



Village Missions
Contenders Discipleship Initiative

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Christian Doctrine

Systematic Theology

Contrasting Belief Systems

Target Model for Evaluating Essential Doctrines

Theology Proper (The Nature of God)

The Trinity

Christology (The Study of Jesus Christ)

Pneumatology (The Study of the Holy Spirit)

God's Decrees

The Works of God

Angelology (The Study of Angels)

Anthropology (The Study of Humanity)

Hamartiology (The Study of Sin)

Soteriology (The Study of Salvation)

Ecclesiology (The Study of the Church)

Village Missions
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Christian Doctrine and Systematic Theology Student's Guide

TRAINING MODULE SUMMARY	
Course Name	Christian Doctrine & Systematic Theology
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Contenders Bible School was a tuition-free two-year ministry equipping program started in 1995 by Pastor Ron Sallee at Machias Community Church, Snohomish, WA. It is now run as a tuition-free online equipping ministry by Village Missions. The full Contenders Discipleship Initiative program with pdf copies of this guide and corresponding videos can be found at www.vmcontenders.org.

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Contenders Discipleship Initiative Disclaimer

The views and opinions expressed in the Contenders Discipleship Initiative courses are those of the instructors and authors and do not necessarily reflect the official position of Village Missions. The viewpoints of Village Missions may be found at www.villagemissions.org/doctrinal-statement

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LOCAL INSTRUCTORS using the CDI in a classroom setting are encouraged to fill in any gaps and add to the discussion of content provided by our ONLINE INSTRUCTORS.

At times content will be designed to provoke thoughtful discussion of various viewpoints. It is up to the LOCAL INSTRUCTOR to guide discussions in such way that students come to their own conclusions of what they believe and why they believe it from careful study of the Bible.

Student Registration

You must register as a student for the CDI to gain access to the video instruction. You will find the online registration link at the top of the page at www.vmcontenders.org

You are encouraged to take these classes under the guidance of a Local Instructor/mentor. If a Local Instructor/mentor is not available in your area, you are welcome to take these classes on your own. If you take these courses as an independent distance learner download and use the Local Instructor guidebook in conjunction with the Student Guidebook as it has additional information.

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CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE & SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

This is the Second Course in the CDI Program

The core CDI courses are:

1. Bibliology and How to Study the Bible
- 2. Doctrine**
3. New Testament
4. Old Testament
5. Church History
6. Evangelism, Teaching and Preaching

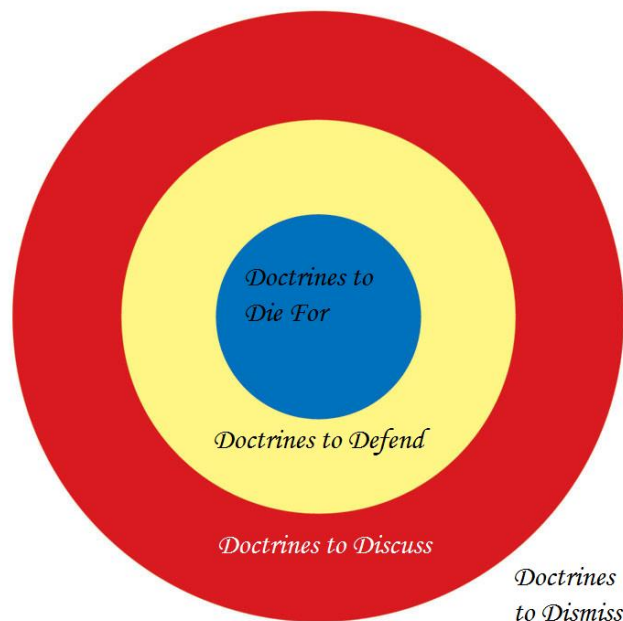
This course will help you as Christians know what you believe and why you believe it.

While the coursework for the **Contenders Discipleship Initiative** can be taken independently by utilizing the online resources, your learning experience will be greatly enhanced when the content is delivered in a classroom setting. This is most certainly true for **Systematic Theology and Christian Doctrine**.

This course gives you an overview of major Biblical doctrines, putting them in context of a systematic theology. While most evangelical Christians agree that doctrine should come from the Bible, the reality is that the influences of culture and church tradition often undermine the clear teaching of God’s Word.

You will learn to evaluate various doctrinal viewpoints from Scripture and determine which doctrines are absolutely essential to the Christian faith. At the end of the course, you will produce your own statement of faith comprised of those doctrines for which you would be willing to die.

One of the greatest challenges is to distinguish between Biblically essential doctrinal viewpoints and those for which Christians might agree to disagree. This course uses the “target model” to facilitate making these distinctions.



At the end of each video session, you will be challenged to consider which concepts are absolutely essential to the Christian faith. These “bulls-eye” doctrines are those which are clearly taught in the Bible and should be part of every Christian’s personal statement of faith.

There is no required textbook for this course. However, *Lectures in Systematic Theology* by Henry Thiessen is highly recommended. Thiessen presents systematic theology from a dispensational viewpoint. Because I, [Ken Ainsworth, your video instructor], tend to gravitate more toward a covenant theology, Thiessen’s work will serve to broaden the perspective.

Suggested reading assignments from this textbook are included in the course schedule.

I’ve been privileged to teach this course a number of times over the years. Each quarter, I develop wonderful relationships with my students, several of whom have gone on to full-time pastoral ministry. Their questions challenge me to continue to search the Scriptures to find out whether these things are so Acts 17:11. I believe I’ve been able to challenge them in similar ways. My prayer for you is that you would have a similar experience. The study of Biblical doctrine is a life-long enterprise that fuels Christian growth and sanctification. May you have the incredibly rewarding experience of assisting others along that path.

Ken Ainsworth, July, 2014

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This student’s guide is used in conjunction with the online video course developed for *Christian Doctrine and Systematic Theology*.

As a first step, you must register prior to taking this course. Registration is found at www.vmcontenders.org/register.html





This guide is designed to be used as you attend either a pastor-led or self-study session of this course. This guide can help you in three ways:

- 1. Follow along with the video and take notes.** Space is provided in the guide to take notes as you work through the sessions.
- 2. Utilize worksheets:** The student’s guide includes activity worksheets which allow you to apply what you have learned. If you are going through this course as a self-study session, you may also want to download the Instructor’s guide as well. The Instructor’s guide has extra notes filled in as well as instructions to the pastors on how to conduct an assignment. Also, in the Instructor’s guide, a teacher’s copy of each worksheet, including answers and hints, follows the worksheet.
- 3. Assess progress:** Finally, this guide includes a final assessment that you can take to test your knowledge.

How the guide is organized.

This guide is broken into sessions that follow along with the course videos. Also in this guide are learning objectives, reviews, quizzes and a glossary of terms. The curriculum is designed to be presented in Module and Session sequence.

Each module also uses the following icons:

Icon	Meaning
	Group Activity These assignments will be conducted in class. For those distance learners, instructions are in your guide on how to complete these activities. <i>It is highly recommended that distance learners complete these activities.</i>
	Assignments Assignments for the class including outside reading.
	Exam All exams are open book.
	Key Point A specific item to remember.

Special Note

Christian Doctrine and Systematic Theology was recorded at Contenders Bible School of Machias Community Church.

These sessions, as presented in the Contenders Discipleship Initiative, have been broken into smaller segments for pastor/mentor-led classes as well as independent distance learners.

Pastor Ken's Student Guide has since been updated to match the structure of the video course as presented in the CDI and is available as the Student Guide on the CDI website.

If you have any feedback for CDI concerning the videos or this guide, please feel free to report them at www.vmcontenders.org/feedback.html. We look forward to hearing from you.

STUDENT EVALUATIONS

Contenders Discipleship Initiative uses a narrative evaluation approach rather than issuing grades during a student’s course of study. An online form is completed after each course that indicates what a student has learned.

The complete Contenders Discipleship Initiative Narrative Evaluation consists of two written evaluations for each course: one from the Local Instructor for each student attending a course and one from the student giving a self-assessment.

Students who subsequently apply to Village Missions will need to have these evaluations recorded in the CDI Learning Management System for each course.

The online Local Instructor’s Student Evaluation can be found at:

vmcontenders.org/pastor_assessment.html

The Student Self Evaluation form can be found at:

vmcontenders.org/student_assessment.html

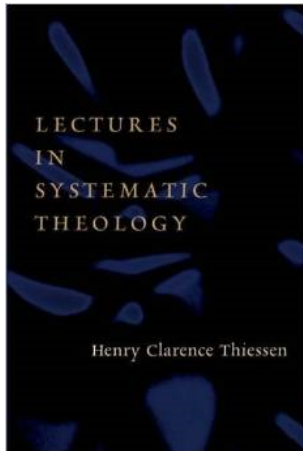
The student’s Self Evaluation summarizes your accomplishments while taking the course, any new understandings achieved, and the your goals for the future.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS FOR THIS COURSE

Textbook for this course:

***Lectures in Systematic Theology* by Henry Thiessen.**

978-0802827296 \$25.00



Other recommended text books include:

Charts of Christian Theology & Doctrine by H. Wayne House

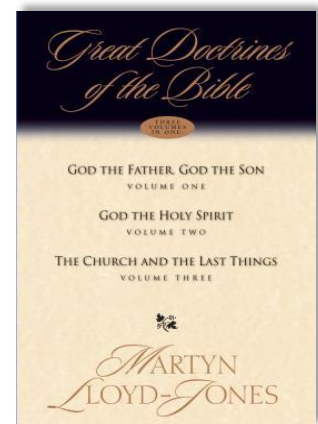
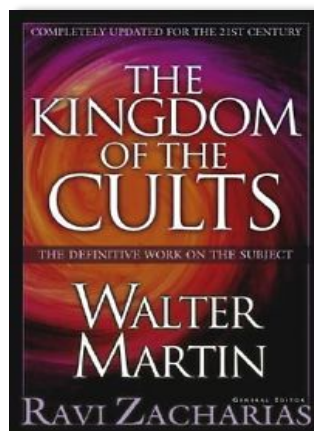
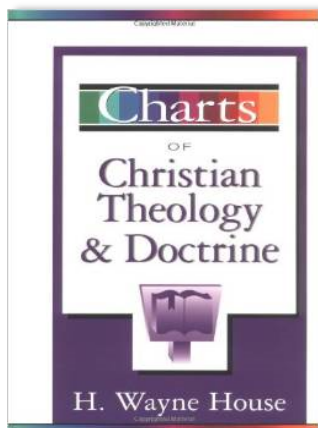
978-0310416616 \$14.00

The Kingdom of the Cults by Walter Martin.

978-0764228216 \$20.00

Great Doctrines of the Bible by D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

978-1433538797 \$27.00



DOCTRINE COURSE SYLLABUS

Upon completing this course you will have a solid foundation for further study and will be able to identify aberrant teachings and heresy.

Subjects Covered:

- Contrasting Belief Systems
- The Target Model for Evaluating Essential Doctrines
- Theology Proper (The nature of God)
- The Trinity
- Christology (The study of Jesus Christ)
- Pneumatology (The study of the Holy Spirit)
- God's Decrees
- The Works of God
- Angelology (The study of angels)
- Anthropology (The study of humanity)
- Hamartiology (The study of sin)
- Soteriology (The study of salvation)
- Ecclesiology (The study of the church)
- Eschatology (The study of the end times)

Classroom Sessions Will Involve:

- Lectures
- Class Discussion
- Student to Student Collaboration
- Quizzes and Major Examinations (2)

Outside Assignments to Include but Not Limited To:

- Outside reading
- Completion of student's statement of faith, supported by Scripture

COURSE GOAL

This course gives students an overview of major Biblical doctrines, putting them in context of a systematic theology.

Theology is the study of God and how He relates to His universe through His sovereign will, His decrees and His works.

Systematic theology provides a framework for organizing the findings of theology. Theology is comprised of doctrines, which are teachings about God and His creation. The exclusive source for evaluating the veracity of doctrine must be God’s special revelation which we have preserved in our Bible.

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 complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:16-17

While most evangelical Christians agree that doctrine should come from the Bible, the reality is that the influences of culture and church tradition often undermine the clear teaching of God’s word. Students in this course will learn to evaluate various doctrinal viewpoints from scripture and determine which doctrines are absolutely essential to the Christian faith. At the end of the course, students will produce their own statement of faith comprised of those doctrines for which they would be willing to die.

It is highly recommended that you have first completed ***Bibliology and How to Study the Bible*** as the skills gained in that foundational course are invaluable for determining and evaluating Biblical doctrine.

Upon completing this course you will have a solid foundation for further study and will be able to identify aberrant teachings and heresy.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Systematic Theology and Christian Doctrine

Fill dates and times per the schedule given to you by your pastor/mentor if taking this as an instructor-led course.

Date	Topic(s)	Assignments and Optional Readings
Session 1 Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1: Introduction • Part 2: Where Doctrines Originate • Part 3: Conflicting Views of God 	Read Genesis 1 Read Hebrews 11-12 Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: pp. 1-71 Doctrinal Draft Questionnaire Assigned
Session 2 Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1: The Essence and Attributes of God • Part 2: The Nature of God • Part 3: The Trinity 	Doctrinal Draft Due Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: pp. 75-99
Session 3 Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz #1 • Part 1: The Preincarnate Christ • Part 2: The Nature of the Incarnation 	Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: pp. 206-228
Session 3 (cont.) Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 3: Implications of the Cross • Part 4: Resurrection and Ascension 	Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: 229-250
Session 4 Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz #2 • Part 1: Pneumatology • Part 2: Works of the Spirit • Part 3: Fruit of the Spirit 	Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: 251-256
Session 5 Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1: Eternal Decrees of God • Part 2: Creation • Part 3: Alternative views of Creation 	Read Genesis 3 Read Romans 1 -3:20 Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: 100-129
Session 6 Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1: The Doctrine of Angels • Part 2: The Role of Angels • Part 3: Satan & the Fallen Angels 	Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: 131-148

Date	Topic(s)	Assignments and Optional Readings
Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-Term Exam 	Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: 149-167
Session 7 Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1: Anthropology • Part 2: The Nature of Man • Part 3: The Fall of Man 	Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: 168-184
Session 8 Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1: The Doctrine of Sin • Part 2: The Imputation of Sin • Part 3: Total Depravity 	Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: 185-195
Session 9 Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1: Elements of Salvation • Part 2: Mechanics of Salvation • Part 3: Election & Predestination 	Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: 199-205; 257-274
Session 10 Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1: Regeneration & Justification • Part 2: Sanctification • Part 3: Assurance of Salvation 	Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: 275-305
Session 11 Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz #3 • Part 1: Ecclesiology • Part 2: The Mission of the Church 	Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: 309-322
Session 11 (Cont.) Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 3: Church Organization & Government • Part 4: Church Ordinances and Discipline 	Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: 323-334
Session 12 Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1: The Doctrine of Hell • Part 2: The Doctrine of Heaven 	Recommended Reading: Thiessen: 337-353
Session 12 (Cont.) Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 3: The Doctrine of the End • Part 4: The 70 Weeks Prophecy 	Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: 355-379

Date	Topic(s)	Assignments and Optional Readings
Session 13: Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1: The End According to Jesus • Part 2: Rapture Doctrine 	Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: 380-394
Session 13 (Cont.) Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 3: Resurrection • Part 4: Divine Judgment 	Recommended Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiessen: 395-403
Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam 	Personal Doctrine Statement Due.
Date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bibliography • Final Evaluations 	

VIDEO SESSIONS, QUIZZES AND GUIDE BOOKS

The notes in the guides for each video session are designed to focus your attention on the most important points.

It is recommended that you to read through the notes **before** starting the corresponding video. This will allow give you a chance to look for the missing words as the video progresses.

At the end of most note guides, there will either be a short set of review questions, or a table entitled **Essential Doctrines**. These should be completed before moving on to the next video.

Exams and Quizzes

All exams and quizzes are open book, open note and open Bible. They are designed for review and for reinforcing key concepts. They are not primarily intended for evaluation. They should be assigned as take-home tests. The following session can then be used to evaluate (“grade”) your own tests.

SESSION 1, MODULE 1 - INTRODUCTION TO DOCTRINE

At the end of this lesson, you will:

Know the scope and sequence of the course.

Define and contrast the terms “Doctrine” and “Systematic Theology”



The word “doctrine” is found in the Bible and means _____, _____, _____.

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Acts 2:42

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 complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17



The study of God and how He relates to His universe is called _____.

Theology, in contrast, is not a word we find by itself in the Bible.

It is derived from two Greek words: The first is Theos, which means God. The second is logos, which literally means “word,” but it is far more than just a word spoken or written on a page. It carries the idea of the totality of everything there is to know about a subject.

Question:

How would you relate the two terms “doctrine” and “theology” to one another?

When we put everything we know about God into an organized framework, we have a _____.

Start thinking about your personal statement of faith. It is to be a series of concise statements of what you believe regarding your Christian faith, supported by applicable scripture. As we begin to investigate the nature of God, you will want to start drafting your statement. As you learn more, you will add to the document, and perhaps modify the document to more closely conform to what is taught in the Bible. More information about this assignment to follow in Session 1, Part 3.

REVIEW QUESTIONS: INTRODUCTION TO DOCTRINE

1. What is the relationship between doctrine and theology?

2. Do you think your personal statement of faith might change as you learn more about the Bible? Why or why not?

3. Why is it necessary to have an organized system of belief?

SESSION 1, PART 2 - WHERE DOCTRINES ORIGINATE

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

Articulate three major sources from which Christian beliefs come.

Defend Scripture as the final authority for all essential doctrine.

Share the “target model” for determining how essential a particular doctrine is.

Evangelical Christians assert that they get their doctrine exclusively from the _____ “That we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, **Ephesians 4:14**

- However, for professing Christians, church _____ has a great deal to do with what they believe about God.
 - We need to be like the noble _____ who searched the Scriptures daily **to find out** whether these things were so. **Acts 17:11**
 - Whether we admit it or not, our _____ also has a profound effect on what we believe.
 - “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?” **Jeremiah 17:9**
 - The idea that truth is culturally determined comes from _____ philosophy.
 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death. **Proverbs 14:12**
- Any doctrine that we claim to believe from the _____ must always be clearly found in the _____.
 - We must never be guilty of perverting the Word of God to support a doctrine gained from tradition, previous instruction, or solely from our own reason.
- The Bible, in its original autographs, is the _____

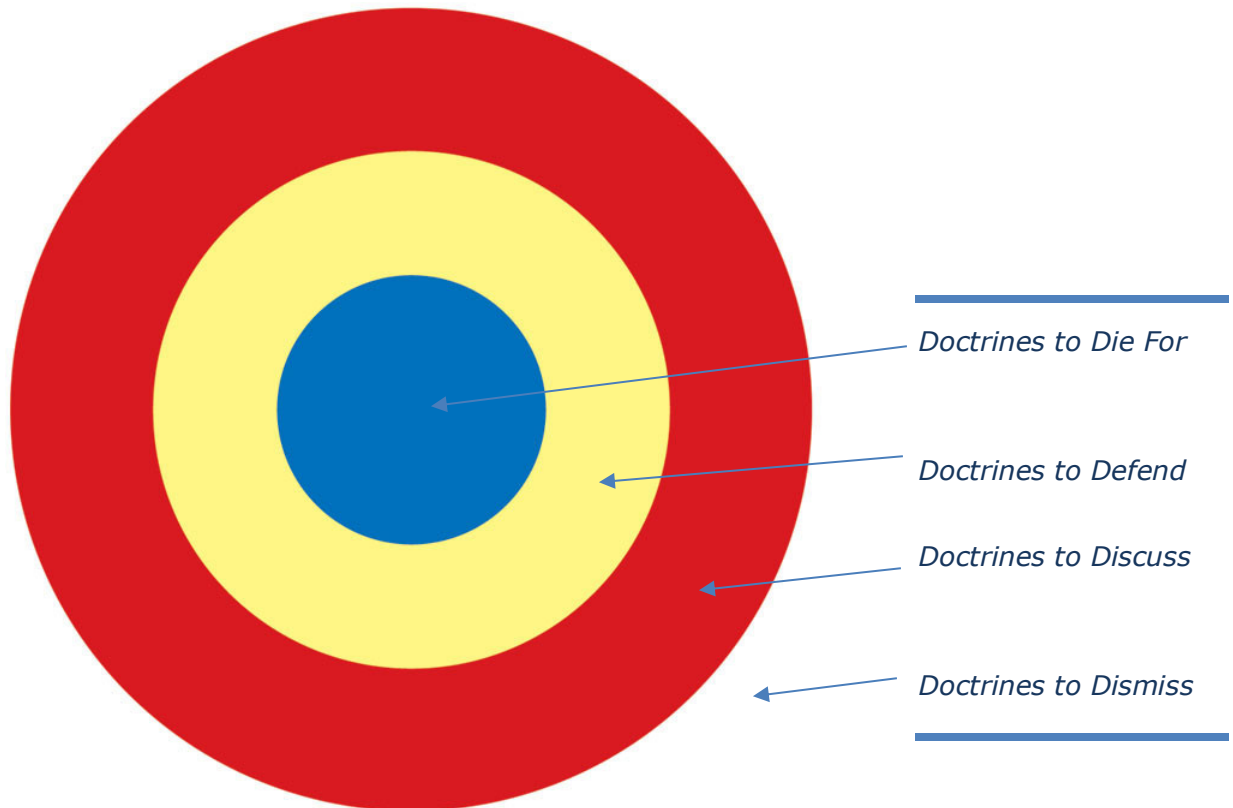
_____.

2 Timothy 3:16

given and interpreted by the working of God the Holy Spirit.

2 Peter 1:20-21.

Label the “Doctrinal Target”



REVIEW QUESTIONS: WHERE DOCTRINES ORIGINATE

- 1) Has what you believe about God changed since you became a Christian? If so, give one example.

- 2) Can you think of a belief or a doctrine that has come primarily from church tradition?

- 3) Some evangelical leaders say we need to modify what we teach and how we worship to appeal to the predominant culture. Do you agree? Why or why not?

- 4) How would you approach a fellow Christian whose belief differs on a “Doctrine to Defend”?

SESSION 1, PART 3 – THE THEISTIC VIEW OF GOD

At the end of this session, you will be able to explain the following:

Define and distinguish typical world views regarding theology.

The Beginning of Wisdom – Before viewing part 3 of the video, read and discuss the following:

- "The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One *is* understanding. **Proverbs 9:10**

The proper goal of theology must be to know God and draw closer to Him.

- "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." **Hebrews 11:1**
- "... without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." **Hebrews 11:6**

From these passages, we learn that two preconditions necessary for pleasing God are 1) to believe He exists and
2) to believe He rewards those who seek Him.

Those two principles are the foundation of a **theistic** view of God.

Now view Session 1, Part 3 – The Theistic View of God

The belief system that actually denies that God exists:

"... because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse," **Romans 1:19-20**

- Ecclesiastes 3:11
- The fool has said in his heart, "***There is*** no God." **Psalms 14:1**

- The belief system that doubts the existence of God but admits the possibility of His existence is _____.
- The belief system that asserts everything is God and that God is in everything is _____.
- The belief system that acknowledges and worships many Gods: _____.
- The belief system that acknowledges two offsetting universal forces of equal power is _____.
- The belief system that acknowledges the existence of God but denies that He can be personally known and asserts that He is not actively involved in His universe is _____.
- When we act as if God cannot see or doesn't care what we do, we are acting as practical _____.
- The system that believes in a personal, omnipresent, omnipotent God who is and always has been actively involved in His universe is _____.
 - "And He [God] has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; **for in Him we live and move and have our being**, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.'" **Acts 17:26-28**
 - "God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, **and upholding all things by the word of His power**, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high." **Hebrews 1:1-3**
 - "...all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose."
Romans 8:28



ASSIGNMENT: PERSONAL DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

Your personal statement of faith is to be a series of concise statements of what you believe with regard to your Christian faith, supported by applicable scripture. You should limit your assertions to those core “bulls-eye” doctrines that are absolutely essential to your faith.

You may use any format with which you are comfortable; it certainly doesn’t need to follow the format of the example. Whatever the format, your statement of faith should answer many of the following questions:

1. What do you believe about the Bible?

2. What is the nature of God?
 - a. What do you believe about the Trinity?

 - b. What do you believe about God the Father?

 - c. What do you believe about God the Son?

d. What do you believe about God the Holy Spirit?

3. What do you believe about the works of God?

4. What do you believe about angels?

5. What do you believe about Satan?

6. What do you believe about the nature of man?

7. What do you believe about sin?

8. What do you believe about salvation?

9. What do you believe about the Church?

10. What do you believe about Heaven and Hell?

11. What do you believe about resurrection?

12. What do you believe about judgment?

13. What do you believe about Jesus’ second coming?

14. What do you believe about eternity?

PERSONAL STATEMENT OF FAITH FOR KEN AINSWORTH (UPDATED FEB 26, 2009)

I believe the Bible, in the original languages and autographs, to be the inspired, inerrant word of God and the final authority for all matters of faith and practice.

2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 4:12; 2Peter 1:19-21

I believe in one God, the Eternal Spirit, who existed from eternity past and will exist to eternity future. **Deuteronomy 6:4.** I believe the one God is eternally existent in three persons, The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Genesis 1:2; Genesis 1:26; Matthew 3:16; John 1:1-3; John 6:27; Hebrews 1:8; Acts 5:3-4; John 14:16** God called the worlds into being, created man in His own image, and set before Him the ways of life and death. He is the Creator and Sustainer of all. **Genesis 1:1; Psalm 33:6; Isaiah 48:13; Hebrews 1:10**

In the person of Jesus Christ, fully God and fully man, He has come to us, shared our common lot, conquered sin and death and reconciled the world to Himself. I believe in Christ's virgin birth, His perfectly sinless life, His willing sacrifice of that life on the cross so that we as sinners may be justified before God. **Romans 5:6-9**

I believe that Jesus was raised (bodily) from the dead, appeared to many witnesses, then ascended to rule at the right hand of the Father, interceding for we believers. **Acts 1:11** I believe that He will come again to establish His earthly kingdom. **Revelation 22:12**

I believe the Holy Spirit indwells Christians to draw them closer to God, teaching them God's Truth, **John 14:26** testifying of Christ, **John 15:26** and helping them with their Christian walk. **John 16:7** He also convicts men of sin and of judgment to come. **John 16:8-11** It is the Holy Spirit who leads Christians to righteousness.

I believe the Bible, in the original autographs, to be the only inspired, immutable, infallible Word of God, **2 Timothy 3:16** given and interpreted by the working of the Holy Spirit **2 Peter 1:20-21.**

I believe that man is born into sin, is totally depraved, **Romans 3:23** and cannot have a relationship with the most holy God apart from Jesus Christ. But by accepting the free gift of salvation made possible by Christ's death and resurrection, the Christian is able to receive God's grace through faith, which is a gift of God. **Romans 10:9; Romans 3:25-26; Galatians 3:13; Ephesians 2:8-9** By the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit, the Christian is progressively sanctified and empowered to perform godly works according to the will of God. **Ephesians 2:10; James 2:15-20**

I believe that Jesus Christ indwells and empowers His Church, **Ephesians 1:22-23** for the edification of His saints, for evangelizing the lost, **Matthew 24:14; Matthew 28:19; Luke 24:47** and for glorifying God in this dark and darkening world. **Ephesians 3:10-12**

I believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to life, and the unsaved to condemnation. **John 5:29** I believe there is no work I can do to earn my salvation, so I must, through the faith granted to me by God, believe that Jesus paid my penalty in full so that I can spend eternity in heaven with Him. **Luke 10:20; John 14:2; Ephesians 2:8-9; Revelation 7:9)**

"If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." **Romans 10:9**

SESSION 2, PART 1 – THE ESSENCE AND ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to explain:

Why you believe God exists.

The Biblical view of God’s existence.

The weakness of philosophical arguments in proving God’s existence.



The Bible assumes God’s existence.

- In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **Genesis 1:1**

Ample evidence for God’s existence:

- _____ revelation is evidence for God’s existence in the creation. **Romans 1:19-20**
- _____ revelation is passed down to us in our Bibles. **Isaiah 55:11**

Arguments from philosophy.

- Argument strictly taken from reason => a priori argument.
- Argument taken as a conclusion from observations => a posteriori argument.
 - Examples of a priori arguments:
 - Anselm’s argument
 - Clarke’s argument
 - Examples of a posteriori arguments:
 - Cosmological argument
 - Teleological argument
 - Moral argument
 - Concept of perfection
- Philosophical arguments give a body of evidence that is most easily explained by God’s existence.
 - A philosophic principle stating one should not make more assumptions than the minimum needed is called _____.
 - God’s existence requires the fewest assumptions.

SESSION 2, PART 2 – THE NATURE OF GOD

At the end of this session, you will be able to list and describe:

Characteristics of God's essence.

God's essential attributes.

God is Spiritual.



God is personal:

- He has intellect.
-
- He has emotion.

- He has will.

- He has definable attributes.

God's Spiritual Nature

- *"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."*
John 4:24

- *"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built!"*
1 Kings 8:27

- *"God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things."* **Acts 17:24-25**

- God is not made of matter as we are; He is a _____ being.

God’s Personal Attributes

- Because God thinks, we know He has _____.
- In Scripture, we learn that God displays emotions such as...
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- God has a purpose and displays volition. We say that he has a _____.



God’s Definable Attributes

- God has no beginning and will have no end, so we say He is _____.
- God has no limits or boundaries, so we say He is _____.
- God’s power is absolutely limitless, so we say He is _____.
- God transcends His universe and exists everywhere at once, so we say He is _____.
- God knows absolutely everything there is to know, so we say He is _____.
- God never changes, so we say He is _____.
- God always keeps His word and cannot lie, so we say He is _____.
- There is absolutely no fault in God, so we say He is the very definition of _____.
- Related to God’s goodness is the fact that He is sacred beyond anything in His creation, so we say He is _____.
- God has no external cause, so we say He is _____.
- God is without guilt or sin and His judgments are always perfect, so we say He is _____.

- God is the supreme, permanent authority over everything, so we say He is _____,

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES – THE NATURE OF GOD

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
God came into existence when the universe was created.				
God is absolutely sovereign and in complete control of His universe.				
God is self-existent and had no need to be created.				
God never sins, but He sometimes makes mistakes.				
God is an impersonal force.				
God gets angry.				
God will never change.				
There is nowhere we can go to escape God.				

SESSION 2, PART 3 – THE TRINITY

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Describe what is meant by the Trinity.
- Cite scriptural evidence for the Trinity.
- List some common heresies regarding the Trinity.



Defining the Trinity

- The Trinity presents a problem of comprehension because we cannot fully understand God in our flesh.
- There is _____ God who eternally exists as _____ distinct persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Despite being three persons, God is one in essence. or He is essentially one.
- Despite being one God, each person of the Trinity is distinct.
- *"When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased." (Luke 3:21-22)*
- *"For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one." **1 John 5:7-8***

Father, Son and Holy Spirit are each 100% God.

- The Father is God by definition.
- *"But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom." (Hebrews 1:8)*
- The writer of Hebrews cites Psalm 45 to indicate that the _____ Himself calls the _____ God.
- *"But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart **to lie to the Holy Spirit** and keep back *part* of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." **Acts 5:3-5***
- Peter states that Ananias lied to the _____, and then says that the lie was directed at God. So the _____ is identified as God.

- In John 17:11, the Father is described as Holy. In Mark 1:24, the Son is described as Holy. In John 14:26, the Spirit is described as Holy. In Revelation 15:4, it states that only _____ is holy.
- Father, Son and Holy Spirit were all involved in the _____ and are in fact, equal co-_____.

Despite the eternal existence of three persons, there is only _____ God.

- *"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!" **Deuteronomy 6:4***
- *"You are My witnesses," says the LORD, "And My servant whom I have chosen, That you may know and believe Me, And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, Nor shall there be after Me". **Isaiah 43:10***
- The doctrine of the Trinity is not in conflict with the essential _____ of God.

The Doctrine of the Trinity is Necessary

- Allows for eternal _____ between members of the Godhead.
- Allows God to _____ God.
- Allows God to _____ for sin and provide a Mediator.

Heresies Regarding the Trinity

1. _____ asserts that God is a single person who reveals Himself in different forms on different occasions.
2. _____ assert that only the Father is God _____ is only a man and the Holy Spirit is an impersonal force.
3. _____ holds that only the Father is God and the Son was created by the Father at a point in time. The Holy Spirit is only sometimes included.

_____ is the view that only God the Father is eternal. The Son is the first created being and is not one in essence with the Father. Jesus is called God as an honorary title. The Holy Spirit is an impersonal force.

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - THE TRINITY

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
God is one God; there is no other.				
God sometimes appears as the Father, sometimes as the Son and sometimes as the Holy Spirit.				
Jesus was the very first thing God created.				
The Holy Spirit is the force that carries out God’s will.				
The Holy Spirit is 100% God and has always been in existence.				
The “oneness” of God is not in conflict with the three persons of God.				
Each person of the Trinity is co-equal and co-eternal.				
The fact that we cannot fully comprehend the Trinity does not mean that is untrue.				

4. Give a name for each of the following theological viewpoints:
 - a. Insists that there is no God.
 - b. God exists, but He is not personal, nor is He directly involved in His universe.
 - c. Admits the possibility of God, but doubts it and believes it is impossible to know for sure.
 - d. Believes in a personal, omnipotent, omnipresent God who is actively involved in His universe.
5. **True or False:** The doctrine of the Trinity states that there are actually three separate Gods: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
6. **True or False:** There is only one God, but sometimes He shows up as the Father, sometimes as the Son, and sometimes as the Holy Spirit.

SESSION 3, PART 1 – CHRISTOLOGY: THE PRE-INCARNATE CHRIST

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Give Biblical evidence for Christ’s existence in eternity past.
- Give Biblical evidence for Christ’s activity in the Old Testament.
- Give Biblical evidence that the appearances of the Angel of the Lord are pre-incarnate appearances of Jesus.

Before viewing the video, read and discuss the following:

So the Lord said to Moses, “I will also do this think that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight, and I know you by name.” And he said, “Please show me Your glory.” Then He said “I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.” But He said, “You cannot see my face; for no man shall see Me and live.” (Exodus 33:17-20)

No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him. (John 1:18)

For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus. (1 Timothy 2:5)

In this session, we will encounter the term **Theophany**. A theophany is a manifestation of God that is tangible to the human senses. There are many theophanies in the Old Testament. For example, when God appeared to Moses in the burning bush (Exodus 3:2ff), Moses experienced a theophany. Considering the scripture references above, it is worthwhile discussing which of the Old Testament theophanies were actually Christophanies, or manifestations of the pre-incarnate Christ. In fact, some assert that all Old Testament theophanies were in fact Christophanies.

Now view Session 3, Part 1 – Christology: the pre-incarnate Christ

Jesus Christ is our Savior, _____, _____ and _____.

John 1:1-5 is an important passage for our understanding of God the Son.

- “The Word”, or *ho logos* in this passage refers to _____.



- In the beginning,
 - Ho logos already _____.
 - Ho logos was _____ God.
 - Ho logos _____ God.
- He existed before the universe existed.
- *"And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory **which I had with You before the world was.**" **John 17:5***
 - From Jesus' high-priestly prayer, we learn that Jesus was together with the Father before the world was *created*.
 - This shows that Jesus existed from eternity past.
- Played a key role in creation
- God the Son was present and active throughout the Old Testament.
- God the Son was present and active throughout the Old Testament.
- Christ appears and is called the "Son" in **Psalm 2:7** and Jehovah in **Genesis 19:24** and appears numerous times as the "Angel of the Lord"

The Angel of the Lord

- An angel is a _____, one who speaks or acts for God.
- Many believe the "Angel of the Lord" in the Old Testament was God the Son.
- New Testament references to "The Angel of the Lord", Matthew 28:2, This cannot be Christ, he was in the tomb, Acts 8:26, Acts 27:23, probably not Christ.
- In the New Testament Christ is always identified as being Jesus.
- Paul indicates the activity of the pre-incarnate Christ:
 - *"For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ."* **1 Corinthians 10:4**
 - The incident Paul refers to is in Exodus 17:6 where God provided water from the rock.
- Jesus, the only mediator between God and man. **1 Timothy 2:5, John 1:18**
- The Son has and always has had the task of being the One who carries communication between God and man.
- Since Jesus is the mediator of the Covenant, He must also be the Angel of the Covenant. **Hebrews 8:6, 12:24**

- Appearances of the Angel of the Lord:
 - To Hagar **Genesis 16:13**: She calls the Angel the _____.
 - To Abraham stopping Abraham from sacrificing Isaac. **Genesis 22:15-16**
 - The burning bush **Exodus 3:2-5**
 - Going before the children of Israel as they left Egypt. Exodus 14:19;23:20;32:34; **1 Corinthians 10:4**
 - Intercepting Balaam **Numbers 22:22-35**
 - Speaking to Gideon **Judges 6:11-24**
 - Refreshing Elijah **1 Kings 19:5-7**
 - Standing before Joshua, the high priest. **Zechariah 3:1**

God the Son is ...

- the Agent of _____.
- the _____ of creation.
- the _____ of revelation.
- our means of communication.
- the _____ of mediation.

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - THE PRE-INCARNATE CHRIST

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
In John 1:1, “The Word” refers to Jesus Christ.				
Because Jesus is God’s Son, God the Father existed before Jesus.				
Jesus is our Prophet, our Priest, and our King.				
Jesus was active in the creation.				
According to Paul, the pillar of fire and the pillar of smoke that led Israel in the wilderness was the pre-incarnate Christ.				
Christ came into existence when he was born to Mary.				
The appearances of The Angel of the Lord in the Old Testament are pre-incarnate appearances of God the Son.				

SESSION 3, PART 2 – CHRISTOLOGY: NATURE OF THE INCARNATION

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Describe the nature of Christ's incarnation.

Discuss Jesus' role as our Prophet, Priest and King.



The Incarnation Defined

- The Word became flesh **John 1:14**
- God sent forth His Son, born of a woman **Galatians 4:4**
- He emptied Himself, taking the form of a bondservant and coming in the likeness of men. **Philippians 2:5-8**
- He became a little lower than the angels **Hebrews 2:9**
 - God the Son existed from eternity past, but at a point in time, He became a man.
 - In becoming man, Jesus maintained His Godhood.
 - He is 100% man and 100% God 100% of the time.

The Necessity of the Incarnation

- It was ordained by _____ – He said it would happen.
 - Genesis 3:15
 - Isaiah 9:6
 - Isaiah 7:14
 - Micah 5:2
 - Psalm 16:8-10
 - Daniel 9:24-26
 - Zechariah 14:9

- The incarnation reveals the _____.
 - Matthew 6:9
 - John 1:18
 - John 14:9
 - John 16:27
 - Matthew 6:8
 - Matthew 5:45

- Christ paid the penalty for sin
 - Isaiah 53:6
 - Hebrews 9:26
 - Mark 10:45
 - Hebrews 2:9
 - 1 John 3:5
 - 2 Corinthians 5:21

- The incarnation made it possible for Christ to die for our _____.
 - Matthew 6:9
 - John 1:18
 - John 14:9
 - John 16:27
 - Matthew 6:8
 - Matthew 5:45

- The incarnation allows Christ to serve as our _____.
 - Hebrews 5:1-4
 - Hebrews 2:10
 - Hebrews 2:17

- *"For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin."* **Hebrews 4:15**

- Christ came to _____ Satan.
 - 1 John 3:8
 - Hebrews 2:14
 - John 12:31
 - John 14:30
 - Revelation 20:10
- The incarnation demonstrates to us a _____.
 - Matthew 11:29
 - 1 Peter 2:21
 - 1 John 2:6
 - *But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.* **2 Corinthians 3:18**
- Christ came to prepare us for His _____.
 - Matthew 24:29-31
 - Hebrews 9:28
 - Romans 8:18-25
 - Revelation 5:6

In Summary, God the Son became a man so He could serve as ...

- Our _____ – because we need to be delivered from our ignorance of sin.
- Our _____ – because we need someone who can appear on our behalf in the presence of God. (He is the Mediator.)
- Our _____ – because He makes us citizens of the Kingdom over which He rules.

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - NATURE OF THE INCARNATION

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
From eternity past, Jesus was 100% God.				
When Jesus was born, He gave up being God.				
Jesus needed to live a human life so He could pay the penalty for sin.				
Jesus was human in every way, except He did not sin.				
Since Jesus is God, He is a Spirit, so His incarnation was in appearance only – He wasn’t really flesh and bone.				
Jesus serves as our Prophet, our Priest, and our King.				
Because of the incarnation, God the Father is revealed to us.				

SESSION 3, PART 3 – CHRISTOLOGY: IMPLICATIONS OF THE CROSS

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Give three reasons why Jesus had to die.

Explain why Good Friday is called Good Friday.



The Cross is absolutely central to the Christian faith.

- Jesus was born to _____. **Isaiah 53:4-5**
- The crucifixion is an _____ event.

Aspects of Christ's Death.

- Jesus went to the cross voluntarily. **Matthew 26:53-54**
- Jesus did not die for His own sin because He had no sin. Jesus made a vicarious sacrifice and died as our substitute . **Hebrews 4:15**
- When Jesus died on the cross, it completely satisfied God's _____ for those who believe. **2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 3:23-26**
- Jesus' sacrifice offers redemption to us. By believing in His finished work, we can be redeemed from sin's slavery. **Galatians 3:13-14**
- Jesus sacrifice also provides _____. While we were once estranged from God, through the cross we can be reconciled to Him. **Colossians 1:21-22**
- The cross is Christ's absolute _____ over Satan. **Hebrews 2:14-15**

Why did Jesus have to die?

- We are all _____ **Romans 3:23.**
- All sin must be punished because God is perfectly holy and just.
- The wages of sin is _____ **Romans 6:23** so Jesus had to die to fully pay for our sins.
- His sacrifice allows us to be reconciled to God.

Why do we call the day Jesus was crucified "Good Friday"?

- It is the day He defeated _____ on our behalf.
- By His sacrifice we are reconciled to God!

SESSION 3, PART 4 – CHRISTOLOGY: RESURRECTION & ASCENSION

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

State the importance of Jesus' resurrection.

State at least three benefits (to the believer) of Jesus' resurrection.

Discuss the implications of Jesus' ascension and exaltation.

Why is Jesus' resurrection so important? 1Corinthians 15:16-22

- It demonstrates His divine _____ over everything, including death. **Acts 2:28**
- It demonstrates God's _____ of His sacrifice. **Hebrews 10:12-14**
- It was necessary for Jesus to be the head of the _____. **Ephesians 1:20-22**
- It enables us to have a living _____ with Christ. **Ephesians 2:6**

The Nature of Jesus' resurrection.

- The resurrection is a real, _____ event.
- It was a _____, or physical resurrection. **Luke 24:39; Matthew 28:9; Luke 24:41-43**
- It was _____ by many. **1 Corinthians 15:3-8**
- It was unique and _____. **Revelation 1:18**

Implications of the Resurrection:

- It testifies to Christ's _____. **Romans 1:4**
- It testifies to our justification **Romans 4:25**
- Jesus continues as our _____ or High Priest. **Hebrews 4:14-15; Romans 8:34**
- It enables Jesus to send the _____. **John 16:7; Ephesians 1:17-21**

The Ascension

- After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to many witnesses for about 40 days, and then ascended into heaven. **Acts 1:9-11**
- The ascension is also a real, historical event.
- Jesus’ ascension was _____, not just spiritual. **Eph 4:8-10; 1 Timothy 3:16; 1 Peter 3:22**

Exaltation

- When Jesus ascended, God the Father _____ Him, answering the petition from Christ’s High-Priestly prayer. **John 17:5**
- Jesus retains His glorified body, but at His ascension, He reacquired the attributes of _____ He had voluntarily set aside.
- Jesus is _____ present everywhere. **Ephesians 4:10**
- Jesus continues to be actively involved in His universe. **Hebrews 1:3**
- Jesus _____ for His people. **Hebrews 4:14**

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - RESURRECTION & ASCENSION

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God.				
Jesus is the Agent of creation.				
Jesus is as much God as the Father is God.				
Jesus became a man only for the thirty-some years He walked the earth.				
While Jesus was still fully God, He voluntarily gave up some of the attributes of Godhood while living on Earth.				
Jesus didn’t really die on the cross; He merely swooned.				
Jesus death on the cross paid sin’s penalty for all who believe.				
Jesus rose from the dead, ascended to heaven and reigns at the right hand of the Father.				

SESSION 4, PART 1 – PNEUMATOLOGY: THE HOLY SPIRIT

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Explain why the Holy Spirit is a person rather than an impersonal force.

Defend the Holy Spirit’s “Godhood”.

Explain the concept of subordination within the Godhead.

The Holy Spirit Is ...



- The third _____ of the Godhead.
- Personal; He is to be called “He”, not “It”.
- One hundred percent _____.
- Too often neglected.

Names and Descriptive Titles of the Holy Spirit.

- Names relating the Holy Spirit to the _____ or the entire Godhead.
 - Spirit of God - **Genesis 1:2**
 - Spirit of the Lord - **Luke 4:18**
 - Spirit of our God - **1 Corinthians 6:11**
 - Spirit of the Lord God - **Isaiah 61:1**
 - Spirit of your Father - **Matthew 10:20**
 - Spirit of the living God - **2 Corinthians 3:3**
 - My (God’s) Spirit - **Genesis 6:3**
- Names relating the Holy Spirit to God the _____.
 - Spirit of Christ - **Romans 8:9**
 - Spirit of Jesus Christ - **Philippians 1:19**
 - Spirit of His Son - **Galatians 4:6**
 - Spirit of the Lord - **Acts 5:9**

- Direct Names or Personal Titles of the _____.
 - Holy Spirit (Holy Ghost)
 - Spirit of holiness – **Romans 1:4**
 - Holy One – **1 John 2:20**
 - Eternal Spirit – **Hebrews 9:14**
 - Spirit of life – **Romans 8:2**
 - Spirit of truth – **John 14:17**
 - The Comforter (Helper) – **John 14, 15, 16**

Personality of the Holy Spirit:

The word for "Spirit", Pneuma, means breath, wind, or power. It is neuter in the Greek which may give us the wrong impression.

- _____ refers to the Holy Spirit as a person. **John 16:13**
- The Holy Spirit is identified with the _____ and the _____ in such a way as to indicate personality. **Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14**
- The Holy Spirit is identified with _____ in such a way as to indicate personality. **Acts 15:28**
- The Holy Spirit possesses personal qualities in that He
 - Possesses _____. **Isaiah 11:2; Romans 8:27; 1 Corinthians 2:10-11**
 - Has _____. **Isaiah 63:10; Romans 15:30; Ephesians 4:30**
 - Has a _____. (*But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.*) **1 Corinthians 12:11**
 - Can be _____. (*And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*) **Ephesians 4:30**
 - Can be _____ to. **Acts 5:1-2**
 - Can be _____. **Matthew 12:31-32**
 - Can be _____. **Hebrews 10:29**

The Holy Spirit is God!

- In Acts 5:1-4, _____ equates the Holy Spirit with God.
- The Spirit’s name is coupled with God, which asserts both His personality and His _____. **1 Corinthians 12:4-6**
- The Spirit possesses divine attributes.
 - He is _____. **Hebrews 9:14**
 - He is _____. **Psalms 139:7**
 - He is _____. **John 14:26; 1 Corinthians 2:10**
- The Holy Spirit produces divine works.
 - He was involved in _____. **Genesis 1:2; Job 33:4**
 - He is involved in _____. **John 3:5**
 - He is involved in _____. **2 Peter 1:20-21**
 - He was involved in Jesus’ _____. **Romans 8:11**

Subordination

- The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are each wholly God. They are equal in _____ and authority.
 - But the Son willingly subordinates Himself to the _____. **John 5:30**
 - And the _____ willingly subordinates Himself to the Father and the Son. **John 16:13-14**

The Role of the Trinity

- The Father is the fullness of the Godhead, invisible, without form. **1 Timothy 6:16**
- The Son is the fullness of the Godhead manifested _____. **Colossians 2:9**
- The Spirit is the fullness of the Godhead acting immediately within each of us to guide us into all _____. **John 16:13** and glorify the Son. **John 16:14**

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - THE HOLY SPIRIT

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
The Holy Spirit is the impersonal power of God working out His will.				
The Holy Spirit was active in the creation.				
In Scripture, the Holy Spirit has names relating to the Father, the Son and to Himself.				
The Holy Spirit is as much God as the Father and the Son are.				
The Holy Spirit is a psychic force that can be generated by human beings.				
The Holy Spirit participated in the resurrection of Jesus.				
The Holy Spirit is a person.				
Although equal in power and authority, the Holy Spirit willingly subordinates Himself to the Father and the Son.				

SESSION 4, PART 2 – PNEUMATOLOGY: WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to identify:

- The work of the Holy Spirit in Creation.
- The work of the Holy Spirit in all humanity.
- The work of the Holy Spirit in believers.

The Holy Spirit In Creation

- *And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. **Genesis 1:2***
- In Genesis 1:1-2, the Hebrew word translated Spirit is *ruach*, which literally means “breath” or _____.
- Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all active in the work of creation. The Father works in His Son, through His Spirit.

The Holy Spirit’s Job Description John 16:7-10

- Convict the world of _____.
- Convict the world of _____.
- Convict the world of _____.

Manifestation of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Acts 2:1-11

- Characterized by tongues of fire lighting on the disciples and the sound of a rushing wind.
- The disciples glorified God in languages the speakers did not understand. (Note: these were natural, human languages.)
- Marked the beginning of the _____ age.
- Repeated three times, in Samaria, with Cornelius’ household, in Ephesus.

The Holy Spirit's Work in the Believer.

- The Holy Spirit is responsible for the _____ of believers, bringing them to spiritual life. **John 3:5-6; John 6:63; Titus 3:4-7**
- Closely related to regeneration is _____. When a person accepts Christ, the Spirit comes to live in the believer. **1 Corinthians 3:16; Romans 8:9**
- Believers are _____ in the Holy Spirit by Christ, uniting them into one body, the Church. **Mark 1:8; 1 Corinthians 12:13**
- Believers are _____ with the Holy Spirit, providing a statement of ownership, guaranteeing our final redemption. **Ephesians 1:13; 2 Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 4:30; Romans 16**
- Because the Holy Spirit lives within the Christian, the believer is _____ to live a more holy life. **Romans 8:13**
- The Holy Spirit _____ believers. **John 14:26**
- The Holy Spirit inspired the writing of the Bible, but He also helps us interpret it rightly. The Holy Spirit leads believers into _____ by illuminating the Bible. **John 14:26**
- We Christians are certainly not free from sin, but in the Holy Spirit, we have a _____ who can lead us to a more holy life. **Galatians 5:16**

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
The Holy Spirit has always been at work in the creation.				
The Holy Spirit’s job is to convict the world of sin, righteousness and judgment.				
The Holy Spirit is the Agent of the new birth, as He causes us to be born from above.				
Speaking in tongues (as at Pentecost) is not the normative way the Holy Spirit manifests Himself today.				
It is possible to come to Christ apart from the work of the Holy Spirit.				
The Holy Spirit indwells all true believers.				
The Holy Spirit works in believers to guide the process of sanctification.				

SESSION 4, PART 3– PNEUMATOLOGY: THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Distinguish between Spiritual Gifts and Spiritual fruit.

Explain how the growth of Spiritual fruit serves as assurance of salvation.

Give examples of Spiritual fruit that can be recognized in the believer.



Examples of Spiritual Gifts

- From **Romans 12:6-8**, examples of spiritual gifts are given as prophesy, ministry, teaching, exhortation, giving, leadership, showing mercy.
- Another list in **1 Corinthians 12:8-10** lists word of wisdom, word of knowledge, faith, healings, working of miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, tongues, interpretation of tongues.
- Still another list in **1 Corinthians 12:28-30** includes apostolic ministry, teaching, miracles, gift of healing, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues, interpretation.
- **Ephesians 4:11** lists apostolic ministry, prophesy, evangelism, and pastoral/teaching ministry.
- Spiritual gifts are distributed as the Holy Spirit _____, not to all, but to some.
- Spiritual gifts _____ (build up) the body of believers.

Spiritual Fruit

- The result of the Holy Spirit’s _____ in all believers.
- More clearly seen as believer _____.
- Gives _____ of salvation.
- Examples of Spiritual Fruit
 - Love (agapē) - an active love for God and one's fellow man.
 - Joy (chara) – an attitude of rejoicing regardless of circumstance.
 - Peace (eirēnē) - peacefulness and serenity of character and peacemaking among people.
 - Longsuffering (makrothumia) – patience with others who may be quite inconvenient.
 - Kindness (chrēstotēs) – being kindly disposed toward others
 - Goodness (agathōsunē) –An attitude that seeks to serve others or come to their aid.
 - Faithfulness (pistis) - steadfastness in one's relationships with God and other people.
 - Gentleness (praotēs) – meekness; accepting God's will in dealing with others.
 - Self-control (*egkrateria*) – the ability to keep oneself in check and aligned with God’s will.
- Spiritual fruit is produced by the Spirit, but requires effort on the part of the Christian. **Philippians 2:12-13; 2 Peter 1:8; 2 Peter 1:10**



QUIZ: PNEUMATOLOGY

1. The doctrine of God the Holy Spirit is called _____.
(This should be a “gimme!”)
2. True or False: The Holy Spirit is an impersonal force. _____
3. True or False: The Holy Spirit is not equal in power to God the Father. _____
4. What is the Holy Spirit’s function in the world? **John 16:8**
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
5. According to John 16:13, what will the Holy Spirit do for us?
6. According to John 16:14, what will the Holy Spirit do for Jesus?
7. Briefly explain what is meant by the “Doctrine of Subordination”.
8. What is the difference between Spiritual gifts, and the fruit of the Spirit?

SESSION 5, PART 1 – THE ETERNAL DECREES OF GOD

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Define the term "Decrees of God."

Understand the inevitability of God's decrees.

Explain how God's eternal decrees support His absolute sovereignty.

Be prepared to give a response to the apparent contradiction of God's sovereignty and man's free agency.

Eternal decrees are those ordinances by which God, in His perfect wisdom, determined to accomplish His purpose.

- From eternity, God has had an _____ with regard to His creation. **Ephesians 1:4; 2 Timothy 1:9**
- God comprehends and _____ all things and events that come to pass. **Ephesians 1:11; Proverbs 21:1; Philipians 2:13**
 - However, God does not sin!
 - God does allow sin, but He always _____ it for His own perfect purpose. **Acts 2:23; Job 1:12; Acts 4:27-28**
- All God's decrees are unconditional and sovereign.
 - God's decrees are by no means dependent on human action.
 - The end that God has in view will inevitably come to pass. **Daniel 4:35; Ephesians 1:5; Romans 9**
- The decrees of God are efficacious. Nothing can ever prevent God's will!
- The decrees of God are always perfectly consistent with His holy nature. **Habakuk 1:13**

SESSION 5, PART 2 – CREATION

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Describe the relationship between general revelation and special revelation.

Give a reason why secular scientists or theologians might be in error.

Give the essence of the Biblical creation account.



General Revelation

- God reveals Himself in the _____. **Psalms 19:1-2;**
Romans 1:20
- This revelation is _____ to all.
- This revelation is _____, because it is impossible for God to lie. **Hebrews 6:18**



Special Revelation

- Given through God's _____ and Apostles.
- Preserved in the _____.
- Gives the way of salvation.
- Is absolutely _____ because it is impossible for God to lie.
Hebrews 6:18

Interpretation of God's Revelation

- Secular Science seeks truth by the interpretation of _____ revelation.
- Secular Science can be wrong.
- Problem is with the _____ of general revelation.
- Theology seeks truth by the interpretation of _____ revelation.
- Theologians can be wrong.
- Problem is with the _____ of special revelation.
- It is possible for secular science to _____ theology.
- The _____ should inform secular science.

*"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." **Proverbs 9:10***

- On doctrines central to _____, the Bible has never been, nor will it ever be proven wrong.
- The _____ of the creation story cannot be disproved by science.

The Essence of the Creation Story **Genesis 1**

- God created everything.
- God created the universe out of _____.
- God created the universe _____.
- The creation account is true, although not exhaustive.
- The entire Godhead was involved.

REVIEW QUESTIONS: CREATION

1. Is it possible for secular science to inform theology?
2. Why should we not compromise with science on doctrines clearly taught in scripture?
3. What is the essence of the Biblical creation story in 5 steps?

SESSION 5, PART 3 – ALTERNATIVE VIEWS OF CREATION

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Describe several alternative views on creation and determine which views are compatible with the Bible.

Describe the “gap theory” in relation to Genesis 1:1-2 and explain how some believers use it to reconcile Young Earth and Old Earth viewpoints.

Fundamental Questions from a Biblical Perspective:

1. Is matter eternal? _____
2. Was matter generated spontaneously? _____
3. Is matter a form of God as the pantheists maintain? _____
4. Are both God and matter eternal? _____
5. Was matter created by another, antagonistic spirit, then merely formed by God? _____
6. The Bible clearly teaches that God made everything out of nothing.

Contrasting Views of Creation

Atheistic Evolution:

- God is not _____ at all.
- Matter and energy, in some form, are _____.
- Life originated by _____.
- Species originate by a series of _____ mutations.

Theistic Evolution:

- Evolution is the _____ by which God created all life on Earth.
- God created earth with the ability to _____ into present reality.
- God might be hands-off (Deistic point of view) or hands-on, guiding the process over time.

Progressive Creationism:

- Accepts present scientific model of the age of the earth.

- Reconciles it with the Bible by putting large _____ between each day.
- Has many problems in reconciling with Genesis account.

The Gap Theory

- Genesis 1:1 refers to original creation.
- Between verse 1 and 2, Satan _____ and was cast out of Heaven.
- The phrase "without form and void" indicates condition of destruction caused by the rebellion.
- Beginning with verse 2, God's _____ the heavens and earth.
- This explanation was put forth in the Scofield Bible notes.

Literal Creationist View:

- God created heavens and Earth in 6 literal days.
- God created all things from nothing by the power of His word.
- God created man _____; not through process of evolution.

Why did God create the Universe?

- The reason is not given.
- But God did create everything.
- And God also maintains His creation.

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - CREATION

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
Matter and energy are eternal.				
God created everything out of nothing.				
God created the universe in six, literal 24 hour days.				
The apparent age of the universe can be explained by a temporal gap between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2 when Satan fell.				
God created the universe in such a way that it requires no further intervention from Him.				

SESSION 6, PART 1 – ANGELOLOGY: THE DOCTRINE OF ANGELS

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Describe what the Bible reveals about angels.

Understand angel's created nature.

List the classes of angels revealed in scripture.



Angels Described

- The term 'angel' means a _____.
 - Does not necessarily mean the class of spiritual beings now being considered.
 - In Revelation 2 - 3, for example, it is more likely that Jesus is addressing the _____ of the seven churches.
- The angels we are considering are spiritual, _____ beings.
 - They are not eternal.
 - They were created by God at some point, certainly before humans were created.
- In some places, sons of God might refer to angels. **Job 1:6**
 - This is not to equate them with the eternal Son of God.
 - It may simply refer to creatures created by God.
- They are called the _____ of Heaven. **2 Chronicles 18:18; Psalms 148:2; Luke 2:13**

Origin of Angels

- Created by God. **Nehemiah 9:6; Colossians 1:16**
- Angels were created in _____. **Matthew 26:53; Hebrews 12:22; Revelation 5:11**
- Angels were created _____ the earth. **Job 38:7**
- They were created in a _____ order than man. **Psalms 8:4-5**
- Angels do not _____. **Luke 20:35-36; Hebrews 2:9**

SESSION 6, PART 2 – ANGELOLOGY: THE ROLE OF ANGELS

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Describe the role of the elect angels with respect to God, Jesus, believers and unbelievers.

Angels Reside in the presence of God in _____. **Matthew 22:30; 18:10; Revelation 5:11**

- Angels exist to serve and _____ God.
 - Angels' primary job is to worship, praise and glorify their creator. **Revelation 5:11-12; Isaiah 6:3-4**
- Angels are also tasked with _____ to Christ and will attend His second coming. **Matthew 2:13; 4:11; 25:31; 28:5-7; Luke 1:26-38; 22:43; Acts 1:10**
- Angels observe the wonder of _____. **Ephesians 3:10; 1 Peter 1:12**
- Angels minister to believers. **Hebrews 1:14**
 - They provide physical _____. **Psalms 91:11-13**
 - They provide _____. **Acts 27:23-25**
 - Angels assist in answering _____. **Daniel 9:20-27**
 - Angels carry _____ home. **Luke 16:22**
- Angels are engaged in the battle with _____. **Daniel 10:20-21; Revelation 12:7**
- Angels carry out _____ on God's enemies. **Matthew 13:49-50; Revelation 20:1-2**
- To summarize the nature of angels:
 - Angels are incorporeal spirits, not material beings. **Hebrews 1:14, Ephesians 9:12**
 - Angels do not marry or die. **Matthew 22:30, Luke 20:36**
 - Angels are more intelligent than humans, but they are not omniscient. **Daniel 9:21-23; Matthew 24:36**
 - Angels worship God and are not to be worshipped. **Hebrews 1:6. Colossians 2:18**

- Angels have an interest in and participate in earthly affairs.

Revelation 22:89, Mattheew 24:36, 1Peter 1:12

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - THE ROLE OF ANGELS

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
Angels are created, spiritual beings.				
Angels were created to worship, serve and glorify God.				
Since they reside in heaven, angels know everything God knows.				
Angels are more intelligent than humans, so we should pray to them.				
Angels will attend Jesus’ second coming.				

SESSION 6, PART 3 – ANGELOLOGY: SATAN AND THE FALLEN ANGELS

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Discuss the existence and malevolence of Satan.
- Tell the reason for Satan’s fall.
- Discuss the extent and limits of Satan’s power.
- Describe the activity of Satan’s angels (demons).
- Tell the ultimate end of Satan and his evil angels.



Satan is real and very personal. **John 8:44**

- Personal names for Satan.
 - Satan, which means _____.
 - The devil, that is, a _____.
 - Beelzebub means prince of devils or lord of flies.
 - Apollyon means the _____.
 - Lucifer is a shining one, or the morning star.
- Descriptive names for Satan:
 - Prince of this world
 - God of this world
 - Angel of the bottomless pit
 - Prince of the power of the air
 - The spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience
Ephesians 2:2
 - The dragon
 - That old serpent
 - The evil one
- Satan was created as a beautiful, powerful, intelligent _____.
Ezekiel 28:13-15
 - But Satan _____ and fell. **Ezekiel 28:15**
 - The primary cause of his fall was apparently pride. **Ezekiel 28:17**
 - Although he had an exalted position, he wanted to be _____ himself. **Revelation 12:7-9**

- The Satanic rebellion.
 - Satan Rebelled **Revelation 12:3-4; Isaiah 12-14**
 - Satan seduced one-third of the created _____ into joining his rebellion. **Revelation 12:3-4**
 - These became Satan’s angels, the _____.
 - No specific time is given in Scripture, but his rebellion must have happened before the fall of man.
- Satan’s power is massive, but not unlimited.
 - He cannot go beyond the limits God sets on him. **Job 1:12**
 - Satan is not omnipotent, omnipresent, nor omniscient.
 - Satan can be resisted by _____ to God. **James 4:7**
- The evil angels – Satan’s demons.
 - Demons rebelled and fell with Satan **Revelation 12:4**
 - Demons can inflict disease **Luke 13:11; 13:16**
 - Demons can influence the mind. **2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 2:2**
 - Demons deceive people and nations. **Ephesians 2:2; Revelation 16:14**
- As powerful and malevolent as Satan and his minions are, they will _____ prevail.
 - Jesus already defeated them on the cross. **Matthew 25:41; 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 1:6; Revelation 12:9**
 - Satan and his angels will spend eternity in the _____ **Revelation 20:10**

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - SATAN AND THE FALLEN ANGELS

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
Satan is engaged in a rebellion against God and the end is still in doubt.				
Satan is real, personal, malevolent, and he opposes God and His people.				
Satan is omnipresent, that is, he is everywhere at once.				
Satan is among the most powerful angels ever created, but his power is limited by God.				
Satan can be resisted by submitting to God.				
The demons were created as such by God.				
Satan and his demons will spend eternity in the Lake of Fire.				



QUIZ: MID-TERM

Answer each of the following questions, citing Scripture where appropriate. You may use your Bible, textbook, reference works, computer, teacher-generated notes, or your own notes. Despite what you might have heard from the secular court system, prayer is very appropriate in school – especially before and during tests!

Section 1: Vocabulary – Define each of the following terms.

1. Pantheism

2. Polytheism

3. Deism

4. Atheism

5. Agnosticism

6. Theism

7. Infinite

8. Eternal

9. Holy

10. Omnipotent

11. Immutable

12. Omnipresent

13. Theology

14. Doctrine

15. Pneumatology

16. Christology.

17. Anthropology

18. Atheistic evolution.

19. Theistic evolution

20. The Gap Theory of Genesis

Section II: Short Answer – Answer each of the following in a phrase or a sentence. Cite Scripture where appropriate.

21. When we say “the pre-incarnate state of Christ”, what are we talking about?

22. What do we mean when we talk of God’s “personality”?

23. If you could use only two words to describe God’s nature, what would they be? Cite scripture to support your answer.

24. In class, we have said “God is knowable, but He is not comprehensible.” Explain what that means, and cite scripture to support your answer.

25. In reference to the Trinity, what is significant about the word used for God in Genesis 1:1?

26. What is our source of authority for developing doctrine? Support your answer from Scripture.

27. Why was it important that Jesus Christ live a perfect, sinless life? Support your answer from Scripture.

28. Briefly state the doctrine of the Trinity.

29. Is it possible for us, while in our flesh, to understand the Trinity? Why or why not?

30. Why should we quote Scripture to an unbeliever, even if he/she does not acknowledge the authority of Scripture? I guess you’d better cite Scripture to support this one!

Section III: Contending for the Faith – Assume that a friend or acquaintance has made each of the following statements. If they are true, based on the Word of God, say so. If they are not, write “False” and explain why the statement is incorrect.

31. 1 Corinthians 8:1-5 proves that there are more gods than one.

32. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit were all involved in the creation of the world.

33. All the philosophical arguments, taken together, will not absolutely prove the existence of God, but the preponderance of evidence certainly leads to that conclusion. That’s what Paul is saying in Romans 1:20.

34. The Holy Spirit is described in the Bible as God’s divine power, the “force” behind His actions.

35. You Christians are polytheists, because you believe in three gods.

36. Every Christian doctrine can be supported by using the Old Testament alone.

37. Philippians 2:7-10 shows that Jesus was humiliated by becoming a man.

38. Jesus has always been in existence, and Proverbs 8:22-36 shows this.

39. The Son and the Spirit are just different manifestations of the same God.
Isaiah 9:6 proves that Jesus is really the Everlasting Father.

40. The Holy Spirit is not eternal like the Father and the Son. It came into being
on the Day of Pentecost. (Acts 2)

Section IV: Apologetics – Consider the following scenario, then frame your answer with Biblical proofs.

41. A co-worker comes to you at lunch and says “I see you always have your Bible with you. Can you tell me why in the world you believe in God?”

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SESSION 7, PART 1 – ANTHROPOLOGY: THE IMAGE OF GOD

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Define anthropology.

Discuss what is meant by the image of God in man.

Anthropology defined:

- The study of _____, past and present.
- Biblical anthropology is the study of humankind as it relates to _____.

The Bible tells us that man was specially created in the image and likeness of God. Genesis 1:26-27

- This is often referred to by the Latin *Imago Dei*, which means the _____ of God.
- In the original Hebrew, it is *tselem*, which can be translated as image, likeness, resemblance, a representative figure.
- *Tselem* is _____ an exact duplicate; it represents the original in an imprecise manner, so man was not created equal to God.
 - God’s image in us lacks the _____ of the original.
 - But God made man in such a way as to _____ some of His own perfections.
 - Originally, humans were created to be perfect in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, exercising _____ over the creatures on Earth. **Genesis 1:26–1:27**

Contrasting Views Regarding the Nature of God’s Image in Man.

- **Substantive View:** God’s image consists in a definite **physical**, intellectual, and spiritual way within the nature of man.
 - Tends to define God in terms of _____, which is not a good idea.
 - Physical characteristics of man are irrelevant because God is _____. **John 4:24**

- **Functional View:** the image of God is speaking to what man does.
 - God rules the _____ and God ordained man to rule (have dominion) over the creation on Earth. **Genesis 1:26 – 28**
 - This is problematic in that God created man in His image _____. He gave man dominion over creation. Therefore, there must be more to God’s image than just dominion.

- **Relational View:** when we interact by faith with Jesus Christ (in relationship with Him), we have the image of God restored in us. **2 Corinthians 3:18**
 - Problematic in that _____ people retain at least some of God’s image in them. **Genesis 9:6; James 3:9**

- **Reformed View:** God’s likeness in man is an intellectual, spiritual, moral and social likeness. **Psalms 8:4-9; 1 Corinthians 15:42-49; Ephesians 4:22-24; Colossians 3:9-10**
 - Combines elements of all three viewpoints already discussed.
 - The image of God in man is _____, but not destroyed by sin.
 - In Christ, the image of God is restored, imperfectly in this life, but perfectly at Christ’s second coming.

REVIEW QUESTIONS: ANTHROPOLOGY: THE IMAGE OF GOD

1. What is your definition of Biblical Anthropology?
2. According to the Reformed View, man is said to reflect God's image in four aspects. What are they?
3. Why is God's image so poorly reflected in human beings today?
4. What does the work of Christ accomplish with respect to the *Imago Dei*?

SESSION 7, PART 2 – ANTHROPOLOGY: THE NATURE OF MAN

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Discuss the nature of man as he was first created.

Discuss humankind’s purpose as directed by God.

Contrast the dichotomous and trichotomous views of man’s nature.



The Purpose of Humankind, according to God’s blessing. Genesis 1:27-28

- a. Humans were to be _____ and multiply.
- b. Humans were to _____ the Earth.
- c. Humans were to _____ the Earth and exercise dominion (or rule) over the Earth.

The Universal Food Source:

- Herbs and fruit were given for men and women to eat; humans were created as _____. **Genesis 1:29**
- All animals were originally _____. **Genesis 1:30**
- Humans and animals shared a perfectly balanced _____ with no death or decay. The second law of thermodynamics did not apply. **Genesis 1:31**

Man’s Unique Place in Creation

- God simply _____ the world into existence. Similarly, He created all living things.
- Adam was created in a _____ way. **Genesis 2:7**
- Eve was also created in a unique manner. **Genesis 2:21-22**
- We are not just another species of animal; we were _____ by God and received the _____ of life directly from Him.

The Original State of Humankind

- We were the corporeal image of the incorporeal God.
- We shared a spiritual _____ with God—man’s life was inbreathed of God.
- We had _____ like God’s (sentient, intelligent, rational [and free?])
- Adam and Eve were created holy, pure, and without _____.
- We possessed pure _____.
- We exercised _____ over creation.

The Constitution of Man

- Two theories are proposed by theologians.
 - Man is _____, consisting of body and soul.
 - Man is _____, consisting of body, soul and spirit.
- Arguments for a Dichotomous Nature:
 - **Genesis 2:7** shows God breathed only one “thing” into man – a soul.
 - A number of references use soul and spirit interchangeably.
 - **Matthew 10:28, 1 Corinthians 5:3 and 3 John 2** speak of body and soul comprising the whole person.
 - Humans can distinguish a physical body and an immaterial consciousness, but nobody can tell the difference between body and soul.
- Arguments for a Trichotomous Nature:
 - The “breath of life” in **Genesis 2:7** is plural, and should read “breath of lives”.
 - **1 Thessalonians 5:23** clearly distinguishes between soul and spirit.
 - **1 Corinthians 2:14 and 1 Corinthians 3:1-4** establish a threefold organization of man’s being (natural, carnal, spiritual).

- *Pneuma* (spirit) is distinguished from *psyche* (soul) in the New Testament. In **Matthew 27:50**, Christ is said to have given up His life by “dismissing His Spirit”, but surely He remained in possession of His soul.

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - THE NATURE OF MAN

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
Humans were directly and specially created by God.				
The image of God in man is an intellectual, spiritual, moral and social likeness.				
When God created Adam and Eve, they were without sin.				
Humans are the most intelligent of animals, but animals nonetheless.				
In the original creation, humans were vegetarians and animals were herbivores because there was no death.				
Human beings have a Trichotomous nature.				
God created humans to exercise dominion over the Earth.				

4. What are the implications of the dragon being cast out of heaven?

The Fall of Man Genesis 3:1-24

Questions from Genesis 3:

1. Who is the serpent in verse 1?
2. What did Satan use to tempt Eve?
3. Why was this sin?
4. How is the temptation related to 1 John 2:16?
5. What were the consequences of the fall?

6. How is the fall of humanity like the fall of Satan?

7. How is the fall of humanity different than the fall of Satan?

Major Concepts from Genesis 3:

- Evil, sin and temptation came from _____.
- Satan successfully attacked the woman.
- Adam failed to exercise proper spiritual _____.
- Motivation was a _____ to divine knowledge.

Satan’s Fall vs. Man’s Fall

- Satan had no _____ tempter; man did.
- Satan’s fall doomed him to destruction, but man’s fall maintains the _____ of redemption.
- Satan’s fall was a result of pride; man’s fall was as a result of his desire to attain _____ beauty, knowledge and food.
- Both involved _____ against God. (sin)

Consequences of the Fall

- Shame and alienation from God.
- The image of God in man was obscured.
- Humankind was expelled from Eden.
- Creation itself is cursed.
- Death entered the world.
- Sorrow, toil, and the struggle with his own evil nature became man’s lot.

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - THE FALL OF MAN

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
Adam and Eve were created in a state of moral perfection.				
The fall of man came as a result of Satan slandering God and tempting Eve.				
Adam and Eve could have resisted Satan’s temptation.				
Mankind’s original sin had no impact on the rest of the universe.				
Death entered the world as a result of original sin.				

SESSION 8, PART 1 – HAMARTIALOLOGY: THE DOCTRINE OF SIN

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Discuss the Hebrew and Greek words that are translated as “sin” in the Bible.

Concisely define sin.

Review the origin of sin in the universe.

Discuss the consequences of sin.

Hebrew words relating to sin in the Old Testament

- **chatta’ah** – from root meaning to _____. **Genesis 4:7; 20:9; Leviticus 5:13**
- **Peh’sha** – breach of relationship, a _____, or a rebellion. **Daniel 8:12**
- **’avon** – perversity, depravity, _____. **Ezra 9:13**
- **shagah** – _____, err, swerve, wander. **Psalms 119:10**

Greek words relating to sin in the New Testament.

- **Harmartia** – to _____ the mark, take the wrong road. **John 8:46; 1 John 1:8; James 1:15**
- This is where the term hamartialogy comes from.



Defining Sin:

- Placing anything else in God’s place.
- Denying God the _____ and glory He deserves.
- A violation of that which God’s glory demands.
- The _____ of God.
- Sin involves _____, but moreover a willful disobedience directed at God.
- Cosmic _____.

SESSION 8, PART 2 – HAMARTIALOLOGY: THE IMPUTATION OF SIN

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Describe what is meant by imputation.

Briefly discuss several theories about how sin is imputed.

Show how the Bible supports the total depravity of humanity.

To impute is to ascribe something, such as righteousness or guilt, to a person or persons vicariously.

Alternative views as to how sin is imputed:

Pelagian View:

- Soul is created _____ corruption at birth.
- Man is born with _____.
- Adam’s sin is a bad example, but we are _____ of original sin.
- God’s grace is _____ and completely dependent on individual choice.

Arminian View:

- Adam’s sin caused our corrupted _____, but not our guilt.
- We retain the ability to seek God when aided by the _____.
- Since the Holy Spirit’s _____ is universal, everyone has the ability to seek God.

Seminalism:

- Our union with Adam is a real, _____, spiritual union.

- The union is _____ because Adam contained the seed of the rest of humanity.

- We have all _____ in Adam – his sin is our sin – and we all are subject to the penalty.

- All people have inherited Adam’s _____ nature.
 - All sinned because of this natural corruption.

Federalism:

- We have all sinned in Adam – his sin is our sin - but the link is _____ biological.

- Adam is the _____ of the entire human race as Christ is the representative of all who believe in Him.
 - God tried Adam and found him guilty.
 - The entire human race is _____ in Adam.
 - Even if we could live a perfect, sinless life, we would still be guilty of Adam’s sin.

- Arminianism and Pelagianism are related in that Adam’s sin was an _____.

- Seminalism and Federalism are related in that both stress our _____ with Adam.

Teaching of Scripture on Imputation:

- Scripture stresses our _____ with Adam. **Romans 5:12-19; 1 Corinthians 15:22; 45-49**
- Scripture also stresses our solidarity with _____.
- If we cannot accept the imputation of Adam's sin we should not accept the imputation of Christ's righteousness.
- And as we have borne the image of the *man* of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly *Man*. **1 Corinthians 15:49**



Sin is universal

- Even if we were not guilty of Adam's sin, we would still be _____ because of our sin nature. **Isaiah 64:6**
- We all have plenty of our own _____. **Psalms 53:2-3; Romans 3:23**

REVIEW QUESTIONS: THE IMPUTATION OF SIN

1. What is meant by imputation?

2. How do the Pelagian and Arminian views of imputation differ from the Seminal and Federal views?

SESSION 8, PART 3 – HAMARTIALOLOGY: TOTAL DEPRAVITY

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Describe the doctrine of Total Depravity.

Cite several Biblical references to support Total Depravity.

Discuss possible objections to the doctrine of Total Depravity.

Sin Comes from Within. Mark 7:20-23; James 1:13-15

- Sin is not _____ a voluntary transgression.
- Sin proceeds from a deeper attitude of _____ against God.
- Sin proceeds from a _____ disposition.
- Sin proceeds from a _____ heart.

Total Depravity Defined.

- All human beings are born with a _____ nature.
- Total depravity means there is no part of human life _____ from man’s fallen state.
- There is no area of human life that might serve as a possible grounds for _____.
- Even if works are formally in accordance with God’s law it does not mean they are good and well pleasing to God.
- We cannot compare the relative goodness of someone’s actions because the standard is not human _____; the standard is God’s righteousness.

Actions well-pleasing to God:

- The only way to please God is to have _____ in Him.

Romans 14:23

- Faith in God must be the starting point.
- _____ for God must be the animating motive.
- _____ of God must be the directing principle.
- _____ of God must be the controlling purpose.

Human Inability - Matthew 7:18; John 1:10; John 6:44; Romans 8:8

- We are incapable of good apart from God.
- We are not able to change our _____ on our own.
- We are not able to act in accordance with God’s _____.
- We are incapable of faith.
- We are in absolute, complete _____ to sin.
- **Total depravity** is man's natural condition apart from any _____ exerted by God to restrain or transform him.

Human Liability - John 3:36; Romans 1:18; Ephesians 5:6; Revelation 15:7

Without Christ, humans are in a hopeless position.

- Sin is against everything God is.
- God is not _____ toward sin.
- God is not indifferent to sin.
- God will inevitably _____ against it.
- The _____ of God is as pure as His love.
-

Human Liability John 3:36; Romans 1:18; Ephesians 5:6; Revelation 15:7

The Importance of Total Depravity - 1 John 1:10

- Man’s sin against God is a central _____ of the Bible, so sin is a doctrine of profound importance!
- We cannot have _____ with God if we continue in sin, yet we cannot help but sin.
- Unless a person understands his or her utter hopelessness with regard to this doctrine, _____ is impossible.

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES – TOTAL DEPRAVITY

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
Sin is any act or attitude of rebellion against God.				
Human beings are born with the ability to resist sin and live a sinless life.				
Because God is holy and just, every sin must be punished.				
Death is a consequence of sin.				
Even if we had no sin of our own, we would still be guilty of Adam’s sin.				
Total depravity is man’s natural condition apart from any grace exerted by God to restrain or transform him.				

SESSION 9, PART 1 – SOTERIOLOGY: THE ELEMENTS OF SALVATION

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Explicitly describe what salvation means to the Christian.

List and define the various elements of salvation as revealed in Scripture.

Salvation is:

- In the Greek: *Soteria* (4991) - Deliverance, preservation, _____.
- The deliverance, by the _____ of God, from eternal punishment for sin which is granted to those who accept by faith God's conditions of repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus.
- The only thing we bring to the table is our _____, and even that must be graciously given by God. **Ephesians 2:8-9**
- Salvation is only available through _____. **John 14:6; Acts 4:12**



Elements of Salvation:

- **Election**, or predestination - the biblical doctrine that God in His sovereignty _____ certain individuals to be saved. **Ephesians 1:3-6; John 6:37; 39**
- **Regeneration** - the act of the Holy Spirit by which we are made alive in a _____ sense. **John 3:3; Ephesians 2:5**
 - Also called rebirth, being born of the Spirit, being born again.
 - In the Greek: *gennaō* (1080) *anōthen* (509) – Born from above.

Atonement - the process of bringing the estranged into a _____ with God. **Romans 5:6**

- Sin is universal and God cannot tolerate sin. Every sin must be judged and punished (atoned for).
- Judgment will be carried out either on the sinner himself, which requires an eternity of torment in hell, or by the _____ of Jesus on the cross.
- Atonement _____ the shedding of **of** _____.
Leviticus 17:11; Hebrews 9:22
- The victim of sacrifice must be unblemished, that is, _____.
- The victim of sacrifice must also be valuable; it must cost something.
- Old Testament sacrificial atonement points forward to the _____.
- In the New Testament, it becomes clear that atonement is a central _____ of the Bible. It reveals God’s love for men and women. **Romans 5:8; John 3:16; Hebrews 2:9**

Redemption – to _____ for a price, frequently used in relation to redeeming individuals from a slave market. **1 Peter 1:17-19**

- In the Greek: *Agorazo* (59) To purchase for a price
- Where Christians were once _____ to sin, they are now _____ to God and His righteousness. **Romans 6:17; 6:22**

Propitiation - _____, or satisfaction, specifically towards God.

- Propitiation is a two-part act that involves appeasing the wrath of an offended person and being reconciled to him. **Romans 3:24-25**

Justification – to declare one _____ with God. **Romans 3:24; Acts 13:39**

- In the Greek: *Dikaloo* (1344) - to render righteous.
- In Christ we are proclaimed righteous in God’s sight, as if we had _____ the whole law.
- This is done completely as a result of _____ work.

Reconciliation - to be _____ to a right relationship with God. **2 Corinthians 5:18-19**

- In the Greek: *Katallasso* (2644) - to change mutually, that is, (figuratively) to compound a difference: reconcile.
- God Himself reestablishes a relationship of _____ with humans. It involves a change in position from being _____ of God to being at peace with God.

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - ELEMENTS OF SALVATION

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
Salvation is available only by faith in Jesus Christ.				
Salvation is God’s work alone.				
Regeneration (being born again) is the work of the Holy Spirit.				
Salvation is based on human ability to keep God’s commandments.				
Sacrificial atonement requires the shedding of blood.				
In Christ, one is declared righteous as if he had kept the law perfectly.				

SESSION 9, PART 2 – SOTERIOLOGY: THE MECHANICS OF SALVATION

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Recount the role of each member of the Trinity with regard to salvation.

Explain the difference between common grace and efficacious grace.

Refute common heresies regarding the atonement.

God the Father is responsible for _____. **Ephesians 1:4; 1 Peter 1:2; John 6:37**

- Looking at salvation from God’s perspective.
- Election means to _____ from a larger group of people.

God the Holy Spirit is responsible for _____. **John 3:5; 6:63; 16:8**

- Regeneration is also called being “born again” or “born of the Spirit.”
- God the Holy Spirit is also responsible for _____ of Jesus.

John 15:26

- He does this primarily through the _____ of God’s Word.
- The Holy Spirit inspired the writers of scripture, and He enables human beings to understand them. (Romans 10:17)

God the Son is responsible for the _____ and sanctification of the saints. **1 Corinthians 1:2; 2 Corinthians 5:21**

Salvation from man’s perspective:

- Only one responsibility: _____. **John 1:12; Acts 16:31; John 11:25-26**
- Even our _____ is a gift from God. **Ephesians 2:8-9**
- Salvation is accomplished by God’s grace alone.

Aspects of God’s grace:

- Grace, *charis* [5485] in the Greek, is _____ favor.
- _____ grace - The aspect of God’s grace that is common to and affects everyone. **Psalms 145:9; Matthew 5:45**
- _____ grace - the grace of God that is effective for _____. **Romans 1:5; Acts 15:11; Ephesians 2:4-5**

Contrasting views of the atonement:

- Limited atonement: Christ died only for the _____.
John 10:14-15; Revelation 5:9
 - This is the **Calvinist**, or Reformed view.
 - Stresses God’s sovereignty in election and salvation.
- Unlimited atonement: The death of Christ is for everyone, but only effective for those who accept it. **Romans 6:10; Hebrews 7:27; 1 John 2:2**
 - This is the **Arminian** view.
 - Stresses man’s responsibility to respond to a universal call to salvation.

Heretical views of the Atonement:

- Common thread: If the emphasis is on things man must do to _____ himself before God, the view is contrary to what the Bible teaches!
- Salvation is a result of God’s grace and love that allows him to maintain His holiness and justice while reconciling the elect to Himself.

SESSION 9, PART 3 – SOTERIOLOGY: DIVINE ELECTION

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Discuss what the Bible says about the doctrine of Election.

Contrast opposing views with regard to the mechanics of Election.

Discuss the apparent dissonance between the sovereignty of God and the responsibility of man with regard to election.



Divine election defined:

- God has _____ those who will be saved as members of the body of Christ. It follows, therefore, that God has also chosen those who will remain reprobate. **Ephesians 1:3-6; John 6:37; John 6:44; Romans 9:18; 21-24**
- However, other Scriptures point out that man is responsible for _____ or rejecting Christ. **Ezekiel 33:11; 2 Peter 3:9**

Viewpoints on election:

- Pelagianism
 - Emphasizes human ability to choose God apart from any work by the _____.
 - Teaches that human beings are fully _____ of choosing to follow Christ on their own.
 - Emphasizes human _____ as a means of salvation.
 - Generally considered a _____ viewpoint.
 - In practice, some traditions are essentially semi-pelagian.

- Arminianism
 - Does not discount divine election, but emphasizes responsibility of man to make a choice.
 - God chose the elect by _____ of who *would* exercise faith.
 - Faith is Man’s gift to God, which _____ the new birth.
 - The call of the Holy Spirit is _____ on man’s decision. Thus, the concept of *decisional regeneration*.
 - Holds _____ view of God’s foreknowledge, which means that God elects based on His knowing how a person would respond to the call. **1Timothy 2:3-4, 2Peter 3:9, 1Peter 1:2, Acts 17:30-31**
- Calvinism
 - Emphasizes God’s holiness and sovereignty.
 - God _____ who would believe.
 - The call of the Holy Spirit is irristable.
 - Scriptural evidence is focused on numerous scriptures emphasizing predestination. **Romans 9:6-24; Ephesians 1:1-5**

The Five Points Controversy:

- Arminianism
 - Free _____.
 - _____ election.
 - Universal _____.
 - Resistible call (of Holy Spirit).
 - Salvation can be _____.
- Calvinism (TULIP)
 - Total depravity.
 - Unconditional Election.
 - _____ Atonement.

- Irresistible _____.
- Perseverance of the Saints.

Resolving the Controversy:

- From the eternal perspective, God _____, God grants _____, God _____.
- From the temporal perspective, man is _____ for accepting or rejecting Christ.
- God _____ resolve issues our minds are incapable of sorting out!

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - DIVINE ELECTION

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
God the Father elects and predestines those who will come to salvation.				
God’s election is based on his foreknowledge of those who will believe				
Salvation is impossible without the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit.				
From the temporal perspective, man is responsible for accepting or rejecting Christ.				
Human beings are fully capable of choosing to believe Christ without any additional work by the Holy Spirit.				

SESSION 10, PART 1 – SOTERIOLOGY: REGENERATION & JUSTIFICATION

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Describe the Biblical view of regeneration.

Describe what the Holy Spirit does to make the general call effectual.

Describe how regeneration leads to justification.

The General Call to Salvation: Matthew 20:16; 22:14

- The Holy Spirit sees that the message of the _____ is delivered to all.
- This is called the _____ - a universal offer of the Gospel, available to everyone.
- But not everybody _____ the offer.

The Effectual Call to Salvation: John 10:27; Acts 2:1-40

- The general call was and is not effective for everyone.
- The _____ call is an offer of salvation that is accepted and leads to eternal life.

Making the General Call Effectual: Regeneration John 3:3

- Regeneration is what the Holy Spirit does to make the General Call _____.
- **Titus 3:5; John 1:12-13; James 1:18; Ephesians 2:4-5; Colossians 2:13; 2 Corinthians 5:17**
- Regeneration is a creative act of _____ to which men and women contribute nothing.
- Regeneration is something that is done to us.
- Regeneration implants the seed of _____.
- Regeneration always leads to _____.
- **Titus 3:5; John 1:12-13; James 1:18; Ephesians 2:4-5; Colossians 2:13; 2 Corinthians 5:17**
- Regeneration results in a change in the person’s _____.
Ezekiel 36:26; Colossians 1:21

A Chain of Events Romans 8:29-30

- To be justified is to be declared _____ before God.
- Justification is based on the finished work of _____, where His righteousness is imputed to us.
- Justification is apprehended by _____ in Christ's finished work.
- If you are elect, then you _____ be _____, you _____ be converted, you _____ be _____.
- The process is all of God!

REVIEW QUESTIONS: REGENERATION AND JUSTIFICATION

1. What is regeneration?

2. What is the relationship between divine election, regeneration and justification?

SESSION 10, PART 2 – SOTERIOLOGY: SANCTIFICATION

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Describe what is meant by the doctrine of sanctification.

Describe various views of sanctification.

Incorporate a statement of the doctrine of sanctification into your statement of faith.



Sanctification Defined:

- To be _____ is to be set apart for a holy purpose.
- The Christian saint is to be _____ from everything that is profane, unclean or impure.
- The Christian saint is to be _____ to the exclusive service of God.
- Sanctification is "...That gracious and continuous operation of the Holy Spirit by which He delivers the justified sinner from the pollution of sin, renews his whole nature in the image of God and enables him to perform good works." (D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones)
- Sanctification is the process the Holy Spirit uses to progressively match our behavior to our _____ righteousness. **Philippians 3:20-21**

Contrasting Views of the Sanctification Process:

- Reformed view:
 - Sanctification is a gradual process that begins at the point of _____, and continues until death.
 - A Christian will not attain perfect _____ in this life.
 - Backsliding is possible, but the general trend of sanctification will be to _____ the believer to the image of Christ.
- Wesleyan view:
 - Heavily influenced by the Arminian view of salvation.
 - Sometime after conversion, the Christian totally _____ to the leading of the Holy Spirit. At that point, it is possible to live free from all willful sin.
 - The Christian is not _____ prior to heaven because he/she still engages in sins they are not aware of.

- Chaferian view:
 - Common within Pentecostal and Charismatic traditions.
 - Sometime after conversion, Christians can pray for and receive a second act of God's grace they call the _____ of the Spirit.
 - Prior to the second act of grace, the believer lives life in much the same manner as he/she did as an unbeliever. These are called _____ Christians.
 - Only after the Holy Spirit fills them in this second act of grace are they able to make progress toward sanctification. These are called _____ Christians.

- **Eternal and Temporal Perspectives: Philippians 2:12-13**
 - **Eternal Perspective** – It is _____ who does the work of sanctification in the life of the believer.
 - **Temporal Perspective** – The believer has a duty to _____ with the Holy Spirit and trying to live a holy life.

REVIEW QUESTIONS: SANCTIFICATION

1. How would you define sanctification?

2. What is God's role and our role in the process of sanctification?

3. When will the sanctification of the believer be complete?

SESSION 10, PART 3 – SOTERIOLOGY: ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Give Biblical evidence for the doctrine of preservation of the saints.
- Tell how a Christian can be assured of his or her salvation

Who secures a believer’s salvation?

- The _____ position is that God secures salvation. **2 Timothy 1:12**
- The _____ position is that the believer secures his/her salvation. **Hebrews 6:4-6**
- The position proposed in the video is that all who are truly saved will be preserved by God. **John 6:37; 39**
- However, there are nominal Christians who presumptuously _____ they are saved, but are not. Those are the people the writer of Hebrews was talking about. **Matthew 7:21-23**

Finding Assurance - 2 Peter 1:5-11

- It is not unusual for true believers to harbor _____, but assurance can be achieved.
- Belief in the _____ of the Bible gives objective assurance.
 - The believer must give intellectual assent to the _____ of the Word.
 - The believer is to know what he/she believes!
 - Intellectual understanding gives _____ assurance.
 - Experiencing the Christian life gives _____ assurance.

The Grounds for Assurance:

- The teaching of the Word of God **1 John 5:10-11; 5:24**
- Tests from life:
 - _____ Jesus is the Christ **1 John 5:1**
 - _____ the brethren **1 John 3:14**
 - Keeping God’s _____ **1 John 2:3; 5:3**
 - Having the _____ **Ephesians 1:13-14**
 - The Spirit lets you _____ in Christ. **1 Corinthians 12:3; Romans 8:6-9**
 - The Spirit gives you a desire for more knowledge of God. **Romans 8:14**
 - The Spirit gives you an increased sensitivity to and _____ of sin. **1 Peter 2:11**
 - The Spirit produces _____ of the Spirit. **Galatians 5:22-23**

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

For each of the statements below, place a check mark where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
God is the author of all aspects of salvation, election, regeneration, justification, sanctification and perseverance.				
It is impossible for one who is truly saved to permanently fall away.				
It may look like some believers fall away, but if they do so permanently, they were never saved in the first place.				
Assurance of salvation can be achieved by following the prescriptions found in the Bible.				
It is possible for a person to presumptively believe they are a Christian when they are actually not.				



QUIZ: SOTERIOLOGY

Define the following terms:

1. Election
2. Regeneration
3. Atonement
4. Redemption
5. Propitiation
6. Justification
7. Reconciliation

8. Sanctification

Short Answer:

9. Describe the role of each member of the Trinity with regard to salvation.

10. Compare and contrast Pelagianism, Arminianism and Calvinism with respect to salvation.

11. Compare and contrast the Arminian view of perseverance with the Calvinistic view.

SESSION 11, PART 1 – ECCLESIOLOGY: DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Give a Biblical definition of the Church.

Distinguish between the visible church and the Church universal.

Articulate Jesus' desire for the Church.



The Church Defined:

- The word translated "church" is *ekklesia* (1577) which means those who are _____.
- Distinct from the gathering of _____ (*sunagoge* [4864])
- Our word "church" comes from the Greek *kurios* (2962) which means master or Lord.
- The church is a group of people who have been _____ out in Jesus Christ and _____ Him as the Lord of their lives.
 - The **Church Universal** – A spiritual union with all true _____ throughout time and space. (The _____ church)
 - The **Local Church** – A group of believers called to assemble, worship and minister in a single community. (The _____ church)

The Foundation of the Church - **Matthew 16:15-19**

- The _____ given by Peter is the foundation of the Church: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (Matthew 16:16)
- Peter himself is _____ the foundation.
- The testimony of Jesus Christ, given by the prophets and Apostles, is the _____ upon which the Church rests. **1 Corinthians 3:11; 1 Peter 2:6; Matthew 7:24; Ephesians 2:20**

Contrasting Views of the Church's relationship to the Synagogue of Israel.

- Dispensationalist view – completely _____; both valid.
 - Church is a necessary parentheses caused by Israel's _____ of her Messiah.
 - Jesus will return to ethnic Israel after the time of the Gentiles.
- Reformed (Covenant) view – Synagogue is a type of the church, and the church _____ the synagogue.

The church was founded at _____, but shares a spiritual union with Old Testament saints. **1 Corinthians 10:1-4; Hebrews 11:13-16**

Scriptural Illustrations of the Church:

- The body of Christ. **1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Romans 12:4-5; Ephesians 4:4**
- A temple or a building. **1 Corinthians 3:10; Ephesians 2:20**
- The bride of Christ. **Ephesians 5:22-33; Revelation 19:7**
- A holy priesthood. **1 Peter 2:5** [Also a "spiritual house"]
- A flock of sheep. **John 10:11-16**
- A vine and branches. **John 15:1-8**

Membership in the True Church:

- Membership is gained simply by having saving _____ in Jesus Christ.
- One _____ be a member of a local church and not be a Christian.
- One _____ be a member of the invisible church without being a Christian.

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - THE DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH

For each of the statements below, check where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
Peter the Apostle is the foundation of the Church and the first Pope.				
The Church Universal is the gathering of all true believers throughout time and space.				
Jesus established His Church on the foundation of testimony of the Apostles.				
The Church and the Synagogue of Israel are separate, but both valid.				
It is possible to be a member of a local church, but not be a true Christian.				

SESSION 11, PART 2 – ECCLESIOLOGY: MISSION OF THE CHURCH

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Describe Jesus’ desire for His church.

List the elements of the church’s mission.

Jesus’ Desire for His Church: **John 17:20-26**

- Jesus desires _____ so that all Christians are one as Father and Son are one.
- Jesus desires His church to be _____ in Christ
- Jesus desires His church to be made _____ in Christ
- Jesus desires His church to be _____ with Him.
- Jesus wants His church to _____ God.

The Church Mission:

- The church is to be _____ with God and His purpose, with no divisions. **Ephesians 4:4-6**
- Jesus has given His church everything she needs to carry out her mission. **Ephesians 4:7-10**
- The primary task of church leaders and church teachers is to prepare the _____ for the work of ministry. **Ephesians 4:11-12**
- The primary goal of ministry is to _____, that is, build up the church. **Ephesians 4:11-12**
 - Edifying the Church involves _____ the saints. **Ephesians 4:13**
 - Edifying the Church involves _____ the saints from error and heresy. **Ephesians 4:14**
 - Edifying the Church promotes the saints growing closer to and living in Christ and builds a _____ of mutual support and love. **Ephesians 4:15-16**

The Church’s Role in Evangelism

- Evangelism is called for by Jesus’ _____. **Matthew 28:19:20**
- Evangelism is the _____ of every Christian saint.
- The church has the responsibility to _____ her members for the work of evangelism.

REVIEW QUESTIONS: THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

1. What is Jesus desire for His church?
2. How is it possible for every local church to carry out her mission?
3. What is the primary mission of the church?

SESSION 11, PART 3 – ECCLESIOLOGY: CHURCH GOVERNMENT

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Describe the various church offices as given in Scripture.

Describe three models of local church government.



Church Leadership:

- Originally, the church was lead directly by the _____ **Acts 2:42**
- Apostles first appointed _____ to wait tables and see to the needs of Hellenist widows. **Acts 6:1-6**
- As missionary outreach spread the faith, leaders were _____ in those new churches. **Acts 14:23**

Church Leadership Positions in Scripture:

- **Bishop** - an _____ or presiding officer. **1 Timothy 3:1**
- **Elder** – One who presides over an _____ (Used interchangeably with bishop in NT)
- **Deacon** – A servant, waiter of tables, errand-runner; distributor of benevolence.
- **Deaconess** – A female deacon.
- **Pastor**– A herdsman; an _____. **Ephesians 4:11**
- **Teacher**– A doctor, master, or teacher.
- **Prophet** – One who speaks forth the _____ of God.

Church Government Models:

- **Episcopal model:**

- The Episcopal model has a hierarchical structure.
- There is an office of _____ distinct and superior to leaders in the local churches.
- Bishops ordain and supervise _____, priests or rectors of a number of local churches. (parishes)

- **Presbyterian model:**

- The local church is governed by a group of _____.
- The _____ is seen as an elder with a specialized role, but has no greater authority than the other elders.
- Elders from several local churches are also members of the _____ which rules over the local churches.
- Members elected from each presbytery form a _____, which has ruling authority over all the churches in a region or a nation.

- **Congregational Model:**

- Final governing authority resides within the _____ itself.
- The congregation elects (calls) one elder or _____ as its spiritual leader.
- The pastor is assisted or supervised by a group of _____ who are also elected by the congregation.

Achieving Church Unity under Local Church Government.

- Unity is possible only when all leaders and members _____ themselves to Christ.
- Unity is possible only when leaders and members walk with _____.
- Possible only when leaders and members submit to _____.
- Possible only with prayer, and the _____ of the Holy Spirit.

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - CHURCH GOVERNMENT

For each of the statements below, check where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
Jesus desires unity for His Church.				
The primary goal of ministry is to edify, that is, build up the Church.				
Evangelism is the responsibility of individual Christians, but the Church has the responsibility to prepare saints to carry out their responsibility.				
Pastors are called to carry out all the ministries in a local church.				
The Congregational model of church government is closest to the Biblical standard.				
Unity under local church government is possible only when leaders and members submit to Christ.				

SESSION 11, PART 4 – ECCLESIOLOGY: CHURCH ORDINANCES & DISCIPLINE

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Define church ordinances (sacraments) and contrast the Roman Catholic view with the Evangelical Protestant view.

List the steps of church discipline as provided by Jesus.

It is the responsibility of church _____ to oversee the ordinances and maintain discipline within the local church. **1 Timothy 5:17**

Church Ordinances

- Many traditions call ordinances _____.
- Not _____ in that they do not mystically bring about salvation or remittance of sin.
- They do reflect God’s grace, or remind us of God’s grace.
- The _____ Church identifies seven “sacraments”.
 - Baptism
 - Confirmation
 - Eucharist
 - Confession (Penance)
 - Holy Orders
 - Matrimony
 - Anointing the sick
- Evangelical protestant churches generally identify two ordinances (or sacraments). They are _____ and the _____.

Baptism:

- Baptism is a profession of faith before the church.
- In baptism, the believer identifies with Christ’s death, burial and resurrection.
- Baptism does not, in itself, provide any _____ on the person, but it is an important step in faith that God can richly bless.
- Sprinkling, pouring, or immersion are used, but _____ is generally preferred in our tradition as it most closely symbolizes Jesus’ burial and resurrection.

The Lord's Supper (Communion)

- Established by _____ Himself. **Luke 22:19-20**
- Jesus commanded the repetition of the Lord's Supper as a remembrance, or _____ of His sacrifice. **Matthew 26:29**
- It proclaims the _____ of Jesus until He comes. **1 Corinthians 11:26**
- It is a commemoration by which the believer _____ with Christ.

Church Discipline

Goals of Church Discipline

- **Goal 1:** The _____ of the individual involved in wrongdoing.
- **Goal 2:** To maintain the _____ of the church. (Christ's bride)
- Church discipline is seen as _____ rather than punitive.
- Church discipline should never be seen as extracting vengeful retribution.

Steps in Church Discipline

- Step 1: Reprove individual _____. **Matthew 18:15**
- Step 2: Reprove individual with 2 or 3 _____. **Matthew 18:16**
- Step 3: Reprove individual before the _____. **Matthew 18:17; 1 Timothy 5:20**
- Step 4: _____ the individual **Matthew 18:17; 1 Corinthians 5:5** and withdraw from the individual completely. **Romans 16:17 – 18**

Characteristics of a True Church:

- A true church exhibits faithful _____ of Biblical doctrine. **2 Timothy 2:15**
- A true church has proper interpretation and _____ of ordinances. **1 Corinthians 11**
- A true church exhibits the Biblical exercise of church _____. **Matthew 18:15 – 20**
- A true church _____ each member for service and holiness. **Colossians 1:28**
- A true church encourages members to _____ the lost. **Matthew 28:19-20**

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - ORDINANCES & DISCIPLINE

For each of the statements below, check where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
Church ordinances are memorials, or reminders of God’s grace; they do not confer grace in and of themselves.				
Baptism and the Lord’s Supper are the only two ordinances (sacraments) given by Jesus.				
The proper exercise of discipline is a characteristic of a true church.				
Church discipline must always be corrective rather than punitive.				
Once a church member is dis-fellowshipped, he can never be restored.				

SESSION 12, PART 1 – ESCHATOLOGY: THE DOCTRINE OF HELL

Eschatology is the study of the end times.

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Give a general description of the Biblical doctrine of Hell.

Describe how the eternal state will differ from the intermediate state.

The Intermediate State: Luke 16:22-23

- After physical death, but prior to the _____, souls of the saved and souls of the lost are conscious.
- Believers are with _____. **2 Corinthians 5:8**
- The lost are _____ in torment. (Luke 16:23)
- The Bible does not support either the concept of annihilation or the concept of soul-sleep.
- When folks talk of Hell, they are usually thinking of this _____ state, which is prior to the final judgment.

Hell in the Old Testament:

- The doctrine of Hell is not well-developed in the Old Testament.
- In Hebrew, the word is *Sheol* (7585)
 - Translated as death, the abyss, the realm of _____ people. **Psalm 6:5**
 - Often simply translated as the _____ **Job 21:13**
- The Jews believed Hell was divided into _____ regions:
 - _____ or Abraham’s bosom.
 - The place of _____.
 - It is a place of _____ existence.
 - There is an apparent _____ of the opposite region.**Luke 16:19-31**

Hell in the New Testament

- There are two Greek words translated Hell.
 - *Hades* (86) – Region of departed _____.
 - It is for both the lost and for the _____.
 - *Hades* corresponds exactly to the Hebrew *Sheol*.
 - **Psalm 16:10, Acts 2:27**
 - The term *Hades* is used 4 times in the Gospels, and always by Jesus, **Matthew 11:23; 16:18; Luke 10:15; 16:23**
 - Jesus is said to have the key to *Hades* and death, **Revelation 1:18**
 - This is the intermediate place of torment for the doomed, before they are cast into the Lake of Fire, **Revelation 20:13-14**
 - *Gehenna* (1067) – The eternal state of the lost or condemned.
 - A place of _____ punishment.
 - Corresponds to the _____. **Revelation 19:20; 20:10; 20:14-15**
 - Place of God's _____ and wrath. **Jeremiah 7:32; 19:6**
 - *Gehenna* is used 11 times in the gospels by _____ . **Matthew 5:22; 29; 30; 10:28; 18:9; 23:15; 33; Mark 9:43; 45; 47; Luke 12:5**
- Other New Testament references to Hell:
 - **James 3:6** –Tongue is “set afire” of *gehenna*.
 - **2 Peter 2:4** – _____ who sin are cast into *gehenna*.
 - Hell is a place of weeping, and _____ of teeth. **Matthew 8:12; 22:13**

- Revelation’s Lake of Fire:
 - Called the second _____. **Revelation 20:14**
 - It is the final state for Satan, Satan’s angels and all whose names are not in the Lamb’s _____. **Revelation 20:10; 15**
 - It was prepared for the _____ and his angels. **Matthew 25:41**
 - It is a place of _____ torment. **Revelation 14:11**

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - THE DOCTRINE OF HELL

For each of the statements below, check where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
The souls of departed people are unconscious until the final judgment.				
In the intermediate state between physical death and the final judgment, the souls of believers are in the presence of Jesus.				
The only way to escape eternal torment is to have one’s name found in the Lamb’s Book of Life.				
Unbelievers will be annihilated following Jesus’ second coming.				
Once cast into Revelation’s Lake of Fire, there is no escape.				

SESSION 12, PART 2 – ESCHATOLOGY: THE DOCTRINE OF HEAVEN

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Give a general description of the Biblical doctrine of Heaven.

Describe how the eternal state will differ from the intermediate state for those who die in Christ.



Heaven in Scripture:

- The Hebrew word *Shamyim* (8064) is used three ways:
 - Of the _____, or realm of the sky, where birds fly.
Deut 4:16
 - Expanse (_____) where sun, moon and stars are.
Genesis 1:14
 - God’s _____, or the dwelling place of God **Genesis 7-8**
- Greek word *Ouranos* (3772), translated _____, conveys the same idea as in the Old Testament.

The “Third Heaven” is Described as:

- The Kingdom of _____ and of God. **Ephesians 5:5**
- God the Father’s _____. **John 14:2**
- A place we should be looking forward to. **Hebrews 11:16; Romans 4:13**
- A place to _____. **Hebrews 11:16; Romans 4:13**
- Paradise. 2 Corinthians 12:2-4
- A place where the _____ are excluded. **Ephesians 5:5; Revelation 22:15**
- The abode of _____. **Matthew 18:10; 22:30**
- The New _____. **Revelation 3:12; 21:2**

The Physical Heavens will not Endure. 2 Peter 3:10-13

- The physical heavens we currently see will be _____ along with the Earth at the second coming of Christ. **Job 14:12; Isaiah 34:4; Isaiah 51:6; Matthew 5:18; Revelation 21:1**

- The existing creation is destined to be replaced, but the promised new creation will endure forever. **Isaiah 66:22; Revelation 21:1**

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES – DOCTRINE OF HEAVEN

For each of the statements below, check where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
The soul continues after death and is conscious.				
There is a way to escape hell after one dies.				
Believers in the intermediate state still have something to look forward to.				
The current physical heavens will be destroyed along with the earth at Christ’s second coming.				

SESSION 12, PART 3 – ESCHATOLOGY: THE SECOND COMING

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Define eschatology.

Describe the purpose and limits of Biblical prophecy.

Briefly describe contrasting views with regard to Christ's second coming.

God is Sovereign: Isaiah 46:9-11

- He knows exactly how history is going to play out, because He _____ it.
- He has purposed it, and He _____ bring it to pass.
- He has revealed His plan to an extent, but has not given us every _____.

The Purpose of Prophecy: Isaiah 48:5

- Prophecy proves the _____ of God.
- Prophecy _____ God's omniscience.
- Prophecy _____ that it is God who acts.
- Prophecy is _____ given so we can write _____ ahead of time!

The Second Coming is Future:

- Nobody fully understood the first Advent _____ it happened.
- Nobody now fully _____ the Second Advent!
- Prophecy is given so we will recognize it when it happens, and understand that it is the _____ of Almighty God!
- But there is one undisputable truth: Jesus is coming again, and when He does, He will raise up all who _____ in Him. **John 6:39-40**

Biblical Terms Relating to Eschatology:

- *Eschatos* (2078) – A superlative meaning end of, last, latter end, lowest, uttermost. _____, then, is the study of the end times.
- *Parousia* (3952) – Presence, _____ or arrival. **1**

Thessalonians 3:13; 4:15

- *Apokalupsis* (602) – Revelation, _____, unveiling. **1 Corinthians 1:7; 1 Peter 4:13**
- *Epiphaneia* (2015) – To _____, to shine, to give light to. **1 Timothy 6:14; Titus 2:13-14**

Contrasting Viewpoints on the Interpretation of Revelation:

The Preterist View:

- The book of Revelation describes _____ events.
- John used symbolic language to protest against the evils of the _____ empire.
- Revelation recorded his conviction that God would eventually _____.

The Historicist View:

- Revelation describes a panorama of _____ from the First Century to the Second Coming.
- View of virtually all of the _____.

The Futurist View:

- Chapter 4 onwards deals with _____ events.
- Book not concerned so much with John's time.

The Idealist View:

- The main thrust is concerned with inspiring suffering Christians to _____ to the end.
- Symbolic language is to be taken as _____ descriptions of the triumph of God.

Contrasting Viewpoints with regard to The Millennium. Revelation 20:2-3

Amillennialism

- There is no _____ 1000 year earthly reign of Christ.
- We are now in the _____ millennial period. Christ is now _____ over the Kingdom of God on earth – although not all are members.
- Before the end there will be a great _____.
- Christ will return, followed by the _____ of the just and the unjust.
- This will then usher in the _____ state.

Postmillennialism

- The work of the _____ and true Christians will establish the millennium sometime in the future.
- Jesus will return after 1000 years of _____ on earth.
- The resurrection and _____ will then occur, ushering in the eternal state

Historic Pre-millennialism

- We are now in the _____ age.
- Sometime in the future there will be a great _____ and tribulation.
- Christ will return to establish His kingdom and _____ the righteous.
- Christ will reign on earth for 1000 years.
- Following the millennium, the resurrection and judgment of the _____ will be accomplished.
- This will usher in the eternal state.

Dispensational Pre-millennialism

- We are now in the Church Age.
- Jesus will return secretly to _____ His church.
- Following the rapture, there will be great apostasy and _____.
- We will then see the _____ of Christ with His saints.
- The resurrection of Old Testament and _____ saints will occur.
- There will be a 1,000 year earthly reign of Christ followed by the _____ and judgment of the unsaved.
- The eternal state will then be initiated.

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - THE SECOND COMING

For each of the statements below, check where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
Jesus will return as a conquering King to resurrect the righteous and establish the eternal state.				
The Millennium described in Revelation 20 is a symbol representing our current Church age.				
Jesus will return secretly to rapture His Church before the Great Tribulation takes place.				
There will be a resurrection of those justified by Christ and those who remain in their unjustified, guilty state.				
The purpose of prophecy is to demonstrate the sovereignty of God and to bring glory to Him as historical events unfold.				

SESSION 12, PART 4 – ESCHATOLOGY: THE 70 WEEKS PROPHECY

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Distinguish between views regarding Daniel's 70 weeks prophecy.

Identify the differences in scriptural interpretation that lead to these contrasting views.

Overview of the 70 Weeks Prophecy: Daniel 9:24-27

- Seventy weeks is literally seventy _____.
 - Could mean 70 _____ of years (490 years)
 - 70 weeks could indicate a _____ but indistinct period of time.
 - 7 is a perfect number
 - 10 is a perfect number
 - 7X10 is a complete era, divided into perfect periods suggested by the figure 7.
- During these 70 "weeks" six things are prophesied to happen:
 - Finish the _____
 - Make an _____ of sins (forgiveness).
 - _____ people to God. (Deal with sin.)
 - Bring in everlasting _____.
 - Seal up (or fulfill) the _____ and prophecy.
 - Anoint the most _____.(The Messiah, or the Christ)

The Fulfillment of the 70 Weeks Prophecy

- There would be seven weeks (of years) until _____ is rebuilt.
 - That's 49 Years.
 - This prophecy was fulfilled!
- In another 62 weeks, _____ was to appear.
 - That's another 434 years.
 - This prophecy was also fulfilled!

- There is general agreement about the first 69 weeks, but disagreement about the 70th week.
 - After 3.5 weeks, Messiah is to be cut off. (crucified)
 - The prince who is to come will _____ Jerusalem (coming like a flood). This occurred in 70 AD.
 - The question is, does this occur at the end of the 69th week, or does this describe events during the 70th week?

The Dispensational View:

- Verse 26 is an _____ which occurs after 69 weeks, but before the 70th week.
- Verse 27 describes the 70th week which will occur at the _____ coming.

The Reformed View:

- Events in verses 26 and 27 occurred during the first century.
- Verse 26 describes the 70th week from the standpoint of _____.
- Verse 27 describes the 70th week from the _____ standpoint.

REVIEW QUESTIONS: THE 70 WEEKS PROPHECY

1. Contrast the Dispensational interpretation of Daniel 9:26-27 with the Reformed interpretation of the same passage.

2. How does the interpretation of the personal pronoun "He" in verse 27 impact the interpretation of this passage?

SESSION 13, PART 1 – ESCHATOLOGY: THE END ACCORDING TO JESUS

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Identify New Testament passages that describe the events of Jesus' second coming.

Distinguish between views regarding the Church and the Great Tribulation.

Critically evaluate your view of end time events.



Jesus Discourse about the End of the Age: Matthew 24-25

- The disciples' question was really three in one: **Matthew 24:3**
 - When will the _____ be destroyed?
 - What is the sign of Jesus' _____?
 - What is the _____ of the end of the age?
 - Jesus addresses all three issues in His discourse.

Summary of Matthew 24:4-14

- A number of coming events are _____, including the arrival of false christs and false prophets, wars and rumors of wars, famines, earthquakes, persecution, apostasy, lawlessness and the chilling of mutual love.
- These are only the _____ of woes, not the end.
- The _____ must be preached to the entire world before the end comes.

Summary of Matthew 24:15-20

- The Abomination of Desolation (Daniel 11:31) likely has _____ fulfillments:
 - _____ Epiphanies in 167 BC
 - Worship of _____ standards – 70 AD.
 - A future abomination of the _____?
- Some believe Jesus is speaking of His _____.
- Most events seem to point to the destruction of the _____ in 70 AD.
- But these events might typify the future _____.

Summary of Matthew 24:21-28

- This is a prophecy of the _____.
- Jesus warns of false _____ and false prophets.
- He indicates that the real second coming will not be _____.
- Verse 28 may be a reference to a time when moral and spiritual degeneration resembles _____.

Summary of Matthew 24:29-44

- Jesus here speaks explicitly about His _____.
- Verse 31 is a point of controversy.
 - Pre-tribulation rapture view: The elect are the saints of _____.
 - Post-tribulation view: This is the _____ of all God’s elect.
- Our Lord’s emphasis is not on timing, rather it is on being _____.

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES: THE END ACCORDING TO JESUS

For each of the statements below, check where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
In His discourse in Matthew 24 and 25, Jesus is answering a three part question about the destruction of the Temple, the end of the Age, and the sign of His coming.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jesus predicted the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jesus predicted ongoing tribulation, persecution and apostasy during the Church age.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jesus predicted a pre-tribulation rapture of the Church.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jesus predicted that His saints would be protected from all physical harm.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jesus predicted a sudden second coming that will not be missed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SESSION 13, PART 2 – ESCHATOLOGY: RAPTURE

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Define the term “Rapture” as it applies to the Church.

Describe contrasting views with regard to the timing of the rapture.



Rapture Defined 1 Thessalonians 4:17

- Defined as being _____ in the air as Christ returns for His church.
- The term itself does not appear in scripture.
- One can think of it as a kind of _____ that happens before death.

The Dispensational Timeline

- Popularized by _____ between 1830 and 1850.
- Edward Irving is thought by some to have brought Pre-tribulation rapture theory to Darby.
- Basic assertions of Dispensational Pre-Tribulation rapture:
 - Jesus will return _____ to rapture His church prior to the Great Tribulation.
 - _____ will come to power and make a treaty with Israel allowing the sacrificial Temple worship to resume.
 - After 3 ½ years, Antichrist will _____ treaty and put an end to the sacrifice.
 - Jesus will return with His saints after 7 years to establish His _____ kingdom.

Alternative Rapture Sequences:

- **Post-Tribulation** - Living believers raptured at the second coming of Christ, which occurs at the _____ of the Tribulation.
- **Mid-Tribulation** - Living believers will be raptured after the _____ begins, but before God begins to pour out His wrath.

- **Partial Rapture** – Only believers who are _____ and waiting for the Lord will be raptured at various times before and during the seven-year Tribulation.

Arguments in Support of Pre-Tribulation Rapture: See *Lectures in Systematic Theology* by Henry C. Thiessen, Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1949, pp. 344-363.

The Sequence of Events from Scripture:

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

- The Lord descends with a shout, voice of Archangel, and the _____ of God.
- The _____ rise first.
- The living are _____.
- The _____ will always be with the Lord.
- Nothing in this passage indicates a specific time for these events.

1 Corinthians 15:50-52

- The _____ sounds.
- The _____ rise.
- The living are _____.
- Notice that this happens at the _____ trumpet.

Matthew 24:29-31

- The _____ ends.
- There will be cosmic upheaval.
- The _____ of Son of Man is seen and Jesus comes.
- _____ are sent with trumpet.
- The _____ are gathered from the 4 winds (Earth?) and from all over heaven.

Mark 13:24-27

- The _____ ends.
- Cosmic _____ happens.
- The Son of Man is seen.

- _____ are sent.
- The elect are _____.

Revelation 11:15-18

- The seventh (last) _____ sounds.
- God takes possession of _____ of the world.
- The dead are resurrected for _____.
- Prophets and _____ judged for rewards.
- _____ of the earth are destroyed.

Revelation 20:4-6

- The _____ are resurrected.
- The _____ reign 1000 years.
- The _____ are resurrected.
- The unsaved are cast into the Lake of Fire which is the _____ death.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-8

- The great _____ occurs.
- The _____ of evil is removed.
- _____ is revealed in the temple.
- _____ returns.
- Key to this passage: Who is the restrainer?
 - Dispensational theologians believe He is the _____ acting through the church.
 - In Genesis 6:3, the Holy Spirit "strives" or restrains men. (This might also be translated "abides".)
 - The church blesses society at large. (Matthew 5:13-16)
 - When church is raptured, the Holy Spirit will withhold His special restraining ministry.

- Others propose human _____ as the restrainer.
 - Because of man's fallen state, nobody could live together without civil law. **1 Peter 2:13-14**
 - The presence of civil law _____ (to a point) lawlessness on earth.
 - The removal of the restrainer refers to a complete _____ in civil law, readying people to accept a one-world government under the antichrist.
- Still others propose **Michael** the Archangel as the restrainer.
 - Michael is said to strive with Satan. **Revelation 12:7**
 - Michael is also said to stand watch over the people. **Daniel 12:1**

The Doctrine of Imminence

- Jesus could return at anytime, The Bible clearly says Christ's return will be "as a thief in the night", **Matt 24:42-44; Luke 12:40; 1 Thessalonians 5:2; Revelation 16:15**

Below are potential objections that some have made to a Pre-Tribulation Rapture. These should be discussed in class and answers given.

- It is not the emphasis of the Bible.
- An unbiased reading of relevant passages would not suggest this doctrine. 1 Corinthians 15 clearly says those still alive will be "caught up" at the last trump.
- It supposes there is more than one way to salvation. (pre-rapture saints, post-rapture saints, and descendants of Israel.)
- Despite its popularity, it is a relatively new doctrine. (Darby's work began in 1827)
- It insulates our minds from the very real possibility of trial and tribulation.
- It ignores one of the very possible purposes of the great tribulation – the cleansing of the saints for the return of Christ!
- Rapture doctrine puts the focus on us – but we are to be focused on Jesus.

Conclusions:

- There are _____ believers on both sides of the secret rapture viewpoint.
- A great deal of passion is evident from both sides.
- Is this an essential “bulls-eye” doctrine?
 - Probably not.
 - But it does warrant continued study.

REVIEW QUESTIONS: RAPTURE

1. What does the phrase “rapture of the church” mean?

2. According to Dispensational Theology, when will the rapture take place?

3. What are some alternative views on the timing of the rapture?

SESSION 13, PART 3 – ESCHATOLOGY: RESURRECTION

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Describe the promised resurrection of the saints and the lost.
Distinguish between the judgment of the saints and the judgment of the reprobate.

The Blessed Hope - 2 Peter 3:10-13

- Ultimately, our hope lies not in the rapture, but in our _____.
- As Christians, we are looking forward to new heavens and a new earth in which _____ dwells.
- We look forward to an eternity free from the very _____ of sin.

The Importance of the Resurrection - 1 Corinthians 15:12-17

- Without the resurrection, our hope is _____.
- The Resurrection is _____ to the Gospel. **1 Corinthians 15:1-4**
- Belief in the Resurrection is critical to our _____. **Romans 10:9**
- Jesus’ resurrection was real, _____ (bodily) and eternal.

Resurrection of Christian - Believers Revelation 20:4-6

- The resurrection of _____ makes it possible. **1 Corinthians 15:20-21**
- Our resurrection comes with a glorious _____. **1 Corinthians 15:35-38**
- Our resurrection is _____. **1 Thessalonians 4:17**
- Our resurrection will occur when Christ _____. **1 Thessalonians 4:16**

Resurrection of Unbelievers - Revelation 20:11-15

- The unbelievers will be raised for _____.
- Unbelievers will be judged according to their own _____.
- Unbelievers will be eternally _____ from God.
- Unbelievers will be cast into the Lake of Fire and will have no rest.
- Smoke of unbelievers’ _____ will ascend forever and ever. **Revelation 14:11**

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - RESURRECTION

For each of the statements below, check where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
There will be a bodily resurrection of both the justified (in Jesus) and the unjust.				
Belief in the resurrection is critical to salvation.				
The resurrection of believers comes with a glorious, sin-free body.				
Those who die without trusting in Christ will have a second chance at the resurrection.				
The resurrection of believers will come prior to a literal 1000 year Millennial reign of Christ and unbelievers will be resurrected after the Millennium.				
The reprobate will be resurrected for judgment.				

SESSION 13, PART 4 – ESCHATOLOGY: DIVINE JUDGMENT

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

State the necessity of Divine Judgment.

Give the basis for Divine Judgment.

Distinguish between the judgment of Christians and the judgment of the reprobate.



Divine Judgment Defined

- Judgment is the working out of God's mercy and _____.
- Judgment is God's vigorous _____ against evil.
- God's judgment brings _____ for the wicked. **Isaiah 4:4**
- God's judgment brings deliverance for the _____. **Psalm 25:9-10**

Judgment in the Old Testament

- God is a God of _____. **Psalms 9:7-8; Deuteronomy 1:17; Psalms 9:8; Isaiah 30:18**
- God determines blessing or _____ for people. **Isaiah 1:19-20**
- Toward the end of the Old Testament, judgment on the _____ is increasingly stressed. **Joel 2:1**

Judgment in the New Testament

- Reinforces the Old Testament idea that judgment belongs to the _____ of God. **Romans 1:18; Hebrews 12:23;; 1 Peter 1:17; Revelation 16:5**
- Divine judgment is at work in human life in the present age. **John 8:50; Romans 1:28**
- In the New Testament, judgment is associated with _____. **John 3:19; 9:39**
- The spotlight falls on the coming _____, a time of terrible judgment. **John 6:39; Romans 2:16; 1 John 4:17**

The Basis for Judgment

- Judgment is based on a man or woman's _____ to the revealed will of God.
- Divine judgment will be _____ just.
- Divine judgment will be based on _____, both hidden and seen. (Romans 2:6; 1 Corinthians 3:8; Revelation 22:12)
- Apart from Christ, no one can stand, so we are justified by _____ alone. **Romans 3:28; 5:1; Hebrews 10:38**

The Work of God - John 6:29

- Jesus said that the work of God was to _____ in the One He sent.
- We will be _____ according to this work!
- Christ's good works will stand to our account on the judgment day.
- There will be no _____ for anyone apart from this work.
- If we trust in Christ, we have a guarantee of _____
Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 2:5; Colossians 2:20

Judgment of Unbelievers

- Non-believers do perform acts of love and mercy.
- These are evidence of God's _____ grace which restrains evil and promotes goodness.
- These acts alone will not justify anybody!
- There is no way apart from _____ that anyone can be saved. **Acts 4:12**

The Final Judgment - John 5:28-29

- Judgment of Christians: **1 Peter 1:17**
 - Christ will judge His people at His coming. **Matthew 25:14-30, 1 Corinthians 3:12-15, 2 Corinthians 5:10, Revelation 20:12**
 - Christians judged on _____ of talents gifts and responsibilities given them.
 - _____ in God's family will not be at stake.
 - Judgment that of a father toward His children. **1 Peter 1:17**

REVIEW: ESSENTIAL DOCTRINES - DIVINE JUDGMENT

For each of the statements below, check where they belong on our doctrinal target.

Doctrinal Statement	To Die For	To Defend	To Discuss	To Dismiss
Divine Judgment is the working out of God’s mercy and wrath.				
People will be judged by whether or not they performed more good works than bad during their lives.				
God’s judgment is at work in the world today, but it is not the final judgment.				
Judgment is based on an individual’s response to the revealed will of God.				
Apart from faith in Christ, nobody can stand at God’s judgment.				
Believers will be judged on their stewardship of gifts and responsibilities given to them, but it will not affect their standing in the kingdom of God.				



FINAL EXAM: INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE

Answer each of the following questions, citing Scripture where appropriate.

Section 1: Vocabulary – Define each of the following terms.

1. Anthropology
2. Hamartialogy
3. Soteriology
4. Ecclesiology
5. Eschatology
6. Sheol
7. Gehenna
8. Preterist view of Revelation
9. Historicist view of Revelation
10. Idealist View of Revelation
11. Amillennialism
12. Postmillennialism

13. Historic Pre-millennialism

14. Dispensational Pre-millennialism

Section II: Short Answer – Answer each of the following in a phrase or a sentence. Cite Scripture where appropriate.

15. When we say "the pre-incarnate state of Christ", what are we talking about?

16. What do we mean when we talk of God's "personality"?

17. If you could use only two words to describe God's nature, what would they be? Cite scripture to support your answer.

18. In class, we have said "God is knowable, but He is not comprehensible."
Explain what that means, and cite Scripture to support your answer.

19. In reference to the Trinity, what is significant about the word used for God in Genesis 1:1?

20. What is our source of authority for developing doctrine? Support your answer from Scripture.

21. Why was it important that Jesus Christ live a perfect, sinless life? Support your answer from Scripture.

22. Briefly state the doctrine of the Trinity.

23. Is it possible for us, while in our flesh, to fully understand the Trinity? Why or why not?

24. Why should we quote Scripture to an unbeliever, even if he/she/it does not acknowledge the authority of Scripture? I guess you’d better cite Scripture to support this one!

25. Describe the Calvinistic view of election.

26. Describe the Arminian view of election.

27. What was the original state of man (before the fall)?

28. List six consequences of the fall.

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e.
- f.

29. What does it mean when we say humankind is totally depraved? Support your answer from Scripture.

30. What is the difference between Old Testament ritual sacrifice and Christ’s sacrifice on the cross? Support your answer from Scripture.

31. In Romans 3:25, Paul writes that God sent forth Jesus as a propitiation by His blood. What does this mean?

32. Some theologians profess the theory of limited atonement. Others believe in unlimited atonement. Compare and contrast these views.

33. Describe the importance of Christ’s resurrection. Cite Scripture to support your answer.

34. What is the relationship of the Church to the Kingdom of God?

Section III: Contending for the faith – Assume that a friend or acquaintance has made each of the following statements. If they are true, based on the Word of God, say so. If they are not, write “False” and cite Scripture explaining why it is incorrect.

35. I know I am a Christian because I live in a Christian country and I was baptized as a baby.

36. I don’t believe a loving God would send anybody to Hell.

37. I’m a Christian, but nowhere in the Bible does it say that I should go to church.

38. God knew I was going to be a Christian even before He created the universe.

39. The way to become a Christian is to repent and be baptized.

40. There is no way I can lose my salvation because God will keep me from falling away.

41. The Bible clearly teaches that the Church will be raptured before the great tribulation.

Section IV: Apologetics – Frame your answer to the following with Biblical proofs.

42. What is your view of the doctrine of predestination?

43. There are many competing views of Biblical eschatology, and good, Bible-believing Christians will often disagree. However, there are some points that should be beyond debate. List those points below and support each item in your list with a scripture reference.

GLOSSARY

Agnostic - The word Agnostic derives from the negation of the Greek word [*gnosis*], which means esoteric knowledge of higher things. Agnostic means no-knowledge or not knowing. Agnostics generally believe that no one can know whether or not God exists. Some take a more liberal approach, saying "they" do not know, but that existence of a Deity might be possible.

Amen - means "so be it" or "it is certainly so."

Amillennialism - The eschatological view that there is no literal thousand year reign of Christ. The Millennium of Revelation 20 refers symbolically to the Church Age.

Angelology - is from the Greek [*aggelos*] meaning angel, and [*logos*] meaning word or discourse. So it means the discourse or the study of angels. The words translated angel appears over 200 times throughout the scriptures. In the Old Testament it is the Hebrew word [*malak*] and in the New Testament it is the Greek word [*aggelos*], from where we get the actual word Angel. In both the Hebrew and Greek (Old and New Testament) the words mean, a messenger.

Antinomianism - is from the Greek [*anti*] meaning opposed to, and [*nomos*] meaning Law. It denotes those who oppose God's law.

Apostasy - is from the Greek [*apostasia*], which means a departing or separating (2nd Thessalonians 2:3). In Christianity it is a forsaking or departing from the faith, principles, or truth, to which the Church previously held (1st Timothy 4:1, Hebrews 3:12). This abandonment or falling away from the faith is an opposite of the protestant reformation, which was the returning to the faith, principles, and truths which the Church formerly held.

Apologetics – Presents a rational basis for the Christian faith, defending the faith against objections.

Arminianism - The Reformed churches at the Synod of Dort (1618-1619) condemned this doctrine which is held by followers of late 16C Theologian Jacobus Arminius (1560-1609). The five points or articles which this doctrine holds to are:

1. Conditional Election
2. Universal Atonement
3. Inherent will to respond to grace
4. The resistibility of grace
5. The ability of the saints to fail to persevere.

His followers became known as the Remonstrants, or the Deniers because they believe that man is not totally depraved, but is inherently good, so that God elects people to be Saved on the basis of His foreseeing something good in them, that they repent and believe. This view is antithetical to the Reformed Doctrines of Grace.

Atonement - The process of bringing the estranged into a unity with God.

Christology - is from the Greek, [*christos*] meaning "anointed one," and [*logos*] meaning "word." By extension the words or discourse about the anointed one. This is the doctrine that deals with the person of Jesus Christ. It encompasses the theological study of both the divine and the human nature of the Savior, and the roles they play in Christianity.

Dispensationalism - is from the Greek [*oikonomia*] meaning an administration. It means an administration of time of epochs. Premillennial dispensationalism is a method of interpreting scripture popularized by John Nelson Darby (1800-1882), and the notes in the Scofield Reference Bible. This system divides history into epochs (eras) or extended periods called "dispensations," in which God deals with man in different economies for the presenting of His world program. In dispensationalism it is believed that ethnic Israel and the Church are separate and unequal bodies in God's dispensations

Doxology - is from the two Greek words [*doxa*] meaning glory, and [*logos*], meaning to speak. By implication the word logos can mean "word." These are the same Greek words found in your Bible that are translated "word" and "glory." So very literally, doxology means "words to glorify."

Ecclesiology - is from the Greek [*ekklesia*] meaning Church, and [*logos*] meaning word. By extension the word or discourse of the Church. It is the study of the Church and its origins. The purpose is to produce a deeper understanding of the body of Christ as seen in the light of divine revelation of God, received in faith.

Eschatology - is from the Greek [*eschatos*] meaning last, and [*logos*] meaning word or discourse. It is the theological Doctrine of the discourse of the last things, such as life after death, immortality, judgment, the coming of Christ, and the end time events.

Election - the biblical doctrine that God in His sovereignty chooses certain individuals to be saved.

General Revelation - Can be known by all: nature, history, conscience.

Gnosticism - is from the Greek [*gnosis*], meaning knowing or knowledge, and implies a esoteric knowledge of higher things. It is not a system, but more a school of thought, or philosophical ideas which are generally related to mystery religions. In first 3 centuries A.D., many different groups believed men (Gnostics) were saved through this transcendental higher knowledge, which came not through God, but through self awareness and understanding. Basically, salvation by knowledge.

Gospel - Gospel means "good news" or "glad tidings," specifically the Good News of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection for our salvation, healing, and provision; and the hope of eternal life that Jesus made available to us by God's grace.

Hamartiology - comes from the Greek word *hamartos* meaning sin. Hamartiology is the study of sin. The study includes how sin was introduced into the world, how it impacts the world today, the solution to the sin problem of humanity, the judgment of sin, and the removal of sin at the end of time.

Heresy - is from the Greek [hairesis] meaning, choose, or "doctrines of men who have chosen to follow their own views." In general, heresy is a self-chosen doctrine not emanating from God's word. Any doctrine or teaching which is contradictory to established Church doctrine based on the Holy Bible is called a heresy.

Hyper-Calvinism - [*Hyper*] is a Greek word literally meaning to throw beyond, or to take farther, or to go beyond. Hyper-Calvinism is a theological system which goes beyond Calvinism.

Infallible – Cannot fail.

Illumination - Process/God causes His special revelation to be understood by human heart.

Inerrancy of the Scriptures - Scripture, having been inspired by God the Holy Spirit, is free from all falsehood, fraud, or deceit. The sinfulness and human limits of the writers of Scripture did not introduce distortion or falsehood into God's Word.

Inspiration- "to breathe in."

Immutable - Cannot change.

Justification - to declare righteous, to make one right with God.

Koine - The common form of Greek spoken and written during Hellenistic and Roman antiquity. Koine is the language of the Christian New Testament, of the Septuagint (the 3rd-century BC Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible), and of most early Christian theological writing by the Church Fathers. Koine Greek is also known as "Biblical", "New Testament" or "patristic" Greek.

Pelagianism - was a 5th-century heresy taught by Pelagius and his followers which stressed that humans have the ability to fulfill the commands of God apart from Sovereign grace, and which denies original sin. Pelagius' teachings were opposed by the Church and its leading figure (Augustine) in particular.

Pneumatology - from the Greek [*numa*] meaning breath (and by extension Spirit), and [*logos*] meaning word or discourse. It is the discourse or study of the Holy Spirit of God. It encompasses the study of His person, work, gifts, and ministry. The Spirit of God being manifested in many ways including teaching (John. 14:26), restraining sin (Genesis 6:3, 20:6), Revelation (Matthew 11:27), and interceding (Romans 8:26).

Postmillennialism - The eschatological view that Christ will return after 1000 years of righteousness on Earth which was initiated by the evangelical work of the Church.

Reconciliation - to be restored to a right relationship with God.

Soteriology - is from two Greek word [*sozo*] meaning Save, and [*logos*] meaning word or the word or discourse of Salvation. It is the doctrine of the study of God's work in Salvation. How through the passion, death, resurrection, and ascension of Christ, man's redemption is accomplished.

Special Inspiration - Process God caused Special Revelation communicated to man.

Special Revelation - Given to some for all: spoken, written, Walking Word.

Synoptic Gospels - Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Synoptic means with one eye, signifying that the synoptic gospels, as opposed to the gospel according to John, tend to have the same perspective on Jesus’ ministry.

Testament - The name of each general division of the canonical books of the sacred Scriptures; the Old Testament; the New Testament. The name is equivalent to covenant, and in our use of it, we apply it to the books which contain the old and new dispensations; that of Moses, and that of Jesus Christ.

Theology - is from the Greek [*theos*] meaning God, and [*logos*] meaning word or discourse. It is the discourse or study of God and the revelation of His omni-perfect attributes, such as His Word, omnipresence, mercy, justice and purposes.

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