Course Description.

Soteriology is the study of the biblical doctrine of salvation. The focus of the seminar is the application of Christ’s redemptive work in the life of the believer. The seminar covers the major elements of salvation, legal and experiential, eternal and temporal.

Course Requirements.

1. Research Project. Each participant in the seminar will prepare a formal paper and present a synopsis of the topic to the seminar. Requirements for the project include:
   a. Subject: Chosen by the student with the approval of the seminar leader.
   b. Length: Minimum of twenty-five pages, not to exceed forty pages.
   c. Research: Minimum of fifty sources of which twenty percent will be articles from theological journals.
   d. Style: Turabian 8th with supplements; footnotes and bibliography.
   e. Scoring Rubric:
      > Research: 30%. Includes interaction w/ resources & their incorporation into the text
      Style: 20%. Word use; clarity of thought & use of grammar
      Logic: 20%. Argumentation & structure of the presentation
      Content: 20%. Adequacy of relevant discussion
      Mechanical: 10%. Turabian awareness: Basic form of the paper such as indentation, footnotes, etc
   f. Oral Presentation: Brief synopsis (2-3 pages) available to the other seminar participants during the final seminar periods of the semester.

2. Book Reviews. Each student will review four books from the attached bibliography. These will include:
   a. Full bibliographical entry and a brief introduction of the writer.
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b. A three-page summary of the contents of text (major thesis and salient points).
c. A two-page critique, including strengths and weaknesses. The student is not permitted to evaluate the author personally, only his/her theological position expressed in the text.
d. These reviews are due on the first seminar session in February, March, April, and May, 2012.

3. Weekly Presentations. Each student will prepare one or more oral reports for the seminar. The topics are included in the weekly schedule provided with the syllabus. The student will have an opportunity to choose from among these topics during the first seminar session.

   a. The student will have twenty minutes (maximum) to discuss/read presentation.
   b. Each presentation will be followed by a time of discussion among the participants.
   c. Each presenter will provide a written copy of the oral presentation to each member of the seminar.

Course Objectives.

1. The student will become proficient in the use of soteriological concepts and terminology.

2. The student will be aware of historical issues and contemporary trends in soteriology.

3. The student will develop a strong grasp of the biblical teaching regarding human salvation.

4. The seminar will equip the student to teach soteriological topics at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

5. The seminar will prepare the student for further research in the field of soteriology.
Weekly Schedule

Session 1: Introduction to Soteriology

Session 2: The Doctrine of Election. Topics:
   - Unconditional Election
   - Conditional Election
   - Corporate vs. Personal Election

Session 3: Reprobation.
   - Biblical Overview of the Doctrine
   - Preterition
   - Pre-Condemnation

Session 4: *Ordo Salutis*
   - History and Use of the Concept
   - Analysis of Romans 8:29-30
   - Nature of God’s Saving Grace and the Order of Application

Session 5: Effectual Calling
   - The General Call of the Gospel
   - Elements in Effectual Calling
   - Effectual Calling and Union with Christ

Session 6: Regeneration
   - Relationship of Regeneration and Effectual Calling
   - Regeneration and the New Birth: Analysis of John 3
   - Regeneration and the Issue of Lordship Salvation

Session 7: Conversion
   - Relationship between Repentance and Faith
   - Nature of Biblical Repentance
   - Nature of Saving Faith

Session 8: Justification
   - The Protestant View and the Response of Trent
   - The Biblical Concept of Imputation
   - Impartation: John Piper’s Response to S. Gundry
Session 9: Adoption
- Biblical Concept of Adoption
- Sealing of the Holy Spirit
- Disciplining His Children: Hebrews 12:6-8

Session 10: Union with Christ
- Pauline Use of “In Christ”
- Eternal Union: An Overview of John Murray’s Position
- Spiritual Union

Session 11: Sanctification
- Definitive Sanctification
- Sanctification and the Image of God
- Biblical Teaching Regarding Holiness

Session 12: Sanctification
- The Mortification of Indwelling Sin
- The Third Use of the Law
- Perfectionism

Session 13: Perseverance
- Biblical Overview of Perseverance
- Walking by Faith: The Continuous Nature of Regeneration
- Assurance of Salvation

Session 14: Glorification
- Glorification of the Believer and its Relation to the Created Order: Romans 8:23
- The Nature of Glorification
- The Glorification of the Believer and its Relation to Ecclesiology

Session 15: Oral Presentations

Session 16: Oral Presentations


Braaten, Carl E. *Justification: The Article by Which the Church Stands or Falls*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1990.


Fox, G. T. *Doctrine of Regeneration.* London, 1880.


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Phelps, A. The New Birth; Or, the Work of the Holy Spirit, Boston 1886.


_______. Future Grace. Portland, OR: Multnomah, 1995


Sears, E. H. *Regeneration,* Boston, 1853.


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Wines, E. C. *A Treatise on Regeneration*, Philadelphia. 1863

