

INTRODUCTORY THEOLOGY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The first semester of this course will focus on the development of a sound theology through the introduction of the key concepts that together make up the biblical message.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Identify ten ideas that work against the Christian goal of spiritual maturity
2. Explain general and specific revelation
3. Define atheism and agnosticism
4. Identify the foundation of wisdom and that of foolishness
5. Differentiate between a paradox, a contradiction, and a mystery
6. Give examples of immediate and mediate general revelation
7. Describe the concept of divine inspiration of the Bible
8. Explain the function and origin of the laws that govern the physical universe
9. Identify the two functions of a prophet of God
10. Describe the process of canonization of the Scriptures
11. Explain the objection that Protestants have to the inclusion of the Apocrypha in the canon
12. Compare the Protestant and the Roman Catholic view of the canon
13. State several rules of biblical interpretation
14. Explain the difference between the meaning of a passage of Scripture and its application
15. Explain the doctrine of the incomprehensibility of God
16. Describe the triune nature of God
17. Describe the reasoning behind the doctrine of the self-existence of God
18. List several ramifications of the sovereignty of God
19. Describe several aspects of the omnipresence of God
20. Explain how God's omniscience relates to His role as Judge of the world
21. Describe the way in which God's majesty and righteousness relate to His holiness
22. List evidences of the goodness of God
23. Define Biblical justice
24. Describe God's role in Creation
25. Explain what is meant by God's providence
26. Define miracle
27. Explain the difference between God's sovereign decretive will, His perceptive will, and God's will of disposition
28. Explain the use of covenant in the biblical record
29. Describe the original covenant of works
30. Trace the doctrine of the deity of Christ through early church history
31. Describe Christ's subordination to the Father
32. Explain the idea of Christ's humanity vs. His deity
33. Explain the necessity of the sinlessness of Christ
34. Describe the conception of Christ in the womb of Mary, His mother
35. Explain the term "only-begotten"
36. Discuss the need for Christ's baptism
37. Describe the transfiguration of Christ and its ramifications
38. Describe the ascension of Christ and its meaning to modern believers

39. Discuss Christ's role as mediator
40. Explain the difference between the role of Christ as prophet, priest, and king
41. List ten titles of Christ and explain their meanings
42. Defend the deity of the Holy Spirit
43. Give evidence for the personality of the Holy Spirit
44. Describe the phenomenon of internal testimony of the Holy Spirit
45. Discuss the Holy Spirit's role as illuminator
46. Explain the baptism of the Holy Spirit
47. List ways in which the Holy Spirit acts as comforter
48. Describe the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit
49. Explain the need to explore theology and anthropology in tandem
50. Give evidence of man's creation in the image of God
51. Describe the difference between body and soul in mankind
52. Describe the battle between flesh and spirit in mankind
53. Discuss the role and limitations of Satan and demons in the biblical record

COURSE OUTLINE

First Quarter

1. Revelation
2. The Nature and Attributes of God
3. The Works and Decrees of God

Second Quarter

1. Jesus Christ
2. The Holy Spirit
3. Human Beings and the Fall (Part 1)

Midterm

TEACHING METHODS

Lecture and Discussion
Vocabulary Checkups
Final Exam

EVALUATION METHODS

Lecture and Discussion—60%
Vocabulary Checkups—20%
Midterm or Final Exam—20%

TEXT

Essential Truths of the Christian Faith, R.C. Sproul; Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.
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