

OUR LOGO

The NWT S logo represents the centrality of Christ in the history of redemption. The Χ (Greek letters chi rho) are the first two letters of the name Christ (Χριστός). The vertical (eschatological) arrow represents the intrusion or revelation of God’s Word into history. The horizontal (temporal) arrow represents the line of redemptive history. The intersection of revelation and history is centered in Christ Jesus, our Savior. From Creation to Consummation—Christ Jesus. At every point where God’s revelation touches history, Christ Jesus is present—Christocentrically, eschatologically, soteriologically (Lk. 24:44-47).

The Dome of the Rock sits atop Mount Moriah in Jerusalem, the place that most Jews and Christians believe was the sight of the Temple of Solomon. The Dome was built in 692 A.D. by Abd al-Malik during the Umayyad dynasty of the Islamic empire, to compete with the nearby Church of the Holy Sepulchre built in the fourth century on the traditional site of Jesus’ tomb. Abd al-Malik wanted to build something that would demonstrate the superiority of both the new religion and the new Islamic Empire.

Today this third holiest place in Islam continues to function in the Muslim world as a testimony that Islam is the religion superior to Judaism and Christianity. The inscriptions written on the walls of the building testify that it was built to show that Islam had superseded Christianity and Judaism. For the Muslim, Judaism came first, then Christianity, and then the final dispensation from God through Mohammed who gave the ultimate spoken word from God.

With all the recent events that have taken place in the world, the question that has been on the minds of many church people is—How can the church best respond to this religion and to the Muslim world?

There is no doubt that Mohammed was exposed to the Bible. He did not have the Scriptures, but he did interact with Jews and Christians. The Quran is filled with similar Biblical stories about Noah, Abraham, Moses and Jesus. All of these Biblical characters are mentioned in the highest regard as some of God’s prophets. If Mohammed knew many things about the Bible, why then did he miss the message of grace and redemption and create a religion of war?

According to Bassam Madany in his book, The Bible and Islam, the early church, in their efforts to teach Mohammed the Scriptures, failed to teach the redemptive core of the Bible. The focus was on law through the efforts of man. The early church failed to help Mohammed see that the Bible is not just a book of laws; rather the Bible is a book of redemption. The stories of the Old Testament saints are not just good moral examples for us. Instead they point us to the true redemptive salvation which comes to us not by our works, but by Jesus Christ alone.

In all their efforts at confession, prayer, and fasting, the Muslim continues to fail to see his need of a Savior. Sadly there are many preachers in the church today who preach and teach a similar message—ethics and psychology instead of redemption. This kind of preaching will give no hope to the Muslim world.

Northwest Theological Seminary is striving to
NEW PROFESSOR

The Board and Faculty joyfully announce the appointment of Mr. Scott F. Sanborn as Professor of Systematic Theology at NWTs. Scott comes to us from New Life Mission Church (PCA) of La Jolla, CA (James Lee, Pastor) where he has been a member and Sunday School instructor since 1996. He became a Christian in high school and was brought to the Reformed faith while a student at Biola University. He developed an interest in the semi-eschatological perspective of the New Testament and this discovery was further revolutionized by a course in the History of Biblical Theology with James T. Dennison, Jr. at Westminster Theological Seminary in Escondido, California. Readings in the works of Geerhardus Vos further enriched his appreciation for the centrality of Christ in Scripture. In addition, he was stimulated by courses under Meredith G. and Meredith M. Kline. In 1990, he received the M.Div. from Westminster and began study in historical theology with Dr. Richard A. Muller at Fuller Seminary, Pasadena, CA. Scott worked as Dr. Muller’s teaching and research assistant. In 1994, he was awarded the Th.M. from Chandler School of Theology (Emory University, Atlanta, GA) where he studied under Luke Timothy Johnson, Hendriklus Boers, Vernon Robbins, John Hayes and Brooks Hollifield. He taught at Covenant Christian School, Chula Vista, CA from 1994-95. Since 1995, he has been a substitute teacher for the Sweetwater, San Diego and San Diego Unified school districts. Please join us in praying for our newest faculty member as he makes the transition from Southern California to the Pacific Northwest.

AUGUST CONFERENCE ON “AFRICA AND THE BIBLE”

NWTs is pleased to have Dr. Edwin Yamachi scheduled as our Summer Conference speaker, August 18-22. Monday through Thursday, Dr. Yamachi will present eight lectures on “Africa and the Bible.” Please see the inserted flyer for full details on the conference and registration.

3-WEEK INTENSIVE COURSE REPORT

Dr. William Dennison has been teaching two 3-week courses in Apologetics and Systematic Theology since May 19. These courses are providing an in-depth analysis and discussion of these branches of theology. Dr. Dennison is Associate Professor of Intercultural Studies at Covenant College, Lookout Mountain, GA. Bill has been enjoying 8 students in his Apologetics course and 3 students in his Systematic Theology course.

FACULTY SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Our Academic Dean will be on a two-month speaking and conference tour this summer. Here is his schedule.

- May 11—Preaching, Grace Baptist Church, Fremont, CA
- May 12—Whitfield Fraternal, Sunnyvale, CA ("The Life and Thought of Geerhardus Vos")
- June 20-21—Conference (with Dr. Bill Dennison), Grace OPC, Sewickley, PA ("The Hour of Christ’s Glorification: The Passion Narrative in the Fourth Gospel")
- June 22—Preaching, Grace OPC a.m.—Preaching, Immanuel OPC, Moon Township, PA, p.m.
- June 25—Preaching, Reformation OPC, Morgantown, WV
- July 6—Preaching, Pioneer PCA, Ligonier, PA
- July 13—Preaching, Grace OPC, Columbus, OH
- July 18-19—Conference (with Dr. Bill Dennison), Trinity URC, Grand Rapids, MI. (Overview of the Song of Solomon and Overview of the Gospel of John)
- July 20—Preaching, Trinity URC, a.m.—Preaching, p.m. Comerstone URC, Hudsonville, MI.
- Aug. 3—Preaching, Covenant PCA, Wheatridge, CO
- Aug. 10—Preaching, Covenant OPC, Pasco, WA

WEBSITE E-NWTs.EDU

Check out the new face of our website (www.nwt.edu). New features include: pictures, faculty bibliographies; commentaries list for all books of the Bible (note the caveat on page one); and sermon recordings. Special thanks to our webmaster, Alan King of Emmanuel OPC, Kent, WA for volunteering his help with our site.

FINANCIAL HELP

As we move ahead with a third professor, we thank God for your payful and financial support. We continue to need your gifts, even as we seek to broaden our donor base. Please remember us in your giving.

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) is an easy and convenient method of giving in which your designated monthly gift is automatically debited from your checking account without the need to have to write checks. This method also undercuts the banking expense of credit card processing for us. If you are interested in the convenience of EFT giving, please contact us at 425-787-5144 or e-mail thamstra@nwt.edu.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS


send out preachers who focus on Christ; men who preach the redemptive message of Scripture from both the Old and New Testaments; men who believe in a religion of grace which teaches that man is born in sin and cannot save himself—he is only saved by the Lamb of God who came into the world to die for sinners. Christ Jesus is the Eschatological Word of God and the Eschatological Lamb!

—Robert Van Kooten

CONTRIBUTOR SCALES