



THS 672A Systematic Theology II.
Redemption Accomplished, Applied and Actualized:
Spring, 2012

Instructor: Archie J. Spencer, ThD

Date: January 10th – April 3rd, 2012

Credit: 3 hours

Prerequisite: THS 571 and THS 540 or equivalent, or professor approval.

Time: Tuesday, 8:30am-Noon

Room: TBA

Class format: Reading course with bi-weekly meetings.

I. Course Description

This course will take up the doctrinal themes of Salvation, the Holy Spirit, and Church, in a description of the *accomplishment*, *application* and *actualization* of redemption. It is concerned to show the relevance and process of redemption in the present context and to point forward to the completion of redemption at the *eschaton*. It will be shown that Salvation is accomplished in the work of Christ, realized in the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit in the Church and completed in the return of Christ as sovereign Lord.

II. Aims

- ❑ Students will gain a comprehensive knowledge of the doctrines of Salvation, the Holy Spirit, and the Church in their Biblical, classic, and contemporary expression.
- ❑ Students will gain an ability to do significant research in the fields of Systematic and Historical Theology related to the doctrines under discussion.
- ❑ Students will also gain a sense for the importance and urgency of these doctrines in both the church and culture. The goal will be application, but from a process of broad exposure to the current discussion, and a reflection on the Biblical mandate in relation to that culture.
- ❑ Students will also have an opportunity to explore these doctrines in a context nurtured by an attention to their significance for the personal spiritual life. The intention is to demonstrate that the academic pursuit of these crucial doctrines can be a positive spiritual experience.
- ❑ Students will also receive direction for life long learning in relation to these doctrines, so that they will be equipped for service of the Church.

III. Texts

Bloesch Donald, *The Holy Spirit*, Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2000

Bloesch Donald, *The Church*, Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002

Bloesch Donald, *Eschatology*, Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2009

Selected shorter readings will be handed out in class.

IV. Requirements (Please make note of all due dates!)

A. **Reading Reviews: Value 30% (15% if Conference option chosen)**

The appropriate portions of each text should be read prior to each class as indicated in the course outline. The textbooks reflect the various subjects to be dealt with in class, making them essential to the learning process. *If you do not read them you will not receive the most from your learning experience in this course.* Both of the texts are to be reviewed, with **each review** consisting of a 4-page summary with 2 pages of evaluation, for a total of 6 pages for each review. **The first review is due by February 22nd and the second review is due by March 22nd.** Guidelines on writing reviews can be found in my *Syllabus Supplement* available from the mycourse web site or on/after the first day of class. I can also send this to you as an attachment if you request it by email. See below for my email address. ***All assignments are to be submitted in the appropriate drop box on the mycourses web site.***

B. **Term Paper: Value 45% Due Date: March 29th**

The term paper will consist of a 20-25-page research project on a topic of your choice, with the approval of the instructor. The paper should be typed, double-spaced using 10-12 pt *Times New Roman* font. All documentation and bibliographic references should conform to Kate Turabian, *Manual for Writer's*, 6thed or later. Please see my *Syllabus Supplement* for further details, available as mentioned above. **Please follow the guidelines set out in this supplement in detail!** ***All assignments are to be submitted in the appropriate drop box on the mycourses web site.***

C. **Ecclesiology Project: 25% Due the Last Day of Term classes.**

The class will be broken into teams in the later half of the course and will be assigned a project to construct their own ecclesiology. The grade will be based on participation in

the project and a four page write up of the final form of the ecclesiology constructed during these exercises. Details will be forthcoming in class as we approach that time.

V. Contacting the Instructor

I will be available during office hours at ACTS as posted on my door, please sign up there if you wish to meet with me.

Email address: archie.spencer@twu.ca

Office phone at NBS, leave a message: ph 604-888-7592 Ext. 3858

If all else fails, leave a note on my door at NBS

See Syllabus Supplement for school closure information.

VI. COURSE OUTLINE

Part I. The accomplishment of Redemption by the Holy Spirit.

January 10th (In Class)

We will begin with some introductory matters relating to the study of theology. The Atonement serves as the point of departure in the accomplishment of redemption. Reconciliation, Sacrifice, and Obedience are prominent themes.

January 17th (Independent learning and on-line forum)

In your notes and readings *we will explore the dimensions of the objectivity and subjectivity of salvation in relation to the role of the Holy Spirit as the one who applies redemption.* Please read chapter 1 of Bloesch's *Holy Spirit* for thisweek.

January 24th (In class)

Contemporary theology is spending considerable time searching out the meaning of the Holy Spirit as it relates to *Baptism, Assurance of Salvation* and the *Giftedness* of believers. We shall use chapter 2 of Bloesch's *Holy Spirit* to explore the deeper implications of current thought for our understanding of redemption. Please read chapter 2 of *HS*.

January 31st (Independent learning and on-line forum discussion)

A contemporary doctrine of the Holy Spirit as Redeemer must be grounded in the *Scriptures* and understood in relation to the *theology of the Early Church*. Chapter's 3 and 4 of Bloesch's *HS* will help us explore the issues as they arose in the history of theology. Connections will be made between this tradition and the current understanding of the Spirit as Redeemer.

February 7th (In class)

The *Reformation* was not well known for its development of the doctrine of the Holy Spirit, *yet there are important impulses in the Reformation that must inform our present understanding of the Spirit as Redeemer; especially in the theology of Luther and Calvin*, and their immediate heirs. The role of experience is crucial in this regard. Please read Bloesch, *HS*, chapters 5-6 for this class.

February 21st (Independent learning and on-line forum discussion)

Two contemporary forces have shaped and influenced the current emphasis on the Holy Spirit as Redeemer. *Contemporary Charismatic and Pentecostal movements have given significant impetus to recent calls for a theology of the Spirit*. Contemporary theological formulations have both clarified and, depending on who you read, confused the doctrine of the Spirit as Redeemer. Read chapters 8 and 9 of *HS*

February 27th - March 3rd, is Reading week. No class. Students should read as outlined below for March

March 6th (In Class)

To properly understand the role of the Holy Spirit as Redeemer we must have a clear perspective on the person and work of the Spirit in the process of Redemption. We shall build on the Biblical and historical-theological construction studied earlier, but with special emphasis on the Spirit as Triune Redeemer who accomplishes salvation. The themes uncovered in this session will prepare us for an understanding of the role of the Church in the APPLICATION of redemption. Read chapter's 10-11 of *HS*.

Part II. The Application of Redemption in the Church

March 13th (Independent learning and on-line forum discussion)

We can understand *the Church universal as the means where by God applies the accomplishment of redemption, particularly as the community of faith drawn together in the power of the Spirit*. Therefore we must give consideration to Ecclesiological issues relating to the doctrine of Salvation. Read chapter's 1-3 of Bloesch's *Church*.

March 20th (In Class)

Salvation is applied in and through the Church by the power of the Spirit as a direct consequence of the arrival of the Kingdom of God. *Thus, authority resides in this principle based on the proper interpretation of the Scriptures*. The true Church is therefore distinguished from the false Church by faithfulness to the Word and Spirit. Read chapter's 4-6 of *Church*.

March 27th, (Independent learning and on-line forum discussion)

As aids in our understanding of the application of Salvation, Christ instituted the Ordinances of Preaching, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper. *The Church Worships and proclaims the reality of Salvation from this communal center.*

April 3rd (In Class)

Part 1. We live in times of diversity and syncretistic tendencies, placing a pressure on the Church to keep its message of "Salvation in Christ alone" in clear focus. *This is the most appropriate note on which to finish our exploration of the application of Salvation.* Read chapters 11-14 of Bloesch, paying particular attention to 12 and 14.

Part 2. The doctrine of the Holy Spirit as Redeemer is closely linked with the *parousia* of Jesus Christ. *This last session will be given to discussing how this has been understood in the past and in our own time.* Read the first 3 chapters, and the final Chapter of Bloesch's *Eschatology*

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Point
A+	Superior	4.30
A	Excellent	4.00
A-	Very Good	3.70
B+	Proficient	3.30
B	Good	3.00
B-	Average	2.70
C+	Adequate	2.30
C	Barely Acceptable	2.00
C-	Needs Work	1.70
F	Below Standard	0.00

Supplement: Important Academic Notes from ACTS

Web Support – Student Portal <https://students.twu.ca>

All students at TWU have a TWUPass username and password. This is determined at the time of an online application or can be managed through the computing services help desk or the link on the student portal. Your student email account is also available through this student portal and is vital for communication about grades, account statements, lost passwords, sign-up instructions, etc. If you do not know your account or password, there is a link at the login area called “I forgot my password.” When you click on that link, you will be walked through the process of retrieving your account information.

Campus Closure

In the event of deteriorating weather conditions or other emergency situations, every effort will be made to communicate information regarding the cancellation of classes to the following radio stations CKNW (980 AM), CKWX (1130 AM), STAR FM (107.1 FM), PRAISE (106.5 FM) and KARI (550 AM). As well, an announcement will be placed on the University’s campus closure notification message box (604.513.2147) and on the front page of the University’s website (<http://www.twu.ca> – also see <http://www.twu.ca/conditions> for more details).

An initial announcement regarding the status of the campus and cancellation of classes is made at 6:00 AM and covers all classes beginning before 1:00PM. A second announcement is made at 11:00AM that covers all classes which begin between 1:00PM and 5:00PM. A third announcement is made at 3:00PM and covers those classes which begin after 5:00PM.

Paper Formatting

Students need to adhere to Turabian Notes (Bibliography) format except for in counselling courses, for which APA format is used and for CanIL courses. Students are strongly encouraged to use RefWorks (available through the library home page www.twu.ca/library) as their bibliographical manager and as a tool for formatting bibliographies. They will need to be aware of the need to “clean up” most bibliographies generated by this program. Students are encouraged to view the documents on the following websites for format samples:

http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html or www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/. Note that in RefWorks the available formatting styles are those of Turabian (Notes), 7th edition, and APA – American Psychological Association, 6th edition. For Turabian, note that there are two formats – Notes (or Bibliography Style) and Reference List (a short format citation style). ACTS uses the Notes (Bibliography) format, not Reference List.

Counselling students are expected to purchase the APA Publications Manual. More information found at the following website. <http://www.apastyle.org/pubmanual.html>. For free online programs that will enable you to create properly formatted bibliography citations, go to <http://www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite/> ("Chicago stands for "Turabian") or <http://www.sourceaid.com/citationbuilder/>

CANIL students can locate this on the CANIL intranet, under the “student” side. A hard copy is given to incoming students in the fall.

Please check with your professor to see which one he/she recommends you use!!

Course Evaluations

Course evaluations are an important aspect of improving teaching outcomes and for students and faculty professional development. Therefore, completion of course evaluations are considered a course expectation. Professors will schedule time to fill out the online course evaluation (20-30 minutes) during their last scheduled class of the semester, for students to complete on their personal laptop or a collegium computer. Students who are absent or otherwise unable to complete the online course evaluation in the last class, will be expected to make every effort to do so by the last day of exams. Information about how to access online evaluation forms will be provided to the faculty and students prior to the last week of classes by the ACTS Administration.

Research Ethics

Please note that all research projects involving human participants undertaken by members of the TWU university community (including projects done by ACTS students to satisfy course or degree requirements) **MUST** be approved by the Trinity Western University Research Ethics Board. Information and forms may be found at <http://www.twu.ca/academics/research/ethics/>

Those needing additional clarification may contact the ACTS Academic Dean's office. Please allow at least three (3) weeks from the date of submission for a review of the application.

Academic Integrity and Avoiding Plagiarism at TWU

As Christian scholars pursuing higher education, academic integrity is a core value of the entire TWU community. Students are invited into this scholarly culture and required to abide by the principles of sound academic scholarship at TWU. This includes, but is not limited to, avoiding all forms of plagiarism and cheating in scholarly work. TWU has a strict policy on plagiarism (see academic calendar 2008-09, pp. 37-38). Further details on this subject are contained in the ACTS Student Handbook in section 4.12. The handbook is available online on the ACTS webpage (www.acts.twu.ca) at the following link: www.acts.twu.ca/Handbook.html.

Learning what constitutes plagiarism and avoiding it is the student's responsibility. An excellent resource describing plagiarism and how to avoid it has been prepared by TWU Librarian William Badke and is freely available for download (PPT file) or used as flash (self-running) tutorials of varying lengths from:

<http://acts.twu.ca/library/plagiarism.ppt>

<http://acts.twu.ca/library/Plagiarism.swf> (14 minute flash tutorial)

http://acts.twu.ca/library/Plagiarism_Short.swf (8 minute flash tutorial)

Equity of Access

It is the responsibility of a student with a learning disability to inform the ACTS Director of Student Life of that fact before the beginning of a course so that necessary arrangements

may be made to facilitate the student's learning experience. We are unable to accommodate any student who informs the Director of Student Life of a disability after the beginning of class.