

Nazarene Theological Seminary
THE625 -- INTEGRATIVE THEOLOGY III: THE DOCTRINE OF GOD
Fall Semester, 2008
Dr T.A. Noble

SYLLABUS

I OBJECTIVES

1. To explore critically and to attempt to articulate the Christian Doctrine of God the Sovereign Lord, particularly reviewing biblical and historical writings on election and attempting to develop a positive doctrine of election in Christ.
2. To explore critically and to attempt to articulate the Christian Doctrine of God the Sovereign Creator, noting also the relationship of the Doctrine of Creation to contemporary natural science.
3. To explore critically the Christian Doctrine of God the Holy Trinity, attempting to assess the contributions of some major and some contemporary theologians.
4. By these explorations to continue to lay the foundation for a deep understanding of Christian Dogmatics, the essential framework for the interpretation and exposition of the Scriptures, which is the heart of the preaching and pastoral ministry.

II INTRODUCTORY READING

- H.R. Dunning *Grace, Faith and Holiness*, Kansas City: Beacon Hill, 1988, Part III, 'The Doctrines of God the Sovereign'
- J.K. Grider *A Wesleyan-Holiness Theology*, Kansas City: Beacon Hill, 1994, Chapters 6-8.
- A. E. McGrath *Christian Theology: An Introduction*, Oxford: Blackwell, 1997, Chapters 7, 8 & 12
- T.C. Oden *The Living God. Systematic Theology: Volume One*, San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1992, Chapters 5-7

III OUTLINE

Section A: God in Election

1. Historical Survey: Pelagius and Augustine, Calvin, Calvinism and Arminianism
2. Biblical Investigations
3. A Positive Doctrine of Election in Christ

Section B: God in Creation

1. Biblical Basis
2. Historical Development
3. The Doctrine of Creation in relationship to Natural Science

Section C: God the Holy Trinity

1. The Historical Development of the Doctrine and its Biblical Basis
2. Seminars on major and contemporary Trinitarian theologians, including: Origen, Tertullian, Athanasius, the Cappadocians, Augustine, Aquinas, Barth, Hodgson, Pannenberg, Moltmann, Torrance, Zizioulas, Gunton, Jenson, LaCugna,

IV REQUIREMENTS

1. A book report of 1,000 words on Robert Shank, *Elect in the Son*, Springfield, MO: Westcott, 1970 OR Herbert McGonigle, *Sufficient Saving Grace*, Carlisle: Paternoster, 2001 **19th September**
2. A note file on the Mercer Lectures by Dr Geoffrey Wainwright **3rd October**
3. A book report on one book from the 'Creation' section of the select bibliography. **24th October**
4. A major paper and class presentation on one major Trinitarian theologian **Various dates**
5. A final essay examination.

All papers must be submitted to pass the course and should be submitted through Blackboard. Grades for late work will be reduced.

V SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

Election

- Justo L. Gonzalez *A History of Christian Thought*, Vol. II (Nashville: Abingdon, 1971) Ch. 1, 27-33
J.N.D. Kelly *Early Christian Doctrines* (London: Black, 4th ed. 1968), Ch.13
François Wendel *Calvin* (Glasgow: Collins Fontana, 1965), 263-283
Carl O. Bangs *Arminius* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1971)
Mildred B. Wynkoop *Foundations of Wesleyan-Arminian Theology* (Kansas City: Beacon Hill, 1967)
Alan P. Sell *The Great Debate: Calvinism, Arminianism and Salvation* (Grand Rapids, 1983)
Karl Barth *Church Dogmatics*, II, 2, Chapter VII, 'The Election of God'
Clark H. Pinnock (ed) *The Grace of God and the Will of Man* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1989)
Clark H. Pinnock *et al* *The Openness of God* (Downers Grove: IVP, 1994)
Mark G. Bilby *A Disappearing People: The Doctrine of Election and Predestination from
Irenaeus to Augustine*, MA Thesis, NTS, 2002
Herbert McGonigle *Sufficient Saving Grace: John Wesley's Evangelical Arminianism* (Carlisle:
Paternoster, 2001)
J. Matthew Pinson *Four Views of Eternal Security* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002)
James K. Beilby & Paul R. Eddy *Divine Foreknowledge: Four Views* (Downers Grove: IVP, 2001)

Creation

- David A.S. Fergusson *The Cosmos and the Creator. An Introduction to the Theology of Creation*
(London: SPCK, 1998)
Paul Haffner *Mystery of Creation* (Leominster: Gracewing, 1995)
Christopher Kaiser *Creation and the History of Science* (London: Marshall Pickering, 1991)
Gerhard May *Creatio ex Nihilo. The Doctrine of 'Creation out of Nothing' in Early Christian
Thought* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1994)
Jürgen Moltmann *The Future of Creation* (London: SCM, 1979)
Jürgen Moltmann *God in Creation. An Ecological Doctrine of Creation* (London: SCM, 1985)
T.F. Torrance *Divine and Contingent Order* (Oxford: OUP, 1981)
Joseph Ratzinger *'In the Beginning...'* *A Catholic Understanding of the Story of Creation and the
Fall* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986)
Howard J. van Til *The Fourth Day* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986)
John Polkinghorne *Science and Creation. The Search for Understanding*, 1989
John Polkinghorne *The Faith of a Physicist* (Princeton, PUP, 1994)
Ernest Lucas *Can We Believe Genesis Today?* (Leicester and Downers Grove: IVP, 2001)
Colin E. Gunton *Christ and Creation* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992)
Colin E. Gunton (ed) *The Doctrine of Creation* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1997)
Colin E. Gunton *The Triune Creator* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998)
Dietrich Bonhoeffer *Creation and Fall: Temptation: Two Biblical Studies* (London: SCM, 1959)
Gregory E. Ganssle (ed) *God and Time: Four Views* (Downers Grove: IVP, 2001)

The Holy Trinity

(a) A first introduction:

- Alister E. McGrath *Understanding the Trinity* (Eastbourne: Kingsway, 1987) [republished in *Studies
in Doctrine*]Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997), pp. 124-226]
Peter Toon
& James D. Spiceland *One God in Trinity* (London: Bagster, 1980)
Roger E. Olson and
Christopher Hall *The Trinity* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002)

(b) Biblical Studies:

Arthur W. Wainwright *The Trinity in the New Testament* (London: SPCK, 1962)
Peter Toon *Our Triune God: A Biblical Portrayal of the Trinity* (Victor Books/Bridgepoint, 1996)

(c) Historical Surveys

J.F. Bethune-Baker *Early History of Christian Doctrine* (London: Methuen, 1903)
J.N.D. Kelly *Early Christian Doctrines* (London: Black, 4th ed. 1968), Chs 4, 5, & 10
Edmund J. Fortmann *The Triune God. A Historical Study of the Doctrine of the Trinity* (Philadelphia: Westminster, 1972)
R.P.C. Hanson *The Search for the Christian Doctrine of God* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1988)
Justo L. Gonzalez *A History of Christian Thought* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1970)
Claude Welch *The Trinity in Contemporary Theology* (London: SCM, 1953)
John Thompson *Modern Trinitarian Perspectives* (OUP, 1994)
Roger E. Olson and Christopher Hall *The Trinity* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002)

(d) Ancient theologians:

Origen

Origen 'De Principiis,' *ANCL*, Vol. X, Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1869
Johannes Quasten *Patrology*, Vol. II, 76ff.
Henri Crouzel *Origen* (San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1989)
Joseph W. Trigg *Origen* (Atlanta: John Knox, 1983)
G.L. Prestige *Fathers and Heretics* (London: SPCK, 1940), Lecture III
G.L. Prestige *God in Patristic Thought* (London: SPCK, 1952), Chapter VII

Tertullian

Tertullian 'Adversus Praxian,' *ANCL*, vol. 15, 333-406
J. Quasten *Patrology*, Vol. II, 324ff.
B.B. Warfield *Studies in Tertullian and Augustine* (Oxford, 1930, 1-109)

Athanasius

Athanasius *The Letters of Saint Athanasius Concerning the Holy Spirit*, trans. C.R.B. Shapland (New York: Philosophical Library, 1951)
T.F. Torrance 'Athanasius: A Study in the Foundations of Classical Theology,' *Theology in Reconciliation* (London: Chapman, 1975); republished in *Divine Meaning: Studies in Patristic Hermeneutics* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1995)
G.L. Prestige *Fathers and Heretics* (London: SPCK, 1940), Lecture IV
G.L. Prestige *God in Patristic Thought* (London: SPCK, 1936), Chs 8-11

The Cappadocians

Basil 'On the Spirit', Letters, 210, 214, and 236, *NPNF*, 2nd series Vol. 8, 2-50, 248ff., 253f., 276ff.
Gregory of Nyssa 'On the Holy Trinity', 'On "Not Three Gods"', 'On the Faith', *NPNF*, 2nd series, Vol. 5, 315-339 [A more modern translation of the second of these is found in *LCC*, Vol. 3, *Christology of the Later Fathers*, ed. E.R. Hardie, 256-267]
Anthony Meredith *The Cappadocians* (London: Chapman, 1995), esp. 6:1
G.L. Prestige *God in Patristic Thought* (London: SPCK, 1936), Chaps. 8-12

Catherine Lowry LaCugna

John D. Zizioulas *God For Us. The Trinity & Christian Life* (HarperSanFrancisco, 1973), Chapter 2
'The Doctrine of the Holy Trinity: The Significance of the Cappadocian Contribution,' *Trinitarian Theology Today*, ed. Christoph Schwöbel (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1995), 44-60

Augustine

Augustine *De Trinitate* (NPNF, First Series, Vol. III)
Henry Chadwick *Augustine* (OUP, 1986)
E. Portalié *A Guide to the Thought of Saint Augustine* (Chicago: Regnery, 1960)
C.L. LaCugna *op.cit.*, Chapter 3 (see also note 1 on du Roy p. 105)
E. Hill *The Mystery of the Trinity* (London, 1985)
M. Barnes 'Augustine in Contemporary Trinitarian Theology,' *Theological Studies*, 56 (1995), 237-250
Rowan Williams 'De Trinitate', in *Augustine through the Ages: An Encyclopaedia*, ed. Allan D. Fitzgerald (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999), 845-851

Aquinas

Aquinas *Summa Theologiae*, Vol. 6, *The Trinity* and Vol. 7, *Father, Son and Holy Ghost*, London & New York: Blackfriars, 1976
David A. Walker 'Trinity and Creation in the Theology of St Thomas Aquinas,' *The Thomist*, 57 (1993), 443-455
Luise Abramowski 'Zur Trinitätslehre des Thomas von Aquin,' *Zeitschrift für Theologie und Kirche*, 92 (1995), 466-480
W. Norris Clarke 'Person, Being and St Thomas,' *Communio* 19 (Winter 1992), 601-618
C.L. LaCugna *op.cit.*, Chapter 5
Thomas F. O'Meara *Thomas Aquinas Theologian* (Notre Dame: UNDP), 1997
Fergus Kerr *After Aquinas: Versions of Thomism* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2002), Chapter 11, 181-206

(e) Twentieth Century Theologians:

Barth

Karl Barth *Church Dogmatics* I, 1, Chapter 2, Part 1, 'The Triune God'
Claude Welch *op.cit.*, Chapter VI
Richard Roberts Chapter 6 of Toon & Spiceland, *op.cit.*
R.D. Williams 'Barth on the Triune God,' Chapter 5 in *Karl Barth – Studies of His Theological Method*, ed. S.W. Sykes (Oxford: Clarendon, 1979)
Eberhard Jüngel *God's Being Is in Becoming: The Trinitarian Theology of Karl Barth*, (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 2001)
Alan J. Torrance *Persons in Communion* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1996)

The 'Social Trinity' Anglicans

Leonard Hodgson *The Doctrine of the Trinity* (London: Nisbet, 1943)
Charles W. Lowry *The Trinity and Christian Devotion* (London: Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1946)

Pannenberg

Wolfgang Pannenberg *Systematic Theology*, Vol.1, Chapter 5
Timothy Bradshaw *Trinity and Ontology. A Comparative Study of the Theologies of Karl Barth and Wolfhart Pannenberg* (Edinburgh: Rutherford House, 1988)

E. Frank Tupper
Christiaan Mostert *The Theology of Wolfhart Pannenberg* (London: SCM, 1974)
God and the Future: Wofhart Pannenberg's Eschatological Doctrine of God,
(Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 2002), esp. Chapter 6

Moltmann

Jürgen Moltmann *The Trinity and the Kingdom of God* (London: SCM, 1981)
Jürgen Moltmann *History and the Triune God* (London: SCM, 1991)
Richard Bauckham *The Theology of Jürgen Moltmann* (Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1995), Chs. 3,7,8

Torrance

T.F. Torrance *The Trinitarian Faith: The Evangelical Theology of the Ancient Catholic Church* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1988)
T.F. Torrance *Trinitarian Perspectives: Toward Doctrinal Agreement* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1994)
T.F. Torrance *The Christian Doctrine of God, One Being Three Persons* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1996)
Elmer M. Colyer *How to Read T. F. Torrance: Understanding His Trinitarian and Scientific Theology* (Downers Grove: IVP, 2001)
Alister E. McGrath *T.F. Torrance: An Intellectual Biography* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1999)
Elmer E. Colyer (ed) *The Promise of Trinitarian Theology: Theologians in Dialogue with T.F. Torrance* (New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2001)

Zizioulas

John D. Zizioulas 'Human Capacity and Human Incapacity: A Theological Exploration of Personhood,' *SJTh*, 28 (1975), 401-48
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LaCugna

Catherine Mowry LaCugna *God For Us. The Trinity and Christian Life*, (San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1991)
Thomas G. Weinandy 'The Immanent and the Economic Trinity,' *The Thomist*, 57/4 (1993, 655-666, republished as Excursus Two in *The Father's Spirit of Sonship, Reconceiving the Trinity* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1995), 123-136

Jenson

Robert W. Jenson *The Triune Identity* (Philadelphia: Fortress, 1982)
Robert W. Jenson 'What is the Point of Trinitarian Theology?' *Trinitarian Theology Today*, ed. Christoph Schwöbel (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1995), 31-43
Robert W. Jenson *Systematic Theology*, Vol. 1, *The Triune God* (Oxford: OUP), 1997

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Colin E. Gunton *The One, the Three and the Many: God Creation and the Culture of Modernity*, (Cambridge: CUP, 1993)

- Colin E. Gunton 'Relation and Relativity: The Trinity and the Created World,' *Trinitarian Theology Today*, ed. Christoph Schwöbel (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1995), 92-112
- Colin E. Gunton *Father, Son and Holy Spirit: Toward a Fully Trinitarian Theology* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 2003)

Other Works to Note

- Nicholas Lash *Believing Three Ways in One God* (London: SCM, 1992)
- Thomas G. Weinandy *The Father's Spirit of Sonship: Reconceiving the Trinity* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1995)
- Alan J. Torrance *Persons in Communion: Trinitarian Description and Human Participation* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1996)
- Roderick T. Leupp *Knowing the Name of God: A Trinitarian Tapestry of Grace, Faith and Community* (IVP, 1996)
- James B. Torrance *Worship, Community and the Triune God of Grace* (Carlisle: Paternoster, 1996)
- Kevin J. Vanhoozer (ed) *The Trinity in a Pluralistic Age: Theological Essays on Culture and Religion* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997)