

34. Paul and the Heresies

1. Course Overview

- 1) This course explores the various heresies that the Apostle Paul confronted in his epistles and examines his theological responses.
- 2) It covers major false teachings such as Judaizing legalism, Gnosticism, libertinism, and asceticism, offering a biblical framework for recognizing and addressing heresies in both the early church and today.

2. Course Objectives

- 1) Understand the types and characteristics of heresies in the early church.
- 2) Learn Paul's theological reasoning and criteria for identifying heresy.
- 3) Cultivate the ability to discern modern heresies through a Pauline theological lens.

3. Key Topics

- 1) The Judaizer Controversy in Galatians
- 2) Libertinism in Corinthian Context
- 3) Asceticism and Angel Worship in Colossians
- 4) False Teachers in Pastoral Epistles
- 5) Roots of Gnosticism and Paul's Refutation
- 6) Application to Modern Movements: New Apostolic Reformation, Prosperity Gospel, Religious Pluralism

4. Assessment

- 1) Reading Reports: 30%
- 2) Theological Analysis Essay: 30%
- 3) Class Participation and Discussion: 20%
- 4) Final Project (Modern Heresy Analysis): 20%