



WSOLC – Western Seminary Online Campus

Course Number: THS 502E – Fall 2014
Course Title: Glorifying the God of Our Salvation: Theology II
Instructor: Gerry Breshears, Ph.D.
Credit Hours: 4

COURSE SCHEDULE

This course is only offered in a 16 week schedule. You can see a “Course Schedule by Week” in this syllabus. After enrollment in the course you can see a course schedule with specific dates in the learning center for your assignments.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Continuing the process of learning to think theologically you will now apply yourself to biblical revelation regarding the Son as the source of life. You will investigate humanity, its dignity as image of God and its depravity as sinful beings, the reality and impact of spiritual beings as backdrop for the atoning work of the Son and its application in the aspects of our salvation. Contemplating the majesty of the Son's work in light of the depth of sin will invigorate our worship and impel our work for His kingdom. Prerequisite: THS 501. 4 credit hours.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- A. You will deepen your understanding of the nature and work of God and in so doing deepen your devotional life and ministry. Specifically you will learn the importance of developing a theocentric worldview.
- B. You will be able to state clearly a biblical understanding of the doctrines relating to theological anthropology, hamartiology, angelology, atonement, and soteriology.
- C. You will interact biblically, theologically and personally with contemporary issues related to the doctrines covered in this course. Examples include: human origin, the image of God, human structure, the effects of sin, the present roles of angels and demons in the world, the significance of Christ's atonement, and its application in salvation.
- D. You will strengthen your ability to think critically, constructively and theologically.
- E. You will deepen your awareness and appreciation for the various contemporary evangelical viewpoints relating to these areas.

TEXTBOOKS

M. Erickson, [*Christian Theology*](#), 3rd Ed. ISBN: 0-8010-3643-7; Retail Price: \$49.99

{Optional alternative: G. Lewis & B. Demarest, *Integrative Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.13: 978-0310209157}. MSRP: \$49.99.

W. Elwell, [*Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*](#) Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.
13: 978-0801020759. MSRP: \$59.99.

T. Tennent, [*Theology in the Context of World Christianity*](#). ISBN: 9780310275114;
Retail Price: \$24.99

William Young, [*The Shack*](#). Los Angeles: Windblown Media, 2nd edition, 2007.
13: 978-0964729247. MSRP: \$24.99.

Articles contained in the Reading Folder

Important Note: Required and recommended course texts are subject to change at any time. You are encouraged to purchase these titles through the Amazon.com associate program; you may use the links provided above, or the search option found on the Western website under "Students/Online":
<http://www.westernseminary.edu/students/online>

Collateral:

S. Grenz, *Social God and Relational Self*
G. Ladd, *A Theology of The New Testament*
M. S. Peck, *People of the Lie*
A. Plantinga, *Not The Way It's Supposed to Be*
J. Stott, *The Cross of Christ*
D. Tidball, *The Message of the Cross*

COURSE FORMAT

1. Course Audio/Video Materials.

Shortly after your course registration, you will receive instructions about how to download your course using the Integr@te program (not earlier than three weeks from your start date).

2. Learning Center.

You will also be given access to a web-based learning center which functions as your classroom for the course. There you will find:

- The course syllabus. **Please Note:** The syllabus in your learning center is the governing course syllabus. Syllabi downloaded from the seminary website, or received from any other source, are for informational purposes only.
- A week-by-week schedule to help you successfully complete the course on time with the least amount of stress. To discuss changing the assignment due dates within the schedule, please contact Jon Raibley:
jraibley@westernseminary.edu

- A progress report for each lesson, by which you will indicate whether you completed your lesson requirements. While still allowing great scheduling flexibility, progress reports help us help you should you begin to fall behind.
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- Assignment summaries and links for uploading assignments.
- Links to discussion forums, your course instructor and other students, the distance learning support team, as well as links to other helpful communication and instructional resources.

2. Responsibilities.

Before the end of the first week of the session, you need to log onto the online learning center to complete and upload the course affirmation file. By federal law, we now need to ensure that students participate in courses for the full length of the course. So failure to complete the course affirmation on-time will result in a loss of course points and may impact your financial aid eligibility.

Students will receive on-time completion points for finishing their course work according to the schedule. This means students in the 8 week sessions are required to have all their course work into their course instructor by the end of week 7. Students in the 16 week sessions are required to have all their work into their course instructor by the end of week 15. If you have not been granted an extension, graded assignments turned in after 8:00 a.m. on Monday of the final week may be subject to a late penalty of up to 10% per day. No online completion points will be granted after that time.

3. Course Instructor.

You will be assigned a course instructor who will participate as appropriate in classroom activities; review, grade, and provide feedback on course assignments; and interact with you on any questions you have about the course. When you receive your course materials, you will also receive contact information for your course instructor. Please contact your course instructor within two weeks of your course start date and maintain regular contact throughout the course.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. **Participation Requirements.** For each lesson, complete the items as instructed in your learning center, and submit the progress report verifying that you've done so. These progress reports are our primary means of verifying your attendance, and each is worth up to one point toward your final grade. If the progress report is submitted by the due date on your course schedule, you'll receive 100% of the report grade. If you submit the progress report late, but within two weeks of the due date, you will receive 80%. If you submit the progress report more than two weeks late, you will receive 50%. And, of course, if you fail to submit a progress report at all, you will receive 0%. Certain changes are allowed within the course schedule, to allow for flexibility. You may contact Jon Raibley for details: jraibley@westernseminary.edu.

In addition, you are to complete three activities that will allow us to verify your participation at key points within the course, in compliance with federal regulations. Failure to complete these activities within the designated times may impact the amount or timing of federal financial aid you receive.

- First week participation: Within the first week of the posted course dates, complete and upload the affirmation file.
- On-time verification. By the date listed in the schedule, submit your final assignments and complete the verification assignment, to confirm that you finished the course work on time.
- Course evaluation and reflection. Within the final week of the posted course dates, complete the course evaluation and reflection assignment; a link will be emailed to you at that time.

Points: **34** points possible (22 for progress reports, 2 for affirmation file, 10 for on-time verification)

Time: **59** hours estimated time.

1. Reading Assignments

The assigned reading is listed near the end of this syllabus.

- A. Read the three articles from *EDT* in each lesson's listing which will be most beneficial to you.
- B. Certain reading assignments are required for students who desire an A grade and optional for others. These are marked as such in the reading list.
- C. All assigned readings will be done at the mastery level. Reading at this level will average about 20 pages per hour and assumes careful reflective interaction with the ideas, note taking and will lead to accountability in class, papers and tests at a mastery level. 1000 pages = 50 hours.
- D. Each reading assignment should be completed before the class lesson so that you will be able to benefit from the class discussion. Completion of the reading assignments will be reported on the form provided.
- E. Assignments completed on time will earn 3 points per lesson. Assignments completed late (i.e., after viewing the lecture) will earn 2 points each per lesson. Total points possible, 63 points.
- F. Class notes: Each lesson contains two sets of notes: a fill-in-the-blank version and a full outline.

Time: **50** hours estimated time.

Points: **66** points possible.

2. Scripture Meditation

You will spend time meditating on biblical passages relevant to the various topics we will cover in the class. You will thoughtfully, prayerfully and theologically read each lesson's passage for two periods of about 15 minutes each. This is to preserve the impact of the meditation, journal your personal reflections on the passages. Rather than summaries of the passages, focus on how our lives and ministries have been (or should be) impacted by the truths we have meditated on. We'd like you to share these with your grader as a point of accountability and as a way of letting him or her get to know

you better. Follow the instructions to upload your journal.

Time: 20 hours estimated time.

Points: 24 points possible.

3. Discussion Questions. For each of the 3 test areas (man/sin, angels/atonement, and salvation), ask one discussion question on the Learning Center discussion forum, and answer one other person's question.

1. post one discussion question.

- This might be an implication question: "If _____ is true, how does that impact our understanding of _____?"
- Or it might be an application question: "If _____ is true, how does that impact the way we minister?"
- You might phrase it in the form of a hypothetical case study or situation you've encountered (change the names to protect the innocent -- and the guilty!). Or you can create your own State and Defend situation for "Chris."
- answer at least one other person's question.

2. write about 100 words -- you can write more if you wish.

- you can address other questions as well; if you do, you don't have to maintain the 100 word minimum.
- when someone posts a response to your question, you're encouraged (but not required) to respond as well. Interaction leads to increased understanding!

Time: 6 hours estimated time.

Points: 30 points possible.

4. Book Interaction Book Interaction. Due by the end of the course. Since this is a comprehensive paper, it's best to complete the course lectures first. After reading *The Shack* and before viewing Gerry's assessment, you will write a 7-10 page paper summarizing several main points and critically evaluating one of them. Each paper should cover the following three areas.

1. Fairly summarize what the book has to say about at least three of the following (3-4 pages):

- what is the nature of humans including such things as freedom and image of God.
- what are the nature and results of the fall and what sin is
- what is the nature of the atonement.
- what salvation is and how it is achieved.
- how God and suffering are related.

2. In the second section, choose one of these three issues to evaluate critically (3-4 pages).

- Indicate what you think is good about the author's perspective on this issue and explain biblically why you think this is a good perspective.
- Indicate what you think is lacking in the author's perspective and explain biblically what you think is wrong with this perspective.

3. In the third section, bring your paper to a conclusion by doing the following (1-2 pages):
 - Summarize what you have learned as a result of this exercise.
 - Indicate 2-3 ways in which the things that you have learned can/should have an impact on your personal life or your ministry.
 - Indicate 1-2 key questions that remain unanswered for you on these areas that would be worth exploring in the future.
2. As an alternative to the Young paper, you may write a 7 page position paper on one of the following topics:
 - What is the balance between dignity and depravity in unsaved humans?
 - What impact can a demon have on a believer?
 - What are the necessary categories for understanding atonement?
 - How do you deal with sin in your life?
 - Other topics that involve interaction with various positions on the issues covered in this course, with approval of your course instructor.

Time: 13 hours estimated time.

Points: 100 points possible.

6. What is the Gospel?

This assignment will be done following the directions below.

PART ONE:

- Take a maximum of two minutes to write out your version of the gospel. This is not graded, so don't obsess on it!
- Ask three other people to write down their version
- Write down where you would go in the Bible to find key statements of the gospel

PART TWO:

- Go through Acts 2:22-47 and summarize the Peter's presentation of the gospel using the following categories:
 - Revelation: What God did
 - Response: What we do
 - Results: What we get

PART THREE:

- Listen to my analysis of Acts 2:22-47 on the video (don't do this before you complete parts one and two)

PART FOUR:

- What is the role of the gospel in both conversion and Christian life?

Time: 2 hour estimated time.

Points: 30 points possible.

7. Doctrinal Statements

You will write a succinct statement of *your own* personal doctrinal commitment for each section of the course: (Approximately 15 hours, 30 points possible each)

- A statement covering **man and sin** (about two pages) will be due with the first examination,
- A statement covering **angelology** (less than one page) and **atonement** (about one page) will be due with the second exam,
- One covering **soteriology** (about two pages) will be due with the third exam.
- You should review the handout "Suggestions for Preparation of Doctrinal Statements" for issues to be covered. This paper and examples of doctrinal statements can be found in the learning center's course folder. The examples are not to be copied, but will help you see some formatting and content options.

Time: 6 hours estimated time.

Points: 30 points possible.

8. Examinations

Three examinations will be given. The first will cover the man and sin sections of the course. The second will cover angels and the atonement. The third will cover the doctrine of salvation. Examples and study guides can be found in the course folder.

The first section of each exam will be specific multiple choice or short answer questions covering the content of both readings and class discussions in that section of the course (60 points). The second section will be a state and defend question (20 points). Several possible questions are listed on the study sheet. On state and defend questions you will be expected to state your own position on a specific question carefully, to support it with Scripture and relevant arguments, and to answer significant objections. (Approximately 15 hours, 240 total points possible)

Time: 15 hours estimated time.

Points: 240 points possible.

GRADING SCALE

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-
99-100%	95-98%	93-94%	91-92%	88-90%	86-87%
C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-
84-85%	81-83%	79-80%	77-78%	74-76%	70-73%

ASSIGNMENT SUMMARY

Assignment	Apx. Hours	Due by Lesson	Points Possible
1. Participation Requirements			
Course Lectures	59	Each Lesson	22
Policy Affirmation, On Time			12

Verification, Course Evaluation			
2. Reading and reading report	50	22	66
3. Scripture meditation	20	See schedule	24
4. Discussion Forums:		Approximately:	
Man and Sin	2	11	10
Angels and Atonement	2	19	10
Salvation	2	22	10
5. Book Interaction	13	21	100
6. Gospel Assignment	2	19	30
7. Doctrinal statements			
Man and Sin	5	11	30
Angels and Atonement	5	19	30
Salvation	5	End date	30
8. Exams			
Man and Sin	5	11	80
Angels and Atonement	5	19	80
Salvation	5	End date	80
Total	180		614

COURSE SEQUENCE

Important: See the course schedule in the learning center for the due dates of your assignments.

Week	Lessons	Assignments & Notes
1	1. The Nature of Humankind	(For each lesson, complete the progress report) Systematic theology text: Erickson, chapters 20-21: 423-456 [Bracketed page numbers from second edition 479-495] OR Lewis/Demarest, 2:123-180 Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following: Flesh; Man, Doctrine of; Heart; Mind; Soul; Spirit
2	2. Human Origin 3. Image of God	Systematic theology text: Erickson, chapters 22-23: 457-493 [second edition 517-557] There is no new reading if you're using the Lewis and Demarest text. Brooks, "Men on the Threshold" (Required for those pursuing an "A", contained in the Reading Packet: Grenz, "Social God and Relational Self" pages 183-210) Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following: Solidarity of the Race Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following articles: Image of God, Life, Man, Woman (Required for those pursuing an "A", found in your on your course disk or in the learning center: Hoekema, "Created in His Image", pages 102-111) Meditation Journal Passage: Genesis 1:26-2:25
3	4. Role of Women 5. Constitution of Humans	Read: Women in Leadership Study Packet (under lesson #4). Systematic theology text: Erickson, chapter 24: 494-512 [second edition 558-575] There is no new reading if you're using the Lewis and Demarest text. Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read three of the following: Dualism, Mind, Trichotomy, Dichotomy, Soul, Heart, Spirit (Required for those pursuing an "A", found in your on your course disk or in the learning center: Grenz, <i>Social God and Relational Self</i> , 183-210)

		Meditation Journal Passage: Mark 12:28-34; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24
4	6. Sin and Its Beginning	Systematic theology text: Read one of the following: Erickson, chapters 25-26: 513-547 [second edition 579-617]; OR Lewis/Demarest, 2:183-244 Reading resources contained in the Reading Packet: Christopher Wright, "Atonement in the Old Testament," The Atonement Debate, pp. 69-82; Tennent, chapter 4, Theology in the Context of World Christianity, 77-101 in lesson 7
	7. The Essence of Sin	Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read three of the following: Federal Theology, Pelagius, Imputation, Sin (1012-1019) Meditation Journal Passage: Romans 5:11-21
5	8. The Transmission of Sin	Systematic theology text: Erickson, chapters 27-29: 548-602 [second edition 618-674] There is no new reading if you're using the Lewis and Demarest text. Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read three of the following: Fall of Human Race, Righteousness, Sin, Temptation Meditation Journal Passage: Genesis 3:1-24
	9. Consequences of Sin	Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following: Depravity, Semi-Pelagianism, & Traducianism Reading resources contained in the Reading Packet: Peck, People of the Lie, pages 36-84 Josh Weed, "Club Unicorn: In which I come out of the closet on our ten year anniversary" at tinyurl.com/7bu8zme Their Nightline story is here Meditation Journal Passage: Ephesians 2:1-10
6	10. The Nature of Angels	Systematic theology text: Erickson, chapter 19: 403-422 [second edition 457-475]; There is no new reading if you're using the Lewis and Demarest text. Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following: Angels, Demon - Demon possession, Principalities and powers Meditation Journal Passage: Colossians 1:13-23; 2:9-15 Discussion Forum 1 Due
7	11. Demons and Evil Spirits	Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following: Occult, Satan - Satanism, Elements - elemental spirits, Witchcraft Reading resources contained in the Reading Packet: Rogue Fellowship, "Deliverance Ministry" Public Polling, "Halloween Viewed Favorably by Most Americans," tinyurl.com/m4dz57v (Required for those pursuing an "A", contained in the Reading Packet: Arnold, "Powers of Darkness", pages 181-193, 210-217; Tidball, "The Message of the Cross", pages 247-261) Doctrinal Statement 1: Man and Sin due Exam 1: Man and Sin due
8	12. Offices of Christ	Systematic theology text" Erickson, chapters 35-37: 695-730 [second edition 779-817]; OR Lewis/Demarest, 2:371-434 Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read three of the following: Cross, Crucifixion, Offices of Christ, Obedience of Christ, Satisfaction Reading resources contained in the Reading Packet: Packer, "The Heart of the Gospel; "Knowing God"; I. Howard Marshall, "The Theology of the Atonement," The Atonement Debate (on the learning center) (Required for those pursuing an "A": contained in the Reading Packet: Stott, Cross of Christ, pages 133-175, 212-217)
	13. Theories of Atonement	Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following: Offerings and Sacrifices; Propitiation; Ransom; Reconciliation; Redeemer, Redemption Meditation Journal Passage: Hebrews 9:23-10:25
9	14. Categories for Understanding Atonement	Systematic theology text: Erickson, chapters 37-38: 731-770 [second edition 818-858] There is no new reading if you're using the Lewis and Demarest text

	15. Extent of Atonement	<p>Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read three of the following: Atonement - Extent of, Reading resources contained in the Reading Packet: Scaer, et. al. "Nature & Extent of the Atonement" BETS 10:4 (Required for those pursuing an "A", contained in the Reading Packet: Tidball, The Message of the Cross, pages 184-199) Meditation Journal Passage: Romans 3:21-31</p>
10	16. Salvation	<p>Systematic theology text: Read one of the following: Erickson, chapters 42-43: 825-859 [second edition 901-940] Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read three of the following: Arminianism, Elect, Election, , Reprobation, Foreknowledge, Predestination, Cottrell, "The Classical Arminian View Of Predestination." Introduction, Sections I and III, conclusion [pp. 1-19, 23-41, 49] Piper, "Are There Two Wills in God?" at http://www.desiringgod.org/resource-library/articles/are-there-two-wills-in-god</p>
	17. Election	<p>Read: William Young, The Shack. (First 1/3) Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following: Call, Calling; Monergism; Synergism</p>
11	18. Grace	<p>Systematic theology text: Erickson, chapter 44: 860-875 [second edition 941-959]; OR Lewis/Demarest, 3:17-69</p>
	19. The Beginning of Salvation	<p>Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read three of the following: Identification with Christ, Mysticism, Salvation, Imputation, Order of Salvation Read: William Young, The Shack. (Second 1/3) Meditation Journal Passage: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Discussion Forum 2 Due Gospel Assignment Due</p>
12		<p>Meditation Journal Passage: Titus 3:3-8 Doctrinal Statement 2: Angels & Atonement Exam # 2: Angels & Atonement</p>
13	20. Regeneration and Justification	<p>Systematic theology text: Erickson, chapter 45: 876-895 [second edition 960-978]; Lewis/Demarest, 3:125-170 Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read three of the following: Conversion, Justification, Repentance, Faith, Law, Righteousness, Grace, Regeneration, Works William Young, The Shack. (Finish the book)</p>
	21. Sanctification	<p>Systematic theology text: Erickson, chapter 46: 896-912 [second edition 979-995]; OR Lewis/Demarest, 3:173-235 Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read three of the following: Holiness, Perfection - Perfectionism, Sanctification, Universalism, Spirituality (Required for those pursuing an "A", contained in the Reading Packet: Packer, "Rediscovering Holiness", pages 89-118; Grider, "A Wesleyan-Holiness Theology", pages 367-420) Meditation Journal Passage: Colossians 3:1-17 Discussion Forum 3 Due Book Interaction Project due</p>
14	22. Perseverance/Security	<p>Systematic theology text: Erickson, chapters 47-48: 913-948 [second edition 996-1032] Read: Evangelical Dictionary of Theology. Read the following: Glorification, Perseverance Tomas R. Scheiner, "Perseverance and Assurance: A Survey and a Proposal" at http://www.sbts.edu/documents/tschreiner/2.1_article.pdf Reading resource found on the learning center: Cottrell, "The Faith Once for All",</p>

		pages 375-387 Meditation Journal Passage: Romans 8:1-39 Reading Report due Doctrinal Statement 3: Soteriology due (also okay in week 15)
15		Exam # 3 : Soteriology due On-time Verification Due
16		Course Evaluation and Reflection. If you have not been granted an extension, graded assignments turned in after 8:00 a.m. on Monday of the final week may be subject to a late penalty of up to 10% per day.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance and Late Assignments: Student will receive on-time completion points for finishing their course according to the schedule. Students in the 8 week sessions are required to have all their course work into their course instructor by end of week 7. Students in the 16 week sessions are required to have all their work into their course instructor by end of week 15. If you have not been granted an extension, graded assignments turned in after 8:00 a.m. on Monday of the final week may be subject to a late penalty of up to 10% per day. No online completion points will be granted after that time.

Copyright Violation and Plagiarism: Research in secondary sources for the written project is permitted and welcomed. However, any appropriation of either ideas or wording taken from other sources, whether print or electronic, must be properly footnoted. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism which can result in substantial grade reduction or failure. Any unauthorized copying or use of copyrighted materials, including downloaded files of various kinds, can result in criminal charges and fines. For a fuller explanation of these issues or WS's copyright policy, see the Copyright Issues and Cheating" section of the Student Handbook:
<http://www.westernseminary.edu/academic/handbook-copyright>.

Incompletes/Extensions:

In the case of serious illness, family emergency, or other extenuating circumstances beyond the student's control, students may request one course extension of no more than 4 weeks. Registration for a distance education course is conditional upon the successful completion of any current course you are taking. If you have received an extension for your current course, you are expected to finish your current courses before your next Online Campus course start date to stay registered.

If students face a personal emergency that requires requesting an extension going beyond the end of the semester, it may affect their ability to receive financial aid in the next semester, and they may face the possibility that their next semester's course registrations will be cancelled. Please contact the Financial Aid Office for assistance.

Audit/Enrichment Students: Enrichment students are encouraged, but not obligated, to participate in assignments and class discussions. Professors are not obligated to grade participation for these students, but may opt to do so depending on class size.

The Availability of Disability Services at Western Seminary: Western Seminary is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as outlined in both

the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Western students are assisted individually as their needs dictate. It is the responsibility of students with disabilities to identify themselves and the nature of the disability. Any student who has a disability should contact the seminary's Disability (Section 504) Coordinator, Ashley Mitchell, at 503-517-1819/1-877-517-1800, ext. 1819. Her office is at the Portland campus. Students at the northern California campuses may contact Student Services Coordinator – San Jose or Director of Student Services – Sacramento, or they may contact Ms Mitchell directly. Appropriate forms will be provided and must be submitted to the Disability Coordinator's office.

Questions regarding this course or its materials should be directed to:

Western Seminary Online Campus
5511 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, OR, 97215
Attn: Jon Raibley
Email: jraibley@westernseminary.edu
1-800-893-8567 - In Portland: 503-517-1899