



Reformed

BAPTIST SEMINARY

A CHURCH-BASED MINISTERIAL ACADEMY

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Course Syllabus

Course title: ST 502-3 The Word

Course description: The content of this course includes an overview of the entire doctrine of revelation beginning with revelation in general, proceeding to redemptive revelation, concluding with a treatment of the doctrine of Scripture, which examines both its major attributes and also the issue of the canon.

Course instructor: **Sam Waldron** began serving as a pastor in 1977. He is a graduate and former professor of Trinity Ministerial Academy. Sam holds a Master of Theology degree (Th.M.) from Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary and a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Systematic Theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has authored such books as *A Modern Exposition of the 1689 Confession of Faith* (Evangelical Press), *Baptist Roots in America* (Simpson Publishing), *The End Times Made Simple* (Calvary Press), and *A Reformed Baptist Manifesto* (Reformed Baptist Academic Press). He is currently a professor at Midwest Center for Theological Studies and an Associate Editor of the *Reformed Baptist Theological Review*. Sam and his wife, Charlene, have five children.

Course credit: 2 credits

Course requirements: Student must satisfactorily complete the following course requirements:

(1) Lectures The student must listen to all **18 audio lectures** by Dr. Waldron on the Doctrine of Scripture, which may be accessed on RBS Virtual Campus or purchased on RBS online store.

LECTURE OUTLINE:

PART 1: REVELATION (IN GENERAL)

SECTION 1: THE CONCEPT OF REVELATION

SECTION 2: THE CATEGORIES OF REVELATION

PART 2: REDEMPTIVE REVELATION

SECTION 1: ITS INTRODUCTION

SECTION 2: ITS RELATIONS

SECTION 3: ITS IMPARTATION

PART 3: INSCRIPTURATED REDEMPTIVE REVELATION

SECTION 1: THE ATTRIBUTES OF SCRIPTURE

SECTION 2: THE CANON OF SCRIPTURE

(2) Reading Student must read the assigned pages from the following works:

Primary Textbooks

Inerrancy, ed. by Norman L. Geisler (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1980).

The Infallible Word: A Symposium (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 1978)

Richard B. Gaffin Jr., *God's Word in Servant-Form: Abraham Kuyper and Herman Bavinck on The Doctrine of Scripture* (Jackson, MS: Reformed Academic Press, 2008).

John Calvin, *The Institutes of the Christian Religion*, trans. Ford Lewis Battles and ed. John T. McNeill (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1960).

Samuel E. Waldron, *To be Continued?* (Merrick, NY: Calvary Press, 2005).
 Samuel E. Waldron, *The Manuscript for Prolegomena to Systematic Theology 2*
 (Doctrine of the Word (Unpublished) [downloadable from Virtual Campus in
 PDF format]

Secondary Textbook (for extra credit)

Beale, G. K. *The Erosion of Biblical Inerrancy: Responding to New Challenges to
 Biblical Authority*. Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2008.

Reading Schedule

The assigned reading should be read in conjunction with the three parts of the
 course as follows:

Part 1: Revelation in General

Inerrancy: Chapter 7	32pp.
The Infallible Word: "Nature and Scripture by Van Til	40 pp.
The Institutes: Book 1, Chapters 1-5	39 pp.

Part 2: Redemptive Revelation

Part 3: Inscripturated Redemptive Revelation

Inerrancy: Chapters 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13	229 pp.
God's Word in Servant-Form: (in its entirety)	103 pp.
The Infallible Word: Chapters 1, 4, 5	129 pp.
The Institutes: Book 1, Chapters 6-8	23 pp.
<u>To be Continued? (in its entirety)</u>	<u>105 pp.</u>
Total Pages:	700 pp.

Extra-credit

Erosion of Biblical Inerrancy (in its entirety)	300 pp.
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Reading in other related works may be allowed to substitute for some of the
 reading above. The student, however, must first obtain the instructor's permission
 (waldronsc@gmail.com).

(3) Book Review

The student should write a book review of one of the two following books:

Gaffin, *God's Word in Servant Form*
 Beale, *Erosion of Biblical Inerrancy*

The review should be between 6 to 8 pages double-spaced (1500 to 2000 words). The
 first half of the review should include a summary of the book. The second half of the
 review should include an appraisal of the book, highlighting its strengths and any
 perceived weaknesses.

(3) Quizzes

There will be a total of **9 quizzes** each consisting of seven short-answer questions worth
 2 points each. This will yield a total of 126 points.

Material Covered in Each Quiz

- PROLEGOMENA TO SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY 2 QUIZ # 1 COVERING PART ONE
Pages 1-27 (approx. 27 pages)
- PROLEGOMENA TO SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY 2 QUIZ # 2 COVERING PART TWO,
 SECTION ONE THROUGH SECTION TWO, II, B, 1 **Pages 28-40 (approx. 12
 pages)**
- PROLEGOMENA TO SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY 2 QUIZ # 3 COVERING PART TWO,
 SECTION ONE [some review & some new] UP TO PART THREE **Pages 39-74
 (approx. 50 pages)**
- PROLEGOMENA TO SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY 2 QUIZ # 4 COVERING PART
 THREE, SECTION ONE, I THROUGH II, A, 2, a, 7) **Pages 75-90 (approx. 13 pages)**

- PROLEGOMENA TO SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY 2 QUIZ # 5 COVERING PART THREE, SECTION ONE, II, A, 2, a, 8) THROUGH THE END OF SECTION ONE **Pages 90-112 (approx. 30 pages)**
- PROLEGOMENA TO SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY 2 QUIZ # 6 COVERING PART THREE, [SECTION ONE-Review] SECTION TWO, I THRU III **Pages 113-141 (approx. 77 pages)**
- PROLEGOMENA TO SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY 2 QUIZ # 7 COVERING PART THREE, SECTION TWO, IV THROUGH IV, C, 1 **Pages 142-159 (approx. 20 pages)**
- PROLEGOMENA TO SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY 2 QUIZ # 8 COVERING PART THREE, SECTION TWO, IV, C, 2 **Pages 159-164 (approx. 5 pages)**
- PROLEGOMENA TO SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY 2 QUIZ # 9 COVERING PART THREE, SECTION TWO, V **Pages 165-212 (approx. 54 pages)**

Note: on the quizzes calling for a review of formerly covered material, the instructor desires the student to know the major points of that reviewed section for the quiz.

(4) Final Exam

There will be a **50-question final exam**. All the questions on this exam will be drawn from the quizzes. The student should direct any questions to Dr. Waldron ([270] 926-6848; Waldronsc@gmail.com) or the seminary dean.

Course grading:

Lectures and reading = 10%
 Book review = 30%
 Quizzes = 30 %
 Final exams = 30%