

Calvin's Institutes, CH 523

Dr. David Calhoun

Covenant Theological Seminary

Course Information

I. Course Description

A reading and analysis of the *Institutes of the Christian Religion* with attention to Calvin's method, arrangement of material, and biblical-devotional-theological content.

II. Course Objectives

- Understanding of the contents and theological method of the *Institutes*
- Increased knowledge of the Bible
- Deeper personal piety

III. Texts

These books can be purchased from most Christian booksellers, or you can order them online from the Covenant Seminary bookstore by visiting www.covenantseminary.edu or by calling the bookstore at 314-434-0110 (toll-free 877-213-3353).

Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. McNeill-Battles ed. (volumes 20 and 21 of the Library of Christian Classics). Philadelphia, PA: Westminster, 1960.

IV. Class Calendar

Lecture 1: Calvin's *Institutes*: Structure & Organization *Reading: xxix-31*

Lecture 2: Knowledge of God: Creation *Reading: Book 1, chapters 1-5*

Lecture 3: Knowledge of God: Scripture *Reading: Book 1, chapters 6-9*

Lecture 4: The Doctrine of God *Reading: Book 1, chapters 10-13*

Lecture 5: Creation *Reading: Book 1, chapters 14-15*

Lecture 6: Providence *Reading: Book 1, chapters 16-18*

Lecture 7: Sin & Its Results *Reading: Book 2, chapters 1-5*

Lecture 8: Gospel & Law *Reading: Book 2, chapters 6-8 (sections 1-12)*

Lecture 9: Old & New Testaments: The Covenant *Reading: Book 2, chapters 9-11*

Lecture 10: The Person of Christ *Reading: Book 2, chapters 12-14*

Lecture 11: The Work of Christ *Reading: Book 2, chapters 15-17*

Lecture 12: The Holy Spirit & Faith *Reading: Book 3, chapters 1-2*

Lecture 13: Repentance *Reading: Book 3, chapter 3*

Lecture 14: The Life of the Christian *Reading: Book 3, chapters 6-10*

Lecture 15: Justification *Reading: Book 3, chapters 11-15, 17 and 19*

Lecture 16: Prayer *Reading: Book 3, chapter 20*

Lecture 17: Predestination (I) *Reading: Book 3, chapters 21-24*

Lecture 18: Predestination (II)

Lecture 19: The Final Resurrection *Reading: Book 3, chapter 25*

Lecture 20: The Church (I) *Reading: Book 4, chapters 1-2*

Lecture 21: The Church (II) *Reading: Book 4, chapters 3, 11 and 12*

Lecture 22: The Church (III)

Lecture 23: The Sacraments *Reading: Book 4, chapter 17*

Lecture 24: Civil Government *Reading: Book 4, chapter 20*

V. About the Professor

David B. Calhoun, Professor of Church History. B.A., Columbia International University; B.D. and Th.M., Covenant Theological Seminary; Th.M. and Ph.D., Princeton Theological Seminary

Professor Calhoun joined the seminary faculty in 1978, after teaching at Covenant College, Columbia Bible College, and Jamaica Bible College, where he was also the principal. He studied with Francis Schaeffer at L'Abri in Switzerland. In addition to pastoral ministries in the United States and in the West Indies, Dr. Calhoun was overseas coordinator of Ministries in Action (MIA), living for a time in Italy. He is Dean of the Iona Centres for Theological Study and is vice-president (and president emeritus) of Presbyterian Mission International. He co-authored MIA's plan for church growth and helped develop the materials first used by the PCA's Mission to the World. He is the author of *The Glory of the Lord Risen Upon It: First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, South Carolina 1795-1995*; *A Place for Truth: The Bicentennial James Henley Thornwell Lectures*; *Cloud of Witnesses* (the history of the First Presbyterian Church of Augusta, Georgia); *The Splendor of Grace* (the history of the Independent Presbyterian Church of Savannah, Georgia); *Grace Abounding*, the life and writings of John Bunyan; and a highly respected two-volume history of Princeton Seminary, *Faith and Learning* and *The Majestic Testimony*.

Dr. Calhoun is married to the former Anne Fleece of Columbia, South Carolina. Anne is a graduate librarian and cataloger at Missouri Baptist University in St. Louis.