

## ***Humanity, Christ & Redemption***

Dr. Robert Peterson

Covenant Theological Seminary

### **Course Information**

#### **I. Course Description**

This course is a study of the creation and nature of humanity, sin, the person and work of Christ, and the application of salvation. The lectures were recorded in Summer 1996.

#### **II. Objectives**

By the end of the class students will be able to:

- \*Articulate a Reformed understanding of the doctrines of humanity, Christ, and redemption, identifying key scriptural passages which support these doctrines as well as passages that are difficult for the Reformed understanding.
- \*Interact respectfully and knowledgeably with those who hold different views on these doctrines.
- \*Identify key areas of contemporary Christian life which are impacted by these doctrines.
- \*More deeply understand and appreciate the special covenantal character of their relationship with Jesus Christ.

#### **III. Themes & Keywords**

Sin, image of God, Christ's person, Christ's divinity, Christ's work, calling, justification, sanctification, glorification

#### **IV. 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](http://www.covenantseminary.edu) or by calling the bookstore at 314-434-0110 (toll-free 877-213-3353).

- \*Berkhof, Louis. *Systematic Theology*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. and enl. ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1941.
- \*Hoekema, Anthony. *Created in God's Image*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1986.
- \*Hoekema, Anthony. *Saved by Grace*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1989.
- \*Newman, Robert C. "Some Perspectives on the Image of God" (can also be found at [www.ibri.org](http://www.ibri.org))
- \*McGrath, Alister. "Understanding Jesus." In *Studies in Doctrine*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1997.
- \*Stott, John. *The Cross of Christ*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1986.
- \*Peterson, Robert. Course Syllabus.
- \**Westminster Confession of Faith (WCF), Larger Catechism, Shorter Catechism*

#### **V. Additional Recommended Reading**

- \*Plantinga, Cornelius. *Not the Way It's Supposed to Be*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1995.
- \*Wells, David. *The Person of Christ*. Westchester, IL: Crossway, 1984.
- \*Letham, Robert. *The Work of Christ*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1993.
- \*Murray, John. *Redemption, Accomplished and Applied*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1961.

#### **VI. Study Guide & Transcripts**

Please be aware of the fact that the pagination Dr. Peterson uses in the lectures will differ from the pagination in the study guide, yet the study guide follows the flow of the lectures quite consistently. Prior outline points are included for continuity in each study guide outline. Due to time constraints in the

class in which the lectures were recorded, Dr. Peterson was not able to cover every outline point, but the material for those outline points has still been included.

Traditionally, the doctrine of humanity has been termed 'the doctrine of man,' and has always been concerned with understanding human identity and relationships as both male and female created in the image of God. The study guide and transcripts for this course use “humanity” instead of “man” or “mankind” to make plain that this area of teaching concerns all humankind, not just the male gender.

## VII. Class Calendar

- Lecture 1—Course Introduction; The Doctrine of Humanity: The Origin of Humanity  
 Lecture 2—The Doctrine of Humanity: The Origin of Humanity (cont.); The Image of God in Humanity  
 Lecture 3—The Doctrine of Humanity: The Image of God in Humanity (cont.)  
 Lecture 4—Grade Quiz 1; The Doctrine of Humanity: The Image of God in Humanity (cont.), (*Reading: Hoekema, Created in God's Image, 11-111, 203-226; Newman, "Some Perspectives on the Image of God in Man from Biblical Theology" at www.ibri.org; Recommended: Berkhof, 181-210*)  
 Lecture 5—The Doctrine of Humanity: The Image of God in Humanity (cont.)  
 Lecture 6—The Doctrine of Humanity: The Image of God in Humanity (cont.); The Constitutional Nature of Human Beings  
 Lecture 7—The Doctrine of Humanity: The Constitutional Nature of Human Beings (cont.), (*Berkhof, 219-261; Hoekema, Created in God's Image, 112-132; Reading Supplement, 1-12*)  
 Lecture 8—The Doctrine of Humanity: The Constitutional Nature of Human Beings (cont.); Doctrine of Sin  
 Lecture 9—The Doctrine of Sin (cont.)  
 Lecture 10—The Doctrine of Sin (cont.), (*Hoekema, Created in God's Image, 133-167, 187-202; WCF, chs. 6, 9*)  
 Lecture 11—The Doctrine of Sin (cont.)  
 Lecture 12—The Doctrine of Sin (cont.)  
 Lecture 13—The Doctrine of Sin (cont.), (*Reading Supplement, 13-44; Berkhof, 305-355*)  
 Lecture 14—The Person of Christ: Psalm 110; Christological Heresies  
 Lecture 15—The Person of Christ: A Systematic Summary of Christology  
 Lecture 16—The Person of Christ: A Systematic Summary of Christology (cont.), (*McGrath, Understanding Jesus, ch. 1-7*)  
 Lecture 17—The Person of Christ: A Systematic Summary of Christology (cont.)  
 Lecture 18—The Person of Christ: A Systematic Summary of Christology (cont.)  
 Lecture 19—The Person of Christ: A Systematic Summary of Christology (cont.), (*WCF, ch. 8; Larger Catechism, Q&A 36-40; Shorter Catechism, Q&A 21-22, 27-28*).  
 Lecture 20—The Person of Christ: A Systematic Summary of Christology (cont.)  
 Lecture 21—The Person of Christ: A Systematic Summary of Christology (cont.)  
 Lecture 22—The Saving Work of Christ, (*Reading Supplement, 45-72; Berkhof, 356-411*)  
 Lecture 23—The Saving Work of Christ (cont.)  
 Lecture 24—The Saving Work of Christ (cont.)  
 Lecture 25—Grade Quiz on *The Cross of Christ*, (*Stott, 15-251; WCF, ch. 8; Larger Catechism, Q&A 41-45, 57; Shorter Catechism, Q&A 23-26*)  
 Lecture 26—The Saving Work of Christ (cont.)  
 Lecture 27—The Saving Work of Christ (cont.)  
 Lecture 28—The Saving Work of Christ (cont.); The Application of Salvation: Calling, (*Reading Supplement, 84-90, 96-98; Hoekema, Saved by Grace, 68-112; WCF, ch. 10*)  
 Lecture 29—The Application of Salvation: Calling (cont.)

Lecture 30—The Application of Salvation: Regeneration

Lecture 31—The Application of Salvation: Regeneration and Faith, (*Reading Supplement*, 73-84, 90-96, 101-102; *Saved by Grace*, 54-67, 113-191; *WCF*, chs. 11, 14-16)

Lecture 32—The Application of Salvation: Faith

Lecture 33—The Application of Salvation: Justification

Lecture 34—The Application of Salvation: Union with Christ; Adoption (*Reading Supplement*, 98-101, 103-109; *Saved by Grace*, 165-171, 185-187, 192-243; *WCF*, chs. 12-13, 17-18)

Lecture 35—The Application of Salvation: Adoption (cont.); Sanctification

Lecture 36—The Application of Salvation: Sanctification (cont.)

Lecture 37—The Application of Salvation: Preservation; Perseverance

Lecture 38—The Application of Salvation: Assurance; Apostasy

### **About the Professor**

Robert A. Peterson joined the faculty in 1990, having served as Associate Professor of Systematic Theology and New Testament at Biblical Theological Seminary for ten years. A respected churchman, he has served as pastor of several churches including church planting efforts. His commitment to foreign missions has recently taken him to Africa on a teaching and preaching mission. His experience as a minister of the Gospel is reflected in the practical emphases in his systematic theology classes. Dr. Peterson is much beloved by students for his obvious pastoral concern, contagious excitement for theology, and engaging style of teaching. He is also known for his daily one-on-one lunches with students. This serves as a time of fellowship, theological discussion, and mentoring. Dr. Peterson is married and has four sons.