



BIBLE DOCTRINE SURVEY

COURSE MANUAL
No. 5

(From p. 8 in Manual #5)

Course 5

BIBLE DOCTRINE SURVEY

Syllabus

Course Description:

A survey and summary of the ten major doctrines of the Bible with an emphasis on the pastor or church leader knowing God more fully while understanding and practicing sound theology.

Course Goals:

- (1) To teach pastors and church leaders the foundational truths of Bible doctrine.
- (2) To lead pastors and church leaders into a deeper understanding of and appreciation for God.
- (3) To enrich the pastor's and church leader's personal relationship to God.
- (4) To train pastors and church leaders to teach correct doctrine and refute false doctrine.
- (5) To enable pastors and church leaders to see that correct belief must be reflected in correct behavior.

***Let him who boasts boast about this—
that he knows and understands God.*
(Jer. 9:23-24)**

(From pp. 12–29 in Manual #5)

Course Outline

BIBLE DOCTRINE SURVEY

I. Introduction (pp. 30–33)

A. **Nature of Theology** p. 30

- Definitions
 - Theology
 - Doctrine
- Kinds of Theology
 - biblical
 - systematic
 - historical

B. **Method and Purpose of Study** p. 31

- approach of this course
- 3 foundational concepts
- 4 guiding principles
- 5 fundamentals of the Christian faith
- essential attitudes of a good theology student
- purpose of studying doctrine

II. The Ten Major Doctrines (pp. 34–311)

Overview of Ten Major Doctrinal Divisions of Systematic Biblical Theology

<u>Doctrine</u>		<u>Technical Title</u>
1. God	–	Theology Proper
2. The Bible	–	Bibliology
3. Jesus Christ	–	Christology
4. The Holy Spirit	–	Pneumatology
5. Angels	–	Angelology
6. Man	–	Anthropology
7. Sin	–	Hamartiology
8. Salvation	–	Soteriology
9. The Church	–	Ecclesiology
10. Future Things	–	Eschatology

1.	God - Theology Proper	(pp. 34–88)
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	2. dualism	
	3. humanism	
	4. atheism	
	5. agnosticism	
	6. materialism	
	7. pantheism	
	8. polytheism	
	9. syncretism	
	10. deism	
	11. theism	
C.	Existence and Knowledge of God	p. 36
	• possible sources of knowledge about God	
	• naturalistic arguments for existence of God	
	1. cosmological	
	2. teleological	
	3. anthropological	
	4. ontological	
D.	Essential Nature of God	p. 41
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	• essence of God	
	– 5 Things About God Which Make Him God	
	1. spirit	
	2. life	
	3. perfect	
	4. unique	
	5. eternal	

• **Other Important Characteristics (Attributes) of God** p. 48

6. holiness
7. transcendence
8. self-sufficiency
9. infinity
10. immutability
11. omnipotence
12. omnipresence
13. omniscience
14. sovereignty
15. faithfulness

• **Other Biblical Descriptions of God** p. 58

16. love
17. light
18. truth
19. good
20. wise
21. just
22. merciful
23. gracious
24. wrathful
25. forgiving
26. patient
27. righteous

E. **Personality of God** p. 70

F. **Names of God** p. 71

1. 3 Primary Old Testament Names of God
 1. Elohim
 2. Adonai
 3. Yahweh or Jehovah

2. The Old Testament Main “El” Compound Names
 4. El Shaddai
 5. El Elyon
 6. El Roi
 7. El Olam

3. The Old Testament Main “Yahweh/Jehovah” Compound Names
 8. Yahweh Jireh
 9. Yahweh Sabbaoth
 10. Yahweh Rophe
 11. Yahweh Shalom
 12. Yahweh Nissi
 13. Yahweh Tsidkenu
 14. Yahweh Maccaddeschcem
 15. Yahweh Raah

4. The Primary New Testament Names for God
 1. Theos
 2. Kurios
 3. Despotes
 4. Abba (Pater)

5. The Main New Testament Names for Jesus
 5. Immanuel
 6. Jesus
 7. Christ

G. **Trinity of God**

p. 75

1. Statement of concept
2. Doctrine defined
3. Diagram of relationships
4. 4-fold orthodox emphasis
5. 3 common errors or heresy
6. Old Testament Key texts - doctrine implied
7. New Testament Key texts - doctrine taught

H. **Works of God**

p. 79

1. The Decree of God

- Some specific aspects of God’s decree
 - creation
 - provision and providential care
 - salvation of man
 - redemption of creation
 - free will of man

2. The Major Covenants of God

- Abrahamic Covenant
- Mosaic Covenant
- Davidic Covenant
- New Covenant
- God’s Covenant Love

2. **The Bible – Bibliology**

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B. **Nature of the Bible**

p. 88

1. As revelation
2. A definition
3. As God’s Word

C. **Various Views of the Bible**

p. 90

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2. Neo-Orthodoxy
3. Roman Catholicism
4. Conservative, evangelical orthodox view

D. **Origin of The Bible** p. 92

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 - some false views of inspiration
2. Inerrancy
3. Illumination
4. Authority
5. Canonicity
 - Basic affirmations
 - Canon of the Old Testament
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6. Reliability of the biblical texts
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7. Biblical criticism
 - Higher criticism generally
 - Old Testament higher criticism
 - New Testament higher criticism
 - source criticism
 - form criticism
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 - Lower or textual criticism

3. **Jesus Christ – Christology** (pp. 102–142)

Introduction - who is Jesus Christ

Key Christological texts

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1. His pre-existence
2. His eternity
3. His divine nature
4. His names and titles
 - Jesus
 - Immanuel
 - Christ
 - Yahweh
 - Lord
 - God
 - Son of God

-
- Son of Man
 - Son of David
5. His designations
 - “One and only” Son (only begotten)
 - “Firstborn”
 6. His pre-incarnate Old Testament appearances as the
 - Angel of Jehovah
 7. His prefiguring in the Old Testament
 8. His fulfillment of Old Testament Messianic prophecies

B. **The Humanity of Christ**

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1. Introduction
2. His incarnation
3. His virgin birth
4. The kenosis
5. His real humanity
6. The hypostatic union
7. His baptism
8. His temptation
9. His sinless life
10. His earthly ministry and miracles
11. His salvation mission
12. His offices
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 - Priest
 - Judge
 - King
13. His sacrificial substitutionary death
14. His bodily resurrection
15. His ascension

C. **The Present Ministry of Christ**

p. 138

1. Christ’s Ministry in heaven generally
2. Christ’s Ministry to the Church
3. Christ’s Ministry to individual believers

D. **The Future Ministry of Christ**

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2. His characteristics (attributes)
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 - Sustaining and preserving life
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 - Making Gospel preaching effective
 - Baptizing believers into the Body of Christ
 - Distributing spiritual gifts within the Body
 - Enabling spiritual growth in the Body
 - Unifying the Body of Christ
 - Fostering fellowship among believers

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3. To believers individually
 - identifies believers with Christ
 - regenerates (saves)
 - cleanses and purifies from sin
 - sanctifies (set apart and makes holy)
 - indwells fully and permanently
 - seals and guarantees salvation
 - assures of salvation
 - fills for enablement and service
 - produces Christ-like fruit in the life of believer
 - illuminates the mind to understand and accept the things of God
 - prays for believers according to God's will
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 - leads and guides
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B. **The Nature of Angels** p. 160

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3. two classes
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D. **Ministry of Angels** p. 165

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3. Condemned to physical and spiritual death
4. Lost and without hope
5. In Adam
6. A member of Satan's kingdom
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 - Slavery to sin
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 - Power of sin and sin nature
 - Penalty of sin
 - Bondage to law
 - Fear of death
 - Receive eternal life in Christ
 - Given the gift of the Holy Spirit
 - Transferred to God's Kingdom
 - Adopted as a child of God
 - Declared to be a co-heir with Christ
 - Made a friend of God
 - Blessed with every spiritual blessing

- placed “in Christ” and indwelt by Him
- eternal security
- assurance of salvation
- destined to be glorified and conformed to Christ

9. **The Church - Ecclesiology** (pp. 240–275)

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1. Definition
2. The universal Church
3. The local church

B. **The Origin of the Church** p. 242

1. A mystery revealed in New Testament
2. The foundation of the Church
 - a. Christ
 - b. The Apostles
 - c. The Word of God
3. Beginnings at Pentecost

C. **The Purpose of the Church** p. 243

1. To make disciples and obey the Great Commission
2. To gather together
3. To minister in the power of the Spirit
4. To perpetuate the ministry of Christ in the world
5. To promote righteousness in the world
6. To prepare herself as the Bride of Christ
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 - Definitions
 - bishop
 - elder
 - pastor
 - Responsibilities of officers
 - Number
 - Functions
 - Qualifications
 - Appointment
 - Ordination

2. Serving Leaders - Deacons

- General sense
- Technical sense
- Origin of office
- Functions
- Qualifications
- Women as deaconesses

3. Role of Women in the Church as Officers

- Generally
- Speaking in the Church
- Teaching or exercising authority over men
- Conclusion

E. **Organization and Government of the Local Church** p. 256

1. The Concept Generally
2. The Three Basic Forms of Church Government

- Episcopal or hierarchical form
 - Definition
 - Description
 - Biblical basis
- Presbyterian or federal form
 - Definition
 - Description
 - Biblical basis
- Congregational form
 - Definition
 - Description
 - Biblical basis

Conclusion

F. **Ordinances of the Local Church**

p. 260

1. Generally
 - definition
 - relationship to sacrament
2. The recognized Ordinances
 - Lord's Supper
 - Baptism
3. Significance of Lord's Supper and Baptism
4. The Recognized Ordinances Considered

A. **Lord's Supper (Communion)**

1. Origin
2. The Elements
3. Terminology
4. Meaning and Significance
 - a. Memorial view
 - remembrance
 - fellowship
 - b. Roman Catholic View
 - c. Lutheran View
 - d. Zwinglian View
 - e. Reformed View
5. Mode and Frequency of Administration
6. Conclusion

B. **Baptism**

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2. Origin
3. Meaning and Purpose
4. Mode
 - sprinkling or pouring
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5. Subjects of Baptism

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	- why study unfulfilled prophecy	
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	2. Timing of rapture	
	3. Major rapture views	
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	• pre-trib	
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	• the “bema” seat judgment of believers’ works	
	• the marriage supper of the Lamb	
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C.	Second Coming of Christ	p. 292
	1. Post mill	
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	3. Pre-mill	
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E.	Loosing of Satan - Final Rebellion	p. 300
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	2. Bodily resurrection of the NT saints	
	3. Bodily resurrection of the OT saints and tribulation saints	
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G. **Judgments** p. 302

1. Judgment of believers
2. Judgment of unsaved
3. Judgment of Satan/demons

H. **Destiny of Man** p. 305

1. Temporary
 - Prior to bodily resurrection
 - Old Testament Saints
 - Old Testament unsaved
 - New Testament saints
 - New Testament unsaved
2. Final destiny of man
 - Unsaved
 - Saved

I. **Eternal State** p. 308

1. For unbelievers
2. For believers

A. **The Deity of Jesus Christ**

It is critical to demonstrate from Scripture that Jesus is God.

1. His pre-existence

- **Jesus existed before His incarnation as a man.**
Jn. 1:1-2, 14
Jn. 1:30
Jn. 6:38
Jn. 17:5

2. His eternity

- **Not only did Jesus exist before He became a man but He is said to be eternal, which is a characteristic belonging only to God.**
Isa. 9:6-7
Jn. 8:58
Heb. 13:8
Rev. 1:4-8
Rev. 22:12-13

3. His divine nature

- **Jesus is fully divine (God)**
 - Jesus and the Father are one in essence.
Jn. 10:30
 - Jesus was fully God and embodied all of the divine nature and essence.
Php. 2:6
Col. 1:15
Col. 2:9
Heb. 1:3
 - Jesus revealed the nature and character of God to man.
Jn. 1:14, 18
Jn. 14:9-11
Heb. 1:2

- Jesus is mentioned as an integral part of the Trinity.
Mt. 28:19
2 Co. 13:14
- **Jesus exhibited divine attributes which belong only to God.**
 - Omnipotence – Christ calmed the storm.
Lk. 8:22-25
 - Omniscience – Christ knew what was in man.
Jn. 2:24-25
 - Omnipresence – Christ’s presence and power were not limited by space.
Jn. 1:48-49
Mt. 8:5-13
 - Immutability – Christ never changes.
Heb. 13:8
 - Life – Christ inherently has life.
Jn. 5:26
- **Jesus performed acts which only God can do.**
 - Jesus transcended natural laws by walking on water. **Mk. 6:47-51**
 - Jesus restored sight to a man born blind.
Jn. 9:1-7
 - Jesus forgave sins. **Mt. 9:1-7**
 - Jesus raised the dead. **Lk. 7:11-15**
- **Jesus was involved in creation and is the sustainer of all things.**
Jn. 1:3
Col. 1:16-17

4. His names and titles

The names and titles of Jesus point to His deity.

- **Jesus** = The Lord is salvation, **Mt. 1:21**
- **Immanuel** = God is with us, **Mt. 1:23**

(From p. 11 in Manual #5)

Suggestions For Teaching Course 5

BIBLE DOCTRINE SURVEY

Pages: 312 **Hours required:** 60 minimum (maybe 70-80) **Class sessions:** 30

Pace and schedule: About 10 pages per 2 hour session adjusted for natural breaks in the manual.

Note: With the introduction and 10 major doctrinal areas to cover, the teacher may choose to divide the material into 10 units with about 3 class sessions allocated to each. Probably, more questions will be raised in this course than any other, particularly in a trans-denominational setting. The class hours can be extended if necessary or a Q & A added at the end of the day.

Hints and approach

- Bible Doctrine Survey may well be the most difficult of the **BTCP/ BTCL** courses to teach, and the teacher will have to demonstrate sensitivity, respect for different views, convey love and at the same time deal honestly with controversial theological issues based on what Scripture teaches. Much prayer and the leading of the Holy Spirit are needed here.
- The basic goal is not to dogmatically indoctrinate but to motivate students to determine their theology based on what the text actually teaches.
- Challenging, leading questions are often the best way to get into the material.
- The teacher is free to disagree on minor points of theology and clearly controversial and unsettled issues (e.g. divorce and remarriage; timing of rapture and second coming, etc.). In such cases, he may express his personal views but not in such a way as to criticize the material or to undermine confidence in the positions taught.
- Emphasis must be placed on developing good theology (sound doctrine/ healthy teaching) because what we believe determines what we do. Theology must not be separated from real daily living.
- Questions in class must be controlled or the course will never be finished.
- Remember that total agreement in theology is practically impossible.
- Make certain that each doctrinal point is supported by a central text.
- Stay in the text as much as possible in class and let it be its own authority.
- It is advisable to stick very closely to the manual material.