

Systematic Theology Core Seminar

“Systematic Theology and the Doctrine of the Word”

Week 01 09.13.2023

INTRODUCTION

A. What is Systematic Theology?

B. Why Study Systematic Theology?

1. For God’s Glory

Philippians 1:9-11 And I pray this: that your **love** will keep on growing *in knowledge and every kind of discernment*, 10 **so that** you may approve the things that are superior and may be pure and blameless in the day of Christ, 11 **filled with the fruit of righteousness** that comes through Jesus Christ **to the glory and praise of God**.

2. Corporately Reflect the Messiah to Others

Eph 3:8-12 This grace was given to me—the least of all the saints—to proclaim to the Gentiles the incalculable riches of Christ, 9 and to shed light for all about the administration of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things. 10 This is so that God’s multi-faceted wisdom may now be made known through the church to the rulers and authorities in the heavens. 11 This is according to his eternal purpose accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. 12 In him we have boldness and confident access through faith in him.

3. Individual Sanctification and Growth

4. Doctrine Matters

John 8:31-32 Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you continue in my **word**, (his teaching, his doctrine) you *really are* my disciples. 32 You will know the **truth**, and the truth will set you free.”

2 Tim 4:1-5 I **solemnly** charge you before God and Messiah Jesus, who is going to judge the living and the dead, and because of his appearing and his kingdom: 2 Proclaim **the word**; be ready in season and out of season; correct, rebuke, and encourage with great patience and **teaching**. 3 For the

time will come when people will not tolerate **sound doctrine**, but according to their own desires, will multiply teachers for themselves because they have an itch to hear what they want to hear. 4 They will turn away from hearing **the truth** and will turn aside to myths. 5 But as for you, exercise self-control in everything, **endure hardship**, do the work of an evangelist, **fulfill your ministry**.

C. Doing Systematic Theology: Key Features

1. Biblically Grounded

2. Historically Informed

3. Contextualized

4. Lived Out

THE DOCTRINE OF THE WORD

The Starting Point:

1. There is a God

2. He Speaks

A. The Case for the Bible As Our Authority

1. Old Testament
(Deut 5.22; Deut 32)

2. New Testament Recognizes Authority of OT
(Matt. 5.17; Jn 10.35; Lk 24.44)

3. New Testament Recognizes an Authority on Par with OT
(Heb 1.1-2; 2 Pet 3.16; 1 Tim 5.18)

Next week:

Canon (*how the Bible was received by humanity*),

Inspiration,

Inerrancy,

Infallibility,

Clarity,

Necessity

and Sufficiency of Scripture.