Systematic Theology III
Christology, Soteriology, and Eschatology

Syllabus
ST522
Spring 2015
Dr. Douglas F. Kelly
Reformed Theological Seminary
Course Overview
Systematic Theology III – ST522
Dr. Kelly

TEXTBOOKS:
- *The Bible*
- *The Westminster Confession of Faith*
- Louis Berkhof, *Systematic Theology*
- John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*
- Douglas Kelly, *Systematic Theology, Vol. II*
- John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*
- Sam Storms, *Kingdom Come* (Christian Focus, 2013)

STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE:
Lectures and readings will deal with five major topics:

1. **CHRISTOLOGY**
   We study the person and work of Christ based on exegesis of Scripture with reference to relevant historical church councils and confessions.

   Required reading for Christology:
   - *Kelly*, *Systematic Theology, Vol. II*: Chapters 1-5, 7-11

2. **SOTERIOLOGY**
   We study the application of Christ's work of redemption, the order of salvation and its benefits. We shall survey the exegetical basis and theological implications of:
   - Union with Christ
   - Calling
   - Regeneration
   - Conversion
   - Faith
   - Justification
   - Adoption
   - Sanctification
   - Perseverance

   Required reading for Soteriology:
   - Syllabus material
   - *Murray*, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*
   - *Barcley with Duncan*, *Gospel Clarity*

3. **ESCHATOLOGY**
   We study the exegetical basis and theological implications of the doctrine of Last Things, including:
   - Death
   - The intermediate state
- The return of Christ
- The resurrection
- The final judgment

Required reading for Eschatology:

- Syllabus material
- Calvin, Institutes, III.25 (pp. 987-1008)
- Berkhof, Systematic Theology, 695-737
- Kelly, Revelation:
  - Introduction, pp. 10-12 (read the section called, 'A Second Reason')
  - pp. 19-21 (read the section called 'When Was Revelation Written?')
  - Read the following chapters: 2, 3, 10, 13-15, 17, 19, 23, 24, 27, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35, 42, 44, 45, 47-49, 52-56, 58, 59, 65.
- Dawson, Jesus Ascended
- Storms, Kingdom Come

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Do the required reading.

2. Learn the content conveyed in lectures.

3. Take-home exam on Kelly, Systematic Theology, Vol. II. To be given out in class Wednesday, March 4, 2015. Due at the beginning of class on Wednesday, April 8, 2015. 20% of course grade.

4. Prepare an essay: 8 pages (typed, double spaced). Topics are in course notes. Due at the beginning of class on Wednesday, March 25, 2015. 20% of course grade.

5. Two exams:
   a. A mid-term exam covering what has been done up to that point. This exam should last between one and two hours. Take extra care to be familiar with what has been covered up to this point in Kelly, Systematic Theology, Vol. II. To be taken in class on Wednesday, March 11, 2015. 30% of course grade.
   b. A final exam, covering what has been done since the mid-term. It should take about two hours, though you may have more time if you wish. It will be taken during exam week. 30% of course grade.
Term Paper for Systematic Theology III

This paper should be 8-10 pages in length (typed and double-spaced) with appropriate footnoting and bibliography. Do not include a string of long quotations. Make sure you (1) deal with the relevant information competently and fairly to all sides, and (2) interact with the material yourself so that you demonstrate that you have "thought about it theologically." (3) Have a proper introduction and conclusion and a clear structure for your essay. (4) Use good grammar and write clearly. (5) Use 8 sources, and footnote, where appropriate.

A. Discuss “The New Perspective on Paul,” particularly as regards Justification. Make reference to such scholars as N.T. Wright, Sanders and Dunn.

B. Discuss the Third Use of the Law. Make reference to key scholars in the Reformed tradition.

C. Discuss the issue of homosexual marriage.

D. The doctrine of Adoption in Reformed theology and its specific relevance for pastoral counseling (deal with its application to one of these four areas: ‘self-image’, depression, divorce, child-abuse).

Possible references re: adoption:
- John L. Girardeau, Discussion of Theological Questions (chapter on ‘adoption’).
- Francis R. Beattie, The Presbyterian Standards: An Exposition of the Westminster Confession and Catechisms (Section on ‘adoption’).
- John Murray, Collected Writings, 2: Systematic Theology, 223-234.
- C. John Miller, paper, “Orphans vs. Sons.”

E. Discuss the new heavens and the new earth.
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<tr>
<th>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<tr>
<td>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</td>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scripture</td>
<td>Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<td>Reformed Theology</td>
<td>Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<td>Sanctification</td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<td>Desire for Worldview</td>
<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<td>Winsomely Reformed/Evangelistic</td>
<td>Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<td>Preach</td>
<td>Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<td>Worship</td>
<td>Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Church/World</td>
<td>Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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