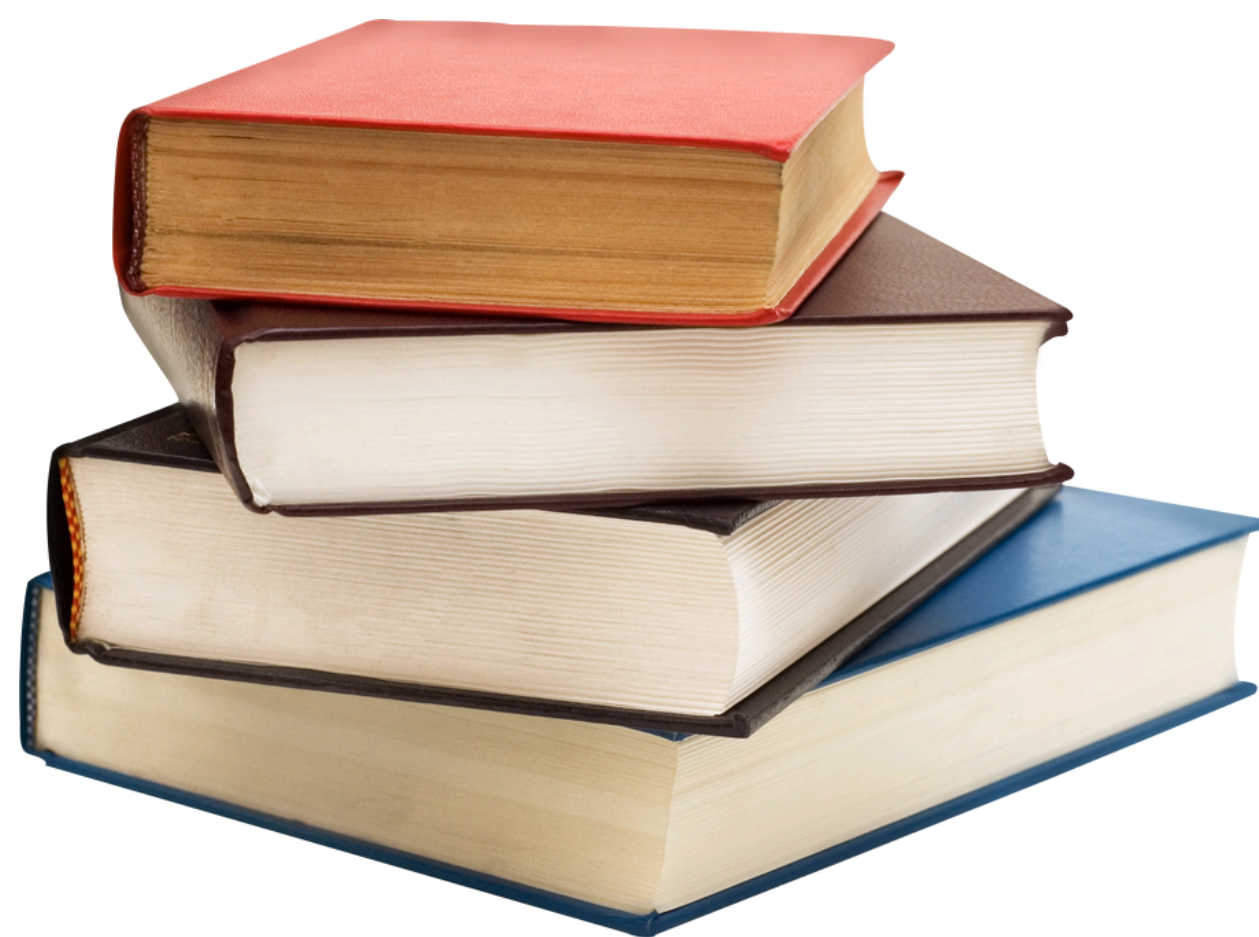


# SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY PART I



NORTH PARK  
community church

# Systematic Theology\_pt. 1

## Course Schedule

### **WEEK 1:**

Topic 1: Prolegomena & Intro to Bibliology -  
Progressive Revelation and Canon

Topic 2: Bibliology - Inspiration (Authority), Inerrancy  
(Reliability), Perspicuity (Clarity), and Infallibility (Sufficiency)

### **WEEK 2:**

Topic 3: Theology Proper -

Existence, Purposes (Sovereignty and Providence), Miracles

Topic 4: Theology Proper - Trinitarian Theology

### **WEEK 3:**

Topic 5: Theology Proper - Incommunicable Attributes of God

Topic 6: Theology Proper - Communicable Attributes of God

### **WEEK 4:**

Topic 7: Anthropology - Creational Design

Topic 8: Anthropology - Fallen Condition

### **WEEK 5:**

Topic 9: Soteriology - Predestination (and Common Grace)

Topic 10: Soteriology - Justification (Adoption, Regeneration,  
Conversion, Baptism)

### **WEEK 6:**

Topic 11: Soteriology - Sanctification  
(and Perseverance of the Saints)

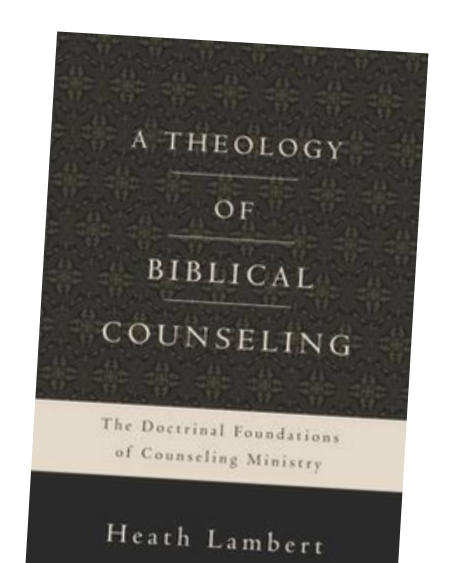
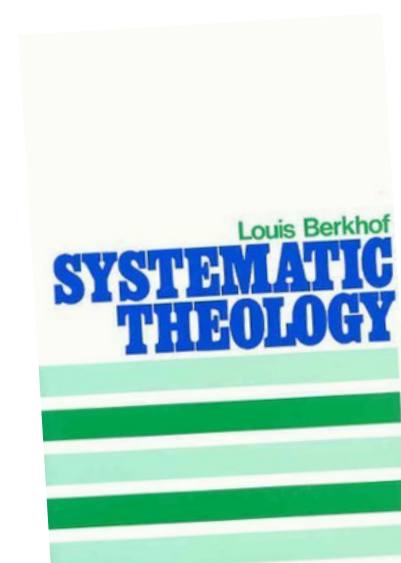
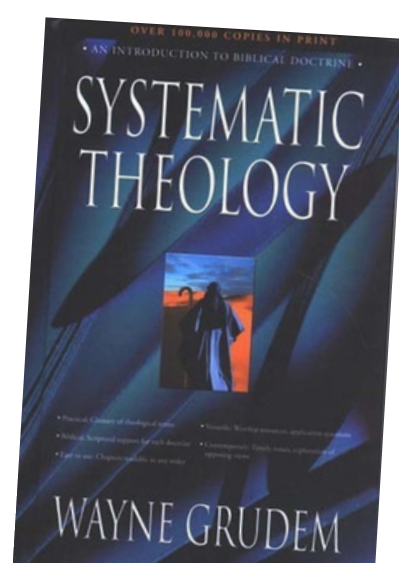
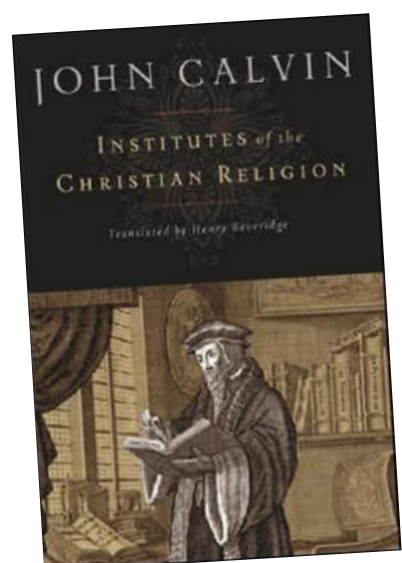
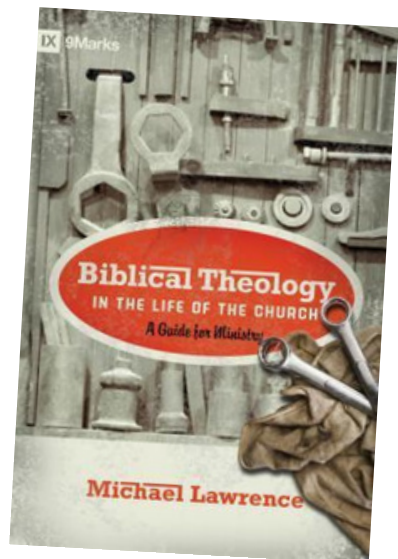
Topic 12: Soteriology - Glorification

(Intermediate State and New Heavens & New Earth)

# I. Prolegomena: *First Things*

## A. Main Consulted Resources

1. Berkhof, L. *Systematic Theology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans publishing co., 1938.
- Grudem, Wayne A. *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine*. Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; Zondervan Pub. House, 2004.
2. Lawrence, Michael. *Biblical Theology in the Life of the Church: A Guide for Ministry*. 9Marks. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2010.
3. Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software, 1997.
4. Lambert, Heath. *A Theology of Biblical Counseling*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2016.
5. Many other works consulted and will be cited during lectures.



## B. Definitions

- 1. Theology
- 2. Doctrine
- 3. Theological Triage

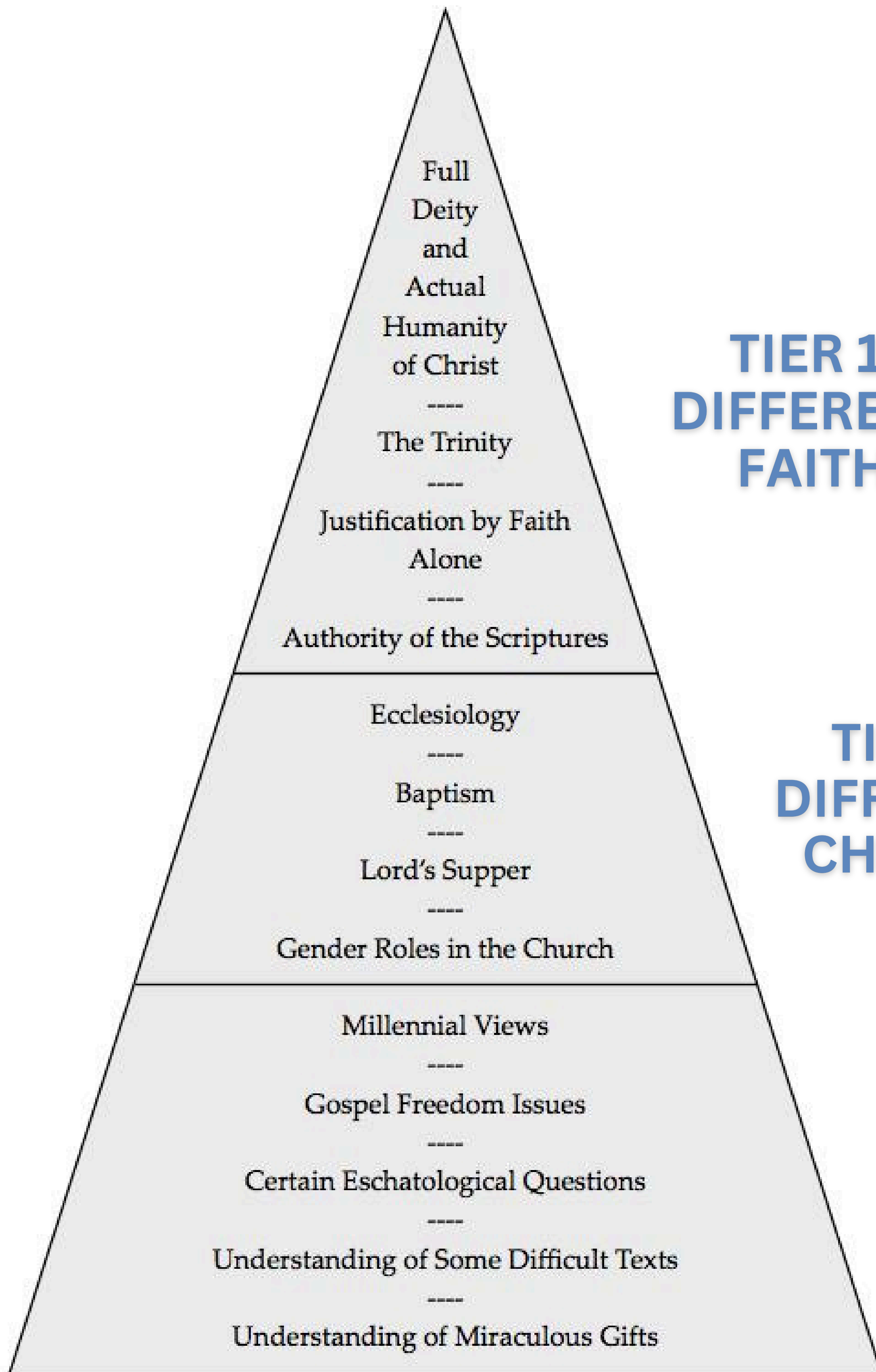
## C. Types of Studies

- 1. Systematic Theology
- 2. Historical Theology
- 3. Philosophical Theology
- 4. Practical Theology
- 5. Biblical Theology



**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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# THEOLOGICAL TRIAGE



**TIER 1:  
DIFFERENT  
FAITH**

**TIER 2:  
DIFFERENT  
CHURCH**

**TIER 3:  
DISAGREE  
WITH UNITY**

## D. Advantages and Disadvantages of Systematic Theology

1. Advantage: Organizes all that the Scriptures say on any given topic.
2. Advantage: Clearly articulates definitions and Biblical support for various doctrines.
3. Advantage: Presents a variety of passages together for comparison, and explains the rationale for various interpretations.
4. Disadvantage: Does not reflect the development of theology in accordance with progressive revelation throughout the Biblical narrative. (Ex. A theology of the afterlife from the Old Testament)
5. Disadvantage: The strategy of systemization may reflect a denominational theology or a particular theologian's theology to a degree greater than what is actually present in the Bible. (Ex. Catholic doctrine on Mary or Dispensationalism according to Darby)

**NOTES:**

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## II. Bibliology: *Study of the Bible*

### A. What is the Word of God

1. Jesus as the Word Incarnate
  - a) John 1:1, 14
  - b) Hebrews 1:1-3
  
2. The Speech of God
  - a) Exodus 6:2
  - b) John 9:29
  
3. The Written Record
  - a) Autographs
    - (1) Jeremiah 1:4
    - (2) Jeremiah 36:28
  - b) Manuscripts
  - c) Translations
    - (1) Literal Translations
      - (a) Word-for-word
      - (b) Ex. NASB, ESV, NKJV
    - (2) Dynamic Equivalent
      - (a) Thought-for-thought
      - (b) Ex. NET, NIV, TNIV
    - (3) Paraphrase Translations
      - (a) Meaning-for-meaning
      - (b) Ex. NLT, The Message



## B. Canon

### 1. Definition:

- a) Exclusive Canon- The collection of books as defined by the church.
- b) Functional Canon- The collection of books that were universally regarded and used by the church.
- c) Ontological Canon- The collection of books that evidence divine inspiration.

### 2. Old Testament

- a) Torah - The Law
- b) Nevi'im- The Prophets
- c) Ketuvim- The Writings



### 3. Apocrypha

### 4. New Testament

#### NOTES:

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## C. General Data on the Bible

1. 66 books
  - a) 39 in Old Testament
  - b) 27 in New Testament
  
2. 40+ different authors
  - a) Shepherds
  - b) Farmers
  - c) Kings
  - d) Prophets
  - e) Fishermen
  - f) Pharisees
  - h) And more!
  
3. 1500+ years of writing
  - a) Earliest written book:
    - (1) Job
    - (2) Torah (via Moses)
  - b) Latest written book: Revelation  
(via John c. A.D. 90-100)

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#### 4. Various Genres of the Bible:

##### a) General Approximations:

- (1) 43% Narrative
- (2) 33% Poetry
- (3) 24% Prose/Discourse

##### b) Fuller Breakdown of Literary Types

- (1) Narrative (Ex. Genesis, Kings, Acts)
- (2) Law (Ex. Leviticus, Deuteronomy)
- (3) Poetry / Songs (Ex. Psalms, Song of Songs)
- (4) Wisdom Literature (Ex. Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes)
- (5) Parable / Allegory (Ex. Song of Songs\*, Hosea, Ezekiel, cf. Galatians 4:24)
- (6) Prophecy (Ex. Isaiah, Jeremiah, Zephaniah, Malachi)
- (7) Biography (Ex. Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, cf. Ruth, Esther, 1-2 Samuel)
- (8) Letters (Ex. Romans, Philippians, James, Jude)
- (9) Sermons (Ex. Hebrews, 1 John)
- (10) Apocalyptic (Ex. Daniel, Joel, Zechariah, Revelation)

#### NOTES:

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c) Hermeneutical Implications

- (1) Different genres engage us differently (story vs. poetry vs. discourse)
- (2) Different genres should be understood differently (poetic prophecy using metaphors in Ezekiel vs. didactic explanation on the nature of salvation in Romans)
- (3) Different genres serve different primary purposes (describing God's acts of rescue in the splitting of the Red Sea vs. prescribing the way the church should operate in 1 Timothy)
- (4) Regardless of the various genres, never forget that all of God's Word contains timeless truth for the building up of God's people!



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## D. Important Terms Concerning God's Word

- 1. Inspiration
  - a) Definition - The truth that the Bible contains the "God-breathed" words of God.
  - b) Implication - God's Word is \_\_\_\_\_!
  - c) Biblical Support:
    - (1) 2 Timothy 3:16-17
    - (2) 2 Peter 1:19-21
  
- 2. Inerrancy
  - a) Definition -
  
  - b) Implication - God's Word is \_\_\_\_\_!
  - c) Biblical Support:
    - (1) Numbers 23:19
    - (2) Psalm 119:89
    - (3) Proverbs 30:5
    - (4) John 17:17

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**3.** Perspicuity

**a)** Definition -

**b)** Implication - God's Word is \_\_\_\_\_ !

**c)** Biblical Support:

- (1) Psalm 19:7
- (2) Psalm 119:130
- (3) 2 Peter 3:15-16

**4.** Infallibility

**a)** Definition -

**b)** Implication - God's Word is \_\_\_\_\_ !

**c)** Biblical Support:

- (1) Deuteronomy 29:29
- (2) Psalm 119:11
- (3) 2 Peter 1:3

**NOTES:**

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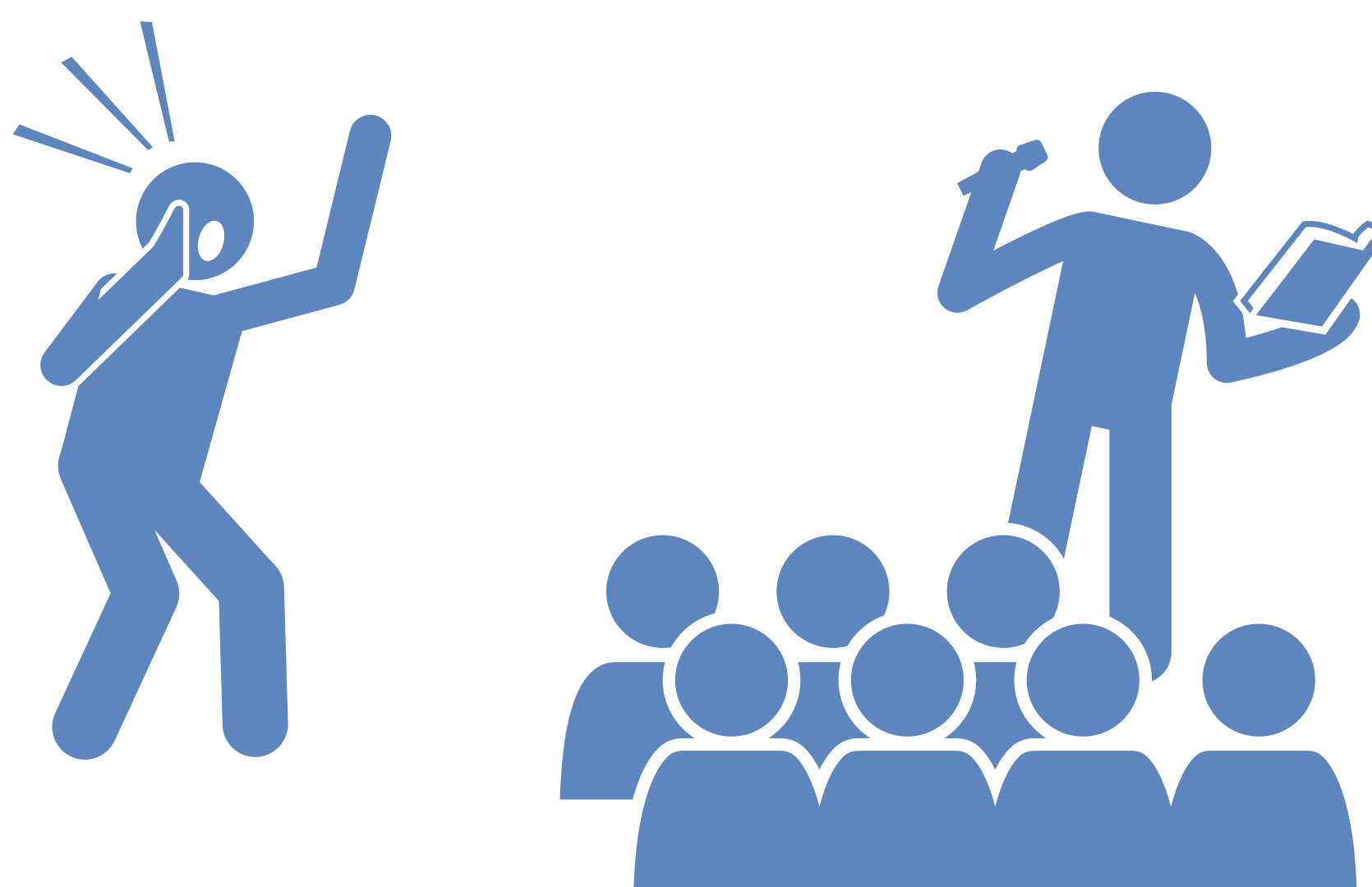
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## E. Common objections to an orthodox view of the Bible

1. "The Bible is full of contradictions."
2. "The Bible is outdated, and therefore unable to speak into today."
  - a) Morally (Ex. Old Testament sexual ethics)
  - b) Theologically (Ex. "Unhitching ourselves from the Old Testament")
3. "The Bible is incompatible with science."



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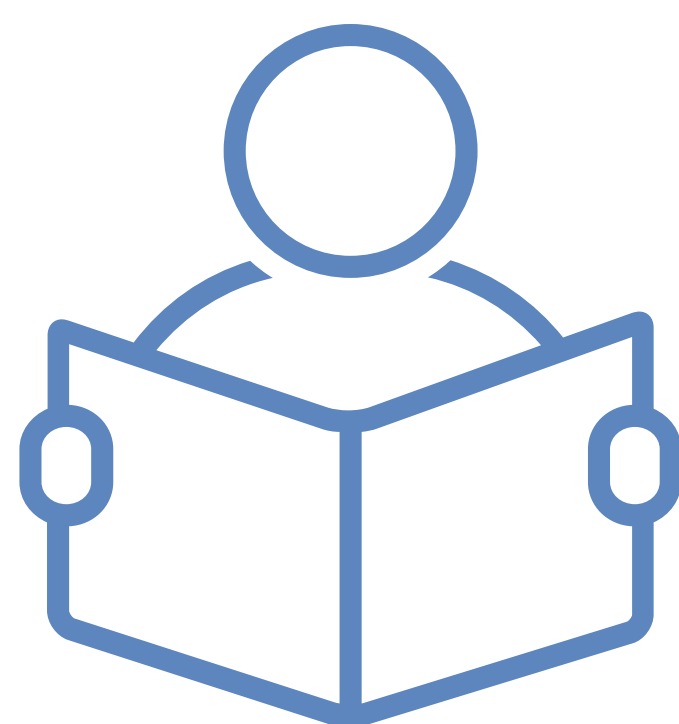
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## F. Practical Thoughts

1. Take it seriously!
2. Choose your translations wisely.
3. Seek the "timeless truths"
  - a) What does this teach me about God?
  - b) What does this teach me about mankind?
  - c) What does this teach me about salvation?
4. Study alone
  - a) Psalm 1:2
  - b) Psalm 119:59
5. Study in community
  - a) Acts 17:11
  - b) Ephesians 4:11
  - c) Hebrews 3:12-13



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