**BIBLICAL THEOLOGY**

**AN OVERVIEW OF THE HISTORY OF REDEMPTION**

**PRE-GAME**

Theodore Roosevelt once said, “A thorough knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education.” God has revealed himself to us through the written Word and it is through the Bible that we can come to understand God, ourselves and how we should see the world around us. This is priceless. But how do we approach the study of Scripture? There are several useful ways.

1) **Scripture as a mirror:** We can begin with some of our own topical interests (salvation, sin, the sacraments, etc.) and then examine the Bible to find all of the relevant passages. This is often called ‘systematic theology.’ Here, our own topical interests are reflected through the mirror of Scripture.

2) **Scripture as a picture:** Sometimes we are interested in the literary context of a book or passage—who the original audience, why the author wrote these words and what type of emotional, spiritual or practical response would contemporary audience have had. In this way, the Bible comes to life as a vivid picture as we discover the literary context of the author and the recipients.

3) **Scripture as a window:** This approach allows us to understand how God’s plan for redemption has unfolded over time. Scripture becomes a window through which we see the whole historical scenery of God’s work to bring salvation to the world. This is often referred to as ‘biblical theology.’

Martin Luther said that any Christian should be able to open to any place in Scripture and explain the passage’s relevance to story of redemption through Christ. Can you do this? What does Babel have to do with Acts? What does Leviticus have to do with the cross? What does circumcision have to do with baptism? This study will answer some of these questions by laying out an overview of biblical theology. In doing so, you’ll discover how major events in the Bible fit into God’s work of redemption throughout history. The goal of this study is to give you a thorough understanding of the Bible as well as to lay a foundation upon which your Christian worldview can be built.

**THEME**

Biblical theology allows us to understand how major events in the Bible fit in to God’s work of redemption throughout all of history.

**PRACTICE**

Identify the sequence and context of major events in the Bible and how they each relate to the history of God’s redemptive work.

**SYMBOL KEY**

- Indicates discussion questions

- Indicates Biblical passages to look up

- Indicates application questions to be discussed
Genesis: Creation, Fall and the Birth of a Kingdom

~ 4 Billion BC
or
~ 10,000 BC

Genesis 1 - 11

~ 2200 BC

~ 2100 BC

~ 2000 BC

~ 1900 BC

Creation

Fall

Flood

Nations

Joseph

Jacob

Isaac

Abraham
Exodus – Judges: Redeeming the Kingdom

1900 BC 1500 BC 1500 BC 1400 BC 1300 BC 1200 BC 1100 BC 1000 BC

Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy Joshua Judges

Education

Enslavement

Exit

Claiming of the Promised Land

Living in the Promised Land

Journeying to the Promised Land
The New Testament: Redemption and Restoration of the Kingdom

5 or 6 BC

The Gospels

Christ as King

Christ as Priest

Christ as Prophet

30 AD

Acts, the Epistles and Revelation

The Consummation of the Kingdom

The Continuation of the Kingdom

The Inauguration of the Kingdom

50 AD

70 AD

90 AD