



BI 351 – Bible Doctrines 1

Online Syllabus

Course Instructor: Mr. J. Michael Lester

I. Course Description

This class will give you an overview of and familiarization with each of the ten major doctrines found in the Scriptures. We are commanded to “study to show ourselves approved...” as well as to “be ready always to give an answer...” concerning those things which we believe. This class is designed to meet that need.

Furthermore, God stated that His “people were destroyed for lack of knowledge...” Timothy fully knew Paul’s doctrine (2 Timothy 3:10). In this informational, technological generation in which we are called to minister, it seems this world knows everything and everyone but GOD! This class is designed to give you the necessary tools to give God’s people that “missing knowledge” before it is too late.

II. Course Objective:

- A. To ingrain in the heart of each student the importance of doctrine. This is a day in which doctrine is sacrificed on the altar of unity. Yet, there can be no biblical unity without a biblical foundation. According to Acts, the disciples continued *first* in the Apostles’ doctrine. Without proper doctrine, there can be no proper fellowship – how can two walk together if they are not agreed?
- B. To see each student pass a final examination, demonstrating that you have mastered the subject matter. However, remember that simply attaining knowledge without discernment will soon puff-up the Christian with pride. Doctrinal truth should be the natural outgrowth of biblical study. Doctrinal truth must merge with practical living, else we become unbalanced in our Christian life.
- C. To show how a correct doctrinal understanding (based on a literal approach) helps equip you as you endeavor to share the gospel. Consider the following:
 - 1. When I am presenting Christ, I am covering Christology.
 - 2. When I am discussing man’s sin, I am covering Anthropology and Hamartiology.
 - 3. When I am using the Bible, I am dealing with Bibliology.
 - 4. When I say “God loves you,” I am now in Theology.
 - 5. When I say that Heaven and Hell are eternal, I am covering Eschatology.
 - 6. When I mention that the Spirit will give eternal life, I am dealing with Pneumatology and Soteriology.



NOTE: The presentation of the Gospel is an exercise of doctrine in the most practical way!

- D. To place an emphasis on sound doctrinal exposition that supersedes our preconceived ideas concerning “favorite” doctrinal issues. *The time will come when men will not endure sound doctrine.* For example, Paul was neither a Calvinist nor Arminianist.
- E. To demonstrate that doctrine has not been fully received (understood) until it is ready to be freely given (taught). Because you are a Bible college student, people will automatically expect you to have the answers to tough biblical questions.

III. Course Requirements:

- A. Keep a comprehensive notebook of notes, charts and handouts. The notes are **required** to be typed. If they are not typed, they will not be accepted.
- B. Read through the textbook (*Elemental Theology*) one time. Include a section in your notebook entitled “Bancroft.” Behind this tab, choose five dynamic principles from each chapter, type them, and place them in your notebook.
- C. Learn the following Bible verses for the Final Exam:
 - 1. Bibliology
 - a. Psalm 12:6,7
 - b. 2 Timothy 3:16
 - c. Hebrews 4:12
 - 2. Theology
 - a. Malachi 3:6
 - b. John 4:24
 - c. 2 Peter 3:9
 - 3. Christology
 - a. 1 Timothy 3:16
 - b. Jeremiah 23:6
 - c. Isaiah 42:8
 - 4. Pneumatology
 - a. John 14:26
 - b. Psalm 139:7
 - c. 1 Corinthians 2:14
 - 5. Hamartiology
 - a. Romans 6:23
 - b. Numbers 32:23
 - c. Ezekiel 18:20
 - 6. Soteriology
 - a. Luke 19:10
 - b. 1 Timothy 1:15
 - c. Acts 4:12
 - 7. Anthropology
 - a. Romans 5:12
 - b. Genesis 1:26
 - c. Ecclesiastes 12:13



8. Ecclesiology
 - a. Matthew 16:18
 - b. 1 Corinthians 12:25
 - c. Hebrews 10:24-25
9. Angelology
 - a. Nehemiah 9:6
 - b. Colossians 2:18
 - c. Psalm 103:19-20
10. Eschatology
 - a. Revelation 21:1-4
 - b. 2 Corinthians 5:10
 - c. 2 Timothy 4:8

IV. Course Accountability

This section is to encourage the student to realize that in order to pass this course he or she must fulfill the requirements and assignments given in this syllabus. The assignments are carefully selected so it will reinforce and complement the class material.

I hope you enjoy this course as much as I enjoy teaching it. If you have a question, I encourage you to contact me by email.

