

ST 5103 “Holy Spirit, Church, Last Things”
Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
FALL 2009
Instructor: Graham A. Cole

I. CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

This course begins with the study of the person and work of the Holy Spirit. Focus then shifts to the doctrine of the church. Topics include the nature, mission, function, organization, and ordinances of the church, the use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in ministry, and the relation of Israel to the church. The course concludes with a treatment of the Last Things in relation to individuals (including the intermediate state and the resurrection of the body) and in relation to the following corporate groups: the church, Israel and the nations.

II. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course the class attending and class attentive student will know key biblical texts and their bearing on the doctrines under discussion.

At the completion of this course the class attending and class attentive student will know some of the names, insights and arguments of important theologians.

At the completion of this course the class attending and class attentive student will be able to define key theological terms and make key theological distinctions.

At the completion of this course the class attending and class attentive student will have deepened in their ability to comprehend and apply theological ideas, distinctions and arguments to life in the church and the world.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Reading:

Please read the following:

Millard Erickson, *Christian Theology*, Parts 9, 11 & 12
Or a substitute agreed to by Dr Cole.

Please read the Graham A. Cole, *He Who Gives Life: The Doctrine Of The Holy Spirit* (Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway, 2007).

Write a one page response to Erickson and a one page response to Cole describing at least three insights learned in reading Erickson and Cole include a statement of how much of the required reading you did (e.g., 90% or 100%).

Paper:

Choose one of the following for a 15 page paper:

1. Defend biblically and theologically the claim that the Holy Spirit is truly God.
2. Describe and assess biblically and theologically two competing ideas of the baptism with the Spirit and its significance for the Christian life.
3. Discuss the Holy Spirit's role in regeneration **OR** progressive sanctification.
4. What makes a group of people the church? Make some reference to the historic notions of the notes and marks of the church.
5. Describe and assess two models of church government (e.g. episcopal and congregational).
6. What are the means of grace? How important, if at all, are they to the life of the Christian?
7. Describe and assess two models of eschatology (e.g. historic premillennialism and amillennialism).
8. Compare and contrast two views of the Rapture. How well grounded biblically are these views?
9. Describe and assess the view that the impenitent will suffer annihilation in the world to come.

IV. COURSE GRADES

Grades will be determined on the following basis:

Book responses and signed statement that the relevant parts of Erickson and all of Cole have been read (10%).

15 page paper (90%)

Due January 2, 2010.

NB. Lateness Policy: without an extension a paper a day late goes down a level (e.g. A becomes A-), if two days late down a grade (e.g. A becomes B), if three to seven days late goes down to C maximum (A becomes C), over seven days late it is a FAIL.

V. COURSE OUTLINE

1. The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit
2. The Church
3. The Last Things

VI. PAPER WRITING GUIDELINES

Make sure that you answer the question and/or address the topic. Do not change the topic or question. Reproduce the topic and/or question on your title page. Do not go over or under the page limit by more than 10%. The bibliography is not included in the page limits.

Make sure that you have an introduction, a body of argument and a conclusion as well as a bibliography.

Make sure that you use footnotes or endnotes.

Make sure that you use a consistent academic style. Make sure that your paper is typed, double-spaced and 12 point.

Make sure that on your bibliography you have more books (or articles) than the course required ones.

