Study Guide for sections of Systematic Theology, vol. 2, by Charles Hodge

Extra Reading for the course: "We Believe in Jesus"

ACADEMIC PACKET

RESOURCES FOR GROUPS
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Read Charles Hodge, Systematic Theology

Volume 2, Part III, Soteriology, Chapters 3-13, pages 299-613

NOTE ABOUT FOREIGN LANGUAGES

You will notice that Hodge frequently quotes from foreign languages, especially Latin and German. Don't worry about trying to read these sections. Read around them to see if there is a translation, or if you can pick up the point from the context. But the tests on the reading assignments will not include any questions on these sections.

REVIEW QUESTIONS:

Chapter III

- 1. According to Hodge, what are the substances of which man consists?
- 2. How does Hodge define the "soul" of man?
- 3. How does the author explain the relationship between the body and the soul of man?
- 4. According to Hodge, how does the union of soul and body in the constitution of man help us understand the union of the divine and human natures in the person of Christ?
- 5. Make sure you can express the orthodox doctrine of the person and natures of Christ.
- 6. Since Jesus was divine, was his human intelligence infinite?
- 7. Be familiar with what the following passages teach about Christ.
 - a. John 1:1-14
 - b. 1 John 1:1-3
 - c. Philippians 2:6-11
 - d. Hebrews 2:14
- 8. What is meant by the "hypostatic union" of the human and divine natures of Christ?
- 9. What is meant by the "communion of attributes" in Christ?
- 10. Describe the erroneous views of the person of Christ of each of the following schools of thought.
 - a) Ebionites
 - b) Gnostics
 - c) Apollinaris
 - d) Nestorianism
 - e) Eutychianism

- 11. What was the doctrine of the person of Christ held by the Reformers?
- 12. Luther believed that the body and blood of Christ are really and locally present in the Eucharist. According to Hodge, how did his doctrine of the Lord's Supper lead Luther to express an erroneous view of the person of Christ?
- 13. What were the postulates of the original Socinian view of the person of Christ?
- 14. What was Swedenborg's unique view of the person of Christ?
- 15. What was the peculiar view of the person of Christ expressed by Isaac Watts?
- 16. What was Schleiermacher's view of the person of Christ?

Chapter IV

- 1. What qualifications were necessary for Christ to be the saving mediator between God and man? Select the best answer.
- 2. What are the three offices that Christ held as mediator?

Chapter V

- 1. In the Scriptures, what is a prophet?
- 2. In the Scriptures, was any man receiving a revelation from God, or inspired in the communication of it, called a prophet?
- 3. During what periods did Christ execute the office of prophet?

Chapter VI

- 1. Define the office of priest.
- 2. Are ministers sometimes called "priests" in the New Testament?
- 3. Instead of the word "atonement," Hodge prefers to use the term _____ to express the priestly work of Christ.
- 4. What does "vicarious" mean in the context of Jesus' priestly ministry?
- 5. According to Hodge, in what sense does Christ remove our guilt when we put our faith in Him?
- 6. What does "redemption" mean in terms of Christ's priestly ministry?
- 7. What does "expiation" mean in terms of Jesus' priestly ministry?
- 8. What does "propitiation" mean in terms of Jesus' priestly ministry?

Chapter VII

- 1. What does Hodge mean by the "instrinsic worth" of Christ's satisfaction?
- 2. What is the error in the Roman Catholic doctrine of Christ's satisfaction, according to Hodge?
- 3. Galatians 2:21 teaches that if righteousness could come by the law, then....
- 4. What is the primary purpose of the satisfaction of Christ that secures the forgiveness of sinners?
- 5. Explain the distinction between Christ's "passive" obedience and His "active" obedience.
- 6. In the Old Testament sacrificial ceremonies, what gesture symbolized the fact that the animal victim was bearing the sins of the people?
- 7. What chapter in the Old Testament is one of the clearest teachings about Jesus as a vicarious sacrifice who suffered to pay the penalty for our sins? ("He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities." "With his stripes we are healed.")
- 8. What is a "propitiation"?
- 9. 2 Corinthians 5:21 says, "He hath made him to be _____ for us who knew no sin."
- 10. How does Hodge define "redemption"?
- 11. From what things did Christ redeem us? List the things mentioned in the text.
- 12. How does Hodge define "justification"?
- 13. How does Hodge define "sanctification"?

Chapter VIII

- 1. According to Hodge, what is the key concern in asking the question, "For whom did Christ die"?
- 2. What ancient theologian is known for believing that the doctrine of election also referred to Christ's mission and work, and that it determined for whom Christ died?
- 3. Does Hodge believe that every Bible passage that asserts that Christ died for a people is a denial of the doctrine that He died equally for all men?
- 4. According to Hodge, in what sense did Christ die for all men? Mention all his answers.
- 5. Hodge asserts that when Scripture speaks of the blessings of salvation for "all" men, it is not always referring to all individuals, but rather it frequently means ______.
- 6. How does Hodge understand 1 Corinthians 15:22? ("As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.")

Chapter IX

- 1. What was the emphasis among the early church fathers in their teaching about the atonement?
- 2. According to Hodge, was the concept of Christ as an expiatory sacrifice for our sins totally absent among the early church fathers?
- 3 What is the "moral" theory of the atonement?
- 4. What is the "governmental" theory of the atonement?
- 5. What is the "mystical" view of the atonement?
- 6. At the time Hodge wrote this book, which view of the work of Christ did he find "more prevalent than ever before"?
- 7. Does Hodge assert that if a writer defends a particular theory of the atonement, it is inevitable that he will not recognize the truth of other views?

Chapter X

- 1. Is Christ is no longer serving as high priest in the heavenly tabernacle, since He already made the final sacrifice?
- 2. What does "Paraclete" mean?
- 3. What is the Protestant view of the intercession of saints, as taught and practiced in the Church of Rome?

Chapter XI

- 1. Since when has the kingdom of God existed in this world, consisting of those who acknowledge, worship, love, and obey Jehovah as the only living and true God?
- 2. To whom did God make the following promise?: "Thine house and thy kingdom shall be established forever before thee: thy throne shall be established forever."
- 3. Who was the "forerunner of Christ," who prepared the people for his coming, saying, "Repent ye for the kingdom of heaven is at hand"?
- 4. What is the "visible" kingdom of God?
- 5. What does it mean that the kingdom of God is "catholic"?
- 6. Is the kingdom of God a democracy?
- 7. What are the terms of admission in the kingdom of God on earth?
- 8. Who belongs to the future kingdom of glory?

Chapter XII

- 1. In what sense was Christ "made under the law"?
- 2. When did Jesus' humiliation begin?
- 3. Did part of Jesus' humiliation mean suffering the wrath of God for our sins?
- 4. How does Hodge interpret the phrase in the Apostles' Creed, "He descended into hell"?
- 5. According to Hodge, when did Jesus' suffering end?
- 6. Does Hodge agree that 1 Peter 3:18, 19 teaches that, after His death, Christ descended in His spirit to preach the gospel and give the condemned souls a second chance of salvation? ("Being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: by which also he went and preached to the spirits in prison.")

Chapter XIII

- 1. If Christ did not rise, what would that mean for the whole scheme of redemption?
- 2. What was Jesus' resurrected body like? Was it exactly like his body before his death? Was it totally different?
- 3. After the ascension, did Jesus' body still have the attributes of a human body?
- 4. Is Jesus' body now present everywhere?
- 5. What is the special priestly ministry that Christ exercises continually from heaven?
- 6. What does it mean that Jesus is seated "at the right hand" of the Father?
- 7. According to Hodge, what is the object of Jesus' second coming?