

SOME EFFECTS OF CENTRALIZING THE INTERPERSONAL CATEGORY IN BIBLICAL-SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY: AN OUTLINE

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Introduction

- A. Centralize
- B. Interpersonal
- C. Biblical-systematic theology
- D. Alternatives transcended

I. Bases for the Interpersonal Center

A. The (inter)personal character of ultimate reality

- 1. God's creatorship: Genesis **1:1**; Acts **17:22-31**; John **1:1-3**; Colossians **1:14-20**, *etc.*
- 2. Trinitarian considerations: Matthew **3:16**; John **14:16**, *etc.*

B. Statements about the gospel in personalized terms

- 1. Preaching Christ: **8:35**; **11:20**; **17:18**; Romans **16:25**; Philippians **1:15-18** (cp. Acts **5:42**)
- 2. Receiving Christ: Colossians **2:6**
- 3. Learning Christ: Ephesians **4:20**
- 4. Knowing nothing but Christ: 1 Corinthians **2:2**
- 5. Christ as foundation: 1 Corinthians **3:10-15**
- 6. Central vocabulary: faith, grace, mercy, love, promise

C. Arguments for the gospel in personalized terms

- 1. Gamaliel's argument for the resurrection (Acts **5:33-42**)
- 2. Paul's argument for the resurrection (2 Corinthians **15:12-28**)

D. Observations on the Mosaic period

- 1. David and the showbread: 1 Samuel **21:1-6**; Mark **2:23-28**
- 2. Hezekiah and the Passover observance: 2 Chronicles **30:13-22**
- 3. Salvation by faith during the Mosaic period: Habakkuk **2:4**; Galatians **3:8-14**

4. “*Moses is preached*”: Acts **15:21**

II. Effects of an Interpersonal Center

- A. Hermeneutics
- B. Representative doctrines*

- 1. Salvation
- 2. Atonement
- 3. Ethics
- 4. Anthropology
- 5. Pneumatology
- 6. Sanctification
- 7. Ordinances
- 8. Bibliology
- 9. Ecclesiology

III. Praxis

- A. Evangelism
- B. Fellowship and Christian unity
- C. Theological Interpretation

Conclusion

*Some implications of interpersonalism are worked out in *What the Bible Says About Salvation* (Joplin, MO: College Press, 1982) by this author.

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