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BT 660 Theology of the New Testament

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Spring 2002

January 7-18; 8.30 am - 12.15 pm

DESCRIPTION

Whatever else it is, the New Testament is a collection of books which reflect and express a developing theology or understanding of the nature and acts of God in relation to the world which he has created and redeemed. It is, therefore, true to the intention of the New Testament writers to attempt a systematic investigation of their theology.

This (very) intensive two-week course will aim to provide a rapid survey of the New Testament writings. Attention will be concentrated on their individual contributions to the growth of Christian theology, but we shall briefly try to see whether and how these expressions of their writers' theology fit together to provide a synthesis of the developing and multiform entity that we can call 'New Testament theology'.

OBJECTIVES

To outline the theological arguments of the various New Testament books, to highlight the distinctive theological issues raised in each, and to ascertain their contribution to our understanding of New Testament theology.

To equip students with a basis for their own further study of the theological contributions of the New Testament authors with the aim of discovering whether they reflect a unified and coherent theology.

To gain some acquaintance with current scholarly discussions of the subject.

PREREQUISITES

OT520, NT520, and NT(IBS)510 or 511

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Preparation, attendance and participation
Students should come to each class session prepared by having read the New Testament texts assigned for the class and the relevant articles in *NDBT* and *EDBT*. (15%)
- 2. Critical book review: Students are required to write a critical book review (1500 words) of any one of the books in the series *New Testament Theology* (edited by J. D. G. Dunn. Cambridge University Press, 1991*). (25%). This work must be handed in by **Monday, 14th January**.
- 3. Examination: Students will be required to sit a take-home examination, to be handed in to the office by **Friday, 25th January**. The paper will be based on the work done in the class; students are allowed two hours to complete it and are recommended to use a computer and print-out their script; the examination must be done under normal examination conditions as far as possible; the use of an unmarked Bible and Greek New Testament is permitted, but no other aids of any kind (books, notes, computer software, etc) are permitted; envelopes containing exam questions must not be opened before the examination period and neither the questions nor your answers to them should be discussed with anybody else. Students must sign a declaration at the end of their scripts stating that they have fulfilled these conditions. (60%)

COURSE OUTLINE

The course will extend over two weeks with three daily class sessions each of 70 minutes. The provisional program is as follows:

- I. Introduction: the nature of New Testament theology and methods of study.
 - 1. Introduction
- II. The individual contributors to New Testament theology
 - a. The writings of Paul
 - 2. Galatians
 - 3. Thessalonians
 - 4, 5, 6. 1 and 2 Corinthians
 - 7, 8. Romans

	9.	Philippians
	10.	Colossians
	11.	Ephesians
	12.	Pastoral Epistles
	13.	Putting Paul together
b. The other New Testament theologians	14.	Hebrews
	15.	James
	16.	1 Peter
	17.	2 Peter, Jude
c. The Synoptic Gospels and Acts	18.	Mark (1)
	19.	Mark (2)
	20, 21.	Matthew
	22, 23, 24.	Luke, Acts
d. The Johannine Writings	25.	1-3 John
	26, 27.	John
	28.	Revelation
III. Putting it all together	29.	Unity and diversity in the NT
	30.	NT theology and systematic theology

COURSE READING: REQUIRED BOOK

Ladd, G. E., *A Theology of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids, Eerdmans, 1974; revised edition by D. Hagner, 1993).

COURSE READING: REFERENCE WORKS (These books will be on reserve in the Library)

Students should come to each class session prepared by having read (where appropriate) the New Testament texts assigned for the class and the relevant articles in *NDBT* and *EDBT*. (15%)

Alexander, T. D., and Rosner, B. S. (ed.), *New Dictionary of Biblical Theology [NDBT]* (Leicester/Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2000) * articles on individual NT books and authors.

Elwell, W. A. (ed), *Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology [EDBT]* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996) * articles on individual NT books and authors.

Green, J. B., and Knight, S., [*DJG*] *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels* (Downers Grove/Leicester: InterVarsity Press, 1992).

Hawthorne, G. F., Martin, R. P., and Reid, D. G., *Dictionary of Paul and his Letters [DPL]* (Downers Grove/Leicester: InterVarsity Press, 1993).

Martin, R. P., and Davids, P. H., *Dictionary of the Later New Testament and its Developments [DLNTD]* (Downers Grove/Leicester: InterVarsity Press, 1992).

COURSE READING: RECOMMENDED BOOKS

Caird, G. B., *New Testament Theology* (completed and edited by L. D. Hurst. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1994).

Morris, L., *New Testament Theology* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1986).

Zuck, R. B. (ed.), *A Biblical Theology of the New Testament* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1994).

All the books in the series entitled *New Testament Theology*, edited by J. D. G. Dunn and published by Cambridge University Press (1991*), can be recommended for deeper study of the individual books of the New Testament.

Specific further reading on individual topics of the course. (This is a list of suggestions for following up the treatment in the class sessions.)

Introduction

Introductory articles in *NDBT* - Biblical theology; Challenges to biblical theology; Carson, D. A., in *DLNTD*, 796-814.

Galatians

Bassler, J. M. (ed.), *Pauline Theology. Volume I: Thessalonians, Philippians, Galatians, Philemon* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1994), 123-79; Dunn, J. D. G., *The Theology of Paul's Letter to the Galatians* (New Testament Theology. Cambridge University Press, 1993); Longenecker, B. W., *The Triumph of Abraham's God: The Transformation of Identity in Galatians* (Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1998).

1, 2 Thessalonians

Bassler, J. M. (ed.), *Pauline Theology. Volume I: Thessalonians, Philippians, Galatians, Philemon* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1994), 37-85; Donfried, K. P. (and I. H. Marshall), *The Theology of the Shorter Pauline Letters* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993), 1-113.

1 Corinthians

Furnish, V. P., *The Theology of the First Letter to the Corinthians* (New Testament Theology. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999); Hay, David M. (ed.), *Pauline Theology, II: 1 and 2 Corinthians* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1993).

2 Corinthians

Hay, David M. (ed.), *Pauline Theology, II: 1 and 2 Corinthians* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1993); Murphy-O'Connor, J., *The Theology of the Second Letter to the Corinthians* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991).

Romans

Chae, D. J-S, *Paul as Apostle to the Gentiles: His Apostolic Self-Awareness and its Influence on the Soteriological Argument in Romans* (Carlisle: Paternoster, 1997); Hay, D. M. and Johnson, E. E. (ed.), *Pauline Theology III: Romans* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1995).

Philippians

Bassler, J. M. (ed.), *Pauline Theology. Volume I: Thessalonians, Philippians, Galatians, Philemon* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1994), 87-121 (articles by P. Perkins and S. K. Stowers); Marshall, I. H., *The Epistle to the Philippians* (Epworth Commentaries. London, 1991).

Colossians

Lincoln, A. T., and Wedderburn, A. J. M., *The Theology of the Later Pauline Letters* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993).

Ephesians

Lincoln, A. T., and Wedderburn, A. J. M., *The Theology of the Later Pauline Letters* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993); Turner, M., 'Ephesians', in Carson, D. A. (*et al.*), *New Bible Commentary. 21st Century Edition* (Leicester: Inter-Varsity Press, 1994).

1, 2 Timothy; Titus

Towner, P. H., *The Goal of our Instruction* (JSNTSup 34. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1989); Young, F., *The Theology of the Pastoral Letters* (New Testament Theology; Zuck, 333-67 (M. L. Bailey)..

Putting Paul Together

Bassler, J. M. (ed.), *Pauline Theology. Volume I: Thessalonians, Philippians, Galatians, Philemon* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1994), 1-36; Moo, D. J., in *NDBT*, 136-40.

Hebrews

Bruce, F. F., 'The Kerygma of Hebrews', *Int* 23 (1969), 3-19; Ladd, ch. 39; Lindars, B., *The Theology of the Letter to the Hebrews* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991); Zuck, 369-415 (B. M. Fanning).

James

Bauckham, R. J., *James* (London: Routledge, 1998); Chester, A., (and Martin, R. P.), *The Theology of the Letters of James, Peter, and Jude* (Cambridge University Press, 1994), 1-62; Ladd, ch. 40; Zuck, 417-35 (B. M. Fanning).

1 Peter

(Chester, A., and) Martin, R. P., *The Theology of the Letters of James, Peter, and Jude* (Cambridge University Press, 1994), 87-133; Goppelt, L, *Theology of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982), II, 161-78; Ladd, ch. 41;

2 Peter, Jude

(Chester, A., and) Martin, R. P., *The Theology of the Letters of James, Peter, and Jude* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994), 65-86; Knight, J., *2 Peter and Jude* (New Testament Guides. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1995); Ladd, ch. 42.

Mark

Hooker, M. D., *The Message of Mark* (London: Epworth Press, 1983); Ladd; Morris, 95-113; Telford, W. R., *The Theology of the Gospel of Mark* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999); Zuck, 65-86 (D. K. Lowery).

Matthew

Ladd; Morris, 114-43; Zuck, 19-64 (D. K. Lowery); Luz, U., *The Theology of the Gospel of Matthew* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995); Meier, J. P., *The Vision of Matthew. Christ, Church and Morality in the First Gospel* (New York: Paulist, 1978).

Luke

Green, J. B., *The Theology of the Gospel of Luke* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995); Ladd; Marshall, I. H., *Luke: Historian and Theologian* (Exeter: Paternoster, 1988³; Morris, 144-221; Zuck, 87-166 (D. L. Bock).

Acts

Jervell, J., *The Theology of the Acts of the Apostles* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996); Kee, H. C., *Good News to the Ends of the Earth: The Theology of Acts* (London: SCM Press/Philadelphia: Trinity Press International, 1990); Ladd; Marshall, I. H., *Luke: Historian and Theologian* (Exeter: Paternoster, 1988³; Marshall, I. H., and Peterson, D. (ed.), *Witness to the Gospel: The Theology of Acts* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans/Carlisle: Paternoster, 1998); Morris, 144-221; Zuck, 87-166 (D. L. Bock).

1, 2, 3 John

Edwards, R. B., *The Johannine Epistles* (New Testament Guides. Sheffield Academic Press, 1996); Ladd, ch. 43; Lieu, J., *The Theology of the Johannine Epistles* (New Testament Theology. Cambridge University Press, 1991); Morris, 287-91.

John

Ladd, 211-308; Morris, 223-86; Smith, D. M., *The Theology of the Gospel of John* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995); Smalley, S. S., *John: Evangelist and Interpreter* (Carlisle: Paternoster, 1998²).

Revelation

Bauckham, R. J., *The Theology of the Book of Revelation* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993); Smalley, S. S., *Thunder and Love: John's Revelation and John's Community* (Milton Keynes: Nelson Word, 1994).

Unity and Diversity in the New Testament

Blomberg, C. L., in *NDBT*, 64-72; E. E. Lemcio, 'The unifying kerygma of the New Testament', *JSNT* 33 (1988), 3-17; 38 (1990), 3-11; Wenham, D., in Ladd, 684-719.

New Testament Theology and Systematic Theology

Carson, D. A., in *NDBT*, 89-104; Marshall, I. H., 'Climbing Ropes, Ellipses and Symphonies: The Relation between Biblical and Systematic Theology', in Satterthwaite, P. E., and Wright, D. F. (ed.), *A Pathway into Holy Scripture* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994), 199-219.