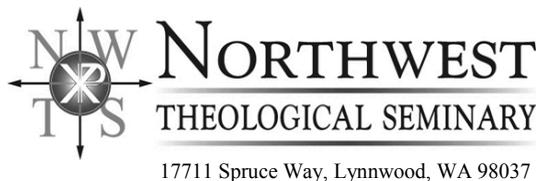


SPRING TERM 2011- BEGINS JANUARY 4				
TIME	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	SATURDAY
7:45-8:45	PATRISTICS II		PATRISTICS II	
8:45-9:45	HISTORY OF BIBLICAL THEOLOGY		HISTORY OF BIBLICAL THEOLOGY	
11:45-1:45				HOMILETICS
2:00-4:00				RIDDERBOS READINGS
4:30-7:30				GREEK 1B
7:00-9:00		6:00-8:30PM NEW TESTAMENT INTRODUCTION	PUBLIC LECTURE- GALATIANS	
WEBSITE RESOURCES				
****PLEASE VISIT WWW.NWTS.EDU FOR SCHEDULE AND CLASS UPDATES****				



Volume 11, Issue 4
December 2010

NORTHWEST THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY NEWSLETTER



His story is...

Our Story

CHRIST OUR REDEMER

Isaiah's name means, "God is salvation." He speaks often about the perfect and final salvation that is to come. In Isaiah 59:20, he writes: "A Redeemer will come to Zion."

To redeem something means to purchase it. During the holiday season, we are constantly offered coupons for shopping at various stores. We can use these coupons to purchase merchandise or to receive a discount. In the Bible, to redeem something does mean to purchase it, but with the added element that what is purchased is bought back. It is recovered merchandise. In Scripture, to redeem is to buy back what had been lost, what is missing to God.

What is lost to God is not due to God's carelessness or indifference. God lavishes his grace, love and mercy on man the creature. Man repays God by rebelling against him. In the story of Pinocchio, even the youngest of children sense the point. Geppetto creates his puppet. He bestows all manner of attention and skill and devotion upon it. No sooner does he give it an arm and a hand, then it strikes Geppetto. No sooner does he give it a mouth, then it hurls insults and complaints at him. No sooner does he give it legs, then it runs away. The drama of the story is found in Geppetto's seeking for his wayward puppet. Not to find him and punish him, which he certainly deserves, but to seek, find and redeem him, to recover him and bring him back. God is the Redeemer of his people. He comes to Zion to seek and to find them. He

comes to Zion to pay a purchase price for them and to recover that which was lost to him.

The Scriptures tell us that God in eternity had his mind on his people. That though they belonged to the rebellious race of man, he would redeem for himself a people. God the Father made an agreement with God the Son. The Father planned the redemption and the Son agreed to accomplish that redemption. The Son agreed to pay the price, the purchase price, in order to recover that which was lost. God the Spirit would apply that purchase price to God's people. The price paid would buy back each of them and take them from being the possessions of Satan, to become once again, the possessions of God.

The coming of Christ is about the coming of the Redeemer to Zion. His mission is to seek and to save the lost. He was born for this purpose and this purpose alone. You and I belong to God by virtue of his having created us. In our sin, we have gone astray from him. But God, in his infinite love and mercy, sent his Son into this world to pay the purchase price for us and recover us as missing property and place us in the Father's hands forever. You and I belong to him twice over, by virtue of his creating us and also by virtue of his redeeming us. We were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold... but with the precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ, the Eternal Son of God who became man, and was born in Bethlehem to be our Redeemer. -Larry Semel

PODCASTS! PODCASTS! PODCASTS!

NWTS now has podcasts for recent and ongoing evening public lectures. The Gospel of John, Life of David and the current Epistle to the Hebrews series are now all available in podcast format. To subscribe to a podcast for iPod/iPad/iPhone, click on the iTunes link at the top of the series page (at nwts.edu). To subscribe to a podcast for other media players, click the Podcast RSS link at the top of the series page. Once subscribed, you will automatically get each new lecture as it is posted to the website.

- ◆ The Gospel of John, the “Life of David (1 Sam. 16-1 Kings 2)”, and the Epistle to the Hebrews series in audio are still available at nwts.edu in traditional audio and MP3 format.
- ◆ On Oct. 29, NWTS celebrated the Protestant Reformation with an evening devoted to exploring the spread of Calvinism in Eastern Europe (Poland, Hungary, Transylvania) from 1540 to 1570. Reformed Confessions from these countries are now available for the first time in English via Volume 2 of Jim Dennison’s *Reformed Confessions of the 16th and 17th Centuries in English Translation* (Reformation Heritage Books). To order the series, see the link on the opening page of nwts.edu.
- ◆ Coming in the Spring 2011: Prof. Scott Sanborn will teach through the epistle to the Galatians on Thursday night beginning January 6. The public is welcome to join us from 7:00-9:00pm each week.
- ◆ Pete Vosteen (Prof. of Homiletics) and Dr. William Dennison (Adjunct Prof. of Apologetics) were instructors at MTIOPC (Ministerial Training Institute of the OPC) this past summer.
- ◆ Kerux: After 25 years, *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* will cease hard-copy publication with the December 2010 issue. The Faculty will continue to publish the journal three times per year (May, September, December) on the Internet in digital format. All future issues will be free of charge and available for download as soon as they are posted. Also, all 25 years of the journal are available at kerux.com.
- ◆ Students: We are delighted with our three diligent students: Stephen Lauer (M.Div.), Steve MacKenzie (M.Div.) and David McPherson (M.T.S.). We have hopes of at least two new students, if not more, next Fall (d.v.).
- ◆ Our hearty thanks: to those who have been especially helpful to us through the year: Anita Hoogerhyde (Bookkeeper); Lynn Rorberg (Tax Assistance); George Young (Webmaster); and the Session and Congregation of the Lynnwood OPC (for use of their facility).
- ◆ Announcing: The faculty announces the availability of a full 1-year scholarship to be awarded to a qualified M.Div. applicant for the academic year 2011-2012. Contact the Academic Dean for details.
- ◆ NWTS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs.

For the Nativity

John Heath-Stubbs

*Shepherds, I sing you, this winter’s night
Our Hope new-planted, the womb’d, the buried Seed:
For a strange Star has fallen, to blossom from a tomb,
And infinite Godhead circumscribed, hangs helpless at the breast.*

*Now the cold airs are musical, and all the ways of the sky
Vivid with moving fires, above the hills where tread
The feet — how beautiful! — of them that publish peace.*

*The sacrifice, which is not made for them,
The angels comprehend, and bend to earth
Their worshipping way. Material kind Earth
Gives Him a Mother’s breast and needful food.*

*A Love, shepherds, most poor
And yet most royal, kings,
Begins this winter’s night;
But oh, cast forth, and with no proper place,
Out in the cold he lies!*

GIVING

Please remember us in your year-end giving. A few of our donors have acknowledged challenges due to the economy and we understand those providential constraints. Your financial support in any amount is valuable to us, for you are the instrument by which our Sovereign Lord has faithfully sustained us in 2010.

Several corporations have “Matching Gift” programs by which employees can increase their contribution to NWTS. These companies include: Boeing, Cardinal Health, Microsoft and Verizon. Please check with your employer regarding a “Matching Gift” program where you work.

**We wish you all a Joyous
Christmas and a Blessed
2011 in God’s rich grace.**