

Biblical Theology Core Seminar—13 Weeks



What is Biblical Theology?

1. Defining the Topic Week 1
2. Guardian & Guide for the Church Week 2
3. Defining the Tools Week 3

The Stories to be Told: Biblical Theology Displayed

4. Kingdom Through Covenant Week 3
5. Eden to New Jerusalem Week 4
6. People of God Week 5
7. Sacrifice Week 6
8. Mission Week 7
9. Idolatry Week 8

Putting the Text to Work

10. Exodus; 1 Samuel; Psalm Week 10
11. Proverbs; Isaiah; Nehemiah Week 11
12. Luke; John; Colossians Week 12
13. The Quiz Week 13

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Biblical Theology Core Seminar

Class 1: What Is Biblical Theology

Introduction

I. What Is Biblical Theology?

Big Idea: Biblical theology is the discipline of learning how to read the Bible as one story by one divine author that culminates in the person and work of Christ, so that every part of Scripture is understood in relation to Christ.

It's a way to read the Bible. A hermeneutic.

See **Luke 24:44-47**.

Don Carson: "*Biblical Theology...seeks to uncover and articulate the unity of all the biblical texts taken together, resorting primarily to the categories of those texts themselves*" (NDBT, 100).

Michael Lawrence, "*Biblical theology is the attempt to tell the whole story of the whole Bible as Christian Scripture*" (*Biblical Theology in the Life of the Church*).

Illustration: Samson

II. What About the Bible Makes Biblical Theology Necessary

A. God Word Was Written by Humans

B. God's Word Was Written by God

C. God's Revealed Himself Progressively

D. God Revealed Himself in History

E. God's Revelation Has an Organic Character

F. God Reveals Himself in Narrative

G. God's Reveals Himself in News

H. God Reveals Himself in Christ

III. How do Biblical Theology & Systematic Theology relate to one another?

A. What Is Systematic Theology

1. An Orderly and Comprehensive Summary of the Bible's Teaching by Topic

2. *The Line Between Truth and Error, Orthodoxy and Heresy*

3. *Scripture Applied*

B. How Do Biblical and Systematic Theology Relate to Each Other?

Biblical theology is a mediating discipline, while systematic is a culminating discipline (DA Carson, NDBT, p. 102-3).

Biblical Theology	Systematic Theology
Scripture as Authority	Scripture as Authority
Organizing principle: Historical, tracing the development of revelation	Organizing principle: Topical, logical, hierarchical
Starting point: Bible on its own terms	Starting point: contemporary questions
Provides: Storyline (news story)	Provides: Doctrine, Worldview, Application (the headline)
Connection: Bridge To ST	Connection: Summarizes and Rearticulates BT

C. Test Case: The Gospel

IV. Why Is Biblical Theology Important?

The short answer is, it helps us read the Bible rightly, so that we can engage with the world rightly.