



## BIBLICAL THEOLOGY

### Biblical versus Systematic Theology?

*Biblical Theology asks, What did the patriarchs say, or Moses, or the prophets or Paul or John? Systematic Theology asks, What does the Bible say?...*

*Systematic Theology, by contrast with Biblical Theology, approaches the Bible as a completed divine revelation, taking account of all that has been said and carefully noting what has been superseded and what is 'truth unchanged, unchanging'. This means that Systematic Theology gratefully accepts and assimilates all that Biblical Theology has to offer. But it also recognizes in Biblical Theology that its words are not final. The Psalms may speak truth and nothing but the truth, but they are not God's last word. This is why a chapter on 'The Eschatology of the Psalter', however stimulating, cannot be equated with 'The Eschatology of the Bible'.*

*The same applies to the writers of the New Testament. While Paul and John both speak the truth and nothing but the truth, neither of them speaks the whole truth. For all the grandeur of his Prologue, John does not say all that has to be said on the incarnation. Neither does Paul, for all the vehemence of his Galatians, give us the whole truth about justification, any more than any one of the four gospels contains the whole canonical story of Jesus' life on earth. The whole truth (or what God wishes us to know in the meantime) can be ascertained only by collating all that has been said, incorporating the perspectives of all the biblical writers, and sifting the permanent from the transitional.*

*(Quotes from: <https://www.reformation21.org/articles/biblical-versus-systematic-theology.php>)*

### Biblical Theology – What is the main narrative of the Bible?

#### Story of Redemption

1. Creation
2. Fall
3. Redemption
4. Restoration

### Unpacking Biblical Theology:

1. Creation
  - a. Rethinking the Creation Narrative
    - i. Where did the serpent come from?
      1. The battle of two wills
      2. The fall of Lucifer
      3. Effects on the biblical narrative
  - b. Is Creation a Redemption Story?
    - i. Did Paul believe in the "Gap Theory"



2. Fall
  - a. Where did sin come from?
    - i. The fall of Lucifer
  - b. How did sin enter into the new world?
    - i. Adam – Head of mankind
  - c. The curse
    - i. Satan's seed against man's seed
      1. We will naturally hate Satan. We will not naturally worship him.
3. Redemption
  - a. Through a series of Covenants
    - i. Covenant of Redemption
    - ii. Covenant of Works
    - iii. Covenant of Grace
  - b. Spread through the work of the church
    - i. Preaching/Teaching
    - ii. Spiritual Warfare
4. Restoration
  - a. What is He restoring?
    - i. Dispensationalism – Israel as a nation
    - ii. Theonomy/Postmillennialism – Renewing the present earth
    - iii. Covenant Theology - New Heavens and a new earth
  - b. Why is this important?
    - i. The source of our hope
    - ii. The focus of our work

### **The god of this world:**

#### The domain of darkness:

*Col. 1:13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,*

*Col. 1:14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

#### What is Satan a god of?

*2Cor. 4:4 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*

*John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.*

*John 14:30 I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me,*



## Leadership Development 2023

*Eph. 2:3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.*

*Eph. 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.*

*Luke 4:5 And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, Luke 4:6 and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will.*

*Luke 4:7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours."*

*Col. 1:13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,*

*Col. 1:14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

*Job 1:7 The LORD said to Satan, "From where have you come?" Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it."*

The Fall of Lucifer:

*s. 14:12 ¶ "How you are fallen from heaven,  
O Day Star, son of Dawn!*

*How you are cut down to the ground,  
you who laid the nations low!*

*Is. 14:13 You said in your heart,  
'I will ascend to heaven;*

*above the stars of God  
I will set my throne on high;*

*I will sit on the mount of assembly  
in the far reaches of the north;*

*Is. 14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;  
I will make myself like the Most High.'*

*Ezek. 28:11 ¶ Moreover, the word of the LORD came to me:*

*Ezek. 28:12 "Son of man, raise a lamentation over the king of Tyre, and say to him, Thus says the Lord GOD:*

*"You were the signet of perfection,  
full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.*

*Ezek. 28:13 You were in Eden, the garden of God;  
every precious stone was your covering,*

*sardius, topaz, and diamond,  
beryl, onyx, and jasper,  
sapphire, emerald, and carbuncle;*



## Leadership Development 2023

*and crafted in gold were your settings  
and your engravings.*

*On the day that you were created  
they were prepared.*

*Ezek. 28:14 You were an anointed guardian cherub.  
I placed you; you were on the holy mountain of God;  
in the midst of the stones of fire you walked.*

*Ezek. 28:15 You were blameless in your ways  
from the day you were created,  
till unrighteousness was found in you.*

*Luke 10:17 ¶ The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!”*

*Luke 10:18 And he said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.*

*Luke 10:19 Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.*

*Luke 10:20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”*

**NEXT CLASS READING:****1) Articles**

- a. Video Introduction: 1689 Federalism <https://youtu.be/gEanN9ey1v8>
- b. Video Overview of “The Mystery of Christ” <https://youtu.be/ByARBXbQfCo>

**2) Book**

- a. Read the rest of the Mystery of Christ (All 14 chapters)

**3) Follow-up Reading**

- a. None

**READING RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Book:

The Invisible War – Donald Gray Barnhouse

Articles:

5 THINGS BIBLE SCHOLARS MEAN WHEN THEY USE THE TERM “BIBLICAL THEOLOGY

<https://www.zondervan.com/p/biblical-theology/five-ways/>



Leadership Development 2023

Biblical versus Systematic Theology?

<https://www.reformation21.org/articles/biblical-versus-systematic-theology.php>

The Story and Message of the Bible - AN ESSAY BY Stephen Wellum

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/the-story-and-message-of-the-bible/>

The Fall of Satan by [Dustin W. Benge](#)

[ANGELS AND DEMONS](#), [REDEMPTIVE HISTORY](#), & [THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY](#)

<https://tabletalkmagazine.com/posts/the-fall-of-satan-2019-06/>