

Introduction to Theology 2

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INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGY

A. DEFINITION OF THEOLOGY

1. What is Theology?
2. Nature of Systematic Theology
3. Major Categories of Systematic Theology

B. IMPORTANCE OF THEOLOGY

Why should we study theology?

C. KINDS OF THEOLOGY

1. **Biblical Theology** - consist of _____ or _____ in the Bible (e.g. Pauline theology) The best commentary on the bible is _____.
 - The basis of biblical theology is “ _____,” is the explanation of the meaning of a text.
 - Exegesis examines biblical passages and “thinks out” their meaning on the basis of _____ and _____ considerations
2. **Systematic Theology** - systematic _____ and _____ of Biblical doctrines from the whole Bible
 - Systematic theology _____ the teachings of the Bible into categorical _____ or _____.
 - Titus 1:9 Basically encourages us to _____ the doctrines of the Faith.
3. **Historical Theology** - development of systematic theology (doctrine) throughout the _____
 - Historical theology clarifies how different periods of church history understood _____, and why.

D. SOURCE AND METHOD OF SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

1. **Source** - _____ - SOLA SCRIPTURA
 - Not tradition
 - Or the church
 - The Bible is our final authority
 - Our study will be focused mainly on what does scripture say about scripture.

2. Method:

- EXEGESIS is the _____ of the meaning of a text.
 - To bring out the meaning of a text as it was intended by the original author.
- HERMENEUTICS is simply the _____ of the message.
 - strives to understand _____ surrounding the verses
 - and strives to understand _____ of the author
- **2 Tim 2:15** -
- **TWO THINGS** we need to keep in mind as we develop our method.
 - First, _____
 - understand the meaning, put meanings together, to explain our findings
 - Secondly, **DEPEND ON THE** _____
 - humility and dependence on the Holy Spirit

E. DANGERS OF SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

Proof-texting, taking Scripture out of context to support a view

- They must be used in _____;
- They must not be used _____ when _____ might change the meaning;

Turning Biblical truth into merely a philosophy or a worldview

- 1 Thess. 2:13 Not Just word of men, but the _____
- Heb. 4:12 Word of God _____ and _____, it is not just a philosophical point of view.

Intellectualism, arrogant love of knowledge

- Matt. 23:23-24 The Pharisees were focused on _____ of their beliefs, not the _____ of justice and mercy and faith.

Over-systematizing, unwarranted speculation

- Deut. 29:29 There are just some things we will _____; the _____ belong to the Lord.

Love of controversy

- 2 Tim. 2:23 Avoid _____ and arguing for argument sake.
- Titus 3:9 Start with what we do _____ with other believers