A Course of Readings in Reformed Systematic Theology

The readings are cumulative, and thus the material for a later lesson builds on what was read in the earlier lessons. Compiled by Rev. R. Sherman Isbell.

Part I: Prolegomena

Lesson 1: Systematic Theology


Lesson 2: General Revelation


**Lesson 3: Inspiration of Scripture**

Lesson 4: Canon


Westminster Confession of Faith I.ii-iii.

Lesson 5: Authority of Scripture


Westminster Confession of Faith I.iv-v; Larger Catechism 4.


Lesson 6: Internal Testimony of the Holy Spirit

Cunningham, William. "Testimony of the Spirit, Following the Confession of Faith."


Westminster Confession of Faith I.v; Larger Catechism 4.

Lesson 7: Perspicuity and Sufficiency of Scripture


Westminster Confession of Faith l.vii, XVI.i, XX.ii, XXI.i, XXXI.iii; Larger Catechism 3, 108-109; Shorter Catechism 2.


**Lesson 8: Use of Scripture**


**Lesson 9: Rule of Faith**


Lesson 10: Reason and Private Judgment


*Turretin, Francis. "Is human reason the principle and rule by which the doctrines of the Christian religion and theology (which are the objects of faith) ought to be measured?," "Does any judgment belong to reason in matters of faith?," "May the judgment of contradiction be allowed to human reason in matters of faith?," "Is there any use of the testimony of the senses in mysteries of faith?" "The Use of Consequences," "Is there any use of philosophy in theology?" and paragraphs XI-XVII of topic III, question XXI ("The

Westminster Confession of Faith XX.ii, XXIX.vi.

**Lesson 11: Epistemology**


**Lesson 12: Apologetics**


Lesson 13: Apologetics and Evidence


Murray, John. Review of *Our Knowledge of God*, by John Baillie. In *Collected Writings of*
Lesson 14: Philosophical Theology


Turretin, Francis. "Can the existence of God be irrefutably demonstrated against atheists?" "Are there any atheists properly so called?" In Institutes of Elenctic Theology,
Lesson 15: The Westminster Confession of Faith


Part II: Theology

Lesson 16: The Infinity, Eternity and Immutability of God


Westminster Confession of Faith II.i-iii, IV.1, V.iv; Larger Catechism 1, 6-9, 101, 196; Shorter Catechism 4-5.
Lesson 17: The Omniscience of God


Westminster Confession of Faith II.i-ii; Larger Catechism 7; Shorter Catechism 4.

Lesson 18: The Will and Power of God

Burgess, Anthony. "Shewing that the damnation of wicked men is unpleasing to God, and that which he delights not in." Sermon LXVI of Spiritual Refining: or a Treatise of Grace and Assurance, 403-08. London: A. Miller for Thomas Underhill, 1652.


Rutherford, Samuel. *Christ Dying and Drawing Sinners To Himself*, 415-16 (Ggg4),
Lesson 19: The Holiness, Justice and Sovereign Dominion of God


*Turretin, Francis. "Is the will of God the primary rule of justice?," "The Justice of God,"

Westminster Confession of Faith II.i-ii; Larger Catechism 7; Shorter Catechism 4.

**Lesson 20: The Goodness of God**


Rutherford, Samuel. *Christ Dying and Drawing Sinners To Himself*, 440-43 (Kkk4-Lll2). London: J. D. for Andrew Crooke, 1647.


Lesson 21: The Trinity in Patristic Theology


Lesson 22: Athanasius, Gregory of Nyssa and Augustine on the Trinity


*Augustine. A Select Library of Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers of the Christian Church,

Lesson 23: The Trinity in Reformed Theology
Goodwin, Thomas. "That the three persons in the Godhead have an union and communion between themselves apart, and incommunicable unto us" (chapter IV of "The Knowledge of God the Father, and His Son Jesus Christ." In The Works of Thomas Goodwin, 4:362-72.


Westminster Confession of Faith II.iii, VIII.ii; Larger Catechism 8-11, 36; Shorter Catechism 5-6.

**Lesson 24: The Trinity in American Reformed Theology**


Lesson 25: God's Eternal Decree


*Shedd, William G. T. "The Divine Decrees." In Dogmatic Theology, 1:393-415,
Lesson 26: Predestination in Reformed Theology to 1675


**Lesson 27: Predestination in Reformed Theology from 1675**


Lesson 28: Creation


Homilies 1-3, 5, 6 (sections 1-7), and 9 of "The Nine Homilies of the Hexaemeron." In vol. 8, St. Basil: Letters and Select Works, 8:52-71, 76-86, 101-07.


*Edwards, Jonathan. "A Dissertation Concerning the End for which God Created the


Westminster Confession of Faith IV.i-ii; Larger Catechism 1, 15-17, Shorter Catechism 1, 9-10.

Lesson 29: Creation and Science


Turretin, Francis. "Was the world created in a moment?" "In what order were the works of creation produced by God in the six days?" In Institutes of Elenctic Theology, 1:444-52. Translated by George Musgrave Giger. Phillipsburg, N. J.: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Company, 1992-97.


Lesson 30: Providence


Westminster Confession of Faith i.i, viii, V, VI.i, XXI.vi; Larger Catechism 14, 18-20, 190, 192-93, 195; Shorter Catechism 8, 11-12.

**Lesson 31: Supernaturalism and Miracles**


"Shall We Surrender the Supernatural?" "The Resurgence of Process Theology." In vol. 6, *God Who Stands and Stays: Part Two*, 11-34, 52-75.


Studies in Theology, 25-46.

Reference Sources


