DO 720 Theology of Karl Barth

Stephen A. Seamands

Follow this and additional works at: http://place.asburyseminary.edu/syllabi

Recommended Citation
http://place.asburyseminary.edu/syllabi/538
THE THEOLOGY OF KARL BARTH

I. PURPOSE: The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to the theology of Karl Barth. After tracing Barth's development as a theologian and his radical critique of classical liberalism, we will then turn to a consideration of his own major theological emphases as found in his *Church Dogmatics* and other writings. Reports and lectures will also expose students to other various aspects of Barth's theology.

II. OBJECTIVES: By the end of the course students will

1. Have become familiar with the life and theology of the greatest Christian theologian of the 20th Century, Karl Barth.

2. Have read at least 1,000 pages of primary source material by Karl Barth.

3. Have examined, evaluated, and used a reasonable range of secondary literature related to the study of Karl Barth.

4. Have grasped the contemporary relevance of Karl Barth's theology for the Church and Pastoral Ministry today.

III. TEXTS

Karl Barth, *The Word of God and the Word of Man*

*Dogmatics in Outline*

Clifford Green, *Karl Barth: Theologian of Freedom*

IV. REQUIREMENTS

1. Regular, active participation in class sessions. Since much of the time the class will follow a discussion format, it is important that you get involved. You will be evaluated as to how well you are able to articulate your understanding of the assigned reading materials (25%).
2. A group project on an assigned subject related to Karl Barth to be presented during a class session (25%). Some of the subjects to be presented will be:

- Barth and Brunner on Natural Theology
- Barth and American Evangelicalism
- Barth and Politics
- Barth and Bultmann
- Barth's Understanding of Preaching
- Barth's Approach to Ethics
- Barth's Hermeneutics

4. A 12-15 page research paper on some aspect of Barth's theology (50%). Include at least 15 sources in your bibliography. You are encouraged to purchase the Barth Bibliography which is available in the bookstore.

V. COURSE OUTLINE AND ASSIGNED READINGS

**KARL BARTH'S EARLY THEOLOGY**

1. Introduction

   *Karl Barth: Theologian of Freedom, 11-45.*

2. From Liberal to Dialectical Theology


   Selection from "The Epistle to the Romans," in *Karl Barth: Theologian of Freedom, 114-140.*


3. Theology and Ministry

Karl Barth on the Apostles' Creed

4. The First Article of the Creed
   Dogmatics in Outline, pp. 9-64.

5. The Second and Third Articles of the Creed
   Dogmatics in Outline, pp. 65-155.

Selections from the Church Dogmatics

6. Barth's Doctrine of the Word of God
   CD I/1, pp. 25-120.

7. Barth's Doctrine of Scripture
   CD I/2, pp. 457-536.

8. Barth's Doctrine of Election
   CD II/2, pp. 3-34, 94-106, 115-127, 145-188.

9. Barth's Doctrine of Reconciliation
   CD IV/1, pp. 22-54, 79-154.

10. Barth's Doctrine of the Christian Life
    CD IV/2, pp. 511-546, 553-613.

11. Barth on Man and Woman
    CD III/4, pp. 116-121, 129-134, 139-41, 149-240.

Barth's Political Ethics

12. Public Theology and Political Ethics