

ST2B Tutorial Assignments

Course Manager: Dr. John McDowell

Tutorial texts –

Colin E. Gunton (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Christian Doctrine* (Cambridge: CUP, 1997).

Christopher Morse, *Not Every Spirit: A Dogmatics of Disbelief* (Harrisburg: Trinity Press International, 1994). **No Need to Purchase**

There will be 4 tutorial assignments of 650 words each (please ensure that you do not exceed the word limit), and these will comprise 20% of the course's assessment. Unless extensions are given, late submissions will result in the deduction of 1% per day.

The assignments should display a competent grasp of English grammar and spelling; and will be assessed on how well they display understanding of the text, and can *critically interact with it*.

Important Notes:

- (1) The last question of each week will require *more than description* of the books' arguments, since it will provide more room for you to express your theological creativity (a creativity that is theologically *disciplined* by the chapter and any other material you read critically on the subject).
- (2) Do not merely assume that the answers can be found in one area/passage of the chapters – although they may be there may also be *additional useful material in the remainder of the chapter*.

Week 2

Del Colle, in Gunton, chapter 7 'The Triune God'

1. Why does the Christian doctrine of God require the confession of the Trinity, according to Del Colle?
2. Explain the difference between the imminent and economic trinities.
3. How does the doctrine of *perichoresis* overcome the “last vestiges of subordinationism” (p. 132)?
4. Could it make any difference to the practice of Christian theology if it was trinitarian?
5. Can a doctrine of the Trinity be apophatic?

Week 3

Jenson, in Gunton, chapter 11 'The Church and Sacraments'

1. What is the significance of speaking of the church as sacrament?
2. In what sense is the church the 'body of Christ'?
3. How does eschatology affect our understanding of the church?
4. In what sense is Christ 'bodily' present in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper?

Week 4

Gunton, in Gunton chapter 8 'The doctrine of creation'

1. What is distinctive about the Christian doctrine of creation?
2. Explain the theological meaning of the doctrine of creation out of nothing.
3. What does Christian theology mean when speaking of the freedom of creation?
4. What difference does the doctrine of the Trinity make to our understanding of the doctrine of creation?

Week 7

Hart, in Gunton, chapter 10 'Redemption and Fall'

1. What is Hart saying about the place of metaphors in thinking about salvation and sin?
2. Why can soteriology (theological reflection on salvation) and christology (theological reflection on Jesus Christ) not be separated?
3. Briefly explain the various dominant biblical metaphors for salvation.
4. Explain whether or not the doctrine of the Fall can be known before the Good News of redemption.

Dates of Tutorials

There will be a total of 10 tutorials during the course

Week 1

Christopher Morse, Not Every Spirit 1-31 (Photocopy in Office)

Week 2

Del Colle, in Gunton, chapter 7 'The Triune God' Assignment

Week 3

Jenson, in Gunton, chapter 11 'The Church and Sacraments' Assignment

Week 4

Gunton, in Gunton chapter 8 'The doctrine of creation', Assignment

Week 5

Vanhoozer, in Gunton chapter 9 'Human Being, Individual and Social'

Week 6

Christopher Morse, chapter 8 'Jesus Christ' (Photocopy in Office)

Week 7

Hart, in Gunton, chapter 10 'Redemption and Fall' Assignment

Week 8

Wainwright, in Gunton, chapter 14 'The Holy Spirit'

Week 9

Fergusson, in Gunton, chapter 12 'Eschatology'

Week 10

REVISION and ESSAY GUIDANCE