

## **FUNDAMENTALS OF FAITH: A SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY**

**(33 Weeks: Aug 2024-May 2025)**

\*Each subsection will take one week. Resources: *Bible Doctrine* (MacArthur/Mayhue), *Systematic Theology* (Grudem), *Christian Theology* (Erickson).

- I) The Doctrine of God's Revelation
  - A) God's universal and special revelation
  - B) God's perfect word
  - C) The canon of Scripture
  
- II) The Doctrine of God the Father
  - A) Existence
  - B) Creation
  - C) Attributes
  
- III) The Doctrine of Man
  - A) Image Bearers
  - B) Male and Female
  - C) Fallen Nature
  
- IV) The Doctrine of God the Son
  - A) Deity and Humanity
  - B) Atonement
  - C) Offices of Christ
  
- V) The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit
  - A) Person of the Holy Spirit
  - B) Work of the Holy Spirit
  - C) Gifts of the Holy Spirit
  
- VI) The Doctrine of Salvation
  - A) Election
  - B) New Birth (justification, regeneration, adoption)

- C) Sanctification
- D) Perseverance of the Saints
- E) Glorification

VII) The Doctrine of Angels and Demons

- A) Angels
- B) Satan and Demons

VIII) The Doctrine of the Church

- A) Nature and role
- B) Government
- C) Baptism
- D) Lord's Supper

IX) The Doctrine of the Future

- A) Heaven
- B) Hell
- C) The Rapture
- D) The Tribulation
- E) The Return of Christ
- F) The Millennium
- G) The New Heavens and the New Earth

## **“WHY STUDY THEOLOGY?”**

1. Systematic theology (study of God) teaches what the whole Bible teaches on any given doctrine by collecting and understanding all relevant passages on these topics and clearly summarizing their teachings in a careful, detailed, accurate and organized way. This is not a substitute for traditional Bible reading and study but an additional approach.
2. Systematic theology helps us to overcome wrong ideas and assumptions and make better decisions as questions of doctrine arise in the future.
3. Systematic theology done correctly will help us mature as Christians because we will know more about God, His Word, and our relationship to him which will cause us to be more obedient and worshipful.
6. Study of systematic theology is necessary to ensure a Christian worldview.
5. Study of systematic theology must be approached with prayer for an understanding mind and a believing heart guided by the Holy Spirit.
7. Study of systematic theology must be approached with humility. Knowledge puffs up and arrogance can ensue. If pride accompanies our study then we are missing the whole point. There are areas where brothers and sisters in Christ must be permitted to disagree. There are certainly non-negotiables of faith but there are also areas in which we can agree to disagree.
8. Study of systematic theology must be done with help from others. Books, teachers, and other resources as well as conversing with other brothers and sisters in Christ are essential.

9. What disastrous results could result in a denomination or church giving up on the study of theology for a generation?
10. As you look through the subjects we will study together which ones are you most excited about? Why?
11. How would you answer the objection that the study of theology divides rather than unites the church?