

1. Introduction to Theology

1. Definition of Theology

- 1) Theology is the academic study of God and faith, exploring the relationship between God, humanity, and the world.
- 2) It goes beyond mere religious belief to include logical, philosophical, historical, and practical analysis.

2. Purpose of Theology

- 1) To gain a deeper understanding of God and the Bible
- 2) To systematically establish Christian faith
- 3) To practice and spread the faith
- 4) To develop a biblical worldview

3. Major Branches of Theology

1) Systematic Theology

(1) Organizes doctrines and faith into a logical system

(2) Major doctrines:

- ① Theology Proper (Doctrine of God),
- ② Christology,
- ③ Pneumatology (Doctrine of the Holy Spirit),
- ④ Anthropology (Doctrine of Humanity),
- ⑤ Soteriology (Doctrine of Salvation),
- ⑥ Ecclesiology (Doctrine of the Church),
- ⑦ Eschatology (Doctrine of the End Times)

2) Biblical Theology

(1) Studies the theological messages of the Bible within its narrative flow

(2) Divided into Old Testament Theology and New Testament Theology

3) Historical Theology

(1) Examines the development of theology throughout church history

(2) Includes the Early Church, Middle Ages, Reformation, and Modern Theology

4) Practical Theology

- (1) Applies theological knowledge to real-life faith and ministry
- (2) Includes homiletics (preaching), Christian ethics, missiology, and pastoral theology

5) Apologetics

- (1) Defends Christian faith logically and compares it with other religions and philosophies

6) Philosophical Theology

- (1) Studies the relationship between theology and philosophy
- (2) Examines proofs for God's existence, faith and reason, morality and theology

4. Theological Methodologies

- 1) Biblical Method– Prioritizes the Bible as the primary standard of study
- 2) Historical Method– Analyzes how theology has developed over time
- 3) Philosophical Method– Explores theological concepts through logic and philosophy
- 4) Practical Method– Studies how theology is applied in faith and church ministry

5. The Importance of Theology

- 1) Knowing God correctly is the foundation of Christian life
- 2) Prevents doctrinal confusion and establishes true faith
- 3) Provides accurate understanding of Christian history and teachings
- 4) Contributes to the spiritual growth of churches and believers

Theology is not merely an intellectual pursuit but a tool for strengthening faith and understanding God's will.

Even in the age of AI, theology plays a vital role in studying and teaching unchanging truths, and AI-based learning can help spread theological knowledge more effectively.