

**Study Guide for sections of
Systematic Theology, vol. 1, by
Charles Hodge**

**Extra Reading for the course:
"Building Your Theology"**

ACADEMIC
PACKET

**RESOURCES FOR GROUPS
USING THE ACADEMIC PACKETS**



Charles Hodge, *Systematic Theology*, vol. 1, chapters 1, 2, 5 and 6 (pages 17-196)

Review Questions:

Chapter 1

1. In what sense can theology be considered a "science," according to Hodge?
2. According to Hodge, why is it necessary to develop a system of theology?
3. According to Hodge, in what parts of Scripture do we find "portions" of a system of theology?
4. Describe each method that has been used in the study of theology:

Speculative

Mystical

Inductive

5. Which theological method does Hodge consider the true method?
6. Describe Hodge's view of the inward teaching of the Holy Spirit.

Chapter 2

1. What does Hodge say about the order in which a theologian systematizes the facts of Scripture? Is it important?
2. What is the object of theology, according to Hodge?
3. What is Hodge's view regarding the validity of natural theology?
4. According to Hodge, what is the most obvious and effective source of revelation found in nature?
5. According to Hodge, why is the knowledge of God's works as studied in natural theology not sufficient to lead to salvation?

6. Explain Hodge's view of the following:

Salvation of those who die in infancy.

Judgment according to works.

Who deserves condemnation?

Is salvation only through Christ?

Chapter 5

1 Explain the differences between the Roman Catholic view and the Protestant view of the rule of faith.

2. Explain the Roman Catholic understanding of "tradition."

3. Explain the claims of the Roman Catholic Church regarding infallibility.

4. According to Hodge, what are some of the reasons that Protestants do not accept the Catholic view of tradition?

5. What heretical teachings were accepted by many authorities of the Church in the early centuries after Christ?

Chapter 6

1. Explain the Protestant criterion to establish the canon of the Old Testament.

2. What is the Protestant doctrine of inspiration, as explained by Hodge?

3. What was a prophet?

4. In the New Testament, infallible inspiration is promised to whom?

5. What does "plenary" inspiration mean?

6. How does Hodge answer the accusation that there are errors and discrepancies in the Bible?

7. What was Schleiermacher's view of religion?

8. What does Hodge mean by the "completeness" of the Scriptures?

9. What does Hodge mean by the "perspicuity" of the Scriptures?

10. What guidelines does Hodge give for interpreting the Scriptures?