

THEOLOGY AND BIBLICAL COUNSELING

Introduction: Why do You Need Theology to Counsel?

ACBC* Theology Exam

Using essay style writing, please respond thoroughly to each of these statements. Write your answers as though you are explaining them to a counselee, defining all terms clearly and precisely. Use 1.5 spacing. Your answers should be 1 page to 1 ½ pages in length. Support all your answers with Scripture. This is an open book exam. You may use any written or oral sources, but you must cite your sources at the end of each answer. Read FAQ for complete formatting requirements.

A. Bibliology

1. The Bible is spoken of as “inspired.” What does this mean?
2. What is the relationship between infallibility and authority?
3. What is the Bible’s authority on theological controversies?
4. Compare and contrast the Bible and its authority to general revelation and its authority.
5. Many Christians today speak of continuing revelation. Relate this concept to inspiration and sufficiency of the Scripture. Relate this concept to the issue of miracles, prophecy and tongues.

B. Theology Proper

1. State briefly the biblical basis for, and formulate the doctrine of, the Trinity.
2. List and develop five attributes of God and how they relate to the believer's life and counseling.
3. State briefly the biblical basis for, and formulate the doctrine of, God's omniscience. Relate this doctrine to the teaching of "open theism."

C. Anthropology

1. Who and what is man?
2. What role does anthropology play in counseling theory and practice?

D. Christology

1. Why did Christ die?
2. He was "tempted in all things as we are" (Heb. 4:15). Discuss and relate to counseling theory and practice.

E. Soteriology

1. "Justification by faith alone." Discuss the meaning of this phrase.

2. Sanctification is said to be past, present, and future. Discuss, including the idea of “union with Christ.”

3. Do Christians persevere? What relationship does this have to counseling?

F. Pneumatology

1. Who or what is the Holy Spirit?

2. What role does this Spirit play in the believer’s life and the counseling process?

3. Does the Holy Spirit guide Christians? If so, what means and methods does He use?

G. Ecclesiology

1. What is the church?

2. What role does the church play in the believer’s life and the counseling process?

3. What is the biblical teaching on women being ordained as officers of the church?

4. What authority, if any, does the church have over individuals and the counseling process?

H. General Questions

1. Are you involved in a larger group, organization, or denomination, which disagrees with ACBC's Statement of Faith? If so, how do you differ from your larger group? Explain what you are doing to influence your group towards ACBC's position.

2. If received as an ACBC member, can you unequivocally sign the membership covenant?

*ACBC was formerly known as NANC



Books

Grudem, Wayne, *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine*.

Berkhof, Louis, *Systematic Theology*.

Reymond, Robert L., *A New Systematic Theology of the Christian Faith*.

Packer, J.I., *Concise Theology: A Guide to Historic Christian Beliefs*.