DOCT 630

CHRISTOLOGY

Dr. Johnny Pressley

Spring 2014

3 semester hours

Cincinnati Bible Seminary

Mondays

Cincinnati Christian University

12:30 – 3:10 p.m.

The Christology course is a graduate level study of the person and work of Christ. The course will guide the student through a variety of Biblical material in an effort to enhance our understanding of who Jesus is and the nature of his mission on earth. Along the way the course will present some thought-provoking questions and answers about Jesus, notably the classic Christology questions of church history as well as classic Christological errors. All of this will be done with a view to how this material can be relevant for preaching and teaching in the church.

Upon completion of this course you should be able to:

a. Explain the Biblical teaching regarding the person and work of Christ and identify key Scripture passages related to Christology
b. Show how the Biblical doctrine of Christ impacts the faith and mission of the church
c. Summarize recent ideas of significance regarding Christology that run counter to the Biblical teaching

Course Requirements

- Attendance (10% of semester grade)
- Reading assignments (20% of semester grade)
- Essays (20% of semester grade)
- Research paper (20% of semester grade)
- Exams (30% of semester grade)

Due Dates

Feb 10 - Reading 1
Feb 17 - Reading 2
Feb 24 - Reading 3
Mar 3 - Reading 4
Mar 17 - Essay 1
Mar 24 - Essay 2
April 21 - Research paper

Final deadline for submitting any late work: Monday May 5

Materials Needed

1. Christology outline (2014 edition, to be posted on Moodle Jan 20)
Moodle

Course information, lecture notes, and grades will be posted online on Moodle
a. Find a link to Moodle on MyCCUniversity or on the CCU homepage
b. Login with your username (student ID number) and password
c. Need help with login: Contact our IT department

Attendance

1. Attendance will be checked at the beginning of each class session
   a. Course limit for absences: 2 full absences
   b. Tardy
      1) No penalty for the first 3 tardy marks
      2) 4+ tardies: deduct the same number of points (4 tardies = minus 4 points, etc.)
      3) “Tardy” includes arriving late or leaving anytime during class
   c. Each class day is divided into two 75 minute sections (with a 10 minute break between)
      1) Attendance will be marked for each half of class time
      2) You must be present and alert for at least 65 minutes of a half of class time to be counted as present for that half

2. Attendance grade scale:
   0 absence    =   100
   ½ absence    =   97
   1 absence    =   94
   1½ absences  =   90
   2 absence    =   85
   2½ absences  =   Dropped

Reading Assignments

1. Read Morris and Stott
   a. Reading 1 – Stott ch. 1-6 and Preface
   b. Reading 2 – Morris ch. 1-4 and Introduction
   c. Reading 3 – Stott ch. 7-13 and Conclusion
   d. Reading 4 – Morris ch. 5-8 and Epilogue

2. Log onto Moodle and report that you read all the assigned pages
   a. No book report required
   b. To report your reading after a due date:
      1) The Moodle report will shut down after the due date
      2) Submit a late reading report by email (Johnny.Pressley@CCUniversity.edu)
      3) Your late penalty grade will be based on the date on your email

3. No credit for having read these books prior to this semester’s course
Essays

1. Write and submit 2 essays based upon your reading assignments
   a. The essays will stand in place of a traditional book review of Stott and Morris
   b. They will each focus upon a specific topic (and chapters) within the readings and provide the opportunity for you to interact with the reading material
   c. The format is simple
      1) Each essay consists of three sections, in which you answer questions related to the reading
      2) Write a section heading, and then write a paragraph that answers the question for that section (no need to write out the questions)

2. Essay 1
   a. Title: Christ’s Death and the Passover
   b. Focus: Stott ch. 3, 6, 10 and Morris ch. 4
   c. Sections:
      1) The Passover Timing
         What is the issue regarding the timing of Jesus’ last supper and crucifixion and the timing of the Passover sacrifice and meal? What is a good way to resolve this issue?
      2) The Passover and the Cross
         What are the parallels between the Old Testament Passover ritual and the death of Jesus?
      3) The Passover and the Lord’s Supper
         What are the parallels between the Passover and the Lord’s Supper?

3. Essay 2
   a. Title: Christ’s Death and Propitiation
   b. Focus: Stott ch. 7 and Morris ch. 7
   c. Sections:
      1) The Meaning of “Propitiation”
         Summarize the debate regarding the meaning of the biblical use of “propitiation.” Who were the key players? What are the real differences between the competing interpretations of “propitiation”?
      2) The Contribution of Leon Morris
         What has been the significance of Morris’ studies in the debate over “propitiation”?
      3) The Message for the Church
         How would you explain the biblical idea of propitiation in a way that is simple and clear, easily understood in a church setting?

5. Length: 2-3 pages (not counting the title page)

6. Typing instructions
   a. Typed double-spaced, 1 inch margins on all sides
   b. A type font size similar to the text on this page (Times New Roman, 12)
   c. Letter quality print that can be read easily
   d. Page numbers in upper right-hand corner or in bottom center
   e. Stapled in the upper left-hand corner
   f. References to the Stott and Morris books: parenthetical (Stott, 37)
   f. References to other sources: parenthetical or traditional footnotes (with full bibliographic data at end)
g. First person (“I . . .”) can be used with discretion
h. First reference to a person: first and last names; thereafter: last name only
i. Term paper style title page

7. No credit: handwritten papers, email and fax submissions

8. Grading will take into account:
   a. The quality of the content (i.e., careful thought, good expression)
   b. The general appearance of the essay (i.e., is the spelling, grammar, and neatness appropriate for graduate level work)

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Research Paper

1. Write and submit an original research paper related to our study
   a. Topics must be approved in advance by Pressley
      1) Submit your topic proposal by email (Johnny.Pressley@CCUniversity.edu)
      2) Give enough description that Pressley can understand what you intend to do
      3) Approval (or rejection) will be given by email Reply
   b. There is a wide range of possibilities for your topic
   c. Guidelines for selecting a topic
      1) Must clearly relate to the study of Christology
      2) Must demonstrate your ability to think theologically and develop an idea using all the relevant biblical data
      3) Must be more than simply a summary of material presented in class
   d. Examples of appropriate topics will be given in class

2. Length: 10-15 pages (not counting the title page or bibliography)

3. Typing instructions
   a. Typed double-spaced, 1 inch margins on all sides, 10-15 pages
   b. A type font size similar to the text on this page (Times New Roman, 12)
   c. Letter quality print that can be read easily
   d. Page numbers in upper right-hand corner or in bottom center
   e. Stapled in the upper left-hand corner
   f. Traditional term paper format (with footnotes and bibliography) or parenthetical references (with bibliography)
   f. Formal third person (no first person)
   g. First reference to a person: first and last names; thereafter: last name only
   h. 5+ good reference sources
   i. Term paper style title page

4. No credit: handwritten papers, email and fax submissions

5. Grading will take into account:
   a. The quality of the content (i.e., appropriate research, careful thought, good expression)
   b. The general appearance of the term paper (i.e., is the spelling, grammar, and neatness appropriate for graduate level work)
Course-Embedded Research Project

1. **A theology major** wishing to take this course for CERP credit should submit the proper form during the first week of class.
2. Use the same instructions given above for research papers with the following modifications:
   a. 10+ good reference sources
   b. CERP length: 25+ pages
3. **Due date: April 28**

Exams

1. **You will be tested over units of material**
   a. Exam dates will be announced in advance
   b. The scope and content of each exam will be described
2. **On the exams you will be responsible for knowing:**
   a. Anything taught by the professor during class
   b. Anything stated in your printed notes
   c. But you will not be responsible for new material in the reading assignments

Late Work

1. **Assignments received after the beginning of a class are late**
   a. Minus 5 points each day an assignment is late
   b. Penalties are based upon the date an assignment is received by Dr. Pressley
   c. Last date to submit a late assignment: Monday May 5
   d. Early work is always received gladly
2. **Exams taken after the scheduled time for the class are late**
   a. Subject to a penalty of minus 10 points
   b. No penalty for taking an exam early (as approved by Dr. Pressley)

Grade Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(100 – 95)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A–</td>
<td>(94 – 92)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>(91 – 89)</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>(88 – 86)</td>
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<td>B–</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>(70 – 68)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D–</td>
<td>(67 – 65)</td>
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## Course Agenda

Some of the topics to be addressed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jesus’ claim to deity</th>
<th>Jesus’ primary mission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The deity of Christ in the NT</td>
<td>The death of Christ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The deity of Christ in the OT</td>
<td>Substitutionary atonement</td>
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<tr>
<td>The humanity of Christ</td>
<td>Sacrifice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jesus’ spiritual activity</td>
<td>Redemption</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jesus’ messianic role</td>
<td>Reconciliation</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Incarnation</td>
<td>Propitiation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Divine restraints</td>
<td>Jesus’ resurrection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redemption roles</td>
<td>Jesus’ ascension</td>
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## Miscellaneous

1. Any part of this course and its expectations may be revised by the professor as needed, with fair notice to be given in class

2. **To contact Dr. Pressley** outside of class:
   - Office: in the Seminary building, Study 2
   - Phone: (513) **244-8104**  Email: Johnny.Pressley@CCUniversity.edu
   - Mailing address:  Dr. Johnny Pressley  
     Cincinnati Christian University  
     P. O. Box 4320  
     Cincinnati, OH 45204