BUILDING SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY
STUDY GUIDE 4.2
Lesson 4: Doctrines in Systematics
Section 2: Formation

OUTLINE FOR TAKING NOTES

II. Formation

A. Biblical Support

  1. Process

  2. Example

B. Logical Support

  1. Authority

  2. Deductive Implications

  3. Inductive Certainty

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Describe Berkhof's arguments against the theory of perfectionism, and explain how he constructs them.

2. Explain the view expressed in the lesson regarding the proper use of logic in the theological task.

3. Explain the law of non contradiction, and give an example of how it is used.

4. Explain the causes of apparent contradictions in Scripture. How does Dr. Pratt suggest we resolve these apparent contradictions?

5. Explain the difference between deductive logic and inductive logic. Give examples.

6. Explain the difference between repetitive inductive arguments and compositional inductive arguments. Give examples.

7. What is the "inductive gap"? Explain the example Dr. Pratt gives of how Berkhof forgets this gap.

8. Explain the "cone of certainty." Where does Dr. Pratt locate eschatological doctrines in this scheme?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. How do you think the Bible is sometimes used improperly to develop doctrinal views?

2. How do you think logic should be used in the task of systematic theology?

3. What examples can you give of errors made in misusing logic, such as forgetting the "inductive gap," in doing theology?