

WESTERN SEMINARY SACRAMENTO

GLORIFYING THE GOD OF OUR SALVATION

THS 502M: 4 Credit Hours

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Syllabus - Spring 2010

COURSE SCHEDULE

Tuesday evenings Jan. 5, 12, 19, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2, 9, 16, 23, Apr. 6, 13 (5:30 – 10:00 pm)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Continuing the process of learning to think theologically you will now apply yourself to biblical revelation regarding the Son as the source of life. You will investigate humanity, its dignity as image of God and its depravity as sinful beings, the reality and impact of spiritual beings as backdrop for the atoning work of the Son and its application in the aspects of our salvation. Contemplating the majesty of the Son's work in light of the depth of sin will invigorate our worship and impel our work for His kingdom.

COURSE CONTRIBUTION TO STATED DEGREE OUTCOMES

The objectives of this course are tied directly to the desired outcomes constructed specifically for the four seminary degrees for which this course is a requirement. Below is an excerpt of the degree outcomes to which this course relates:

COURSE GOALS/OBJECTIVES

1. To think and live spiritually, biblically, theologically and christocentrically.
2. To clearly understand and articulate the biblical teachings of anthropology, hamartiology, angelology/demonology and soteriology/christology.
3. To define, describe and delight in the personal significance of the great words/concepts of Scripture: Salvation, Grace, Election, Propitiation, Redemption, Reconciliation, Regeneration, Faith, Repentance, Justification, Imputation, Adoption, Sanctification, Predestination, Glorification and Evangelism.
4. To personally embrace God for
 - a. Applied Anthropology - I praise God for making me uniquely in His image and ultimately conforming me individually into the image of His beloved Son.
 - b. Applied Hamartiology - I bless God for convicting me of my sin, showing me the depth of my depravity and forgiving all my sins forever.
 - c. Applied Angelology/Demonology - I adore God for using an invisible world of angels and demons to accomplish His purpose in me and to make me like Christ.
 - d. Applied Christology - I love Christ because He loves me, He died for all my sins, He rose again for my eternal righteousness, He lives in me and is coming again to take me home to be with Him forever.

- e. Applied Soteriology - I thank God for Fathering me by graciously saving me, for making me His son, for giving me all things necessary to live a godly life on earth and for being my Father throughout eternity.
5. To love God and obey God because of these internal life-changing truths from God's Word.

TEXT BOOKS

Please support your seminary by using the following link for all your Amazon purchases – a minimum of 4% comes to Western Seminary. Click [here](#) to order texts and other products.

Required:

- *NAS Bible or NKJV*
- Elwell, Walter, (1996). *Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*, Second Edition. Baker Publishing Group. ISBN: 0801020492
- Erickson, Millard J. (1998). *Christian Theology*. Baker Academic. ISBN: 0801021820
- Murray, John (1984). *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. ISBN: 0802811434
- Packer, J.I. (1991). *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*. InterVarsity Press. ISBN: 083081339X

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Reading (50 hours)

- a. You will **read the class texts on a mastery level** as assigned in the course schedule. The mastery reading level (20/30 pages/hour) means you are carefully interacting with the book and taking notes that will lead to accountability in your papers. You do not have to remember all the details. These notes and class notes are foundational to your personal doctrinal statement (see assignment 4).
- b. Class Syllabi – a syllabus has been prepared for each doctrinal area. **Read the appropriate sections for the class ahead of time** and come prepared to discuss. **The cost for the five syllabi and additional handouts is \$5.**
- c. **Read 1 Kings 22 and Job 1-2.** Write a reflection paper listing 50 facts or implications on God's Sovereignty and Satan's plans, demonstrating how God accomplishes His plans through evil.
- d. Read **Spurgeon's Message on Election and Holiness**, March 11, 1860. Write a 3 page report on its implications on theology, on preaching/teaching and on your personal life. How does Spurgeon wed personal responsibility and God's sovereignty?

2. Reading Report (20 hours)

Read and write a 4 page report on ***Redemption Accomplished and Applied*** by John Murray. What did Christ accomplish in His death and resurrection? Give an overview of Murray's perspective and conclusions. Do you agree with Murray's order of salvation?

3. Reading Report (10 hours)

Read and write a 3 page report on ***Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*** by J.I. Packer. What are the issues and the implications of God's sovereignty on evangelism?

4. Personal Doctrinal Statements (40 hours)

Produce a 2-3 page personal doctrinal statement in each of the four theological disciplines discussed in this class: 1. Angelology/Satanology/Demonology; 2. Anthropology; 3. Hamartiology; and 4. Soteriology/Christology. You need to wrestle through your own convictions regarding each topic. Be as thorough and as concise as possible, based on class notes, text and discussion. Also, you should write in such a way as to display your hierarchy of thought. Provide biblical support in the form of verse references but do not quote other authors. A list of topics that must be included in your doctrinal statement for each section will be provided and discussed prior to due date. Use your Bibles, class syllabi, notes from previous classes and theological texts (Elwell, Erickson, etc.) to help you through the process. See the doctrinal statement of the seminary faculty (in the school catalogue) for a model.

5. **There will be no final exam.** The assignments will demonstrate your understanding of the core biblical issues, the class texts and the class notes.

STANDARDS FOR WRITTEN WORK (MLA)

Papers must be written to a near-thesis standard. That is, minimum format standards must be met, as defined below. English grammar, idiom, and spelling must be up to graduate level. Always include a strong introduction paragraph (declare what you intend to show the reader) and conclusion paragraph. Qualities valued include clarity, succinctness, and precision.

This course employs the MLA (Modern Language Association) style guide. The basic elements are:

- Double-spacing, except for block quotes
- Single space block quotes
- Page numbers appear at the upper right on every text page
- Use footnotes or parenthetical citations.
- Footnotes and parenthetical references follow standard format.

Helpful web sites on MLA style include:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

<http://www.cws.illinois.edu/workshop/writers/citation/>

[These websites are expanded and pasted into Western Seminary's "How to Write a Research Paper" located at <http://www.westernseminary.edu/papers/Faculty/WGuideNu.doc>]

A good website with footnote/bibliography entries is:

<http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/Documentation.html>

For assignments that require the use of non-course texts and include a bibliography, of the resources mentioned in the bibliography for your project/paper, two must be from a physical library. Note the physical location of each book as an addendum to each bibliographical entry.

All work must reflect master's level use of the English language. Plagiarism will result in failure of assignment.

GRADING

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-
99-	95-	93-	91-	88-	86-	84-	81-	79-	77-	74-	70-
100%	98%	94%	92%	90%	87%	85%	83%	80%	78%	76%	73%

Activity	Percent of Final Grade	Estimated Time to Complete
Reading and Written Reports on 1 Kings 22 / Job 1-2 & Spurgeon	30%	50 hours
Book Report: <i>Redemption Accomplished & Applied</i>	15%	20 hours
Book Report: <i>Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God</i>	10%	10 hours
Personal Doctrinal Statements	35%	40 hours
Class Participation	10%	
Total	100%	120 hours

CLASS POLICIES:

Participation: Participation is used here to mean attendance at all class sessions, promptness to all class sessions, attentiveness to the classroom activities, note taking when in the class, turning in all assignments on time, positive interaction during class discussion and a favorable influence on everyone in the class.

Cover Page: To safeguard confidentiality please provide a title page as a cover for all assignments. Include your student mailbox number in the upper right corner of the cover page.

Written Reports: Highest grades are reserved for those papers that are well written; demonstrate thinking that is creative, critical, reflective and precise; neat in appearance and reflect significant personal interaction with the message of the text. All work must reflect Master's Level use of the English Language. Plagiarism will result in a failure for the project. All written assignments must be typed, double spaced, with your name, date and box number on it. The reports are due at the beginning of the class according to the class schedule.

Attendance and Late Assignments: Students are expected to attend all class meetings. Students who miss class are responsible for missed work. A missed assignment must be made up within one week, unless approved with the instructor. Assignments submitted after the due date and time constitutes a drop in the student's grade for that assignment. Unexcused absences and tardiness will impact a student's grade. Students who anticipate an absence should discuss it in advance with the instructor. Students who miss two classes will receive a drop in grade and are required to do an extra paper. Students who miss more than two classes are required to talk with Western Administration before continuing class.

Enrichment Students: Enrichment students are encouraged, but not obligated, to participate in assignments and class discussions. Professors are not obligated to grade participation for these students, but may opt to do so depending on class size.

Incompletes: Faculty members determine their own procedures and due dates for the completion of course assignments. The final deadline for submitting all course work is the last day of the semester as noted in the Academic Calendar and in the Sacramento class schedule. In the case of serious illness, family emergency, or similar extenuating circumstances, the instructor may, **if it is initiated by the student**, grant an extension. A 1-3 week extension is typical in all except the most extreme cases, and in all cases the standard decrease of a full letter grade for late work applies. Extensions desired by the student beyond 3 weeks, with prof support, must be approved by the Sacramento Academic Coordinator, with 5 weeks after the end of the course being the longest possible extension for work being due to the prof; for this semester that date is **Saturday, 5/29/10**. (This allows a 6th week for the grading of work and a grade change request to be filed.) A temporary notation of "I" (incomplete) is assigned until a final grade can be determined. Under no circumstances may the six-week period (allots 1 week

to the prof for grading and grade change petition) be extended except by petition and approval of the Administrative Committee in Portland.

The Availability of Disability Services at Western Seminary: Western Seminary is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as outlined in both the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Western students are assisted individually as their needs dictate. It is the responsibility of students with disabilities to identify themselves and the nature of the disability. Any student who has a disability should contact the seminary's Disability (Section 504) Coordinator, Ken Epp, at 503-517-1815/1-877-517-1800, ext. 1815. His office is at the Portland campus. Students at the northern California campuses may contact Carrie Priest (Student Services Coordinator – San José) or PJ Oswald (Director of Student Development – Sacramento), or they may contact Dr. Epp directly. Appropriate forms will be provided and must be submitted to the Disability Coordinator's office.

LIBRARY AND INTERNET RESEARCH – SACRAMENTO

All class assignments with a research element require library research annotated as such in the bibliography. A minimum of two resources must be from a physical library. Note the physical location of each resource as an addendum to each bibliographical entry.

For complete library information including: hours of operation, interlibrary loan, local library resources, etc., please:

- Visit www.westernseminary.edu/sacramento
- Click the link "Library Services" in the right navigation pane.

Reserve Collection

The library carries all required readings for this course.

Print Resources

Use the Western-Arcade Library catalog to find books and other materials. To search the library collection:

- Visit <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC> .
- Click the link "Search the Library Collection Online".

Periodical & Research Databases

As you complete your assignments for this course, don't forget about the resources in the Western research databases. Remember to evaluate and cite your information too. To access the Western research databases:

- Visit <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC> .
- Click the link "Research Databases" from the bottom menu.
- Click the link "Ebsco Host Research Databases".
- Log in. [**User ID:** westsem / **Password:** seminary]
- Click the link "EBSCOhost Web".
- Click the database(s) you wish to use. Start with *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*.

To cite your information, consider the following MLA composers:
<http://www.noodletools.com> and <http://www.citationmachine.net>

Western-Arcade Library offers a variety of ministry related software for student use including BibleWorks, Logos Bible Software, and SeminaryLibrary.

Course Packs (if applicable)

To access the course pack(s) for this course:

1. Go to the library homepage: <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC>
2. Click the link 'Course Packs'.

Reference and Research Contact Information

David Holifield, M.A., M.L.S. / (916) 488-3720, ext. 7 / dholfield@westernseminary.edu

COURSE SCHEDULE AND OUTLINE

January 5 **Angelology / Satanology / Demonology**

The Creation, Nature, Order and Ministry of Angels

The Angel of Jehovah

The Origin, Nature, Plans, Ministry and Judgment of Satan

The Issue of Evil

Assignments: (This assignment is due January 19)

Elwell: Angel; Demon, Demonization; Dualism; Evil; Evil, Problem of; Exorcism; Principalities and Powers; Satan, Satanism; Witchcraft

January 12 **Satanology / Demonology**

The Origin, Ministry and Judgment of Demons

Satanic Attacks, Demon Possession, Exorcism,

Satan's Plans and God's Sovereign Purposes,

Satan, The Seed and the Sons of God in Genesis 6

Anthropology

Creation of Man

Image of God / Likeness of God / Dignity of Man

Trichotomy / Dichotomy / Traducianism

Material / Immaterial Aspects of Man

Assignments Due:

Erickson, 436-475

Elwell: Dichotomy; Image of God; Life; Mankind, Doctrine of; Solidarity of the Race; Soul; Spirit; Traducianism; Trichotomy; Woman, the Creation of

Reflection paper on 1 Kings 22 and Job 1-2

January 19 **Anthropology**

Man / Woman, Male / Female, Gender Identity

Unity / Solidarity of all Mankind

Hamartiology

Definitions of sin - common, Biblical and linguistic, sin quiz

Characteristics of sin – Sin Acts, Sin Guilt, Sin Nature, Sin Imputed,

Sin Pleasure, Sin Slavery, Sin Consequences

Clarifications of sin - Misconceptions, Degrees, Distinctions

Assignments Due:

Erickson, 479-575

Elwell: Fall of Human Race; Federal Theology; Righteousness, original

Reading from Elwell
Personal Doctrinal Statement on Angelology/Satanology/Demonology

February 2 Hamartiology

Origin of sin - When & Where Did Sin begin?
God's Perspective, Satan's Perspective, Man's Perspective
How Sinful is Man?
Common Views - Positive, Neutral, Negative
Biblical Perspectives – The Black List, Depravity

Assignments Due:

Erickson, 579-674

Elwell: Flesh; Sin

February 9 Hamartiology

How Sinful is Man? Biblical Views
Personality, Slavery, Inability, Capacity, Responsibility
What are the Results of Sin?
Physical Death, Spiritual Death, Second Death
Can the Results of Sin be Reversed?
Three Great Sins

Assignments Due:

Erickson, 901-978

Elwell: Depravity; Guilt, Imputation; Pelagianism; Semi-Pelagianism

Personal Doctrinal Statement on Anthropology

February 16 Soteriology

Old and New Testament Definitions of Salvation
Tenses of Salvation
God's Sovereignty in Salvation
Salvation and Election

Assignments Due:

**Elwell: Arminianism; Calvinism; Decrees of God; Elect, Election;
Foreknowledge; Infralapsarianism; Monergism; Predestination,
Reprobation; Salvation; Sovereignty of God; Supralapsarianism;
Synergism**

February 23 Soteriology / Christology

Difficulties with Election and the following topics: Evangelism,
Foreknowledge, God's Desires, God's Determination, Grace, Hell,
Justice, Preaching
Christ's Provision of Salvation
Christ's Spiritual and Physical Deaths
Christ's Resurrection

Assignments Due:

Elwell: Amyraldianism; Descent into Hell; Gospel; Offices of Christ;
Personal Doctrinal Statement on Hamartiology

March 2 Soteriology / Christology

Christ and Propitiation
Christ and Redemption
Christ and Reconciliation
Christ and Substitution
For Whom Did Christ Die?
Decree of God

Assignments Due:

Erickson, 779-858

Elwell: Atonement; Atonement, Extent of; Propitiation; Reconciliation;
Redeemer; Redemption; Righteousness; Satisfaction
Report on Spurgeon's Message

March 9 Soteriology

The Application of Salvation / Order of Salvation (Ordo Salutis)
Salvation and Grace
Salvation and Calling
Salvation and Regeneration
Salvation and Faith
Salvation and Repentance
Salvation and Justification
Salvation and Sanctification

Assignments Due:

Elwell: Baptismal Regeneration; Calling; Faith; Grace; Justification; Order
of Salvation (Ordo Salutis); Regeneration; Repentance; Sanctification
Book Report on *Redemption Accomplished & Applied*, John Murray

March 16 Soteriology

Salvation and Glorification
Salvation and Predestination
Salvation and Eternal Security / Assurance
Can a believer ever lose his salvation?
What happened when you believed? Sixty different transactions!

Assignments Due:

Erickson, 979-1014

Elwell: Assurance; Backsliding; Glorification; Perseverance; Predestination

Book report on *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*, J.I. Packer

Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth;

For I am God, and there is no other.

Isaiah 45:22 (NASB)

March 23 Conclusions to Soteriology

Assignments Due:

Personal Doctrinal Statement on Soteriology/Christology

April 6 Theological Recaps

Implications of Angelology, Satanology, Demonology

Implications of Anthropology

Implications of Hamartiology

Implications of Soteriology, Christology

April 13 Review, Discuss and Defend your Personal Doctrinal Statements