

THEO 201: INTRO TO THEOLOGICAL STUDIES STUFF TO KNOW FOR THE MID-TERM

From the “why” of theology

1. Be able to state both definitions of theology (St. Anselm, Bernard Lonergan).
2. Be able to briefly explain the following concepts:
 - a. Deposit of faith
 - b. Mystery of faith
 - c. Hierarchy of truths
 - d. Development of doctrine
 - e. Inculturation
 - f. The difference between a difficulty and a doubt
 - g. The difference between a truth of faith and an expression of faith
 - h. The difference between fideism and theology
3. What is the function of theology according to the model offered by Bernard Lonergan?

From the “who” of theology

As announced in class, this material is not required knowledge for the mid-term.

From the “what” of theology

4. Be able to state the four major doctrinal categories examined in class as well as the related theological disciplines.
5. Be able to briefly explain the difference between general revelation and special revelation. Within these explanations, be able to give a few examples of attributes of God knowable by general revelation, versus the two attributes only knowable by Christian special revelation.
6. Know the different kinds of titles that can be attributed to the 3 Persons of the Trinity, as well as which ones are equivalent to which across the various categories of titles.
7. Be able to explain the symbolism present in the Roublev icon. From which biblical text does it draw its inspiration?
8. Be sure you understand what we mean when we say that Jesus is both God and human. (You may wish to study the heresies we looked at so that you don't accidentally give a heretical answer, rather than the traditional answer.)

9. Be able to briefly explain the four ways Jesus offers us salvation.
10. Be able to state the two ways of understanding the expression “temple of the Holy Spirit”.
11. Be able to explain the difference between theological virtues, gifts of the Spirit, charisms, and fruits of the Spirit.
12. Be able to explain the 4 "marks" of the Church.
13. In class, we saw 5 main divisions of theology. What are these 5 divisions? Where they exist, be able to give to examples of 2 sub-disciplines for each of these divisions.

From the “where” of theology

14. In the course notes you will find a diagram which pictorially represented the major classifications of all major Christian denominations. Be able to either reproduce this diagram or (if you prefer) to explain it in sentence form.
15. Be able to briefly explain the concept of "sister churches". Why did this practice eventually lead to the development of higher levels of hierarchy (e.g. archbishops, patriarchs, etc.)?
16. Be able to briefly explain the concept of apostolic succession as understood by Catholics and Orthodox versus as understood by Protestants.
17. Be able to briefly explain in what ways the Anglican church resembles the Catholic Church, and in what ways it resembles Protestantism.
18. Be able to explain how the Church can be both "liberal" and "conservative" at the same time. Be sure to include the role of the Holy Spirit in this process.
19. Be able to explain what is meant by the term "Third Church".

From the “how” of theology

20. Be able to name the six sources of theology, and to briefly explain:
 - a. The elements of mental discipline as part of Reason
 - b. An example of how a knowledge of Nature is necessary to theology
 - c. the relationship between individual experience and ecclesial experience
 - d. the three modes of Revelation that God uses
 - e. the ways in which Tradition first manifested itself in the apostolic period
 - f. The three ways Tradition has continued to develop in the post-apostolic period

21. Regarding the Bible:
- If the Bible is usually presented as a single volume, why is the original word “biblia” a plural word meaning “the books”?
 - What are the two major subdivisions of the Bible? How do Christians see the relationship between them?
 - What does the word “canon” mean when used in reference to the Bible? Why is it important to have a "canon"?
22. Be able to briefly explain the difference between a “top-down” and a “bottom-up” method of theology. Give an example of each, and explain how it is an example.
23. Be able to explain the three phases of the scholastic method.

From the “how” of theology

24. Be able to state and briefly explain:
- the six sources of theology
 - the relationship between individual experience and ecclesial experience
 - the three modes of Revelation that God uses
 - the difference between “Tradition” and “traditions”
 - If the Bible is usually presented as a single volume, why is the original word “biblia” a plural word meaning “the books”?
25. Regarding the Bible:
- What are the two major subdivisions of the Bible? What is the key difference between them?
 - What does the word “canon” mean when used in reference to the Bible?
26. Be able to briefly explain the difference between a “top-down” and a “bottom-up” method of theology. Give an example of each, and explain how it is an example.
27. Some would say that Plato and Aristotle provide all philosophy with its basic themes and tensions.
- Be able to give two names by which each philosophy could be known by (4 different names in total).
 - How does each philosophy see the relationship between form and matter?
 - How does each philosophy influence our understanding of the soul? Be able to give two examples for each philosophy.

28. In class, we saw 5 main divisions of philosophy. What are these 5 divisions?

From the “when” of theology

29. “Jesus, in his life and ministry, truly was a man of his time.” The text contains 4 ways which show how this was true. What are they?
30. Be able to briefly explain the difference between Pelagius and St. Augustine regarding the necessity of grace in order to be saved.
31. Be able to briefly describe three major contributions monasteries were able to make to the life of the local communities surrounding them. What elements of monastic life enabled the monasteries to make these contributions?
32. In the notes there is a diagram which pictorially represented the four main branches of second millennium Christian theology, as well as the events that precipitated the splits into these branches. Be able to reproduce this diagram or (if you prefer) to explain it in sentence form. (You don’t need to know the dates for the mid-term.)
33. Be able to name and briefly describe two main claims of the Protestant Reformation. (hint: they are designated with Latin names) Be able to describe how philosophical differences parallel doctrinal differences between Protestants and Catholics regarding these two claims.
34. Be able to describe the two new ways to read the Bible that Liberal Protestantism introduced.

From the philosophy lecture

35. Be able to explain the debate between Parmenides and Heraclitus, including an outline of each philosophy, the famous descriptive slogans, and the difference between the two.
36. Some would say that Plato and Aristotle provide all philosophy with its basic themes and tensions.
- a. Be able to give two names by which each philosophy could be known by (4 different names in total).
 - b. How does each philosophy see the relationship between form and matter?
 - c. How does each philosophy influence our understanding of the soul? Be able to give two examples for each philosophy.
37. Be able to explain the doctrine of Socrates regarding the relationship between words, definitions, and things. As well, be able to explain how Nominalism challenged this doctrine.

38. Be able to explain the process by which Descartes arrived at the conclusion "I think therefore I am".
39. Be able to explain Hegel's dialectical process. How did Marx apply this process?
40. Be able to explain the basic premise of deconstructionism. What is the impact of this doctrine on religions founded on objective revelation?
41. Be able to explain the two factors that led to the decline of the scholastic method.
42. In class, we saw 5 main divisions of philosophy. What are these 5 divisions? Be able to briefly explain the content of each.

From the history of theology portion

43. Be able to explain why the early kings of Israel were called "messiah". As well, be able to explain the concept of "Davidic dynasty".
44. What key theological developments occurred during the time of exile for the Jewish people?
45. Be able to explain the development and resolution of the controversy surrounding the admission of non-Jews to the early Church.
46. What were the two key decisions made by the elders of the Council of Jamnia?
47. What does it mean to be an "apologist"? Against what charges did the apologists defend the early Church?
48. Be able to explain why was the selection of the term "homoousios" at the council of Nicea was important for the principle of the development of doctrine.
49. Be able to briefly explain the difference between Pelagius and St. Augustine regarding the necessity of grace in order to be saved.
50. Be able to briefly describe three major contributions monasteries were able to make to the life of the local communities surrounding them. What elements of monastic life enabled the monasteries to make these contributions?
51. Be able to explain the shift that occurred in Christian theology as its work was gradually taken over by the monastery schools.
52. In the notes there is a diagram which pictorially represented the four main branches of second millennium Christian theology, as well as the events that precipitated the splits into these branches. Be able to reproduce this diagram or (if you prefer) to explain it in sentence form. (You don't need to know the dates for the final.)

53. There are five main historical periods in the development of second-millennium Eastern theology. What are they? Be able to briefly describe each.
54. Be able to name and briefly describe two main claims of the Protestant Reformation. (hint: they are designated with Latin names) Be able to describe how philosophical differences parallel doctrinal differences between Protestants and Catholics regarding these two claims.
55. Be able to describe the contribution of pietism to the Protestant world.
56. Be able to describe the two new ways to read the Bible that Liberal Protestantism introduced.
57. Be able to explain the attitude of Jansenism regarding human nature. What religious attitudes did this engender?
58. What was Vatican II? Be able to provide 3 examples of Catholic reforms that came out of Vatican II.