



Syllabus

Theology II (T-02)

Text for this course:
Introducing Christian Doctrine
 (3rd Edition)
 By Millard Erickson

Course Requirements:

- Class attendance and participation. (No more than one absence without make-up.)
- Read pages 237-480 in the text. *Theology I (T-01)* will cover the first part of the book.
- Write a "position paper" on the following subjects: A. Jesus Christ, B. Holy Spirit, C. Salvation, D. The Church, E. The Ordinances of the Church (contained in Part Eight: Church, Section 38, page 411) and F. Last Things. See attached instruction sheet regarding the writing of a "position paper."
- Payment of all fees.
- Complete any other assignments given by the instructor.

Suggested Course Schedule:

- Week One:** **Reading assignment to be completed prior to attending first session.**
 Part Five - The Person and Work of Christ (section 23-25)
 (pages 237-267)
 Instructions for writing a "Position Paper"
- Week Two:** Part Five - The Person and Work of Christ (section 26-27)
 (pages 269-292)
 Sharing of "Position Papers" on Jesus Christ
- Week Three:** Part Six - The Holy Spirit (section 28-30)
 (pages 295-327)
 Sharing of "Position Papers" on the Holy Spirit
- Week Four:** Part Seven - Salvation (section 31-35)
 (pages 331-387)
 Sharing of "Position Papers" on Salvation
- Week Five:** Part Eight - Church (section 36-38)
 (pages 391-426)
 Sharing of "Position Papers" on the Church and Ordinances of the Church
- Week Six:** Part Nine - The Last Things (section 39-42)
 (pages 427-479)
 Sharing of "Position Papers" on The Last Things

Note: Because of individual and group differences from site to site, the group is encouraged to do at least one lesson each week and more as time permits. The other lessons assigned for the week need to be done sometime during the week - individually or with a group. Most important for class time is the discussion and encouragement, which may reflect the previous week's lessons, as well as the topics listed under Course Requirements and Suggested Course Schedule.

Instruction for Writing a Position Paper for Theology I and II

The writing of your "position paper" is very important. You must be able to state clearly what you believe the Bible teaches about certain subjects. It is not what others believe, but what you believe. It is not a lengthy discussion, but rather precise statements on the most important aspects of the subject. Therefore no two people will have identical papers. Each will approach the subjects from their own understanding of the Bible and the conclusions will be uniquely yours.

Do not copy sentences from the textbook, but formulate your own statements as a result of your personal study of the subject. Here are a few guidelines to follow.

- 1.) Base doctrinal statements on the teaching passages, rather than historical, figurative, or poetic passages of the Bible.
- 2.) Base statements on plain statements, rather than on obscure or controversial ones.
- 3.) Be sure that each verse used has been interpreted correctly.
- 4.) Be sure that you only emphasize what the scripture emphasizes.

Each subject should be covered in 100 words or less, with the supporting scripture verses cited at the end. Because of the extent of the biblical data, only the most important verses should be used for each subject.

Following is a list of statements. Decide which are clear doctrinal statements and which are not.

- _____ 1.) Sin is universal.
- _____ 2.) Everyone should accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior before it is too late.
- _____ 3.) Adam's sin was imputed to the human race.
- _____ 4.) The Arminians and Calvinistic view of the total depravity of mankind differ.
- _____ 5.) The death of Christ was essential for the atonement of sin.
- _____ 6.) Many people believe that God's love never fails.

How do you think you did? All the uneven numbers are clear doctrinal statements. The even ones are, for the most part, true statements, but for some reason are not clear doctrinal statements.

Here is a sample summarized statement from the
New Hampshire Declaration of Faith.

*Nothing can separate true believers from the love of God,
but they are kept by the power of God, through faith and salvation,
the sure proof of this being their patient continuance and progress in righteousness
and true holiness.*

(Romans 8:35-39, John 10:27-29, II Peter 1:3-4 and Matthew 24:13)

The subjects to be covered in your "Position Paper" include the following:

Theology One course = The Bible, God, The Trinity, Satan, Humanity and Sin
Theology Two course = Jesus Christ, Holy Spirit, Salvation, The Church, The Ordinances
of the Church and Last Things