



COVENANT BAPTIST  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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INFORMED SCHOLARSHIP • PASTORAL HEART

### **ST26 • Doctrine of the Church**

Dr. Sam Waldron, Professor of Systematic Theology  
*3 Credit Hours*

**Professor Contact Information:** waldronsc@gmail.com 270-925-2675

#### **Course Description**

This three-credit hour course provides a comprehensive overview of the doctrine of the church. It includes discussion of its nature and identity, its origin and institution, its authority and government, its corporate worship, mission, task, ordinances, its relationship to other divine institutions (the family and the state), and its ultimate goal and destiny.

#### **Educational Objectives**

By means of the assigned reading, class discussion, course lectures, regular quizzes, a written essay, and a final exam the student will be able to understand and identify the major historical and contemporary issues with regard to the doctrine of the church and develop and express a biblical approach to those issues.

#### **Required Texts:**

Mark Dever, *Nine Marks of a Healthy Church* (Wheaton: Crossway, 2013), 25-258. [3<sup>rd</sup> Edition]  
Mark Dever and Paul Alexander, *The Deliberate Church: Building Your Ministry on the Gospel* (Wheaton: Crossway, 2005), 13-200.

*Who Runs the Church?: 4 Views on Church Government*, ed. Steven B. Cowan (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004), 7-299.

James Bannerman, *The Church of Christ* (2 volumes) (Edinburgh: The Banner of Truth Trust, 1974), 1:1-80, 1:187-480.

Total Pages of Reading: 1088

#### **Course Requirements**

All required reading must be completed before the final exam. *Attendance is required at each lecture or class period.* If the student misses any lecture, he is expected to view the lecture prior to the quiz over that section of the material. Four quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Study guides will be provided. A final exam composed of questions taken from the quizzes must also be completed. A 15-20 page essay on a topic related to the Doctrine of the Church and approved by Dr. Waldron is also required. Course work will be considered incomplete until each of these responsibilities including the completion of the reading is completed.

## Grading Plan

There are a thousand points for the course.

240 points for the quizzes (4 times 60 points)

480 points for the final exam

280 points for the essay.

The essay on the Doctrine of the Church must 15-20 pages long and completed in accordance with the guidelines for papers on the website.

## Academic Performance

No student will be deemed to have successfully completed the work in any course who does not achieve a cumulative grade of 75% or above for his course work. No individual test, project, or paper will be accepted which does not achieve a score of 71 or above. The letter equivalents for the percentile grades assigned are as follows:

|          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|
| A 96-100 | B+ 88-90 | C+ 78-80 |
| A- 91-95 | B 85-87  | C 75-77  |
|          | B- 81-84 | C- 71-74 |

## Times and Places of Class Meetings:

The lectures will be held in the CBTS classroom from 6:30 pm to 8:20 pm on the dates specified in the following schedule of lectures.

## Schedule of Lectures

#1-Tuesday, August 22nd, 6:30pm-8:20pm

#2-Tuesday, August 29th, 6:30pm-8:20pm

#3-Tuesday, September 5th, 6:30pm-8:20pm

#4-Tuesday, September 12th, 6:30pm-8:20pm Quiz 1 Distributed

#5-Tuesday, September 19th, 6:30pm-8:20pm Quiz 1 Due

#6-Tuesday, September 26th, 6:30pm-8:20pm

#7-Tuesday, October 3rd, 6:30pm-8:20pm

#8-Tuesday, October 10th, 6:30pm-8:20pm Quiz 2 Distributed; Essay Subject Due for Approval

#9-Tuesday, October 17th, 6:30pm-8:20pm Quiz 2 Due

#10-Tuesday, October 24th, 6:30pm-8:20pm

#11-Tuesday, October 31st, 6:30pm-8:20pm

#12-Tuesday, November 7th, 6:30pm-8:20pm Quiz 3 Distributed

#13-Tuesday, November 21st, 6:30pm-8:20pm Quiz 3 Due

#14-Tuesday, November 28th, 6:30pm-8:20pm

#15-Tuesday, December 5th, 6:30pm-8:20pm

#16-Tuesday, December 12th, 6:30pm-8:20pm Quiz 4 Distributed; Essay Due

#17-Tuesday, December 19th, 6:30pm-8:20pm Quiz 4 Due; Final Exam Distributed;

#18-Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup>, No Class; Final Exam Due; Reading Due