

Study Guide to Wayne Grudem's *Systematic Theology*

Read: Chapter 1: Introduction to Systematic Theology

Q1: What is systematic theology? In your own words, give a definition of systematic theology.

Q2: What do you hope to accomplish in this particular study? What are some of your main goals in working through this material?

Part 1

The Doctrine of the Word of God

Read: Chapters 2 & 3: The Word of God & The Canon of Scripture

Q3: Are the 66 books of the Bible the word of God? If so, then give a defense of the Protestant Canon. Explain why we should reject books like the Apocrypha and the book of Mormon.

Read: Chapter 4: The Four Characteristics of Scripture: (1) Authority

Q4: What do we mean by biblical authority? In your own words, define the authority of Scripture.

Q5: Grudem deals with the circular argument objection in this chapter. We believe in the authority *of* Scripture because it is taught *in* Scripture. How would you answer someone who rejects biblical authority because of this circularity?

Q6: What are some of the practical implications of the doctrine of the authority of Scripture?

Read: Chapter 5: The Inerrancy of Scripture

Q7: What is meant by the phrase “the inerrancy of Scripture”? Without simply repeating Grudem, carefully define biblical inerrancy.

Q8: How would you respond to the idea that the Bible is only authoritative when it touches the subjects of faith and practice, but it may be in error on other topics such as science, history, or geography? Make sure to use Scripture in your answer.

Read: Chapter 6: The Four Characteristics of Scripture: (2) Clarity

Q9: Take 2 Peter 3:15-16 into account and answer this question: what is the main idea of the doctrine of the clarity or perspicuity of Scripture?

Q10: What are some of the most important things that you can do in order to properly interpret and correctly apply the Scriptures?

Read: Chapter 7: The Four Characteristics of Scripture: (3) Necessity

Q11: Why do we need the Bible? What are the limits of natural revelation that makes special revelation essential? Make sure to address Romans 1-2 in your answer.

Read: Chapter 8: The Four Characteristics of Scripture: (4) Sufficiency

Q12: Define the sufficiency of Scripture. Does this doctrine indicate that the Bible will have an answer for every question? Please explain.

Q13: What are some of the practical implications of this doctrine?

Turn in your answers to the elder in charge of this study and set up a meeting with him to discuss the doctrine of Scripture.