

Week 6 Medieval Theology I

1. Course Overview

- 1) Medieval theology marks the period when the Church became institutionalized and theology began to integrate with philosophy.
 - 2) This lecture covers early medieval theology before the rise of scholasticism.
-

2. Learning Objectives

- 1) Understand the historical background of medieval theology
 - 2) Explain the transition from patristic to medieval theology
 - 3) Identify key theologians and their ideas
 - 4) Analyze the relationship between faith and reason
-

3. Historical Background

- 1) Decline of the Roman Empire and rise of the Church
 - 2) Expansion of monasticism
 - 3) Development of Latin theology
 - 4) Integration of Germanic culture and Christianity
-

4. Key Theologians and Thinkers

1) Augustine of Hippo

- (1) Doctrine of original sin
- (2) Grace-centered salvation
- (3) Emphasis on God's sovereignty
- (4) Works: Confessions, City of God

2) Boethius

- (1) Bridge between philosophy and theology
- (2) Free will vs predestination
- (3) The Consolation of Philosophy

3) Gregory the Great

- (1) Strengthened papal authority
 - (2) Developed pastoral theology
 - (3) Expanded missionary work
-

5. Theological Characteristics

1) Faith and Reason

- (1) "I believe in order to understand" (Credo ut intelligam)

(2) Faith precedes reason

2) Doctrine of Salvation

- (1) Emphasis on grace
- (2) Role of the Church

3) Church-Centered Structure

- (1) Authority of the Church
 - (2) Sacramental life
-

6. Monastic Movement

- 1) Emphasis on asceticism
 - 2) Spiritual discipline
 - 3) Key figure: Benedict of Nursia
 - 4) Motto: "Ora et Labora" (Pray and Work)
-

7. Significance of Medieval Theology

- 1) Foundation for scholastic theology
 - 2) Systematization of doctrine
 - 3) Expansion of Church influence
-

8. Discussion Questions

- 1) How is the relationship between faith and reason understood in medieval theology?
 - 2) How did Augustine influence the medieval Church?
 - 3) Was monasticism beneficial or problematic for the Church?
-

9. Assignment

- 1) Summarize Augustine's doctrine of salvation (1–2 pages)
- 2) Describe key features of the early medieval Church