

LIVING FAITH BIBLE INSTITUTE

SYSTEMATIC & DISPENSATIONAL THEOLOGY - THP 210

Course Level // Bible Essentials / 2 Credit Hours

Spring 2024 / January 13th – May 4th / Online

Time: 11:30 am CST / Location: Online Only

Faculty Professor & Instructor: Dr. W. Alan Shelby

Education

- Bachelor of Arts, Biblical Studies (Calvary University) • Master of Arts, Biblical Studies (Luther Rice Seminary)
- Doctor of Religious Studies, Expository Preaching (Trinity Theological Seminary)

Experience

- President of the Board for Allen Village Charter Public School (2003-Present)
- Dean of Shepherd's School of Ministry (1988-2012)
- Dean of Living Faith Bible Institute (2013-2021) • Living Faith Fellowship Board of Directors (2015- Present)

Pastoral Experience

- Pastoral Ministry at Blue Ridge Baptist Temple (1980- 1982)
- Pastoral Counseling at Blue Ridge Christian School (1983-1984)
- Pastoral Ministry at Kansas City Baptist Temple (1985- 2012)
- Lead Pastor at Harvest Baptist Church – Blue Springs, MO (2012-Present)

Teachers Assistant: Theresa Cardona theresa.cardona@lfb.org

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will explore the Bible's revelation of Christian faith to develop sound doctrine on which to build personal ministry. This exploration is conducted from a scriptural perspective in such a way that the result is not solely acquisition of data, but a deepening of the student's personal relationship with the One whose enormity is barely touched by this study. This course gives a survey of the basic doctrines of the Bible, placing each truth-topic within a framework of discipleship. This is done systematically from a dispensational and premillennial perspective.

II. COURSE PREREQUISITES

- A passing grade in Foundations 2 & 3

III. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- **GENERAL COMPETENCIES**
 - The student who finishes this course will be able to state with confidence what the Bible says in its basic teaching on key issues of faith.

- The student who finishes this course will have established a sound scriptural basis for “rightly dividing the word of truth.”
- **COGNITIVE COMPETENCIES**
 - To enable the student to not only know what we believe but why we believe it.
 - To enable the student to understand the history of dispensational theology as it relates to the pre-tribulation rapture of the church and the premillennial return of Christ.
- **BEHAVIORAL COMPETENCIES**
 - To embolden the student to earnestly contend for the faith against false doctrine.
 - To empower the student to teach biblical discipleship with a solid basis of sound doctrine for vital spiritual life, and as a safeguard against error.
 - To enable the student to defend the doctrine of the rapture.
 - To experience the truth of the “blessed hope” as an offensive weapon against the despair of our age caused by postmodern philosophy and amillennial, postmillennial and post-tribulation systems of prophecy.
- **ACADEMIC OBJECTIVES**
 - To explore the unity of Bible doctrine in such a way it:
 - Makes God’s eternal purpose and the mission of every member ministry making disciples prominent
 - Makes truth coherent as a whole
 - Enables us to explain it to others
 - Validates the scriptural accuracy of a variety of systems of interpreting prophecy.

IV. REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS

- There will be weekly post-lecture quizzes. **(30% of grade)**
- The student will read the course textbook by Bancroft and submit a 5-page book review that compares the text with the course content. **(35% of grade – due May 4th @ 11:59 pm CST)**
 - Your review should begin with a one-page **summary** of the book’s contents. This should be followed by a one-to-two-page **discussion** of how the book relates to information presented in our course lectures. This summary should be followed by a one-to-two-page **reflection** of how the theology in the book either agrees or disagrees with your own theological beliefs. Finally, you should include a one-page **evaluation** of the author’s presentation compared to the biblical data you have studied. Put your name on your submission and turn it in on the due date or before.
 - This report must reference at least **two** books or articles on “the Bible” other than the textbook and must include at least **one** footnote or endnote citation per page.
 - This report must use the rules of Chicago Manual Style (see Essay Formatting).
 - The paper must be at least five typewritten pages in length, double-spaced.
 - Use Times New Roman set to 12-point type
 - Citations may be given as footnotes or as endnotes.
 - A **10-point penalty** is applied for each day the paper is late.
- The student will write their own Personal Doctrinal statement. **(35% of grade – due May 13th @ 11:59 pm CST)**
 - Formulate your own personal doctrinal statement in 8-10 pages. It will declare what you believe and why you believe it. Include all major doctrines as they apply to teaching our biblical discipleship lessons. This paper will be stated in the form of affirmations (“I believe...”) and will include proof texts.
 - **Helps on Making your Own Personal Doctrinal Statement**
 - **Step 1: Collect all necessary material**
 - Decide what topics you are going to cover and use a concordance to collect the scripture on each subject. Do not try for harmony so much as consistency. Remember this is not a

research paper on what the Bible says, but a position paper on what you personally believe.

- **Step 2: Trace the Progress of Doctrine**
 - Truth has to be rightly divided dispensationally.
- **Step 3: Balance One Doctrine by Another**
 - Doctrines should be held consistently with each other.
- **Step 4: State Bible Doctrine in Scriptural Language**
 - Avoid all scholarly-sounding phrases
- **Step 5: Combine Doctrine with Practice**
 - You do not believe anything you do not live for.
- **Step 6: Observe these General Rules while writing**
 - Do not make something a matter of faith if not a matter of revelation
- Please see other expectations and tips on the myLFBI assignment in Moodle.

V. REQUIRED TEXT

The Holy Bible, Authorized Version

Bancroft, Emery H. *Elemental Theology: An Introductory Survey of Conservative Doctrine*. Kregel Academic & Professional, 2022. ISBN-13: 9780825447761

Shelby, W. Alan, *Systematic Theology Course Outlines (LFBI)*, 2023. These are handed out each week as the course progresses.

Recommended Reading

- Chafer, Lewis Sperry. *Major Bible Themes*. Downloadable at <https://goo.gl/28HTe2>
- Douglas, Alban. *100 Bible Lessons*. In public domain and downloadable at <https://bit.ly/alband>

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Pastor/Professor lectures are watched in person or by streaming within the myLFBI classroom environment. Classes may be watched throughout the week if you cannot attend class live. Instructors may administer reading assignments, self-directed study/research, project-oriented assignments, essays or finals. Each week's lecture will conclude with a weekly post-lecture online quiz.

LFBI quizzes will remain posted for 10-days before they are removed. Incomplete quizzes will be an automatic "0". Ensure your success by staying on pace with lectures and completing assignments in a timely manner. Do not contact professors or institute administrators about "missed quizzes" unless you have a doctor's note or in case in the case of clear administrative error.

VII. ESSAY FORMATTING

Chicago Manual of Style. (17th edition)

For help using Chicago Style:

https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html

VIII. COURSE GRADING POLICY

LFBI Grading Scale

A: 92-100% Excellent. Mastery of course material.

B: 83-91% Good. Reasonable understanding of course material.

C: 74-82% Satisfactory. Basic comprehension of course material.

D: 65-73% Poor. Minimal knowledge of course material.

LFBI Grade-Point Calculation

A // 97-100	C // 77-79
A- // 92-96	C- // 74-76
B+ // 89-91	D+ // 71-73
B // 86-88	D // 68-70
B- // 83-85	D- // 65-67
C+ // 80-82	F // 0-64

Transferring credits: we transfer students' grade-point averages based on the above scale. LFBI does not transfer letter grades. This is critical to the consideration of student honors at graduation. LFBI Instructors will calculate a percentage grade on each assignment entered in Moodle.

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY

- Living Faith Bible Institute requires 100% attendance. All attendance issues will be handled directly by the course instructor within your specific class. From there, it may be deferred to the Registrar's Office. If a student misses' class but believes it may be excused, they will contact the Registrar. We believe that students have many potential extenuating circumstances that contribute to absence and for this reason, course records distinguish between excused and unexcused absence. The Registrar's Office staff is available to help students regarding any concern with attendance.
- Whether you are attending classes online or in person, it is important for students to put together a personal attendance plan. Being present and prepared for class is critical to getting the instructional experience necessary for growth. The following are the attendance requirements and policies for LFBI:
 - I. Students are responsible for all missed information, instruction and assignments accrued while absent from class.
 - II. For online students, if you miss the live viewing of any class lecture, you will have **ten days** to view the class online before the corresponding quiz becomes inaccessible and you are considered absent.
 - III. All students who miss class (i.e., sickness, missions' trips, work schedules) will be expected to stay caught up with each week's

class. Instructors may, at their discretion, grant extensions to students who miss class under special circumstances.

- IV. Students who wish to contest an unexcused absence may fill out the Absence Form on the Resource page of myLFBI for review by the Registrar's Office.
- When in live attendance, the student is expected to show common courtesy to the professor and fellow students by being punctual. Students who are regularly late to class or are a distraction to other students are susceptible to being reported to the Registrar's Office.

X. DROP POLICY

- Students have until the second week of semester classes to enroll for credit. The penalty for late enrollment is missing the quizzes for the sessions while they were not enrolled.
- There will be no refunds for early withdrawal beyond the second week of class or for incomplete classes.
- Students who enroll in Fall or Spring courses may be re-assigned as an "audit student" upon request prior to the end of week 4 but will not receive a refund. After week 4, all students will receive their earned grade.
- Students will receive a failing grade for an incomplete course. The failing grade will go on their transcript. Contact the registrar to change enrollment status prior to the designated time.
- Students may retake a class for credit the next time it is offered by re-enrolling and paying tuition. Both grades will be recorded on the transcript.

XI. OTHER POLICIES

- **Academic Misconduct**
Academic misconduct is strictly prohibited and will result in an F for the course as well as a board review of student enrollment status.
- **Disability Statement**
Students with a documented disability may contact the LFBI offices to make arrangements for academic accommodations.
- **Classroom Policies**
Classroom policies will be established and enforced by the individual instructor. Cell phones, internet social networking and other distractions take away from the learning environment. Use these on class assigned breaks only.

XII. SEMESTER OVERVIEW

- Week 1: Syllabus, Introduction, Salvation (Soteriology)
- Week 2: The Scriptures (Bibliology) & Prayer
- Week 3: The Trinity (Pneumatology)
- Week 4: God (Theology Proper)

- Week 5: The Trinity (Christology)
- Week 6: The Church & the Ordinances (Ecclesiology)
- Week 7: The Judgment Seat of Christ & Prophecy (Eschatology)
- Week 8: Sin (Hamartiology) & Sanctification, Christian Living (Anthropology)
- Week 9: Realities of Spiritual Warfare (Angelology)
- Week 10: The Seven Periods of Prophecy
- Week 11: Backgrounds to Dispensationalism
- Week 12: Definition & Description of the Dispensations
- Week 13: Ruling Lines for Rightly Diving Progressive Revelation
- Week 14: Eternal Elements of Dispensational Theology
- Week 15: The Overview of Prophecy
- Week 16: Contemporary Theology

XIII. SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Akin, Danial L., ed. *A Theology for the Church*. B&H Academic, 2007.
- Baker, Charles F. *A Dispensational Theology*. Grace Bible College Publications, 1971.
- *Bancroft, Emery H. *Christian Theology Systematic and Biblical*. Zondervan, 1961.
- *_____. *Elemental Theology, Doctrinal and Conservative*. Zondervan Publishing House, 1967.
- Barnhouse, Donald Grey. *Exposition of Bible Doctrines*, 4 vols. Eerdmans, 1973.
- *Baxter, J. Sidlow. *Strategic Grasp of the Bible* (Zondervan)
- Benton, John. *God's Riches*. Banner of Truth, 1996.
- Bloesch, Donald G. *Essentials of Evangelical Theology*. Hendrickson Publishers, 2006.
- Boyd, Robert. *Boyd's Bible Handbook* (Harvest House) (Now, *The World Bible Handbook*)
- *Bullinger, E.W. *Foundational of Dispensational Truth*
- Couch, Mal. *Dictionary of Premillennial Theology: A Practical Guide to the People, Viewpoints, and History of Prophetic Studies*. Kregel Academic & Professional, 1997.
- *Chafer, Lewis Sperry. *Systematic Theology* (4 Volumes). Kregel Academic & Professional, 1993.
- Day, Millard F. *Basic Bible Doctrines*. Moody Press.
- *Douglas, Alban. *100 Bible Lessons*. Evangelical Missionary Fellowship, 1960.
- *Evans, Tony. *Theology You Can Count On: Experiencing What the Bible Says*. Moody Publishers, 2008.
- Gaebelein, Arno C. *As it Was, So Shall it Be*
- Geisler, Norman L. *Systematic Theology*, Vol. 1: Introduction/Bible. Bethany House, 2002.
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- _____. *Systematic Theology*, Vol. 3: Sin/Salvation. Bethany House, 2004.
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- Pentecost, J. Dwight. *Things Which Become Sound Doctrine*. Zondervan.
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*Sauer, Erich. *Dawn of World Redemption* (Eerdmans)
_____. *From Eternity to Eternity* (Eerdmans)
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*Willmington, Harold L. *Willmington's Complete Guide to Bible Knowledge: Introduction to Theology*. Tyndale House Pub, 1993.
Wilson, Walter L. *Wilson's Dictionary of Bible Types* (Eerdmans)
***Recommended**

This syllabus is subject to change by verbal or written announcement by the professor.

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