

Biblical Theology Class Schedule

What is Biblical Theology?

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| 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

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| 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

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

Further Questions?

Feel free to email me at matthew@gracechurchsalida.com.

Core Seminars—Biblical Theology

Week 2: Guardian and Guide for the Church

Introduction

A cautionary tale, from Sean DeMars.

Biblical theology is the discipline of learning how to read the Bible as one story by one divine author that centers on the person and work of Jesus, so that every part of the story is understood in relation to Jesus. It's a way to read the Bible.

Inductive study can be divided into three distinct phases:

- (1) observation (with context as king)
- (2) interpretation
- (3) application

Or, to phrase it another way:

- What does the text say?
- What does the text mean?
- What does the text mean for me?

But **why?** *Because,* Biblical theology guards and guides churches.

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY AS CHURCH GUARD

How might people apply these passages *wrongly*?

1) Blessing

Deut28:1-6, CSB "Now if you faithfully obey Yahweh your God and are careful to follow all his commands I am giving you today, the Lord your God will put you far above all the nations of the earth. 2 All these blessings will come and overtake you, because you obey the Lord your God:

3 You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country.

4 Your offspring will be blessed, and your land's produce, and the offspring of your livestock, including the young of your herds and the newborn of your flocks.

5 Your basket and kneading bowl will be blessed.

6 You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out.

Prov11:24-25, CSB

One person gives freely, yet gains more; another withholds what is right, only to become poor.

A generous person will be enriched, and the one who gives a drink of water will receive water.

2) Asking

1 Chron 4:10, CSB Jabez called out to the God of Israel, "If only you would bless me, extend my border, let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm, so

that I will not experience pain." And God granted his request.

Matt18:19, CSB Again, truly I tell you, if two of you on earth agree about any matter that you pray for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.

Matt21:22, CSB And if you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."

3) Who is Jesus?

Col1:15, CSB He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

In each case, bad or imbalanced biblical theologies proclaim a bad or imbalanced gospel, and such gospels build bad or imbalanced churches.

"A robust biblical theology tends to safeguard Christians against the most egregious reductionisms," says D. A. Carson.

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY AS CHURCH GUIDE

A Guide to Good Preaching

A Guide to Good Counseling

What is our fundamental problem?

A Guide to Good Outreach and Engagement

Biblical theology rightly balances our expectations between expecting too much (over-realized eschatology, perfectionism) or demanding too little (cheap grace, easy-believism, belonging-before-believing, not preaching the imperative). It will not promise our best life now (whether that means health and wealth, transforming the city, winning the favor of the elite, or retaking America). But nor does it shy away from engaging culture and seeking the good of the city in deed ministry for the sake of love and justice.

Example: Missions

A Guide to Good Corporate Worship

A Guide to Good Church Structures