

December 15, 2021

The Doctrine of God Review

Introduction to Theology: Weeks 1-2

What is theology? Who is it for?

How to study theology with a heart of humility and worship

Charles Hodge (1797-1878) – “Holiness is essential to correct knowledge of divine things, and the great security from error” (*Lectures to Theological Students*, 112).

The Doctrine of Revelation: Weeks 3-4

Natural Revelation / Natural Theology

Natural Theology – “is the attempt to build a theological structure on the basis of general revelation apart from God’s witness in the Scriptures and in Jesus Christ” (Russell Moore, “Natural Revelation,” in *A Theology for the Church*, 71).

Special Revelation / Supernatural Theology

The Doctrine of the Trinity: Weeks 5-7

Divine Simplicity & Inseparable Operations

Scott Swain – “As God’s being is simple and indivisible, so his works are undivided and inseparable. As three distinct persons eternally exist within God’s simple, indivisible being, so there is a threefold or operation within God’s undivided, inseparable works.”

The Ontological Trinity: The Essence and Attributes of the Father, Son, and Spirit

The Economic Trinity: The Works of God in Creation and Redemption

~ From the Father, through the Son, by the Spirit

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The Doctrine of the Father: Week 8

What does it mean to have a heavenly Father?

Michael Reeves – “That insight is like a stick of dynamite in all our thoughts about God. For it, before all things, God was eternally a Father, then this God is an inherently outgoing, life-going God... Just as a fountain, to be a fountain, must pour forth water, so the Father, to be Father, must give out life. That is who he is. That is his most fundamental identity. Thus love is not something the Father has, merely one of his many moods. Rather, he is love. He could not not love. If he did not love, he would not be Father” (*Delighting in the Trinity*, 24-26).

The Doctrine of Christ: Weeks 9-11

The Person of Christ: the God-Man

The Past Atoning Work of Christ

1 Corinthians 1:22-25 – “For the Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.”

1 Corinthians 2:7-12 – “But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, ‘What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him’ these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

The Current Interceding Work of Christ

Steven Charnock (1628-1680) – “As he was a priest upon the cross to make an expiation for us, so he is our priest in the court of heaven, to plead this atonement, both before the tribunal of justice and the throne of mercy, against the curses of the law, the accusations of Satan, and indictments of sin, and to keep off the punishment which our guilt had merited.”

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The Doctrine of the Spirit: Weeks 12-13

The Divine Person of the Holy Spirit

The Work and Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The Spirit Brings God's Work Into Fruition

- The Spirit inspires the Word (2 Peter 1:21)
- The Spirit illumines the Word (John 16:13-14; 14:26)
- The Spirit convicts of sin, righteousness, and judgment (Jn. 16:8-11)
- The Spirit makes us new creations (Titus 3:5)
- The Spirit is active in adopting us in salvation (Rom. 8:15-16)
- The Spirit dwells inside you (1 Cor. 6:19)
- The Spirit assures you of salvation (Eph. 1:13-14; Romans 8:16)

Our Response to God and His Revelation: Week 14

God makes worship that is acceptable to Him possible through the work of Christ and the Holy Spirit.

David Peterson – “The pattern of acceptable worship throughout Scripture can be defined as an engagement with God on the terms he proposes and in the way he alone makes possible” (*Encountering God Together*, 40).