**Biblical Theology Core Seminar—13 Weeks**

**What is Biblical Theology?**

1. Defining the Topic Week 1

2. Guardian & Guide for the Church Week 2

3. Defining the Tools Week 3

**The Stories to be Told: Biblical Theology Displayed**

4. Kingdom Through Covenant Week 3

5. Eden to New Jerusalem Week 4

6. People of God Week 5

7. SacrificeWeek 6

8. Mission Week 7

9. Idolatry Week 8

**Putting the Text to Work**

10. Exodus; 1 Samuel; Psalm Week 10

11. Proverbs; Isaiah; Nehemiah Week 11

12. Luke; John; Colossians Week 12

13. The Quiz Week 13

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# **Biblical Theology Core Seminar**

# **Class 3: Defining the Tools**

Don’t forget the big idea:

*Biblical theology is the discipline of learning how to read the Bible as one story by one divine author that culminates in the person and work of Christ, so that every part of Scripture is understood in relation to Christ.*

We’re going to rummage through two different tool boxes pull a few out one at a time, look at them, and figure out what they do.

**I. Tool Box # 1: Exegetical Tools**

Exegesis is the disciplined attempt to lead out of a text the author’s original intent, rather than one’s own preference or experience or opinion. Jerome, an early church father put it this way: *“The office of a commentator is to set forth not what he himself would prefer, but what his author says.”*

***A. Tool # 1: The Grammatical-Historical Method***

***B. Tool # 2: Literary Form***

Test case: Psalm 143:12

*“And in your steadfast love you will cut off my enemies. And you will destroy all the adversaries of my soul, for I am your servant.”*

**II. Tool Box # 2: Storyline Tools**

***A. Plot***

***B. Theme***

Covenant (how God relates to his people),

Kingdom (how God orders and rules over his people),

Exodus (how God saves his people),

Exile (how God punishes his people

***D. Promise-Fulfillment***

*Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” (Genesis 12:1-3 ESV)*

***E. Typology***

*The essence of typology is the recognition that within Scripture itself certain events, people, or institutions in biblical history bear a particular relationship to later events, people and institutions. The relationship is such that the earlier foreshadows the later, and later fills our or completes the earlier.* (Graeme Goldsworthy)

A type is usually a person (like Moses, or David) or an object (like the ark or sacrificial lamb) that anticipates or prefigures Jesus.

***F. Continuity and Discontinuity***