DO 603 The Person and Work of Christ

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The Person and Work of Christ
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I. PURPOSE: The purpose of this course is to provide an intensive treatment of a major Christian doctrine, namely, the person and work of Jesus Christ (Christology). In our study we will focus on biblical materials, historical theological developments, and contemporary preaching themes.

II. OBJECTIVES: By the end of this course students will have:

A. Dealt with some major biblical materials related to Christology, become acquainted with some major historical developments, and reflected upon ways of preaching Christology.

B. Grasped the centrality of Christology for all Christian theology.

C. Been further equipped to “offer Christ” to those to whom they minister.

D. Been enriched in their own relationship to Christ through growth in their understanding of His person and work.

E. Examined, evaluated and used a reasonable range of literature related to the study of Christology.

III. TEXTBOOKS

- Athanasius, On the Incarnation
- Jurgen Moltmann, The Way of Jesus Christ
- John Stott, The Cross of Christ
- Philip Yancey, The Jesus I Never Knew

IV. REQUIREMENTS

A. Attendance at 90% of all class sessions and active participation in discussions.
B. A book review (8-10 pages doublespaced) and a sermon (8-10 pages doublespaced)

For your book review, choose one of the books listed below under the Suggested Reading List. In the first half of your review (4-5 pages) summarize the content of the book in terms of its major concepts and its structure. In the last half of your review (4-5 pages) critically evaluate the book in terms of its strengths and weaknesses.

Your sermon should be focused on some aspect of the work of Christ (such as his incarnation, death, resurrection, ascension, return). It should be both biblically based (directly and not merely tangentially related to the chosen text) and relevant to the everyday practical lives of the persons to whom it is preached.

Optional: Instead of a book review and a sermon, you may write a 16-20 page research paper on some aspect of Christology. Make sure you include at least 15 sources in your bibliography.

V. READING SCHEDULE FOR TEXTS

Every other week, we will spend a class session discussing material found in the course texts. Here is the assigned reading and discussion schedule for these texts.

2. Oct 5. Athanasius, 3-91
3. Oct 14, Moltmann, xiii-150.

VI. SUGGESTED READING LIST FOR BOOK REVIEWS

Russell Aldwinkle, More than Man
Gustaf Aulen, Christus Victor
D.M. Bailie, God was in Christ
William Barclay, *Jesus As They Saw Him*
David Batstone, *From Conquest to Struggle: Jesus of Nazareth in Latin America*
Donald Bloesch, *Jesus Christ*
Leonardo Boff, *Jesus Christ Liberator*
G.C. Berkouwer, *The Person of Christ*
  *The Work of Christ*
Karl Barth, *Church Dogmatics IV/1*
R. Berkey, *Christology in Dialogue*
Henri Blocher, *Evil and the Cross*
Miguéz Bonino, *Faces of Jesus*
Rita N. Brock, *Journeys of the Heart: A Christology of Erotic Power*
Emil Brunner, *The Mediator*
Maurice Casey, *From Jewish Prophet to Gentile God: The Origins and Development of New Testament Christology*
John Cobb, *Christ in a Pluralistic Age*
Charles Cousar, *A Theology of the Cross: The Death of Jesus in the Pauline Letters*
Oscar Cullmann, *The Christology of the New Testament*
J.G. Davies, *He Ascended into Heaven*
Stephen Davis, *Risen Indeed: Making Sense of the Resurrection*
James Denney, *The Death of Christ*
John Driver, *Understanding the Atonement for the Mission of the Church*
James Dunn, *Christology in the Making*
Millard Erickson, *The Word Became Flesh*
Ajith Fernando, *The Supremacy of Jesus Christ*
P.T. Forsyth, *The Person and Place of Jesus Christ*
  *The Cruciality of the Cross*
Floyd Filson, *Jesus Christ: The Risen Lord*
Joel B. Green & Max Turner, eds., *Jesus of Nazareth Lord and Christ*
John Goldingay, *Atonement Today*
Michael Green, *The Empty Cross of Jesus*
Kenneth Grayston, *Dying, We Live: A New Inquiry into the Death of Christ in the NT*
Michael Goulder, ed, *Incarnation and Myth: The Debate Continues*
Colin Gunton, *Yesterday and Today: A Study of Continuities in Christology*
  *Actuality and Atonement*
Anthony Hanson, *The Paradox of the Cross in the Thought of St. Paul*
John Hick, ed., *The Myth of God Incarnate*
  *God and the Universe of Faiths*
Arland Hultgren, *Christ and His Benefits*
John Jansen, *The Resurrection of Jesus Christ in New Testament Theology*
Marinus de Jonge, *Christology in Context*
C.N. Kraus, *Jesus our Lord: Christology from a Disciple’s Perspective*
Robert Krieg, *Story-shaped Christology: The Role of Narrative in Identifying Jesus*
Walter Kunneth, *The Theology of the Resurrection*
John Knox, *The Humanity and the Divinity of Christ*
Kenneth Leech, *We Preach Christ Crucified: The Proclamation of the Cross in a Dark Age*
Donald MacCleod, *The Person of Christ*
H. Newton Malony, *Psychology and the Cross: A Christian Approach to Psychology*
Bruce Marshall, *The Identity of a Savior in Rahner and Barth*
Frank Matera, *New Testament Christology*
John P. Meier, *A Marginal Jew, Vol 1 or Vol 2*
R.C. Moberly, *Atonement and Personality*
William Milligan, *The Ascension and Heavenly Priesthood of Our Lord*
Jurgen Moltmann, *The Crucified God*
Leon Morris, *The Apostolic Preaching of the Cross*
Thomas Morris, *The Atonement: Its Meaning and Significance*
Alister McGrath, *The Mystery of the Cross*
John McIntyre, *The Shape of Christology*
Warren McWilliams, *The Passion of God*
Lesslie Newbigin, *The Finality of Christ*
Mark Noll, *Adding Cross to Crown: The Political Significance of Christ’s Passion*
Gerald O’Collins, *Christology*
Shubert Ogden, *The Point of Christology*
Grant Osborne, *The Resurrection Narratives*
Robert Paul, *The Atonement and the Sacraments*
Wolfhart Pannenberg, *Jesus--God and Man*
Jaroslav Pelikan, *Jesus Through the Centuries*
Priscilla and John Pope-Levison, *Jesus in Global Contexts*
Bernard Ramm, *An Evangelical Christology*
Jennings Reid, *Jesus: God’s Emptiness, God’s Fullness*
Lucien Richard, *A Kenotic Christology*
John A.T. Robinson, *The Human Face of God*
Vinay Samuel and Christ Sugden, *Sharing Jesus in the Two Thirds World*
John Sanders, *No Other Name*
Elizabeth Schussler Fiorenza, *Jesus: Miriam’s Child, Sophia’s Prophet*
Edward Schillebeeck, *Jesus: An Experiment in Christology*
Peter Stuhlmacher, *Jesus of Nazareth--Christ of Faith*
W. Sykes and J.P. Clayton, *Christ, Faith and History*
Jon Sobrino, *Christology at the Crossroads: A Latin American Approach to Jesus in Latin America*
Lee E. Snook, *The Anonymous Christ: Jesus as Savior in Modern Theology*
Dorothy Solle, *Christ the Representative*
Robert Speer, *The Finality of Christ*
James Stewart, *A Faith to Proclaim*
Jacob Tesfai, *The Scandal of a Crucified World*
Peter Toon, *The Ascension of our Lord*
T.F. Torrance, *The Mediation of Christ*
                           *Space, Time, and Resurrection*
Graham Twelftree, *Jesus the Exorcist*
                           *Jesus the Miracle Worker*
Douglas Webster, *In Debt to Christ*
                           *A Passion for Christ*
J.S. Whale, *Victor and Victim*
Vernon White, *Atonement and Incarnation: An Essay in Universalism and Particularity*
P. Wilson-Kastner, *Faith, Feminism and the Christ*
Ben Witherington, III, *The Christology of Jesus*
                           *Jesus the Sage*
                           *The Jesus Quest*
                           *The Many Faces of the Christ*
N.T. Wright, *Jesus and the Victory of God*
Frances Young, *Sacrifice and the Death of Christ*
I. the person here spoken of. The Word. 1. The origin of the expression. (1) Some have traced it to the Jewish Targums, where the angel of the Lord of the Old Testament is designated the Word of God. (2) Others to Philo, who spoke much of a semi-divine person called the Word of God. (3) Others to the phrase, "the Word of the Lord came upon him," in the prophets, understanding by that not an influence or a communication, but a person. But it is difficult to decide. 2. What is said about the Word. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, Lo, I have come to do your will, O God." 84.

468 After the Council of Chalcedon, some made of Christ's human nature a kind of personal subject. 474 By its union to the divine wisdom in the person of the Word incarnate, Christ enjoyed in his human knowledge the fullness of understanding of the eternal plans he had come to reveal. 108 What he admitted to not knowing in this area, he elsewhere declared himself not sent to reveal. 109 Christ's human will. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. (1 John 4:8-10) For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one wh...