Systematic Theology "A Journey Through Core Doctrines" Syllabus

Course Description

This course explores the core doctrines of Christianity with a focus on the nature and attributes of God, the Trinity, creation, and God's revelation to humanity. Students will engage with Scripture, historical theology, and contemporary perspectives to deepen their understanding of these foundational theological principles. The course emphasizes the articulation and defense of Christian beliefs in a variety of contexts.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

Articulate a biblical and theological understanding of the nature and attributes of God.

Explain the doctrine of the Trinity and its importance to Christian faith. Discuss the biblical account of creation and its theological implications. Understand the different modes of God's revelation (general and special). Defend core Christian doctrines in academic and practical settings.

Required Texts

Systematic Theology: A Journey Through Core Doctrines

By Rev. Dr. T. Welcome Miller Jr.

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Course Outline

Week 1: Introduction to Systematic Theology

- Definition and purpose of theology
- Methods and sources of theology: Scripture, tradition, reason, and experience
- Overview of core doctrines

Week 2: The Nature and Attributes of God (Part 1)

- The existence of God: Biblical and philosophical arguments
- Attributes of God: Incommunicable attributes (e.g., aseity, immutability, omnipotence)

Week 3: The Nature and Attributes of God (Part 2)

- Communicable attributes (e.g., love, mercy, justice, holiness)
- The relationship between God's attributes

Week 4: The Doctrine of the Trinity (Part 1)

- Biblical foundation for the Trinity
- Historical development: Early church debates and creeds

Week 5: The Doctrine of the Trinity (Part 2)

- The roles of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- Practical implications of the Trinity for Christian life and worship

Week 6: The Doctrine of Creation

- The biblical account of creation
- Theological significance of creation ex nihilo
- God's ongoing relationship with creation

Week 7: God's Revelation to Humanity (Part 1)

- General revelation: Nature, conscience, and human reason
- Special revelation: Scripture and the person of Christ

Week 8: God's Revelation to Humanity (Part 2)

- The inspiration, inerrancy, and authority of Scripture
- The canon of Scripture and its reliability

Week 9: Defending the Faith

- Common objections to the doctrines studied
- Apologetics: Strategies for articulating and defending the nature of God

Week 10: Course Review and Final Assessment

- Review of key concepts
- Final assessment: Written essay or oral presentation defending a core doctrine