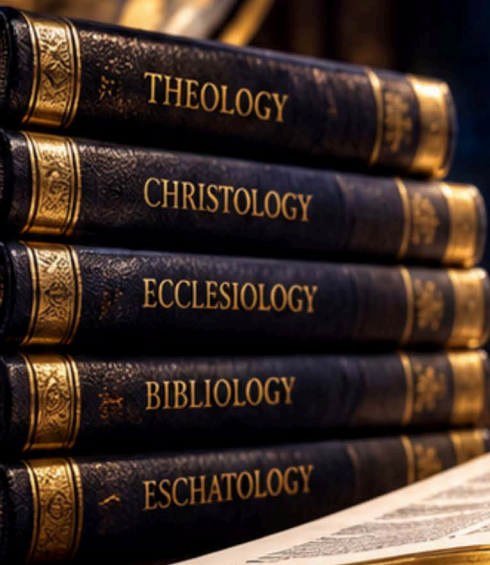



SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

UNDERSTANDING THE MAJOR
DOCTRINES OF THE BIBLE



EST. 2023



PREPARED BY

DR. APRYL COFFIE



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Understanding the Major Doctrines of the Bible

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THE BIBLE BY E. MACLELLAND

The Bible contains the **mind of God**,
the condition of man, the way of salvation,
the judgement of sinners and the happiness of believers.

Its teachings are **Holy**; its laws are binding,
its histories are **true** and its decisions are **unchangeable**.

Read it to be wise, **believe it** to be saved,
and **practice it** to be holy.

It contains **light** to direct you,
food to support you and **comfort** to cheer you.
It is the traveller's **map**, the pilot's **compass**,
the soldier's **sword** and the Christian's **charter**.

Here Paradise is **restored**,
Heaven **opened** and the gates of Hell **disclosed**.
Christ is its grand subject, our good is its design
and **the glory of God** its end.

Read it **slowly, often** and **prayerfully**;
it is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure.

It will **reward** the greatest of labour
and condemn all who **trifle** with its sacred contents.

It is the Book of books, **God's Book**.
It is this way **God makes Himself known** to man.

WHAT IS SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

Systematic theology is the organized study of the doctrines of Scripture. It gathers everything the Bible teaches about a subject and presents it in a clear, biblical, and understandable way. Rather than studying the Bible randomly, systematic theology helps believers understand God's truth in divine order and proper foundation.

Systematic Theology is the organized and careful study of the doctrines of the Bible. It gathers all that Scripture teaches about a subject and arranges it in a clear, understandable, and biblical way.

Rather than studying only one verse or one book of the Bible, systematic theology studies the entire counsel of God concerning a topic. For example, if we study salvation, we examine everything the Bible teaches about salvation from Genesis to Revelation.

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WHY SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY MATTERS

Many believers are emotional in faith but weak in doctrine. Passion without truth creates instability. God never intended for believers to remain spiritually ignorant.

Hosea 4:6 (KJV)

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge..."

THE PURPOSE OF SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY IS TO HELP BELIEVERS:

- To know and understand God accurately
- To defend sound doctrine and build a strong biblical foundation
- To grow spiritually mature
- To avoid deception and false teaching
- To defend the faith with wisdom and truth
- To properly understand the whole counsel of God
- To know what we believe and why we believe it

2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Titus 1:9 (KJV)

"Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers."

Systematic theology helps us rightly divide Scripture and develop a balanced understanding of truth.

1. BIBLIOLOGY — THE STUDY OF THE BIBLE

Bibliology is the study of the Scriptures. It examines the inspiration, authority, reliability, preservation, and purpose of the Word of God. The Bible is not merely a historical or religious book; it is the divinely inspired revelation of God to humanity. It is the final authority for doctrine, correction, instruction, and spiritual life.

The Bible reveals:

- The nature of God
- The condition of humanity
- The plan of salvation
- The principles of righteous living
- God's eternal purposes

The Scriptures were written by human authors under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Though men physically wrote the text, God supernaturally breathed His message into them.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (KJV)

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

2 Peter 1:20-21 (KJV)

"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

Psalms 119:105 (KJV)

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

The Bible is:

- Inspired
- Infallible
- Authoritative
- Eternal
- Spiritually alive

Hebrews 4:12 (KJV)

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword..."

Without a strong biblical foundation, believers become vulnerable to deception, confusion, emotional Christianity, and false doctrine.

PROOF THAT THE BIBLE IS THE TRUE AND DIVINELY INSPIRED WORD OF GOD

1. Fulfilled Prophecy

The Bible contains hundreds of prophecies that were fulfilled with remarkable accuracy.

Examples:

- Messiah born in Bethlehem (**Micah 5:2 → Matthew 2:1**)
- Messiah betrayed for 30 pieces of silver (**Zechariah 11:12-13 → Matthew 26:15**)
- Destruction of Jerusalem foretold by Jesus (**Luke 21:5-24**)

2. Unity of the Bible

- Written by about 40 authors.
- Written over approximately 1,500 years.
- Written on three continents. (Asia, Africa and Europe)
- Yet it presents one consistent message of redemption through Jesus Christ.

3. Historical Accuracy

Archaeological discoveries continue to confirm people, places, events, and cultures mentioned in Scripture.

4. Scientific Accuracy Ahead of Its Time

Examples:

- The earth hangs in space (**Job 26:7**).
- The water cycle is described (**Ecclesiastes 1:7; Job 36:27-28**).
- The earth is described as circular (**Isaiah 40:22**).

5. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Christianity stands on the historical resurrection of Jesus.

- Empty tomb
- Eyewitness accounts
- Radical transformation of the disciples
- Rapid growth of the early church

1 Corinthians 15:3-8

I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. [4] He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. [5] He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. [6] After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. [7] Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. [8] Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him.

6. Transforming Power

Millions throughout history testify that the Bible has transformed lives, broken addictions, restored families, and brought people into relationship with God.

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

7. Internal Claims of Divine Inspiration

The Bible consistently claims to be God's Word.

Key Scriptures:

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- 2 Peter 1:20-21
- Psalm 119:89
- Isaiah 40:8

8. Preservation of Scripture

Despite persecution, attempts to destroy it, and thousands of years of transmission, the Bible remains the most widely distributed and preserved book in history.

9. The Testimony of Jesus

Jesus affirmed the authority and truthfulness of Scripture.

John 17:17

"Thy word is truth."

Matthew 5:18

I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God's law will disappear until its purpose is achieved.

10. The Witness of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit confirms the truth of God's Word in the hearts of believers.

Romans 8:16

For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children.

John 16:13

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future.

Key Takeaways:

The strongest evidences for the Bible's divine inspiration are:

1. Fulfilled prophecy
2. Historical reliability
3. Unity of its message
4. The resurrection of Jesus Christ
5. Its transforming power
6. The testimony of the Holy Spirit

2 Timothy 3:16

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." (NKJV)

2. THEOLOGY PROPER — THE STUDY OF GOD

Theology Proper is the study of the nature, character, attributes, and works of God.

Who Is God?

God is the eternal, self-existent Creator and Ruler of all things. He has no beginning and no ending. He depends on nothing for existence because He is life itself.

Psalms 90:2 (KJV)

"Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God."

Exodus 3:14 (KJV)

"And God said unto Moses, **I AM THAT I AM...**"

IT SEEKS TO ANSWER QUESTIONS SUCH AS:

- Who is God?
- What is God like?
- How does God reveal Himself?
- What are His attributes and nature?

God is:

- Eternal
- Holy
- Omnipotent (all-powerful)
- Omniscient (all-knowing)
- Omnipresent (present everywhere)

- Sovereign
- Righteous
- Loving
- Just
- Merciful

God is eternal, self-existent, sovereign, holy, omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent. He is the Creator and Sustainer of all things.

Deuteronomy 6:4 (KJV)

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD."

Isaiah 45:5 (KJV)

"I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me..."

God reveals Himself as one God existing eternally in three Persons:

- Father
- Son
- Holy Spirit

This is commonly called the Trinity.

Matthew 28:19 (KJV)

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

A. PATEROLOGY — THE STUDY OF GOD THE FATHER

Paterology focuses on God as Father. God the Father is the source, planner, and initiator of redemption. He demonstrates love, authority, holiness, justice, and care for His children.

Ephesians 1:3 NLT

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ.

John 3:16 (KJV)

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son..."

1 John 3:1 (KJV)

"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us..."

God the Father:

- Created all things
- Sent Jesus into the world
- Adopts believers into His family
- Disciplines His children
- Hears and answers prayer

B. CHRISTOLOGY — THE STUDY OF JESUS CHRIST

Christology is the study of the person and work of Jesus Christ. Jesus is fully God and fully man. He is the eternal Son of God, the promised Messiah, the Savior of humanity, and the only mediator between God and man.

John 1:1 (KJV)

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

John 1:14 (KJV)

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us..."

Jesus came to:

- Reveal the Father
- Destroy the works of the devil
- Die for sin
- Redeem humanity
- Establish the Kingdom of God

1 Timothy 2:5 (KJV)

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."

Philippians 2:9-11 (KJV)

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him..."

Christology teaches:

- The virgin birth
- The sinless life of Christ
- His miracles
- His death and resurrection
- His ascension
- His future return

1 John 3:8 (KJV)

"...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."

Luke 19:10 (KJV)

"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

THE DEATH & RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

The death of Jesus was substitutionary. He died in our place.

Isaiah 53:5 (KJV)

"But he was wounded for our transgressions..."

Romans 5:8 (KJV)

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

His resurrection defeated:

- Sin
- Death
- Hell
- Satan

1 Corinthians 15:55-57 (KJV)

"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"

C. PNEUMATOLOGY — THE STUDY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Pneumatology is the study of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is not merely a force or influence; He is the third Person of the Godhead.

The Holy Spirit:

- Convicts of sin
- Teaches Truth
- Reveal the Father and the Son to us
- Regenerates believers
- Empowers the believers and the church
- Distributes spiritual gifts
- Leads believers into truth
- Produces spiritual fruit
- He reveals the future to us

John 16:13 (KJV)

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth..."

Acts 1:8 (KJV)

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you..."

Galatians 5:22-23 (KJV)

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace..."

The Holy Spirit is essential to Christian growth, holiness, prayer, discernment, and ministry.

3. CREATIONISM — THE STUDY OF CREATION

Creationism studies God as Creator of the universe. Scripture teaches that God intentionally created the heavens, the earth, humanity, and all living things.

Genesis 1:1 (KJV)

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

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Creation reveals:

- God's power
- God's wisdom
- God's order
- God's glory

Psalm 19:1 (KJV)

"The heavens declare the glory of God..."

Humanity did not arise accidentally. Creation was purposeful and designed by God.

Colossians 1:16 (KJV)

"For by him were all things created..."

Creationism also teaches stewardship. Humanity was entrusted with dominion and responsibility over the earth.

Genesis 1:26 (KJV)

"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."

4. THEOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY — The Study of Humanity

Theological anthropology studies the nature, purpose, and condition of humanity according to Scripture.

Human beings were created:

- In the image of God
- For relationship with God
- With spiritual, moral, and eternal capacity (we are spiritual, moral and eternal beings)

Genesis 1:27 (KJV)

"So God created man in his own image..."

Humans are composed of spirit, soul, and body.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 (KJV)

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God **your whole spirit and soul and body** be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Humanity was originally created innocent and righteous, but through sin mankind became spiritually fallen.

Anthropology also studies:

- Human dignity
- Free will
- Human purpose
- Spiritual responsibility
- Moral accountability

Every human life carries value because humanity bears the image of God.

The Fall of Humanity

Adam's sin introduced:

- Spiritual death
- Separation from God
- Corruption
- Suffering
- Sin nature

Romans 5:12 (KJV)

"...by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin..."

Humanity became spiritually broken and incapable of saving itself.

5. HAMARTIOLOGY — THE STUDY OF SIN

Hamartiology is the study of sin. Sin is rebellion against God's law, nature, and authority.

1 John 3:4 (KJV)

"Sin is the transgression of the law."

Romans 3:23 (KJV)

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

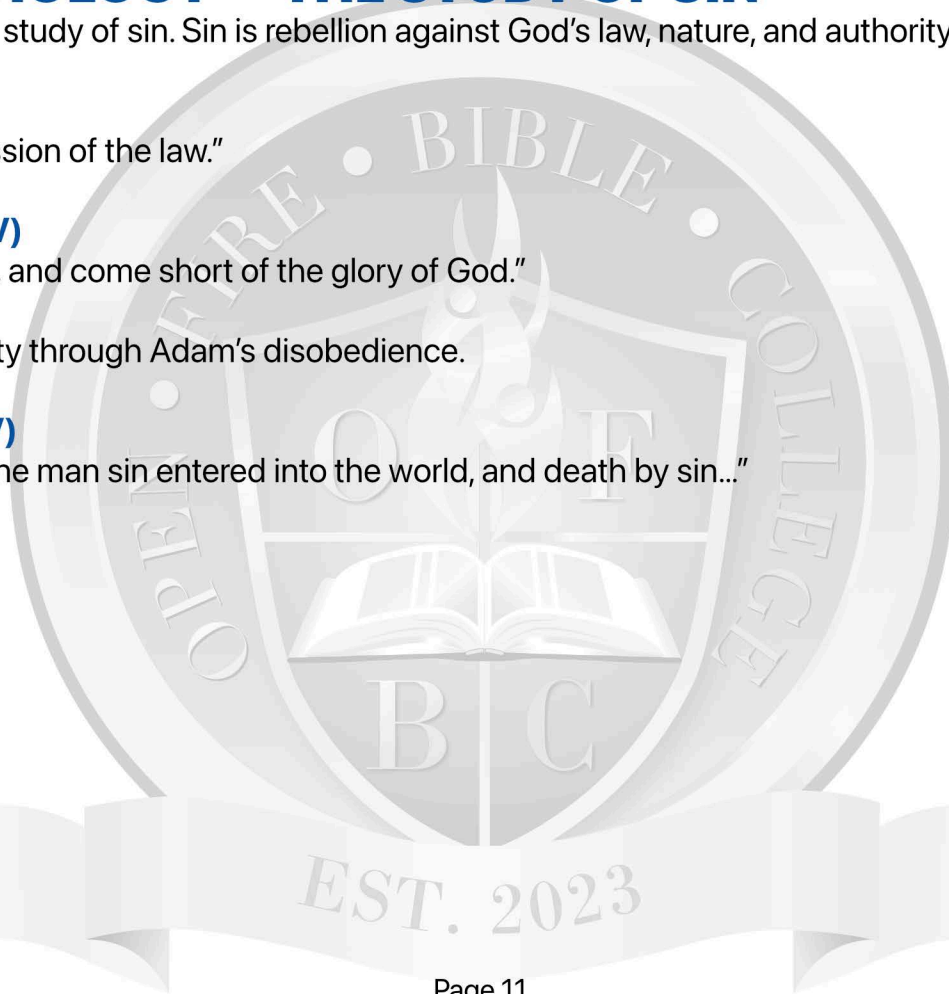
Sin entered humanity through Adam's disobedience.

Romans 5:12 (KJV)

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin..."

Sin affects:

- Human nature
- The mind
- The emotions
- The will
- Society
- Creation itself



The consequences of sin include:

- Spiritual death
- Separation from God
- Bondage
- Corruption
- Judgment

Isaiah 59:2 (KJV)

"But your iniquities have separated between you and your God..."

Hamartiology reveals humanity's desperate need for salvation and redemption through Jesus Christ.

6. SOTERIOLOGY — THE STUDY OF SALVATION

Soteriology studies God's plan of redemption through Jesus Christ. Salvation is God's gracious work of rescuing humanity from sin and eternal judgment.

Ephesians 2:8-9 (KJV)

"For by grace are ye saved through faith..."

Jesus accomplished salvation through:

- His death
- His burial
- His resurrection

Romans 10:9 (KJV)

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus..."

Salvation includes:

- Justification
- Regeneration
- Adoption
- Sanctification
- Redemption
- Reconciliation
- Glorification

COMPONENTS OF SALVATION

1. Justification

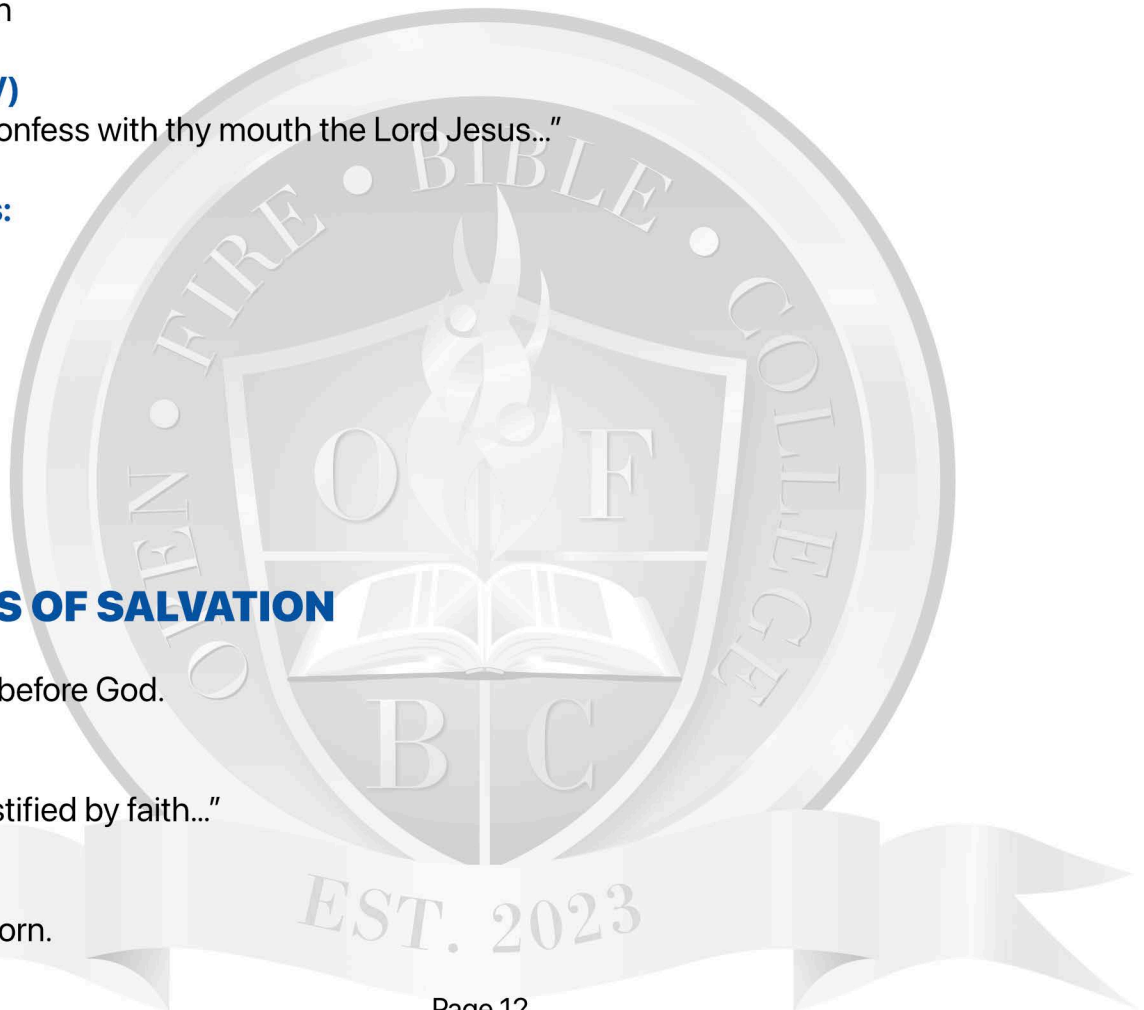
Declared righteous before God.

Romans 5:1 (KJV)

"Therefore being justified by faith..."

2. Regeneration

Being spiritually reborn.



John 3:3 (KJV)

"...Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Titus 3:5 KJV

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of **regeneration**, and renewing of the Holy Ghost

3. Sanctification

The ongoing process of spiritual transformation.

1 Thessalonians 4:3 (KJV)

"For this is the will of God, even your sanctification..."

4. Glorification

The future perfection of believers.

Romans 8:30 (KJV)

"...them he also glorified."

SALVATION IS BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH

Ephesians 2:8-9 (KJV)

"For by grace are ye saved through faith..."

We become new creatures in Christ through the process of salvation.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV)

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature..."

Salvation is received by grace through faith, not by human works. Salvation cannot be earned by works.

Titus 3:5 (KJV)

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done..."

Soteriology teaches believers how God transforms sinners into sons and daughters of God.

GRACE VS. LAW

What Was the Purpose of the Law?

The Law revealed sin but could not remove sin.

Romans 3:20 (KJV)

"...by the law is the knowledge of sin."

The Law exposed humanity's inability to achieve righteousness without God.

WHAT IS GRACE?

Grace is God's unearned favor and divine empowerment.

Romans 6:14 (KJV)

"...ye are not under the law, but under grace."

Grace does not give permission to sin. Grace empowers holy living.

Titus 2:11-12 (KJV)

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, [12] Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

7. ECCLESIOLOGY — THE STUDY OF THE CHURCH

Ecclesiology is the study of the church. The church is the body of Christ composed of all true believers.

Ephesians 1:22-23 (KJV)

"And gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body..."

The church exists to:

- Worship God
- Preach the Gospel
- Make disciples - disciple believers
- Equip believers (in their gifts and graces and the working of the ministry)
- Demonstrate God's Kingdom (in righteousness and power)
- Serve Humanity

Matthew 28:19-20 (KJV)

Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. [20] Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

The church is not merely a building or denomination. It is a spiritual family and divine organism empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Ecclesiology studies:

- Church leadership
- Ordinances
- Spiritual gifts
- Church discipline
- Fellowship
- Missions
- Worship

Acts 2:42 (KJV)

"And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship..."

The church is called to reflect Christ in both power and holiness.

8. THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Baptism of the Holy Ghost is a distinct spiritual experience in which Jesus Christ immerses a believer in the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, empowering them for holy living, effective witness, spiritual service, and supernatural ministry. It is often accompanied by speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance and results in increased boldness, spiritual sensitivity, and a deeper partnership with God.

Key Scripture:

"And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." **Acts 2:4 (KJV)**

Simple Definition:

The Baptism of the Holy Ghost is God's empowering infilling of the believer by the Holy Spirit, enabling them to live victoriously, witness boldly, and operate in the gifts and power of God for the advancement of His Kingdom.

It is for ALL believers.

Acts 2:39 NLT

"This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away—all who have been called by the Lord our God."

Purpose of Holy Spirit Baptism

- Power for ministry,
- Boldness
- Spiritual gifts
- Greater spiritual sensitivity
- Supernatural empowerment

Acts 4:31 (KJV)

"...they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness."

9. THE DOCTRINE OF HEALING

God reveals Himself as healer.

Exodus 15:26 (KJV)

"...I am the Lord that healeth thee."

Healing is seen throughout Scripture:

- Physical healing
- Emotional healing
- Spiritual healing

Jesus Healed the Sick

Matthew 8:16-17 (KJV)

"...Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses."

Healing demonstrates:

- God's compassion
- Kingdom authority
- Christ's victory

Believers are instructed to pray for the sick.

James 5:14-15 (KJV)

"Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders..."

10. ANGELOLOGY — THE STUDY OF ANGELS

Angelology studies angels and heavenly beings. Angels are spiritual beings created by God to serve His purposes.

Hebrews 1:14 (KJV)

"Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?"

Angels:

- Worship God
- Deliver messages
- Protect believers
- Execute God's judgments
- Minister to God's people

Psalms 91:11 (KJV)

"For he shall give his angels charge over thee..."

Angels are never to be worshipped.

Revelation 22:8-9 (KJV)

I, John, am the one who heard and saw all these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me. [9] But he said, "No, don't worship me. I am a servant of God, just like you and your brothers the prophets, as well as all who obey what is written in this book. Worship only God!"

Angelology also studies fallen angels and demonic spirits. Satan was originally created as Lucifer before rebelling against God.

THE ENEMY (DEMONOLOGY)

Demonology is the biblical study of demons, evil spirits, and the kingdom of darkness. It examines their origin, nature, activities, limitations, and ultimate defeat through Jesus Christ.

From a biblical perspective, demons are fallen angels who rebelled against God under the leadership of Satan and now seek to oppose God's purposes, deceive humanity, promote sin, and hinder the work of the Kingdom of God.

Key areas of demonology include:

- The origin of demons (Revelation 12:7–9)
- The activities and strategies of demons (John 10:10; 1 Peter 5:8)
- Spiritual warfare and resisting the devil (Ephesians 6:10–18; James 4:7)
- Deliverance and freedom through Jesus Christ (Luke 10:19; Mark 16:17)
- The ultimate judgment of Satan and his kingdom (Revelation 20:10)

Simple Definition:

Demonology is the biblical study of demons and the kingdom of darkness, helping believers understand the enemy's tactics and the authority they have in Jesus Christ to live in victory.

Satan is a fallen being who rebelled against God.

Isaiah 14:12-15 (KJV)

"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer..."

The Work of Satan and the fallen angels:

The enemy seeks to:

- Deceive
- Tempt
- Accuse
- Oppress
- Destroy

John 10:10 (KJV)

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy..."

Spiritual Warfare (we are in a battle against the enemy and the powers of darkness)

Believers must:

- Wear spiritual armor
- Resist the devil
- Stand in faith
- Use the Word of God

Ephesians 6:11 (KJV)

"Put on the whole armour of God..."

Isaiah 14:12-15 (KJV)

"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer..."

Revelation 12:7-9 describes Satan and fallen angels being cast down.

IMPORTANT:

Believers must avoid:

- Worshiping angels
- Obsession with angelic encounters
- Unbiblical mysticism

The focus of Scripture is always God — not angels or demons.

11. THE DOCTRINE OF PRAYER

The **doctrine of prayer** is the biblical teaching that prayer is God's ordained means by which believers communicate with Him, worship Him, express dependence upon Him, and participate in His will being accomplished on the earth.\

Prayer is more than making requests; it includes **adoration, thanksgiving, confession, supplication, intercession, and spiritual warfare**. Through prayer, believers fellowship with God, receive guidance, grow spiritually, and partner with Him in fulfilling His purposes.

The Bible teaches that prayer should be offered **in faith, according to God's will, and in the name of Jesus Christ**, who is our mediator before the Father. The Holy Spirit also assists believers in prayer and intercession.

Key Scriptures:

- Matthew 6:9-13
- John 14:13-14
- Philippians 4:6-7
- 1 Thessalonians 5:17
- James 5:16
- Romans 8:26-27
- Hebrews 4:14-16

Simple Definition:

Prayer is a divinely ordained relationship and communication between God and His people through which worship is offered, needs are presented, and God's will is accomplished in the earth.

Prayer is communion and partnership with God.

Jeremiah 33:3 (KJV)

"Call unto me, and I will answer thee..."

Prayer includes:

- Worship
- Intercession
- Thanksgiving
- Warfare
- Petition
- Repentance

Why Prayer Matters:

- Builds intimacy with God
- Invites divine intervention
- Releases spiritual authority
- Strengthens believers
- Defeats darkness

James 5:16 (KJV)

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

12. THE DOCTRINE OF WORSHIP

The **doctrine of worship** is the biblical teaching that worship is humanity's response of love, reverence, honor, obedience, and devotion to God for who He is and what He has done. Worship is more than singing songs; it is a lifestyle of surrender that glorifies God in every area of life.

According to Scripture, God alone is worthy of worship (**Exodus 20:3-5; Psalm 95:6; Revelation 4:11**). True worship must be offered in **spirit and truth (John 4:23-24)**, flowing from a sincere heart and aligned with God's Word. Worship includes praise, prayer, thanksgiving, giving, obedience, service, and holy living (Romans 12:1-2; Hebrews 13:15-16).

The ultimate purpose of worship is to honor God, deepen our relationship with Him, and declare His greatness to the world. Worship shifts our focus from ourselves to God and invites His presence, power, and transforming work into our lives.

Key Scripture:

"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him." — John 4:23 (NKJV)

Worship is the response of love, reverence, surrender, and adoration toward God.

John 4:23-24 (KJV)

"...the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth..."

Worship is not merely music. Worship is:

- Lifestyle
- Surrender
- Obedience
- Reverence
- Adoration

Biblical Expressions of Worship

- Singing
- Kneeling
- Lifting hands
- Dancing

- Giving
- Silence
- Bowing

Psalm 150:6 (KJV)

"Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord."

13. THE DOCTRINE OF DEATH

The doctrine of death teaches that death entered the world as a result of sin and is the separation of the soul and spirit from the physical body. God originally created humanity to live in fellowship with Him, but through Adam's disobedience, sin and death entered the human race (**Romans 5:12**). For the believer, physical death is not the end but a transition into the presence of the Lord. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the power of death has been conquered, and believers have the hope of eternal life (**John 11:25-26; 1 Corinthians 15:54-57**). **The Bible speaks of three aspects of death:**

1. **Physical Death** – Separation of the spirit from the body (**Ecclesiastes 12:7; James 2:26**).
2. **Spiritual Death** – Separation from God because of sin (**Ephesians 2:1-5**).
3. **Eternal Death** – The final and everlasting separation from God for those who reject Christ (**Revelation 20:14-15**).

The Christian hope is that one day all believers will be resurrected and receive glorified bodies at the return of Christ, living eternally with God (**1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 1 Corinthians 15:51-53**).

Key Truth: Death is a consequence of sin, but through Jesus Christ, believers have victory over death and the promise of eternal life with God. (**Romans 6:23**)

Physical death is the separation of the spirit from the body.

Hebrews 9:27 (KJV)

"...it is appointed unto men once to die..."

Believers who die in Christ enter God's presence.

2 Corinthians 5:8 (KJV)

"...absent from the body, and... present with the Lord."

Death is not annihilation. Humanity is eternal.

14. ESCHATOLOGY — THE STUDY OF END TIMES

Eschatology is the branch of theology that studies the "last things" or the future events of God's redemptive plan. It focuses on what the Bible teaches concerning the return of Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the dead, final judgment, eternity, and the ultimate fulfillment of God's Kingdom. Eschatology reminds believers that history is moving toward God's divine conclusion, where Christ will reign forever and all things will be made new.

Eschatology studies the final events of human history and God's eternal plan.

This includes:

- The return of Christ
- Resurrection
- Final judgment
- Heaven
- Hell
- The Kingdom of God
- The new heaven and new earth

Matthew 24:30 (KJV)

"And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven..."

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 (KJV)

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven..."

Revelation 20:12 (KJV)

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God..."

Eschatology reminds believers:

- Jesus is returning
- Judgment is certain
- Eternity is real
- Believers must remain ready

2 Peter 3:11-12 (KJV)

"What manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness..."

The study of end times should produce:

- Holiness
- Urgency
- Hope
- Evangelism
- Spiritual watchfulness

Titus 2:13 (KJV)

"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ."

The Return of Christ

The return of Christ is the future, visible, and glorious coming of Jesus to the earth. He will return as King of kings and Lord of lords to fulfill God's purposes, judge evil, and establish His everlasting reign. Believers are called to live in readiness, holiness, and expectation of His coming.

Key Scriptures: Matthew 24:30; Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Revelation 19:11-16

THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ will physically return again.

Acts 1:11 (KJV)

"...this same Jesus... shall so come in like manner..."

Why Christ Is Returning

Jesus will return to:

- Judge the earth
- Defeat evil fully
- Establish His Kingdom
- Reward believers
- Fulfill prophecy

Revelation 22:12 (KJV)

"And, behold, I come quickly..."

Signs of the Times

The Bible describes:

- Increased deception
- Wars
- Moral decline
- Persecution
- Apostasy
- Global unrest

Matthew 24:6-8 (KJV)

"And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars..."

The Believer's Response

Believers must:

- Stay spiritually awake
- Live holy
- Remain faithful
- Watch and pray
- Continue preaching the Gospel

Titus 2:13 (KJV)

"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ."

Resurrection

The resurrection refers to God's raising of the dead. Believers will be resurrected to eternal life and receive glorified bodies, while unbelievers will also be raised to stand before God in judgment. Christ's resurrection is the guarantee of the future resurrection of all humanity.

Key Scriptures: John 5:28-29; 1 Corinthians 15:20-23, 42-44; Daniel 12:2

Final Judgment

The final judgment is the future event in which God will judge every person according to His perfect righteousness. Believers will be rewarded for their faithfulness, while those who reject Christ will face eternal separation from God. God's justice and holiness will be fully revealed.

Key Scriptures: Matthew 25:31-46; Romans 14:10-12; Revelation 20:11-15

Heaven

Heaven is the eternal dwelling place of God and the final home of all who belong to Christ. It is a place of perfect joy, peace, worship, righteousness, and fellowship with God, where sorrow, pain, and death no longer exist.

Revelation 21:4 (KJV)

"And God shall wipe away all tears..."

Heaven is:

- Holy
- Eternal
- Joyful
- Free from suffering

Key Scriptures: John 14:1-3; Philippians 3:20; Revelation 21:1-4

Hell

Hell is the place of eternal punishment and separation from God for those who reject His salvation. The Bible presents hell as a real and sobering reality that demonstrates God's justice against sin and unbelief. Hell is a place of eternal separation from God.

Matthew 25:41 (KJV)

"...everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."

Hell reflects:

- Divine justice
- Judgment against sin
- Eternal separation

God desires repentance, not destruction.

2 Peter 3:9 (KJV)

"...not willing that any should perish..."

Key Scriptures: Matthew 25:41, 46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 20:14-15

The New Heaven and New Earth

The new heaven and new earth are God's final and eternal restoration of creation. After the final judgment, God will create a new order where righteousness dwells, His people will live with Him forever, and all the effects of sin, death, and suffering will be removed.

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Eschatology teaches that Jesus Christ will return, the dead will be resurrected, all humanity will face God's final judgment, believers will dwell with God in heaven, the wicked will face eternal separation from God, the Kingdom of God will be fully established, and God will create a new heaven and new earth where righteousness reigns forever.

CONCLUSION

Systematic theology is not merely intellectual study. True theology should produce:

- Deeper intimacy with God
- Greater spiritual maturity
- Strong biblical foundations
- Holy living
- Bold faith
- Spiritual stability

Right theology produces right living.

Colossians 2:6-7 (KJV)

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith..."

A believer who understands sound doctrine becomes:

- Harder to deceive
- Stronger in spiritual warfare
- More stable in trials
- More effective in ministry
- More mature in Christ

The goal of theology is not merely information.

The goal is transformation.

