

Institutional Distinctives Examination--Suggested Reading List

The faculty suggests that the student read the following materials in preparation for the Institutional Distinctives Examination.

Baptist Distinctives (Dr. Jeff Straub).

Akin, Daniel L. "The Single-Elder-Led Church: The Bible's Witness to a Congregational/Single-Elder-Led Polity." In *Perspectives on Church Government*, edited by Chad Owen Brand and R. Stanton Norman, 25-86. Nashville, Tenn.: Broadman & Holman, 2004.

Brown, L. Duane, and Daniel R. Brown. *Biblical Basis for Baptists: A Bible Study on Baptist Distinctives*. North Fort Myers, Fla.: Faithful Life, 2009.

Separatism (Dr. Kevin T. Bauder).

Bauder, Kevin. "Thinking about the Gospel." Series of articles in *In the Nick of Time* (June 8-August 10, 2007). Click <http://www.centalseminary.edu/publications/NickIndex.html>.

Moritz, Fred. *Be Ye Holy: The Call to Christian Separation*. Greenville, S.C.: BJU Press, 1994.

Pickering, Ernest. *Biblical Separation: The Struggle for a Pure Church*. 2nd ed. Schaumburg, Ill.: Regular Baptist Press, 2008.

Sidwell, Mark. *The Dividing Line: Understanding and Applying Biblical Separation*. Greenville, S.C.: BJU Press, 1998.

Dispensationalism (Dr. Roy Beacham).

Ryrie, Charles C. *Dispensationalism*. Rev. and expanded. Chicago: Moody Press, 1995.

Showers, Renald E. *There Really Is a Difference!: A Comparison of Covenant and Dispensational Theology*. Bellmawr, N.J.: The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry, 1990.

Cessationism (Dr. Jon Pratt).

Gaffin, Richard, "A Cessationist View." In *Are Miraculous Gifts for Today: Four Views*, edited by Wayne Grudem, 23-64. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.

Gromacki, Robert G. *The Modern Tongues Movement*. Rev. ed. Philadelphia: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1972.

MacArthur, John. *Charismatic Chaos*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992.

Saucy, Robert L. "An Open but Cautious View." In *Are Miraculous Gifts for Today: Four Views*, edited by Wayne Grudem, 95-148. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.

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procedure.

--Remediation grading will follow the same procedure as the initial exam.

- *Remediation Timing.*

--Faculty schedules should not suffer from student delay.

--Any student, therefore, who is scheduled to graduate must complete and pass the remediation examination(s) no later than April 15 of the year of his scheduled graduation, or he will not be permitted to graduate that year. He will be permitted to graduate the following year if he passes the remediation exam by April 15 of the following year.

Content of the Exam: Exact Questions. [LMB has also included faculty-specified reading and any additional guidance provided by the faculty member.]

Jeff Straub, Baptist Distinctives.

Question.

What are the distinctive features of Baptist identity?

Additional Guidance.

The student should be able in short essay form to identify the salient features that combine to make up historic, conservative, Baptist identity. While there are variations, as Baptists have no fixed creed to which all must adhere, there is a set of common features or principles that can be witnessed throughout Baptist life.

Kevin Bauder, Separatism.

Question.

What is ecclesiastical separation, and what are the New Testament criteria for ecclesiastical fellowship and separation?

Additional Guidance.

Of particular importance will be the gospel as the boundary of Christian fellowship, the whole counsel of God as the center of Christian fellowship, the distinction between levels of importance among doctrines and practices, and the distinction between levels of fellowship.

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Roy Beacham, Dispensationalism.

Question.

How would a committed dispensationalist best respond to criticisms of this approach to Bible interpretation and what arguments would best be engaged in defense of the dispensational approach?

Additional Guidance.

The student should be able to define dispensationalism (what it is and what it is not), and to enumerate common objections to the dispensational approach. The student should also be able to provide dispensational responses to these criticisms and to enumerate, explain, and defend the strengths of a dispensational approach to Bible interpretation and analysis.

Jon Pratt, Cessationism.

Question.

How would a committed cessationist support the idea of cessationism biblically and theologically?

Additional Guidance.

The student will provide six of the best exegetical/theological arguments for the view that miraculous gifts ceased near the end of the first century A.D. Please provide a paragraph of explanation for each argument.

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