

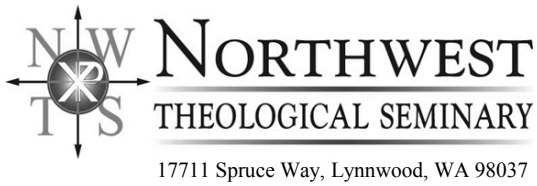
SUMMER 2009 SCHEDULE



Dr. Bill Dennison is coming May 26 through June 11 to teach Introduction to Apologetics (5:00-7:00 pm) and Introduction to Systematic Theology (7:00-9:00 pm), Monday-Friday with a Saturday session on May 30, 10 am-Noon. **Auditors and visitors are welcome to sit in on one or both classes for \$40 a course.** Please call the Registrar at 425-787-5144 or view our website www.nwts.edu for more information, textbook lists, and class updates.

WEBSITE RESOURCES

The NWTS website, www.nwts.edu, has two new features: an exposition of the Song of Solomon with downloadable outlines and definitions by James T. Dennison; and also, our Reformation Day 2008 address on the Overview of the Reformed Confessions of the 16th and 17th Centuries in English Translation (Vol. 1:1523-1552) by the Editor, James T. Dennison. The address is an introduction to each of the 33 Confessions in the volume. You may obtain a copy of the book via the link to the publisher on the opening page of our website.



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NORTHWEST THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY NEWSLETTER



His story is...

Our Story

THE JOY OF RESURRECTION LIFE

Let us very briefly observe that the resurrection of Christ is fundamental for our glorification. Ours is a religion whose center of gravity lies beyond the grave in the world to come. The conviction that the gospel is primarily intended to prepare man for a future life and that consequently neither its true nature can be understood nor its full glory appreciated unless it be placed in the light of eternity—this conviction broadly underlies the apostle’s reasoning both here and elsewhere. Christianity does many things for the present life, but if we wish to apprehend how much it can do, we must direct our gaze to the life beyond. What more eloquent expression of this feeling can be conceived than is found in immediate proximity to our text in the words: “If (nearing the end) we are such who have only hope in Christ in this life, we are of all men most pitiable.” What else does this mean than that the Christian’s main thinking and feeling and striving revolve around the future state; and that, if this goal should prove to have no objective reality, the absoluteness with which the believer has staked everything in its attainment must make him appear in his delusion the most pitiable of all creatures. What a gulf then lies between this statement of the apostle and the sentiment we sometimes meet with—that Christianity had better disencumber itself of all idle speculation about an uncertain future state and concentrate its energies upon the improvement of the present world. Paul could not have entertained such a sentiment for a moment because the thirst for the world to come was of the very substance of the religion of his heart. He felt deeply that the believer's destiny and God's purposes with reference to him



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—Geerhardus Vos (1862-1949)

transcend all limits of what this earthly life can possibly bring or possibly contain. Christ's work for us extends even farther than the restoration of what sin has destroyed. If Christ placed us back there where Adam stood in his rectitude, without sins and without death, this would be unspeakable grace indeed, more than enough to make the gospel a blessed word. But grace exceeds sin far more abundantly than all this: besides wiping out the last vestige of sin and its consequences, it opens up for us that higher world to whose threshold even the first Adam had not yet apprehended. And this is not a mere matter of degrees in blessedness, it is a difference between two modes of life; as heaven is high above the earth, by so much the condition of our future state will transcend those of the paradise of old.

It is for this reason that we know so little, and that even in the moments of greatest clearness of our spiritual vision we form such inadequate ideas of what awaits us hereafter. But, thanks be to God, in the resurrection of Christ for once the veil has been lifted. When Christ rose from the grave he rose as one whose human nature had been transformed into harmony with heavenly conditions. This was true not merely of his body, but of all the faculties and powers of his humanity hitherto exercised in humiliation and now set free and made fit for their perfect use in heavenly glory. In this respect the resurrection of Christ is prophetic of that of all believers. As we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly man (I Cor. 15:49). In the resurrection, therefore, we have the assurance that we ourselves also shall be made fit in our entire nature for our habitation in heaven. It is only by understanding this that we can understand the true significance of the resurrection of the body. Not that our bodies as such shall be restored to us is the great hope of the Christian, but that they shall be restored to us in such a state as to resemble the resurrection-body of Christ; that through them our spirits may dwell in perfect accord with their heavenly surroundings and may lead in its consummate form the life that knows no end.

An excerpt from the sermon "The Joy of Resurrection Life" by Geerhardus Vos, the full text of which is available online at www.kerux.com.

FACULTY NEWS

Prof. Jim Dennison will be giving a presentation on "John Calvin and the Reformed Confessions" (based upon his most recent book, *Reformed Confessions of the 16th and 17th Centuries in English Translation*) at the Lynden Community Center in Lynden, WA on Friday, April 17th, 2009, beginning at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Prof. Peter Vosteen will be teaching Homiletics for the Ministerial Training Institute of the OPC held at Lynnwood OPC April 29-May 3.

Prof. Scott Sanborn, at the request of Westminster Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Everett, WA, is teaching on the book of Galatians in their Adult Sunday School class from January through early April.

UPCOMING ARCHAEOLOGY EVENTS AT NWTS

MARCH 20-21, 2009: "GREAT DISCOVERIES IN BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY" WITH DR. BRYANT WOOD

NWTS promotes the Lynnwood OPC Conference with distinguished archaeologist, Dr. Bryant Wood! Dr. Wood has dedicated his career to showing the harmony between the historical and archaeological record and the text of the Bible. He is an evangelical, and affirms the inerrancy of the Bible in the original autographa. More about him can be found at: www.biblearchaeology.org. There is no registration cost, but a free-will offering will be taken by LOPC. Breakfast and lunch are provided. For more conference details, see LOPC's website, www.lynnwoodopc.org.



March 20, Friday, 7-8:30 pm: Great Discoveries in Biblical Archaeology 1: Old Testament

March 21, Saturday, 9 am: Great Discoveries in Biblical Archaeology 2: New Testament

March 21, Saturday, 10:30 am: Digging Up the Sin Cities of Sodom and Gomorrah

March 21, Saturday, 1-2:15 pm: Uncovering the Truth at Jericho

MAY 8, 2009: "THE FALL OF THE ASSYRIAN EMPIRE (612 B.C.)"



Prof. Jim Dennison will be giving an illustrated presentation of the Biblical and archaeological evidence which lies in the background of the book of the prophet Nahum, focusing on the 1989 excavations of Ninevah with photographs and maps. Mark your calendars for this free public address on Friday evening, May 8, 2009 at 7:30 pm. All are welcome.

ALUMNI NEWS

Alumnus Benji Swinburnson has been invited to preach at Trinity United Reformed Church in Caledonia, Michigan on Sunday, March 29th. NWTS is very thankful for its supporters in the Grand Rapids area, and this trip continues a regular tradition of sending NWTS representatives to the area to personally express this thanks through conferences, preaching, and presentations.

Alumnus Update: Rev. Adam King ('05) married Jessica Morman, Feb. 21 in Orlando, FL. The couple makes their home in Wichita, KS, where Rev. King is pastor of the Reformed Presbyterian Church (NA).