

Lecture 1 – Biblical Theology (Part 1)

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written..." Luke 24:44-46

Key Terms

Dispensational, covenantal

Objective

To define and outline biblical theology

Biblical Theology (Part 1)

I. Biblical Theology: Defining It

A. Attempts

1. Philip Watson
 - a. Liberal
 - b. Fundamentalistic
 - c. Christocentric
 - d. Definition
2. Frank Anderson
3. William Dyrness: Selects and explains the main themes of the Bible
4. George Ladd (cf page 25)

"I do believe that Biblical theology, however, has the task of being relevant."
5. Gerhardus Vos (cf pages 5-9)
 - a. Deals with "the process of the self revelation of God deposited in the Bible."
 - b. Four main features

B. Acceptable elements in each (Vos' is preferred)

II. Biblical Theology: Outlining It

- A. Thematically – Take individual themes and follow each one
- B. Liberal historical critical method – Rearrange biblical material chronologically following literary critical guidelines
- C. New Testament quotation approach – Study Old Testament according to New Testament outline (whichever way that is believed best)
- D. Other attempts (Gerhard Hasel in *Current Issues*)
 1. Descriptive
 2. Confessional
 3. Cross sectional
 4. Diachronic
- E. Dispensational: 7 Dispensations
- F. Covenantal Epochal
 1. Refer to Vos: Principle of successive *berith* makings (page 16)
 2. Refer to Dr. Van Groningen's sketch below
- G. Problem areas
 1. History: What is it? Various types of history in the Bible
 - a. History of Israel
 - b. History of the people of God (The church: Old Testament and New

- Testament)
 - c. History of religion (beliefs, obedience)
 - d. History of revelation
 - e. History of appropriation (salvation history)
 - f. History of development of the written record
 - 2. Relation of the Old Testament and the New Testament to each other
 - a. Ladd's view
 - b. Vos' view
 - c. Ridderbos' *The Coming of the Kingdom*
- III. Biblical Theology: Developing It (the following points will be further discussed in the following lesson)*
- A. Mitte
 - Is there a central unifying theme? Many themes? A complex of themes?
 - B. Practicality of biblical theological study (*the points below are not on the audio lectures*)
 - 1. To achieve a comprehensive and integrated presentation of the revelation of God
 - 2. To make full use of prerequisite disciplines
 - 3. To maintain a close connection between word and text
 - 4. Edmund Clowney: Biblical theology and preaching

