

SOTERIOLOGY
84965
The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
Fall 2008

Instructor: Chad Owen Brand, Ph.D.

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Credit: 4 hours

Meeting Place: N 201

Meeting Time: W 11:30-2:20

Course Syllabus

I. Seminar Description

Historical, philosophical, theological and biblical issues are examined in regard to the doctrine of salvation. Various contemporary issues and proposals will be considered, even as our roots will be taken from the constellation of images concerning soteriology that are found in Scripture, such as election, regeneration, justification, sanctification, and perseverance.

II. Seminar Objectives

1. The student will become familiar with key texts in Scripture related to Soteriology, and to some of the interpretive challenges related to those texts.
2. The student will be challenged to investigate the broad contours of how the church has interpreted the doctrine of Salvation through the ages of Christian history, including the various controversies.
3. The student will research and write a paper that will explore some area of Soteriology, either as a biblical/theological exercise, a historical/theological investigation, or an analysis of one of the contemporary theological conflicts.
4. The student will do an exegesis of a key text related to salvation and present that exegesis in a brief compass at the beginning of a seminar session.
5. The student will endeavor to promote critical analysis about the doctrine of Salvation, and will, hopefully, be committed to a lifetime of exploring key elements of this important theological locus.

III. Seminar Reading List

Unless otherwise noted, the following books will be read in their entirety. The student may wish to do some of the reading over the summer. All students are expected to read the following works between May and the end of November, 2008. If anyone has previously read one or more of these volumes, he or she must read it (them) again during this time period.

Alister McGrath, *Iustitia Dei: A History of the Christian Doctrine of Justification*, 3rd ed., Cambridge, 2005. 0521624819

J. Matthew Pinson, ed., *Four Views on Eternal Security*, Zondervan, 2002. 0310234395

Stanley Gundry, ed., *Five Views on Sanctification*, Zondervan, 1996. 0310212693

Stanley Gundry, ed., *Five Views on Law and the Gospel*, Zondervan, 1996. 0310212715

Anthony Hoekema, *Saved by Grace*, Eerdmans, 1989. 0802808573

John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, trans. F. L. Battles, Westminster/John Knox Press, 1960. 0664220282

We will read Book 3 of this work. I prefer you read the Battles translation.

Chad Owen Brand, ed., *Perspectives on Election: Five Views*, Broadman/Holman, 2005.

Michael Scott Horton, *Covenant and Salvation*, Westminster/John Knox, 2008.

John Piper, *The Future of Justification*, Crossway, 2007.

N. T. Wright, *Surprised by Hope*, 2008.

IV. Seminar Requirements

1. Attendance at all seminar sessions is mandatory.
2. The seminar participant is expected to read all assigned materials, according to the course schedule, and whatever further background materials may be necessary for full participation in the seminar process. The assigned readings will be discussed in a seminar format.
3. Students will prepare a major research paper on a subject of their choosing as it directly relates to the subject matter of the seminar. Proposed topics must be submitted in writing to the instructor and must receive his approval. Papers should be 20-25 pages in length and should conform to *The Southern Seminary Manual of Style* guidelines, available in the Lifeway Bookstore. Papers will be graded on content, critique, attention to form and style, and proficiency in research.
4. Students will present their research paper in a formal session as scheduled. Each paper must be completed, copied for each class member, and distributed in class no later than one week prior

to a student's class discussion period. Distribution to other students may be made electronically, but students must give a hard copy of the paper both to the Professor and the Respondent.

5. Every seminar participant must read each paper carefully and come to class prepared to interact substantively with them. Furthermore, each student will be responsible to prepare a brief (3-4 pages) Response to one of their colleague's papers, assigned by the instructor. These Responses will not necessarily be read in seminar, but copies of them will be distributed to the instructor and to the student whose paper is critiqued. In addition to writing this brief Response, the responding student will take charge in leading and directing the initial questioning during the class session devoted to the paper he or she has critiqued.

Note: Classes devoted to discussion of research papers will occur during the final weeks of the semester, depending on class size.

V. Seminar Grade

1. Reading of seminar materials (including student papers) and seminar participation (40%)
2. Research paper (50%)
3. Response paper and discussion leadership (10%)
4. Grades below B are not sufficient for crediting a seminar in the Ph.D. or Th.M. academic program.

VI. Texts for interpretation and exegesis.

Isa 61:1-6
Jer 31:31-40
Eze 36:25-38
Eph 1:3-14
Eph 2:1-10
Mark 10:17-31
John 3:1-8
John 15:1-11
Phil 2:12-16
Rom 5:1-11
1 Pet 1:1-12
2 Pet 2:9-22
Heb 6:1-6
Rom 8:17-30
Rom 8:31-39

VII. Seminar Schedule

Date

August 20 Introduction, Hoekema

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August 27	Pinson and Gundry (Sanctification)	_____.
September 3	Brand	_____.
September 10	Gundry (Law and Gospel)	_____.
September 17	Calvin, Horton	_____.
September 24	McGrath	_____.
October 1	Piper/Wright	_____.
October 8	Fall Break	
October 15	Papers	_____.
October 22	Papers	_____.
October 29	Papers	_____.
November 5	Papers	_____.
November 12	Papers	_____.
November 19	Papers	_____.
November 26	Reading Days	
December 3	Papers	_____.

Special Needs:

In order to ensure full class participation, any student with a disabling condition requiring special accommodations (e.g., tape recorders, special adaptive equipment, special note-taking or test-taking needs) is strongly encouraged to contact the professor at the beginning of the course.

Bibliography of Baptist Systematic Theologies

Boyce, James Petigru. *Abstract of Systematic Theology*.

Clarke, William Newton. *An Outline of Christian Theology*.

Dagg, John Leadley. *A Manual of Theology*.

Erickson, Millard John. *Christian Theology*.

Garrett, James Leo. *Systematic Theology*.

Gill, John. *A Body of Divinity*.

Grenz, Stanley J. *A Theology of the Community of God*.

Grudem, Wayne Arden. *Systematic Theology*.

Hart, Larry D. *Truth Aflame*.

Hovey, Alva. *Manual of Systematic Theology and Christian Ethics*.

Lewis, Gordon, and Bruce Demarest. *Integrative Theology*.

Moody, Dale. *The Word of Truth*.

Mullins, Edgar Young. *The Christian Religion in its Doctrinal Expression*.

Pendleton, James Madison. *Christian Doctrines*.

Robinson, Ezekiel Gilman. *Christian Theology*.

Strong, Augustus Hopkins. *Systematic Theology*.

Stevens, William Wilson. *Doctrines of the Christian Religion*.

Thiessen, Henry Clarence. *Introductory Lectures in Systematic Theology*.