

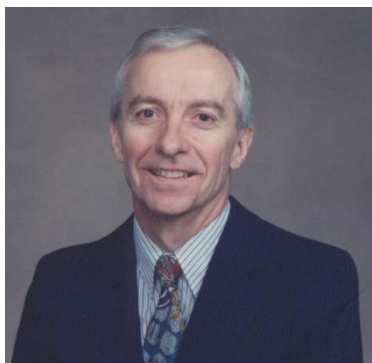
SESSION 01

Introduction:

What is Theology?

16 כִּי כָל־הַכְּתוּב נִכְתָּב בְּרוּחַ אֱלֹהִים גַּם־מוֹעִיל לְהוֹרֹת
17 וְלְהוֹכִיחַ וְלִישָׁר וְלִישָׁר בְּצַדִּיקָה: לְמַעַן אֲשֶׁר־יִהְיֶה אִישׁ
הָאֱלֹהִים תָּמִים וּמְהִיר לְכָל־מַעֲשֵׂה טוֹב:
ד לָכֵן אֲנִי מַעֲיִד בְּךָ נֶגֶד הָאֱלֹהִים וְנֶגֶד אֲדֹנָי יֵשׁוּעַ
הַמְּשִׁיחַ הַבָּא לְשַׁפֵּט אֶת־הַחַיִּים וְאֶת־הַמֵּתִים בְּהוֹפְעָתוֹ
2 וּבְמַלְכוּתוֹ: הִכָּרְז אֶת־הַדְּבָר וְהִתְמַד בֵּין בְּעַתּוֹ בֵּין
שָׁלָא בְּעַתּוֹ הוֹכֵחַ וְנֹצֵר וְהוֹדֵר בְּכָל־אַרְבָּעוֹת וְהוֹרָאָה:
3 כִּי־בּוֹא תָבֹא הָעֵת אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יָכִילוּ אֶת־הַלֵּקָח הַכָּרִיא
4 כִּי אִם־יָבֹאוּת נַפְשָׁם יִקְבְּצוּ קָהָם מוֹרִים לְשַׁעֲשְׂעֵי אֲזַנָּיִם:
5 וַיִּטּוּ אֲזַנָּיָהֶם מִן־הָאֱמֶת וַיִּפְּנוּ אֶל־הַהֲגָדוֹת: אֲכַל אַתָּה
הִיָּה עַר בְּכָל סֶבֶל הַרְעוֹת וְעֲשֵׂה מִלֵּאכֶת הַמִּבְשָׁר

Instructor



Dr. Gene Haas grew up in Canada in a religious home but did not know the grace of salvation in Christ, after university, travelling in Europe for 8 months, Gene was converted to Christ at the age of twenty-two in the mountains of Switzerland. After returning to Canada, God led him to attend Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri, USA, where he earned the M.Div. and Th. M. degrees.

Returning to Canada, he was involved in a church plant, and taught at a Bible college for 4 years. During this time, he was ordained as a minister in the Presbyterian Church in America. He moved to Toronto where he completed a doctorate in theology at the Toronto School of Theology, University of Toronto. After that, he was a Church Planting pastor for 5 years. He then accepted a position as Professor of Religion and Theology at Redeemer University, Ontario, Canada, where he taught for 28 years. He has been married for 39 years, and has two sons, and grandchildren.

Since his retirement from teaching at Redeemer University, he has been busy with research and writing, as well as frequent preaching at a variety of churches. He is also Chairman of the committee of the Eastern Canada Presbytery which guides and examines all candidates for the pastoral ministry. He has a deep passion for instructing candidates in the Bible and in theology, and for relating the Christian faith to contemporary issues of North American culture, especially in the area of ethics.

Goals

In this course we aim to make theology accessible to you. You will discover what relevance has theology to you in your personal walk with Jesus and in your ministry regardless of whether it is public or private.

In this session we will introduce the basics of the subject of doctrine and theology. We will look at the question ‘What is a Christian?’

Sessions Overview

- 1. Introduction: What is theology?**
2. Introductory topics – part 1
3. Introductory topics – part 2
4. Worldviews: the revelation, and our knowledge about God
5. The doctrine of Holy Scripture – part 1
6. The doctrine of Holy Scripture – part 2
7. Inspiration of Scripture

- 8. The scope, authority, and clarity of the Bible
- 9. The canon and the text of the Bible
- 10. Principals of biblical interpretation

Session Summary

What is theology and who “does theology”? This basic introduction will lead you through the first introductory themes of basic bible doctrine.

Fill in the Blancs

- 1. To properly “do” theology, I need to embrace the _____.
- 2. To “do theology”, we assume that God exists, that He created and sustains all things, that He acted in history for our salvation, and that He revealed Himself to human kind in all kinds of ways but most fully in _____.
- 3. [‘right’ or ‘wrong’?]: The fruits of the Christian life such as joining a church, living a moral life, obedience to God, working for equality and social justice are the things that decide if a person is really a Christian _____.
- 4. [right or wrong?]: Embracing the Gospel is what makes a person a Christian.
- 5. According to the teaching in the video, write in a few words what does embracing the Gospel mean.

- 6. What are the temptations people in the west are subject to when ‘doing theology’? What are the temptations/dangers people face when doing theology in *your* culture/environment/circumstances?

7. According to the teaching in this video, what are the four essential questions we ask ourselves as spiritual beings when we begin to practice theology?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

8. Describe in your own words, according to the teaching in this video, what has missions to do with theology?
