

ACBC Theology Exam

Updated 10/2/21

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1. Describe the inspiration, inerrancy, and authority of Scripture as well as the relationship of each one of these issues to one another.
 2. Describe the sufficiency of Scripture. Relate the doctrine of the sufficiency of Scripture to the practice of biblical counseling. Research and respond to the arguments of at least one integrationist or Christian Psychologist regarding the insufficiency of Scripture for counseling.
 3. Describe your position on the nature of continuing revelation (i.e., prophecy, tongues, words of knowledge). In particular explain whether you believe prophecy is a present gift in today's church. Explain the relationship between your understanding of the gift of prophecy and the sufficiency of Scripture.
 4. Define general revelation and special revelation and describe the nature of their authority as well as their relationship to one another.
 5. Explain the doctrine of common grace as it relates to the limitations of secular psychologists in understanding true information about the human condition.
 6. Explain the doctrine of the noetic effects of sin as it relates to the limitations of secular psychologists in understanding true information about the human condition.
 7. Explain the doctrine of the Trinity, and provide its biblical basis.
 8. Explain each of the following attributes of God describing the practical implications of each attribute for life and counseling: wrath, mercy, holiness, omnipotence, omniscience, and omnipresence.
 9. Explain, using biblical categories, your understanding of the image of God in man.
 10. Provide a biblical description of the dichotomist view of mankind. Explain the counseling implications of this doctrine with regard to the inner and outer man.
 11. Describe the biblical understanding of manhood and womanhood from both an egalitarian and complementarian perspective. Explain which view you embrace and outline why you believe it to be the most biblical.
 12. Describe the dual natures of Jesus Christ and explain why this reality is crucial for salvation.
 13. Provide an explanation of and the biblical basis for the doctrine of substitutionary atonement, explaining the implications of this doctrine for human guilt over sin.
 14. Explain what it means to trust in Jesus Christ alone for salvation.
 15. Provide an explanation and biblical defense of justification.
 16. Define faith in biblical terms explaining its relationship to justification and sanctification.
 17. Describe the role of repentance in beginning and continuing in the Christian life. Explain the importance of the doctrine of repentance for biblical counseling.

18. Describe the doctrine of Union with Christ explaining its biblical basis and implications for Christian living.
19. Explain the biblical categories of past, present, and future sanctification.
20. Explain the synergistic nature of sanctification being sure to describe the relationship between God's grace and moral effort in the Christian life.
21. Explain the role of the Holy Spirit in the Christian life describing the importance of this role in the counseling process.
22. Provide your understanding of how the Holy Spirit guides Christians in the decisions they make today.
23. Provide a biblical description of the church.
24. What role should the church play in the counseling process?

ACBC Counseling Exam

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1. What issues should be covered in an introductory session with a counselee regardless of the counseling issue? Explain the importance of each issue.
 2. Describe at least six biblical strategies to develop a caring relationship with your counselees. Clearly identify each strategy and ground its use in specific passages of Scripture, explaining its practical utility in building a relationship.
 3. Provide a biblical theology of emotions. What role should a counselor allow a counselee's emotions to play in counseling? How can one tell the difference between sinful emotions and righteous emotions? How would you use Scripture to help a counselee change improper emotions?
 4. Provide a biblical definition of anger. Describe manifestations of anger in both the inner and outer man. Explain the biblical factors that drive anger. Detail several biblical strategies to respond to anger.
 5. Provide a biblical definition of depression. Describe manifestations of depression in both the inner and outer man. Explain the biblical factors that drive depression. Detail several biblical strategies to respond to depression.
 6. Provide a biblical definition of anxiety and fear. Describe manifestations of anxiety and worry in both the inner and outer man. Explain the biblical factors that drive anxiety and fear. Detail several biblical strategies to respond to anxiety and fear.
 7. List several reasons for concluding a counseling case. For each, describe how you would go about ending the counseling.
 8. Describe in biblical categories the operations of the devil. Is there a difference between Believers and unbelievers regarding the activity of the devil? What is a biblical methodology for responding to the demonic in the context of counseling?
 9. Define, describe, and provide a biblical evaluation of each of the following: 12 step recovery programs, cognitive-behavioral therapy, the biogenic theory of mood disorders, and electroconvulsive therapy.
 10. Describe the role you believe church discipline should play in biblical counseling.
 11. Describe what you believe to be the role of confidentiality in biblical counseling. What kind of commitment to confidentiality should a biblical counselor make? What biblical and practical considerations limit confidentiality? What is the responsibility of a biblical counselor to report to civil authorities on matters of domestic violence, sexual abuse, and other illegal matters? How should biblical counselors cooperate with the authorities about these things?
Erik
 12. Assume that the information you have here is a straightforward presentation of the facts and write down the homework assignments you want Erik to complete after this first meeting with

you. After you list the homework explain the specific issues you will address with Erik in counseling sessions. Please include the categories of “put off” and “put on” in your answer.

Sarah

13. How would you respond to this question? Write out your answer exactly as you would provide it to Sarah.
14. What means would you use to find out more information about Sarah’s current problem? What information would you seek?
15. Carefully describe whether and how you would want to work with a physician to help Sarah through this ordeal? As part of your answer to this specific question describe, in general terms, how you believe biblical counselors should cooperate with medical professionals.

Tim and Emily

16. Using biblical categories, what considerations should be made relating to Emily’s safety? What practical steps can be taken to ensure Emily’s safety?
17. How will you decide whether to pursue Tim and Emily as believers or unbelievers? What difference will their status as Christians make in your counseling?.
18. Emily is “Convinced that God is telling her to divorce Tim.” Write out your word-for-word response to Emily on this matter. In your response, be sure to address the themes of biblical decision-making and permission for divorce and remarriage.
19. What strategy would you employ to see repentance, reconciliation, and restoration happen between Tim and Emily?
20. Tim believes his recent psychiatric diagnosis is a life-long disease and is to blame for his behavior towards his wife. Write out your word-for-word response to Tim on this matter. In your response, be sure to address the themes of biblical responsibility and self-control.