

Birmingham Theological Seminary  
2200 Briarwood Way  
Birmingham, Alabama 35243  
205-776-5650

Spring 2012

Course AP8791

Professor: Brandon Robbins

E-mail address: Brandon@arcapologetics.org

Cell Phone: 205.243.7912

Class Hours: 2

### COURSE PURPOSE

The purpose of this course is to familiarize the student with the Doctrines of Heaven and Hell – The student will come to understand the modern views about Heaven and Hell. This course will also provide tools for understanding how to be critical of modern theological developments of traditional Christian doctrines.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

To enable the student:

1. The student will be able to describe the historic understanding of Heaven and Hell.
2. The student will be knowledgeable of the content of the Biblical teaching on these doctrines.
3. The student will be knowledgeable of the contemporary views on Heaven and Hell.
4. The student will strengthen skill in critical thinking and exposition of scripture;
5. The student will apply biblical truth to their life.

### COURSE TEXTS

#### **Required Texts:**

Wright, N.T. *Surprised by Hope*. HarperOne,  
ISBN-10: 0061551821

Sproul, R.C. *Unseen Realities*. Christaian Focus, 2011  
ISBN-10: 1845506820

Bell, Rob. *Love Wins*. HarperOne, 2011  
ISBN-10: 006204964X

#### **Collateral Texts:**

Morgan, Christopher, and Peterson, Robert. *Is Hell for real or does everyone go to Heaven?*.  
Zondervan, 2004

Burpo, Todd, and Vincent, Lynn, *Heaven is for Real*, Thomas Nelson, 2010

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Class attendance: more than two unexcused absences drops final grade one letter grade.
2. Completion of reading assignments on time.
3. There will be periodic quizzes given based on the outlines of the Gospels and class content from the lectures.
4. Two book reviews (4-5 pages)
5. Final Exam

## GRADING

1. Class attendance
2. Completion of reading and ability to participate in discussion 10%
3. Two short quizzes will count towards final grade worth 10% each for a total of 20% of final grade.
4. Two book review papers (4-5 pages) worth 10% each on a topic from Love Wins and Unseen Realities. This paper is to demonstrate the student's ability to research a subject and present his/her conclusions in an understandable fashion. **Note: All papers are to be according to the Turabian Chicago style of writing format including the title. All are to be double spaced, 12 point, Times New Roman font. Any paper not conforming to these standards will be dropped one letter grade.** (See Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing)*, sixth edition.)
4. Mid-term Exam 25%
5. Final Exam 25%

**Proper planning and timely completion of assignments is crucial.**

**All course materials must be submitted by the last day of class. Thereafter, course materials may be submitted for up to six (6) weeks after the end of the semester directly to the office of the Registrar with the permission of the professor. If a student submits course materials after the end of the semester but within the six (6) weeks grace period, the student's grade will be lowered by one letter grade. The course materials will not be accepted after the six (6) week grace period and a failing grade will be posted to the student's transcript.**

## COURSE OUTLINE

- 1/25 Historical Views of Heaven and Hell
- 2/1 Heaven and Hell in the Old Testament
- 2/8 Jesus, Heaven, and the New Creation
- 2/15 Redemption of Bodies
- 2/22 Heaven, Earth, and the Kingdom of God
- 2/29 *Unseen Realities*: Part 1
- 3/7 *Unseen Realities*: Part 2

- 3/21 *Love Wins*: Part 1
- 3/28 *Love Wins*: Part 2
- 4/4 *Love Wins*: Part 3
- 4/11 Answering the Problem of Hell and Evil
- 4/18 Sharing the Hope of Heaven
- 4/25 Final Exam