.3.21	Soteriology: Justification (Divine provision and human response) Hand out Soteriology Quiz	Turn in last week’s Scripture memorization. Begin memorizing week ten Scripture: John 6:35, 48-51; 8:12, 24, 58; ; 9:5; 10:9, 11, 14, 27-30; 11:25-26; 14:6; 15:1-5. Threaded discussion question: Explain the Arminian concept of “prevenient grace” and either refute it (or support it) with Scripture and theological argumentation.
11	6.10.21	Soteriology: Sanctification (Divine provision and human response) Glorification (deliverance from a cursed world and the future wrath that is coming upon a cursed creation)	Turn in last week’s Scripture memorization. All reading reports turned in.

Bibliography

- Berkhof, Louis. *Systematic Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991.
- Bruner, Fredrick Dale. *A Theology of the Holy Spirit*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 1998.
- Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, John T. McNeill, ed., Ford Lewis Battles, tr. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1960.
- Chafer, Lewis Sperry. *Systematic Theology*, 2 vols. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1976.
- Edgar, Thomas. *Satisfied by the Promise of the Spirit*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1996.
- Edwards, Jonathan. *The Salvation of Souls*. Wheaton: Good News, 2002.
- Enns, Paul. *The Moody Handbook of Theology*. Chicago: Moody, 1989.
- Erickson, Millard. *Christian Theology by Millard Erickson*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2006.
- Grudem, Wayne. *Systematic Theology* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994).
- Harris, Murray J. *Jesus as God*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1992.
- Hodge, Charles. *Systematic Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.
- Kaiser, Walter C. Jr. *The Messiah in the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
- _____. *Toward An Old Testament Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1978.
- Lindsey, F. Duane. *The Servant Songs*. Chicago: Moody, 1985.
- MacArthur, John. *Charismatic Chaos*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992.
- _____. *Faith Works: The Gospel According To The Apostles*. Dallas: Word, 1993.
- _____. *The Gospel According To Jesus: What Does Jesus Mean When He Says "Follow Me?"* Dallas: Word, 1988.
- _____. *The Love of God: He Will Do Whatever It Takes To Make Us Holy*. Dallas: Word, 1996.
- MacLeod, Donald. *The Person of Christ*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1998.
- Mayhue, Richard. *The Healing Promise*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 1994.
- Morgan, G. Campbell. *The Crises of the Christ*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1989.
- Morris, Leon. *The Apostolic Preaching of the Cross*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992.
- Piper, John. *The Passion of Jesus Christ*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2004.
- Ridderbos, Herman. *Paul: An Outline of His Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1975.
- Ryrie, Charles. *Basic Theology*. USA: Victor Books, 1986.
- _____. *The Holy Spirit*. Chicago: Moody, 1965.
- Sproul, R. C. *After Darkness Light*. Phillipsburg: P&R, 2003.
- Thomas, Robert. *Understanding Spiritual Gifts*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1999.
- Warfield, Benjamin B. *The Person and Work of Christ*. Philadelphia: P&R, 1950.
- _____. *Perfectionism*. Philadelphia: P&R, 1958.
- Wellum, Stephen J. *God The Son Incarnate*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2016.
- Wood, Leon. *The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 1998.
- Zemek, George. *A Biblical Theology of the Doctrines of Sovereign Grace*. Little Rock: B. T. D. S. G., 2002

Zuck, Roy B., ed. *A Biblical Theology of the New Testament*. Chicago: Moody, 1994.

_____, ed. *A Biblical Theology of the Old Testament*. Chicago: Moody, 1991.