

## **Systematic Theology (Dogmatics)**

Theology I: Prolegomena and *Principium*

- A. **Prolegomena**
- B. ***Principium***

Theology II: Theology Proper — The Being and Works of God

- A. **The Existence of God**
- B. **The Names of God**
- C. **The Attributes of God**
- D. **The Trinity of God**
- E. **The Works of God**
- F. **Appendix: The Angelic World**

Theology III: Mankind, Sin, and Salvation

- A. **Mankind/Humanity**
- B. **Sin (Hamartiology)**
- C. **Salvation (Soteriology)**

Theology IV: The Church and the Kingdom of God

- A. **Ecclesiology**
- B. **Eschatology**



## Theology I: Prolegomena and *Principium*

### A. Prolegomena

#### 1. Meaning

##### a. Definition

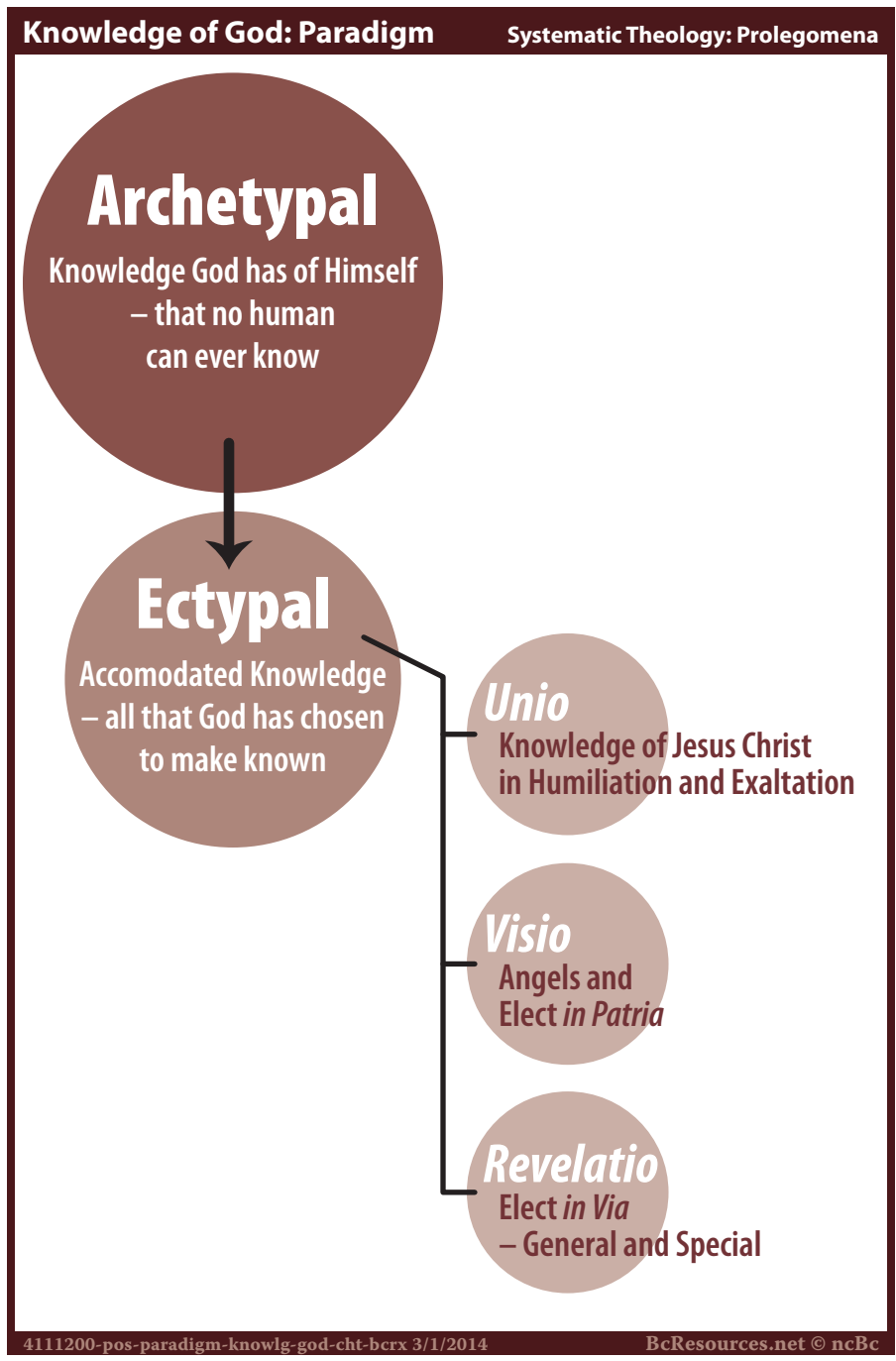
- 1) Etymology
  - a) Theology
  - b) Dogmatics
- 2) Object
  - a) Subjectivist (Anthropocentric)
  - b) Objectivist (Theocentric)
- 3) *Genus*
  - a) *Scientia*
  - b) *Sapientia*
- 4) Character
  - a) Theoretical
  - b) Practical

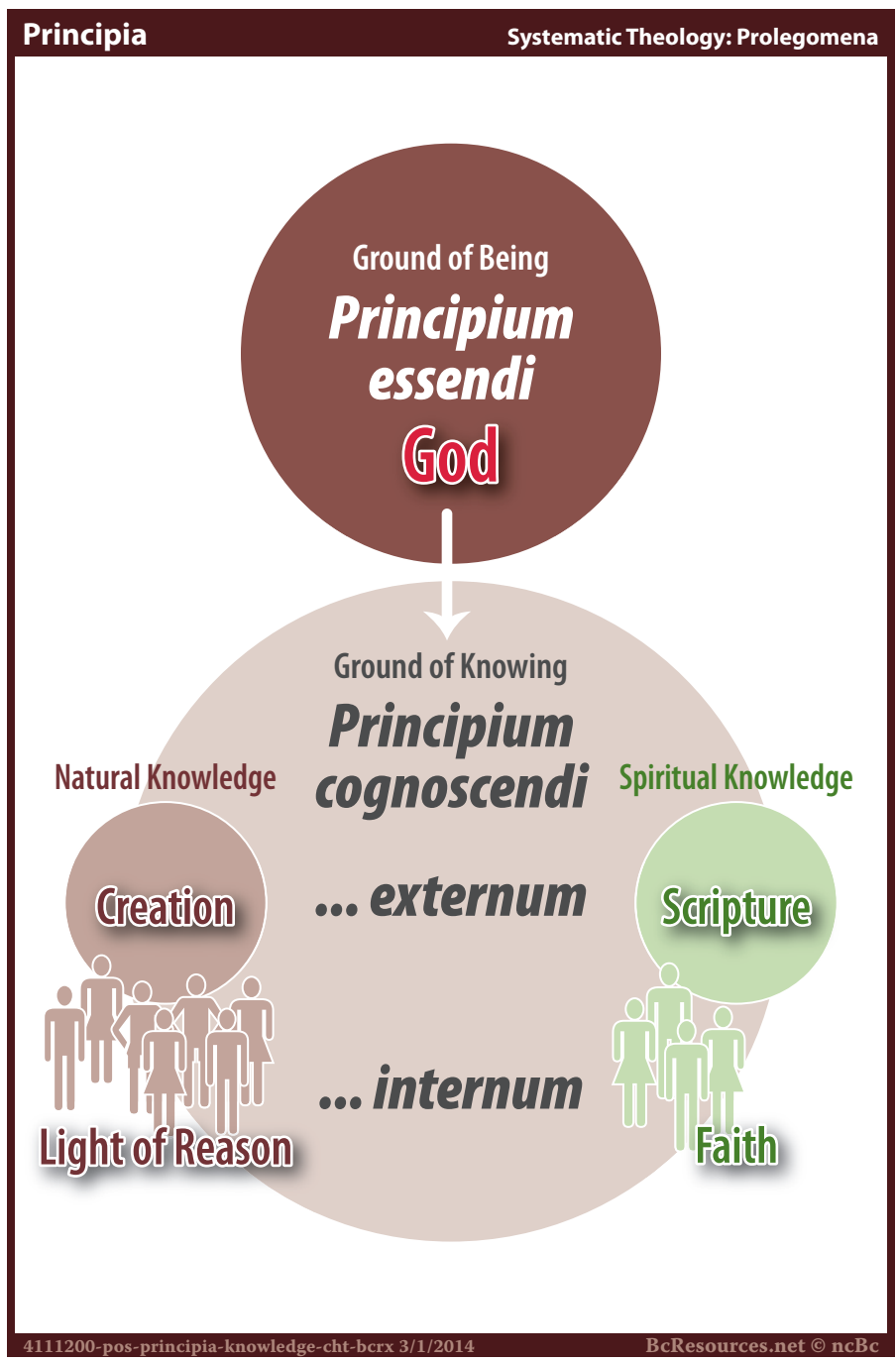
##### b. Possibility

- 1) Assumptions
  - a) Paradigm
    - (1) Categories
    - (2) Causality
  - b) *Principia*
    - (1) True
    - (2) False
      - (a) Philosophy
      - (b) Religion

##### 2) Limitations

##### c. Necessity





2. **Method**

a. **Task**

- 1) Materials (Sources)
  - a) Primary
    - (1) External: Scripture (Norm)
      - (a) Hermeneutics
      - (b) *Heilsgeschichte*
    - (2) Internal: Faith
  - b) Secondary
    - (1) External
      - (a) Tradition
      - (b) Authority
    - (2) Internal
      - (a) Reason
      - (b) Experience

2) *Habitus*

b. **Aim**

- 1) Ultimate
- 2) Proximate
  - a) Ecclesial
  - b) Cultural

c. **Order**

- 1) Analytic
- 2) Synthetic

B. *Principium*

1. **Revelation**

a. **Meaning**

b. **Agency**

1) Mode One: General Revelation

a) Sources

(1) External

(2) Internal

(a) Cognitive

(b) Non-cognitive

b) Substance

2) Mode Two: Special Revelation

a) Sources

(1) Direct

(2) Indirect

b) Substance

c. **Significance**

**2. Inspiration**

**a. Principle**

- 1) Definition
- 2) Degrees
  - a) Locus
  - b) Scope
  - c) Extent
- 3) Dimensions
  - a) Form
  - b) Function
  - c) Style

**b. Process**

- 1) Dynamic
- 2) Organic
- 3) Verbal
- 4) Mechanical

**c. Properties**

- 1) Intrinsic
  - a) Veracity
  - b) Relevance
  - c) Efficacy
- 2) Extrinsic
  - a) Authority
    - (1) Reliability
      - (a) Authenticity
      - (b) Historicity
      - (c) Credibility
    - (2) Necessity
  - b) Perspicuity
    - (1) External
    - (2) Internal
  - c) Sufficiency
    - (1) Material
    - (2) Formal



Inspiration in Contemporary Protestant Orthodoxy				Scripture
	<i>Model</i>	<i>Method</i>	<i>Mode</i>	<i>Manner</i>
<b>The human writers stressed</b> (Process focused —personal)	<b>Dynamic</b>	<b>Abductive</b> (Accent: Function)	<b>Concomitant</b>	<b>Errant</b>
	<b>Organic</b>	<b>Inductive</b> (Accent: Function-Form)	<b>Continuity</b>	<b>Functional Inerrancy</b>
<b>The supernatural writings stressed</b> (Product focused —propositional)	<b>Verbal</b>	<b>Deductive</b> (Accent: Form-Function)	<b>Concursive</b>	<b>Material Inerrancy</b>
	<b>Mechanical</b>	<b>Reductive</b> (Accent: Form)	<b>Confluent</b>	<b>Formal * Inerrancy</b>
				* Cultural perspective, world view



**Theology II: Theology Proper — The Being and Works of God****A. The Existence of God**

1. Assumptions
2. Arguments
  - a. Rational
    - 1) *a priori*
    - 2) *a posteriori*
  - b. Rhetorical

**B. The Names of God**

1. Old Testament
2. New Testament

**C. The Attributes of God**

1. Preview  
(*The Problem of Predication and the Divine Simplicity*)
2. Paradigm
  - a. Incommunicable
    - 1) Independent
    - 2) Immutable
    - 3) Infinite
      - a) Space
      - b) Time
      - c) Degree
  - b. Communicable
    - 1) Intellectual
    - 2) Moral: Virtues and Affections
      - a) Holy
      - b) Righteous
      - c) Good

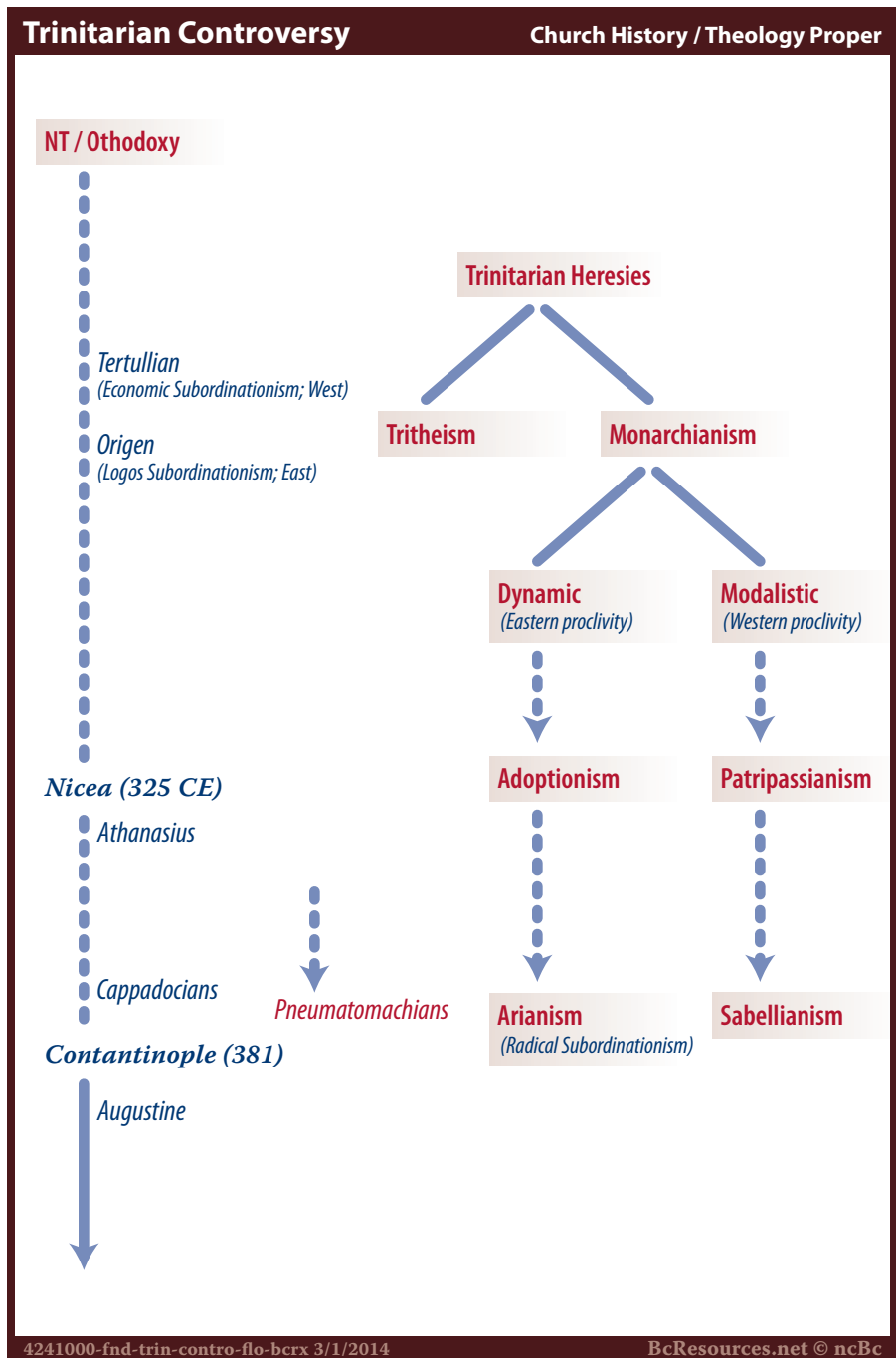
## D. The Triunity of God

### 1. Foundation

- a. Scripture
- b. Tradition
  - 1) Heresies
  - 2) Councils
  - 3) Terminology
- c. Analogy (*Vestigia Trinitatis*)

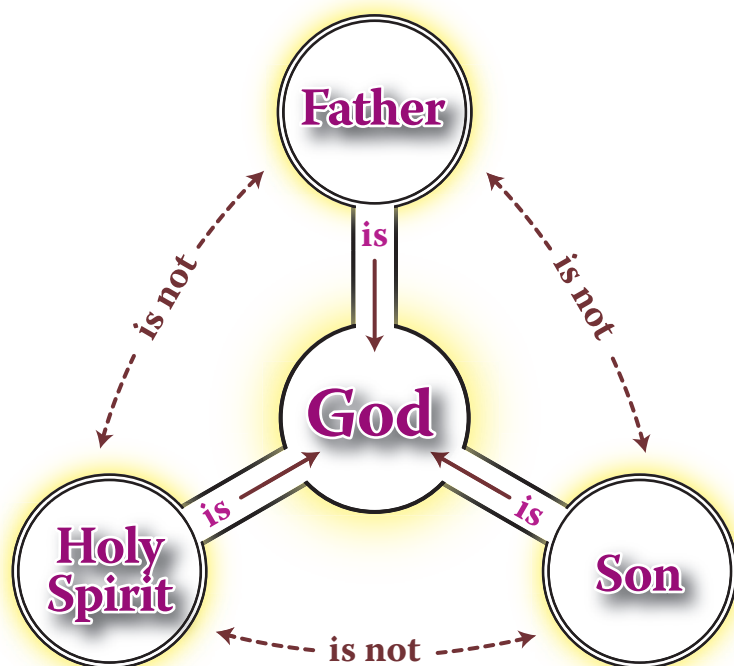
### 2. Explanation

- a. Oneness
- b. Threeness
  - 1) Order
  - 2) Properties
    - a) Father (Unbegotten)
    - b) Son (Begotten)
    - c) Holy Spirit (Procession)
  - 3) Operations
    - a) Father (εκ)
    - b) Son (δια)
    - c) Holy Spirit (εν)



## The Triune God

Theology Proper



Augustine's summary:

1. The Father is God.
2. The Son is God.
3. The Holy Spirit is God.
4. The Father is not the Son.
5. The Son is not the Holy Spirit.
6. The Holy Spirit is not the Father.
7. There is only one God.

## E. The Works of God

### 1. *Ad Intra*: The Divine Decrees

- a. Ground (The free and sovereign will of God)
  - 1) Debate
  - 2) Distinctions
- b. Nature
  - 1) Eternal
  - 2) Absolute
  - 3) Universal
- c. End (The glory of God)

### 2. *Ad Extra*: Creation and Providence

#### a. Creation

- 1) Spiritual (see appendix: The Angelic World)
- 2) Material
  - a) Statement (Theological)

*“The Triune God,  
by an act of his own free will and good pleasure,  
created all things for the manifestation of his glory.”*
  - b) Narrative (Biblical)
    - (1) Genre
    - (2) Arrangement
      - (a) Stage One: *ex nihilo*
      - (b) Stage Two: *hexaemeron*
        - i. Time
        - ii. Manner
        - iii. Order
  - c) Alternatives (Rational)
    - (1) Philosophical
      - (a) Dualism
      - (b) Monism
    - (2) Scientific (Materialism)

b. **Providence**

- 1) Idea
  - a) Definition
    - (1) General
    - (2) Special
  - b) Scope (Omnipotence and human freedom)
    - (1) Incompatibilist (Libertarian)
    - (2) Compatibilist (Volitional)
  - c) Extent (Theodicy and the problem of evil)
- 2) Elements
  - a) Preservation
  - b) Concurrence
    - (1) Predetermined
    - (2) Simultaneous
    - (3) Immediate
  - c) Governance
    - (1) *Ordinaria*
    - (2) *Extraordinaria* (Miracles)
      - (a) Nature
      - (b) Possibility
      - (c) Purpose



## E. **Appendix: The Angelic World**

### 1. **Existence**

- a. Origin
- b. Nature
  - 1) Spiritual
  - 2) Personal
  - 3) Powerful
- c. Assembly (Company)
  - 1) Number
  - 2) Rank
  - 3) Order
    - a) Organization
    - b) Activities

### 2. **Fall**

- a. Sin
  - 1) Time
  - 2) Cause
  - 3) Description (Poetic)
- b. Consequence
  - 1) Abode
  - 2) Status
  - 3) Destiny

**BcR**



## Theology III: Mankind, Sin, and Salvation

### A. Mankind/Humanity

#### 1. Origin

##### a. Creation

- 1) Immediate
- 2) Mediate

##### b. Constitution

- 1) Monism
- 2) Dualism
  - a) Body
    - (1) Form
    - (2) Gender/Sexuality
  - b) Soul
    - (1) Structure
      - (a) Dichotomist
      - (b) Trichotomist
    - (2) Origin
      - (a) Creationist
      - (b) Traducian

#### 2. Nature/Dignity (*Imago Dei*)

##### a. Qualities (Substantive)

- 1) Essential
- 2) Accidental (Original righteousness)
  - a) Naturalist
  - b) Supernaturalist

##### b. Dominion (Functional)

- 1) Universal
- 2) Local

#### 3. Unity/Solidarity

B. **Sin** (Hamartiology)

1. **Origin**

- a. Probation
- b. Temptation
- c. Fall

2. **Nature**

- a. General
  - 1) Philosophical (Ethical)
  - 2) Theological
- b. Particular
  - 1) Extent
  - 2) Degrees
- c. Universal

3. **Transmission** (Original sin)

- a. Guilt (Imputation)
  - 1) Immediate
    - a) Federal
    - b) Natural (Seminal)
  - 2) Mediate
- b. Pollution
  - 1) Depravity
  - 2) Inability

4. **Penalty** (Death)

- a. Physical
- b. Spiritual

C. **Salvation** (Soteriology)

1. **Christology** (Accomplished)

a. **Person**

- 1) Natures
  - a) Deity
  - b) Humanity
- 2) Union
  - a) Essence
    - (1) Statement (Chalcedon, 451 CE)
    - (2) Explanation
      - (a) Orthodox
        - i. Hypostatic
        - ii. Kenōtic ?
      - (b) Heterodox
        - i. Apollinarian
        - ii. Nestorian
        - iii. Monophysite/Monothelite
    - (3) Analogy
  - b) Effects (*Communicatio*)
    - (1) Affirmations
    - (2) Denials

- b. **Work** (States/Offices)
  - 1) Humiliation
    - a) Incarnation (Prophet)
      - (1) Birth
      - (2) Life
        - (a) Obedience
          - i. Active
          - ii. Passive
        - (b) Suffering
        - (c) Impeccability
      - (3) Death
        - (a) Burial
        - (b) Descent ?
    - b) Atonement (Priest)
      - (1) Necessity
      - (2) Nature
        - (a) Substance
          - i. Objective
          - ii. Vicarious
        - (b) Objections/Alternatives
        - (c) Aspects
          - i. Propitiation
          - ii. Redemption
          - iii. Reconciliation
      - (3) Extent (Intent)
        - (a) Sufficiency
        - (b) Efficiency
  - 2) Exaltation
    - a) Resurrection
    - b) Ascension
    - c) Session (Priest/King)

## Salvation Accomplished

Soteriology



# Salvation

The **necessity** of the atonement is grounded on God's love and righteousness.

The **nature** of the atonement is "penal substitutionary."

The **intent** of the atonement is to reconcile God to the elect and the elect to God.

## Propitiation

Sin is an unbearable outrage to God's holiness.

The atonement addresses this holy outrage, satisfying the demands of God's holiness.

## Redemption

Sin has a power that keeps people in bondage.

The atonement purchases people out of this slavery, releasing the elect from their bondage to sin.

## Reconciliation

Sin causes enmity between God and people.

The atonement brings together God and people, restoring, for the elect, access to the presence of God.

2. **Pneumatology** (Applied)

a. **Person**

b. **Work**

- 1) General (Common grace)
- 2) Particular (Special grace)
  - a) *Unio cum Christo*
    - (1) Positional (Federal)
    - (2) Experiential
  - b) *Ordo salutis* (Golden Chain)
    - (1) Predetermined (Election)
      - (a) Unconditional
        - i. Supralapsarian
        - ii. Infralapsarian
      - (b) Conditional
    - (2) Immediate
      - (a) Condition
        - i. Calling/Regeneration (Passive)
        - ii. Conversion (Active)
          - a. Repentance
          - b. Faith
      - (b) Status
        - i. Justification
        - ii. Adoption
    - (3) Subsequent
      - (a) Sanctification
        - i. Evangelical
        - ii. Sacerdotal
      - (b) Perseverance
    - (4) Ultimate (Glorification)

BcR



## Theology iv: The Church and the Kingdom of God

- A. **Ecclesiology**  
*(Subpoints will follow at later date)*
  
- B. **Eschatology**  
*(Subpoints will follow at later date)*

**BcR**

