

COURSE SYLLABUS

The Doctrine of Salvation

Course Lecturer: Roger R. Nicole, ThD, PhD
Former Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Reformed Theological Seminary

Prepared By: Frank T. Jones, MAR

Course Description

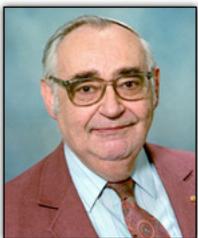
“Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” No question is more important or more debated than this one posed by the Philippian jailer. This course presents a critical and historical overview of the message, plan, and components of salvation. The lectures trace each element of the salvation process, from God’s decree to our final glorification and union with Christ. Topics such as the order of salvation, the nature of justification, and the possibility of perfection are given in-depth treatment. The course emphasizes a Reformed view of salvation, while offering fair treatment to all sides.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, you should be able to:

- Understand and define the key terms used in the discussion of soteriology.
- Explain the Reformed perspective on this process as it relates to our predestination, justification, sanctification, and glorification.
- Interact with alternative viewpoints and offer arguments which support both sides of various issues.
- Understand the study of soteriology within its historical context.

Course Lecturer



Roger R. Nicole, ThD, PhD (1915-2010)

Education:

- Wheaton College, DD
- Harvard University, PhD
- Gordon Divinity, STM and ThD
- Paris-Sorbonne University in Paris, France, MA
- Gordon Divinity, BD
- Gymnasie Classique in Lausanne, Switzerland, AB

Teaching Career:

- Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Reformed Theological Seminary
- Bedrock of Systematic and Christian Theology for Gordon and later Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (1945-1986), where he solidified his reputation as one of the leading Christian teachers, writers, and scholars in the world
- Taught and preached at the finest institutes and universities around the world on every continent
- Fluent in Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, and Latin

Other Career Highlights:

- Founding member, International Council on Bible Inerrancy and the Evangelical Theological Society (of which he was president in 1956)
- Associate Editor, *New Geneva Study Bible*
- Corresponding Editor, *Christianity Today*
- World-class bibliophile and distinguished librarian with a personal collection including Calvin's *Commentaries on the Gospels and Acts* published during Calvin's lifetime, a copy of the first edition of Heinrich Bullinger's *Decades* published in 1552, and many other rare volumes from the 1500s and 1600s
- Ordained Baptist minister

Publications:

- Assisted in the preparation of the *New International Version* (NIV)
- Approximately 100 articles and contributor to over 50 books and reference works
- *Standing Forth, Our Sovereign Saviour*, and *The Glory of the Atonement* are included among his most influential publications.
- Two books written honoring Dr. Nicole's life and works: *The Glory of the Atonement: Biblical, Historical & Practical Perspectives: Essays in Honor of Roger R. Nicole* and *Speaking the Truth in Love: The Life and Legacy of Roger Nicole*

Recommended Reading

Though not required, you may choose to read the textbooks shown below to supplement your learning.

Buchanan, James. *The Doctrine of Justification*. Vestavia Hills, AL: Solid Ground Christian Books, 2006.
(Part II only: "Exposition of the Doctrine of Justification")

Hoekema, Anthony. *Saved by Grace*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1994.

Murray, John. *Redemption: Accomplished and Applied*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1955. (Part II only: "Redemption Applied.")

Warfield, Benjamin B. *The Plan of Salvation*. Whitefish, MT: Kessinger Publishing, 2006.

Textbooks can be ordered through your local bookstore, various online bookstores, or through your preferred eReader when available.

Course Methods

The lecture content for each lesson is provided in two easy-to-use formats: audio and PDF text (if available). Students can choose the medium (or combination of media) that most closely aligns with their individual learning styles.

Course Assessment and Requirements

To earn a Certificate of Completion, you must complete the course requirements. Course requirements include:

1. Viewing the following for each lesson:
 - **Lesson Overview:** A brief outline of what the lecturer will cover in the lesson.
 - **Reading:** Suggested readings that will supplement your learning.
 - **Lectures:** 45-minute lessons that can be listened to as many times as needed.
2. Completing a final self-assessment form in which you will reflect on the content in the course and evaluate your life in light of what you have learned. The specifics of this assessment are provided in the course materials.

Course requirements noted in this syllabus will be validated before a Certificate of Completion is awarded to any student.