

# THE251 Theological Foundations Wk 3 Assignments

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## Weekly Objectives

- Articulate an organized framework for theological truth that is faithful to Biblical organization.
- Demonstrate how their personal theology is an outworking of the Gospel of Christ crucified, raised and reigning as Lord.

## Weekly Outcomes

### Cognitive Outcomes

- Conceptualize a basic outline of the Biblical storyline and how it frames theological truth
- Grasp a basic outline of the Gospel and how it frames theological truth
- Describe the common contexts for application of theological truth
- Articulate the traditional categories of Systematic theology and their relevance to the existential issues of Christian life

### Affective Outcomes

- Place their own personal history and destiny in the context of God's universal history
- Share a commitment to live as one who has been reconciled to God in Christ
- Desire an application of a consistent Christian worldview
- Share a commitment to living under the Lordship of Christ in every area of life

## Devotional

Scripture: Luke 24:13-49

In this chapter, Luke tells two stories of Jesus appearing to people after He had risen from the dead – one appearance to two people on the road to Emmaus and one appearance to the disciples together in Jerusalem. In both cases, Jesus explained from all of the Scriptures about Himself. Notice that the Scripture Jesus used was the Old Testament, because the New Testament had not yet been written. But for Jesus, even the Old Testament was about Him and He was able to show how it all came together in pointing to Himself and what He had accomplished with His death and resurrection.

Jesus assumed a unity of all the Bible, with Himself as the unifying factor. This gave consistency and meaning to all that the Bible communicates, and it had implications for the continued ministry of Jesus' disciples. As Jesus taught this overarching consistency, the disciples were better able to understand Jesus Himself and grasp their own place in God's plan. An understanding of how it all fit together in Christ made their hearts burn within them.

The material for this week is intended to help us see the overall arrangement and purpose for all of God's revelation, centered in Jesus. And by seeing the big picture of Scripture as a whole, it will aid us to see all of our life as part of God's overarching plan, centered on Jesus. This big-picture thinking will give us a better grasp of the Bible and the various theological topics. It will help us to know Christ better, and it will help us to know ourselves better, and our place in God's world.

Please, then, prayerfully consider how you can better grasp the big-picture scope of all of life, with Jesus at the center. Do you understand how all the Bible fits together? Do you see how it is all about Christ? Do you see how your life is all about Christ? How is your family, your job, your talents, your ministry all centered on Christ? And what difference should it make to have our eyes opened to all of the Scriptures as a whole, centered on Christ?

## **Introduction**

Welcome back to week three! In this section, you will learn various ways to help you organize your theological knowledge. This will help you to better understand and remember Biblical truth. It will also help you to see the relationship between the important ideas. In one sense, the material for this week is fairly simple. It is just understanding and remembering a few simple categories and outlines. And if that is all you get out of this week, it will aid your theological understanding. However, there is much more that you should aspire to get out of this material. Ideally, you will begin to meditate on the connection between all the diverse ways to look at the big-picture organization and understand how all the categories of theological data work together to give us a comprehensive picture of God's greatness and His gracious provision for all of our life and godliness. May the Lord grant that you have many lightbulb moments where your heart burns because you see the significance of a truth in part of your life because you now understand how it fits.

## **Preparation**

Read Jamieson 13-108

Watch 2 Course Videos

“Framework: Categories” at [www.bradcopp.com/THE251/Categories.php](http://www.bradcopp.com/THE251/Categories.php)

“Framework: Themes” at [www.bradcopp.com/THE251/Themes.php](http://www.bradcopp.com/THE251/Themes.php)

Find and study the Biblical passages that address your term project question.

## Assignments

### 1. Framework Discussion

- This discussion will help you process the large amount of material from this week. You will interact with the different theological categories and organizing frames in order to solidify your understanding of the content and relationship of these ideas for your own theology. Ideally, you will demonstrate understanding of the separate theological categories and a mental organization of their relationship to the whole. Ideally, you will thoughtfully interact in more depth with at least some aspect of the web of theological relationships.
  
- Prepare to discuss the 2-3 items that most stood out to you from this week's material. Ensure the following points are addressed.
  - Choose those 2-3 items that you will discuss in detail.
  - Describe the content and meaning of each item.
  - Why did each item stand out to you as important for developing your theology.
  - In what ways were you informed and/or challenged?
  - How will this impact your discipleship and ministry?

### 2. Bible Storyline Presentation

- This activity will help you to integrate your theological knowledge from various categories into the larger framework of the Bible's storyline. You will choose three of the theological categories. And for each of the three, you will think through how this truth fits in the overall Bible storyline. Ideally, you will understand what part of this category was revealed in each epoch of the Bible's plotline and how the truth of this category was significant for the development of that part of the story.
  
- Choose any 2 theological categories from the following list:
  - Bibliology
  - Theology proper
  - Anthropology
  - Hamartiology
  - Christology
  - Pneumatology
  - Soteriology
  - Ecclesiology
  - Eschatology
  
- Using the examples in the "Theological Framework: Themes" video as a guide (though in much more detail than the necessarily brief examples), Develop a presentation that addresses the following points.

- There will be two sections of your presentation, each addressing one of your chosen categories.
- In each section, there should be five subsections, one for each of the epochs of the Bible's storyline
- In each subsection, describe the significance of the theological category in that epoch. What was revealed in that epoch? What was the major theological issue (in this category) of that epoch? How was this truth applied in this epoch?
- Attempt to describe any significant trends in the doctrine that correspond to the changes of epochs.

### 3. Gospel Presentation

- This activity will help you to integrate your theological knowledge from various categories into the larger framework of the Christian Gospel. You will choose three of the theological categories. And for each of the three, you will think through how this truth fits in the four pillars of the Gospel. Ideally, you will understand what part of this category corresponds to each vital truth of the Gospel and how the truth of this category is significant for the proclamation, reception and application of the Gospel in individual lives, leading to salvation.
  
- Choose any 3 theological categories from the following list:
  - Bibliology
  - Theology proper
  - Anthropology
  - Hamartiology
  - Christology
  - Pneumatology
  - Soteriology
  - Ecclesiology
  - Eschatology
  
- Using the examples in the “Theological Framework: Themes” video as a guide (though in much more detail than the necessarily brief examples), Develop a presentation that addresses the following points.
  - There will be three sections of your presentation, each addressing one of your chosen categories.
  - In each section, there should be four subsections, one for each of the pillars the Gospel presentation
  - In each subsection, describe the significance of the theological category for that pillar. What does this category contribute to our understanding of this pillar? How does this category help us to understand, proclaim and believe the Gospel of Christ?

- Attempt to describe any significant trends in the doctrine that correspond to the relationship between the four pillars.

#### 4. Term Project Part 3 – Exegesis of Relevant Bible Passages

- This activity will continue the project that will span all five weeks of this course. For this week's activity, you will follow the parts of your personal process for theological investigation, which you wrote in week to, that apply to the exegesis of Biblical material. You will examine all the Biblical evidence that is relevant to your specific theological question. This activity helps you to learn theology by actually engaging in Scripture investigation to answer your theological question. You will practice the skills you have been learning to find and understand the Biblical data that addresses your chosen question. Ideally, you will conscientiously strive to read the Bible in a responsible manner, faithful to the author's intention and meaning for the original recipients.
- Use a concordance, topical bible, computer resource or theological reference to locate the Scripture passages that most directly address your chosen question.
- Create a presentation in a table format to display the relevant Biblical data relevant to your question. This presentation should include the following:
  - The Scripture reference for each passage
  - A summary of what the passage taught to the original readers in their context, demonstrating that you have paid attention to the historical and literary contexts of the passage
  - Note: for this presentation you should not yet attempt to answer the question or make application to contemporary life. The intention for this presentation is just to faithfully describe what the Bible passages say on their own terms.