

Lesson 11

Part One – Introduction to Systematic Theology

- I. Introduction
 - a. What is Systematic Theology?
 - b. What is the relation between Systematic Theology and Hermeneutics?
 - c. Why is it important to study the Bible systematically?

Part Two – Theology Proper - Beginning at the Beginning

- I. Introduction to the One True God
 - a. Arguments for the existence of God
 - b. Why only one God
- II. The Nature of God
 - a. God's incommunicable perfections (attributes)
 - b. God's *communicable* attributes
 - i. Spirituality
 - ii. Intellect (includes knowledge, wisdom, and veracity)
 - iii. Morality (includes goodness, love, grace, mercy and longsuffering)
 - iv. Holiness
 - v. Righteousness
 - vi. Justice
 - c. God as Trinity
 - i. Definition
 - ii. Misinterpretations/Misunderstandings
 - iii. Explanation
 - iv. Difficulties
- III. The Decree of God
 - a. Definition
 - b. Characteristics of God's Decree
 - c. Order of God's Decrees
- IV. The Names of God

Part Three – Christology: The Doctrine of Christ

- I. The Pre-existence and Eternality of Christ
 - a. Direct Proof
 - i. Micah 5:2.
 - ii. John 1:1.
 - iii. John 8:58.
 - iv. Hebrews 1:8.

- v. Colossians 1:17.
- b. Indirect Proof
 - i. Christ's heavenly origin proves His eternal existence.
 - ii. Christ's pre-incarnate work proves His eternal existence.
 - iii. Theophanies prove His eternal existence.
- II. Old Testament Prophecies of Christ
 - a. Prophecies Concerning Christ's Lineage
 - i. Virgin Birth
 - ii. Line of Shem
 - iii. Line of Abraham
 - iv. Line of Isaac
 - v. Line of Jacob
 - vi. Line of Judah
 - vii. Line of David
 - b. Prophecies Concerning Christ's Birth
 - i. The Manner
 - ii. The Place
 - c. Prophecies Concerning Christ's Life
 - i. His Forerunner
 - ii. His Mission
 - iii. His Ministry
 - iv. His Teaching
 - v. His Presentation
 - vi. His Rejection
 - d. Prophecies Concerning Christ's Death
 - i. A Painful Death
 - ii. A Violent Death
 - e. Prophecies Concerning Christ's Victory
 - i. His Resurrection
 - ii. His Ascension
- III. The Incarnation of Christ
 - a. Meaning of the Incarnation
 - b. Explanation of the Incarnation
 - i. Genealogies
 - ii. Virgin Birth
- IV. The Humanity of Christ
 - a. Meaning of Christ's Humanity
 - b. Characteristics of Christ's Humanity
 - i. He was virgin born

- ii. He had a true body of flesh and blood
- iii. He had a normal development
- iv. He had a human soul and spirit
- v. He experienced the same things as humans

V. The Deity of Christ

- a. Meaning of Christ's Deity
- b. Scriptural Proof for Christ's Deity
 - i. His names
 - 1. God
 - 2. Lord
 - 3. Son of God
 - ii. His attributes
 - 1. Eternality
 - 2. Omnipresence
 - 3. Omniscience
 - 4. Omnipotence
 - 5. Immutability
 - 6. Life
 - iii. His works
 - 1. Creator
 - 2. Sustainer
 - 3. Forgiver of sin
 - 4. Miracle worker
 - iv. He receives worship

VI. The Hypostatic Union

- a. Meaning of the hypostatic union
- b. Explanation of the hypostatic union
- c. Kenosis and the hypostatic union

VII. Earthly Life of Christ

- a. Introduction
- b. The Words of Christ
- c. The Works of Christ
- d. The Rejection of Christ
- e. The Death of Christ
 - i. Substitution
 - ii. Redemption
 - iii. Reconciliation

- iv. Propitiation
 - v. Forgiveness
 - vi. Justification
- VIII. The Resurrection of Christ
 - a. Importance
 - i. The resurrection determines the validity of the Christian faith.
 - ii. The resurrection was the guarantee of the Father’s acceptance of the Son’s work.
 - iii. The resurrection was essential in the program of God.
 - iv. The resurrection fulfilled the prophecies.
 - b. Proofs for the Resurrection
 - i. The empty tomb.
 - ii. The linen wrappings.
 - iii. The resurrection appearances.
 - iv. The transformed disciples.
 - v. Observance of the first day of the week.
 - vi. Existence of the church.
- IX. The Ascension of Christ
 - a. Facts about the ascension.
 - b. Significance of the ascension.
 - i. The ascension ended the earthly ministry of Christ.
 - ii. The ascension ended the period of Christ’s humiliation.
 - iii. The ascension marks the first entrance of resurrected humanity into heaven and the beginning of a new work in heaven (Hebrews 4:14-16; 6:20).
 - iv. The ascension made the descent of the Holy Spirit possible (John 16:7).
- X. The Offices of Christ
 - a. Prophet

 - b. Priest

c. King

XI. The Present Ministry of Christ

a. Building His Church

i. The Formation of the Body

ii. The Direction of the Body

iii. The Nurture of the Body

iv. The Cleansing of the Body

v. Giving Gifts to the Body

b. Interceding for Believers

i. Intercession Assures our Salvation

ii. Intercession Restores us to Fellowship Following Sin.

c. Preparing a Heavenly Dwelling Place for Believers

d. Producing Fruit in the lives of Believers

XII. The Future Work of Christ

Next Time: In our next study, we will begin to look at the doctrine of the Holy Spirit or “*pneumatology*.”