

Institute of Biblical Studies
HUMANITY, CHRIST, SALVATION
Colorado State University // June 15 - 28, 2017 // 1:00-3:00pm

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Course Description

What is the gospel? Few questions are more fundamental to our personal lives and organizational calling than this. Although we spend a lot of time and energy strategizing how to introduce men and women to the gospel, we often spend little time reflecting on the gospel itself. Furthermore, we often live as if the gospel is only for “lost” people and not also for those of us who have been “found.”

In this class we will explore historic Christian teachings regarding the doctrine of humanity, the person and work of Christ, and the doctrine of salvation. Together these doctrines shape our understanding of the gospel. We will explore the *basis* of salvation in the Father’s sovereign plan; the *accomplishment* of salvation through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ; and the *application* of salvation to God’s children by the Holy Spirit. We will examine these doctrines as they are taught in Scripture and confessed by the church so that we may better live to the glory of the triune God.

Course Objectives

1. Grow in your capacity to love God with your mind.
2. Discover the importance of good doctrine for personal growth, evangelism, discipleship, movement launching, and cross-cultural mission.
3. Deepen your understanding of historic Christian teaching regarding the doctrines of humanity, the person and work of Christ, and the doctrine of salvation.
4. Better understand the biblical and theological foundations for these doctrines.
5. Become familiar with viewpoints, differences, and conflicts which exist among Christians regarding these doctrines.
6. Explore the practical implications of these doctrines for personal growth and ministry (evangelism, discipleship, movement launching, and cross-cultural mission).
7. Grow in your ability to read Scripture “theologically.”
8. Develop a deeper understanding of and commitment to the Cru Statement of Faith.
9. Be better prepared to partner with those who hold differing theological views allowing for difference of opinion on matters not central to our statement of faith and calling while pointing people to a compelling center (i.e., Christ, the gospel and our mission).

Full Text Readings

Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994). This will serve as our primary text. ISBN-13: 978-0310286707

David Platt, *Counter Culture: Following Christ in an Anti-Christian Age* - Revised & Expanded (Carol Stream: Tyndale , 2017) BE SURE TO GET THE REVISED AND EXPANDED VERSION. ISBN-13: 978-1414390383

Chapter Readings

Michael W. Goheen., Craig G. Bartholomew, *Living at the Crossroads: An Introduction to the Christian Worldview* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008). (PDF Provided)

Timothy C. Tennent, *Theology in the Context of World Christianity:* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007). (PDF Provided)

Note: There will only be one chapter of reading from the Goheen and Tennent books and they will be provided for the class in the form of a PDF (i.e. you are not required to buy the whole book).

Course Requirements

1. **Class Participation:** Class participation include attendance of *all* class sessions and active participation in course discussion.
2. **Reading:** Reading should be done thoroughly and thoughtfully with a sincere attempt to learn all you can. Submit a hard copy the last day of class. **DUE: Wednesday June 28 (the last day of class).**
3. **Case Studies:** Students will compose two case studies that will be 600-800 words each. Each case will 1) present a practical ministry situation that the student often encounters, and 2) demonstrate how one of the doctrines (or sub-doctrines) studied in the class informs your engagement with the situations chosen. **DUE: Monday, June 26 at the beginning of class.**
4. **Theology Project:** Students will write a paper exploring the two natures of Christ (human and divine) and its significance for salvation and evangelicalism. This paper is 2,000-2,500 words and is exegetically based (i.e., you will primarily quote scripture). Follow this outline as a guide for your paper structure:
 - a. First, develop a synthesis of Chris's divinity and humanity using five to seven key biblical texts.
 - b. Second, describe why Christ's divinity and humanity are significant for salvation.
 - c. Third, explain how the divinity and humanity of Christ informs an evangelistic encounter.

DUE: Wednesday June 28th at the beginning of class.

Course Grade

Reading Report	25% (due Wednesday, June 28)
Case Studies	25% (due Monday, June 26)
Theology Project	<u>50%</u> (due Wednesday, June 28)
	100%

Course Schedule

Thursday, June 15th

Introduction to Theology & Humanity

Friday, June 16th

Humanity

Monday, June 19th

Humanity

Tuesday, June 20th

Humanity

Wednesday, June 21st

Christ

Thursday, June 22nd

Christ

Friday, June 23rd

Christ

Monday, June 26th

Salvation

Tuesday, June 27th

Salvation

Wednesday, June 28th

Salvation

Reading Report

Name _____

Lesson	Assignment	Assigned Pages	# Pages Completed
Day 1	Goheen & Bartholomew Grudem, capter 22 & 24	53	
Day 2	Platt, chapters 2 & 7	62	
Day 3	Platt, chapters 8 & 9	46	
Day 4	Tennent, chapter 5	27	
Day 5	Grudem, chapters 26 & 29	49	
Day 6	Grudem, chapter 27	40	
Day 7	Grudem, chapter 28 & Platt chapter 10	39	
Day 8	Grudem, chapters 32 - 35	54	
Day 9	Grudem, chapters 36, 38 & 43	50	
Day 10	Grudem, chapters 40 -42	52	
	Total	472	