

SEEKING LAY STUDY OPPORTUNITIES IN THEOLOGY?

Announcing Lay Courses in Systematic Theology

Hosted by Coquitlam Presbyterian Church

Thursday nights 7:30-9:00

January 2011 through October 2012

Pursuing study in theology is pondered by many study-minded Christians, yet most find very limited opportunities in the pursuit of lay theology course work. In their busy and committed lives, they usually are precluded from commitments to study at institutions that are structured for formal training in full time Christian service. Finding amenable opportunity for lay study in theology is simply difficult.

The purpose of these lay courses at *Coquitlam Presbyterian Church (CPC)* is to serve the wider Body of Christ by hosting opportunities for serious study in the Scriptures and in systematic theology for Christians in Coquitlam and area.

Systematic theology is about organized Scripture-based Christian *doctrine and thought*. The body of systematic theology taught in seminaries and Bible schools is typically comprised of eight doctrinal categories:

- *Bibliology* (doctrine on the bible)
- *Theology Proper* (doctrine on God)
- *Anthropology* (doctrine on man and sin)
- *Christology* (doctrine on Christ),
- *Pneumatology* (doctrine on the Holy Spirit)
- *Soteriology* (doctrine on man's salvation)
- *Ecclesiology* (doctrine on the church)
- *Eschatology* (doctrine on the last things)

CPC offers you seven courses in systematic theology patterned after these categories (Course 4 is the combination of two categories). You may enroll in as few courses as you would like, or you may enroll in a seven course theology learning expedition throughout 2011-2012. (Course scheduling dates are at the end of each course description paragraph.)

Our courses are offered as a church ministry without fees, but the acquisition and cost of your text book is your responsibility. The text book is required even if you are enrolling in only one course. The text book is *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine*, by Wayne Grudem PhD, published by Zondervan, (ISBN 0-310-28670-0). Retail pricing can be \$49.99 without discount shopping.

Course Description Information

Seven courses are described below. Classes are held at CPC (see address at the end of this notice). An ability to receive/print PowerPoint and Word documents is required for class note taking and other study materials. Reading information will be emailed to those enrolled in a course.

Course 1: *How Has God Spoken to Us in Print?*

This course is about *bibliology*. It studies how to understand the concept of the *Word of God*, the nature and role of the *canon* [about inspiration] of Scripture, inerrancy of Scripture, and the four characteristics of Scripture, *authority, clarity, necessity* and *sufficiency*. (Four lessons, **January 6, 13, 20, 27, in 2011**)

Course 2: *Grasping God: His Nature, Power, and Moral Purpose*

This course is about *theology proper*. It focuses on God Himself and studies how to express the existence of God, to understand and describe His knowable nature, to describe His incommunicable and communicable [created in man] attributes, to comprehend and demonstrate the Trinitarian formula in Scripture, to appreciate and discuss God's power in creation, providence, miracles, prayer, and in His use of angels, and to ponder His moral purpose in evil and satanic powers. (Fifteen lessons, **February 3, 10, 17, 24; March 3, 10, 17; April 7, 14, 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19, 26, in 2011**)

Course 3: *Who Is Mankind? How Has Sin and Death Entered This World?*

This course is about *anthropology*. It studies the creation of mankind, the image of God, mankind as male and female, historical concepts on essential human nature, sin and death in Adam, the concepts of an acquired sinful nature and progressive corruption. It reviews redemption concepts in *Covenant* and in *Dispensational* theologies. A concept of *physical primacy* (neurological primacy) to explain human essential nature, and related concept of sin located in the flesh, will be explored by the teacher in the light of Scripture and appropriate philosophical inference where scripture is silent. (Six lessons, **June 2, 9, 16, 23; October 6, 13, in 2011**)

Course 4: *Christ the God-Man, His Saving Works, and the Work of the Holy Spirit*

This course is about *Christology* and *Pneumatology* combined. It studies the deity and humanity of Christ, His sinlessness and temptations, possibility for sinning, considerations around His human development, and ideas about the nature of incarnation. This is an involved and rewarding study about our Lord and should be approached with commitment and humility. It studies the saving works of Christ such as His atonement for sin, resurrection, and His intercessory prayer for believers. The work of the Holy Spirit studies in this course the *empowerment, purifying, revealing, and unifying* of the Spirit. Other aspects of the Spirit's work are covered in other courses. (Six lessons, **October 20, November 10, 17, in 2011; January 5, 12, 19, in 2012**)

Course 5: *God's Free Gift: Cancelling Sin's Penalty, Power, and Presence*

This course is about *soteriology*. It studies the application of God's grace in specific steps taken to save sinners from the penalty, power and presence of sin. It considers God's common grace to all people. It studies the concepts of and Scripture for: election, reprobation, the gospel call, regeneration, conversion, faith, repentance, justification, reconciliation, sanctification, perseverance, believers' death, union with Christ, and glorification and resurrection. The topics of Baptism in (or with) the Spirit and the filling of (or with) the Spirit are studied here. (Ten lessons, **January 26, February 2, 9, 16, 23, March 1, 8, 29, April 5, 12, in 2012**)

Course 6: *The Church: Alive To God in Community, Purity, Power, and Celebration*

This course is about *ecclesiology*. It studies the nature, marks and purpose of the church. The course contrasts Reformed and Non-Reformed or dispensational understandings of what constitutes the nature of the church, and its relationship to the nation of Israel. An alternative third concept of what constitutes the church will be considered by the teacher. The course studies

church community as the degree of united fellowship and collective nurturing and freedom from divisive discord. A review is given on church government concepts. Detail consideration of the *Gifts of the Holy Spirit* will demonstrate the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the effectiveness of church community. Church purity is considered from the practical perspective of a church's degree of freedom from wrong doctrine and conduct and degree of conformity to God's revealed will for the church. Power is studied as the church's God-given authority to carry on spiritual warfare, proclaim the gospel, and exercise church discipline. Celebration is presented as the practices that proclaim life together with God, in worship, baptism, and communion at Christ's table. (Nine lessons, **April 19, 26, June 7, 14, 21, 28, September 6, 13, 20, in 2012**)

Course 7: *The Returning Christ: Bringing the Reign of God in Power and Glory*

This course is about *eschatology*. It studies the last things, or last days, in the overall purpose of God to establish the visible and eternal reign of God. The course considers divinely orchestrated tribulation on earth and a sudden visible bodily return of Christ to execute the Day of the Lord judgment, as the final stage of tribulation. Different perspectives on when and how Christ will return in relationship to the church will be considered. The three traditional perspectives on the reign of God over this earth, *amillennialism*, *premillennialism*, and *postmillennialism*, are considered. The course will consider the revealed aspects of final judgment and eternal punishment and the establishment of the eternal new heavens and new earth. (Four lessons, **September 27, October 4, 11, 18, in 2012**)

About the Teacher, Cedric Wing

These courses have been developed from Grudem's *Systematic Theology* and the theological training and background of the teacher. The teacher is Cedric Wing, an Elder at Coquitlam Presbyterian Church, and member since 1982. He is a 1961 graduate of the three year diploma program in biblical and theological study, at the Emmaus Bible School when it was in Oak Park, Illinois (a Plymouth Brethren institution). Mr. Wing has taught these theological courses before. He is the Sunday morning Adult Bible Class teacher at CPC, and has had extensive life experience in teaching church and work-related adult groups. Professionally, Mr. Wing graduated from Greenville College in Greenville, Illinois, with a degree in science with majors in chemistry and zoology. He has worked in the pharmaceutical industry detailing drug information to pharmacists and physicians. Mr. Wing has worked as a consultant in health enhancement through natural health products since 1997. He has written technical product monographs, written and conducted continuing education seminars for pharmacists in natural health products, and continues now to work part-time. Mr. Wing is retired, married, and he and his wife have four children, and five grandchildren.

About Wayne Grudem

Wayne Grudem is research professor of bible and theology at Phoenix Seminary in Scottsdale, Arizona. He previously taught for twenty years at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Ill. He holds degrees from Harvard (BA), Westminster Seminary (MDiv), and Cambridge (PhD). Dr. Grudem and his book are dedicated to the urgent need for greater doctrinal understanding in the Body of Christ and the empowerment of Scripture in our lives over sin and acquiescence to the world.

How to Enroll

1. Determine your course or courses, even if your course is not soon. Future space may be limited.
2. Email your Course choices to Cedric Wing at cdwing@telus.net. He may also be reached at 604-463-1025 for course discussions.

3. Provide: your name, each separate Course number, email address, and residence phone number, (a cell number also may be useful for last minute class cancellation notice).
4. He will confirm your enrollment for those courses in which you have been enrolled, and provide you a detail course and reading schedule.
5. If appropriate, an email reminder of your course(s) will be sent out as it approaches.

In the Interest of Full Disclosure

- These courses are presented from the perspective that the Scriptures are God-breathed, inerrant, authoritative, trustworthy, and profitable for the edification of the Body of Christ.
- The text book presents traditional Reformed theology perspectives, modified by affirming the baptistic view of baptism and premillennialism. Reformed and Non-Reformed theology perspectives will be contrasted when that is appropriate. Class time and scope preclude presenting distinctive Arminian perspectives.

Coquitlam Presbyterian Church

948 Como Lake Avenue, Coquitlam, B.C., V3J 7P9 (at Blue Mountain St)

[Our website](#) contains more information about our church and ministry. This information on the CPC systematic theology courses, as well as other resources can be found on [our resources page](#).



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