



OPEN BIBLE SCHOOL

Soteriology Course

Further Reading & References

A curated guide to go deeper into every topic covered in this course.

The references in this document are provided to help you go further. Every topic covered in the Soteriology Course has a depth that no single session can fully contain. These resources — articles, encyclopaedia entries, academic papers, and primary sources — are here so that you can keep reading, keep asking questions, and keep growing in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 3:18 — But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

SESSION 1 — WHO IS THE SOTER? GOD'S WOVEN FABRIC

These references support the word studies, biblical canon discussions, and the introduction to soteriology covered in Session 1.

Bible Translations & the Sacred Writings

A Little Guide on How to Use Bible Translations

Bible Study with OBS — Substack

Our own guide on navigating different Bible translations, understanding textual traditions, and approaching the sacred writings with care and clarity.

<https://biblestudywithobs.substack.com/p/a-little-guide-on-how-to-use-bib>

Puzzles and Riddles? Revisiting the Basics of the Old Testament — Part 2

Bible Study with OBS — Substack

A companion piece that explores how the Old Testament is structured, what the Tanak contains, and why understanding its divisions matters for reading the New Testament well.

<https://biblestudywithobs.substack.com/p/puzzles-and-riddles-revisiting-the-b82>

Why Does Paul Quote Greek Philosophers?

Why Does Paul Quote Greek Philosophers in Acts 17:28?

BibleHub — Q&A

A helpful exploration of the rhetorical and theological reasons Paul draws on extra-biblical sources like Epimenides and Aratus when speaking to a Greek audience. Referenced in our discussion of Paul's sacred writings and their boundaries.

https://biblehub.com/q/why_quote_greek_philosophers_in_acts_17_28.htm

What Is Soteriology?

Soteriology

Britannica

A concise encyclopaedic overview of the doctrine of salvation across different world religions — useful for understanding soteriology in its broader intellectual context.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/soteriology>

Soteriology

Wikipedia

Provides a broad breakdown of Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, and Islamic perspectives on salvation, including the etymology of the word Soter and its cognates.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soteriology>

Soteriology Overview

ResearchGate

An academic paper detailing soteriology as a subset of systematic theology and its relationship to Christology. Useful for those who want a more formal theological entry point.

<https://www.researchgate.net>

SESSION 2 — WHERE DO BABIES COME FROM? ARE WE ALL SINNERS FROM BIRTH?

These references support the discussions on original sin, Pelagius, Augustine, infant baptism, and the question of what happens to babies.

Are Cain and Abel Twins?

According to Genesis 4:1, Could Cain and Abel Be Twins?

Biblical Hermeneutics — Stack Exchange

A scholarly discussion of the Hebrew text of Genesis 4:1-2 and what it may or may not indicate about the birth sequence of Cain and Abel. Engages with the original language carefully.

<https://hermeneutics.stackexchange.com/questions/38808/according-to-genesis-41f-could-cain-and-abel-be-twins>

Pelagius and His Teachings

Pelagius — Christian Theologian

Britannica

A reliable encyclopaedic overview of Pelagius, his background, his theology, and his conflict with Augustine.

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Pelagius-Christian-theologian>

Pelagius' Commentary on Romans

Christian Classics Ethereal Library (CCEL)

One of the primary sources for understanding Pelagius' own theological arguments, including his interpretation of Romans 5 and the question of inherited sin.

https://www.ccel.org/ccel/pearse/morefathers/files/pelagius_romans_01_intro.htm

The Fathers of the Church — Pelagius

New Advent Catholic Encyclopedia

Detailed theological and historical records of Pelagius' writings and the church's response to them.

<https://www.newadvent.org/fathers/1503.htm>

Augustine and Original Sin

Original Sin

Britannica

A broad overview of the doctrine of original sin, its biblical basis, and its development through Augustine and the councils.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/original-sin>

Original Sin — Historical and Theological Overview

New Advent Catholic Encyclopedia

Detailed historical records of the synods and councils that sided with Augustine against Pelagius, including the Council of Carthage (418 AD) and the Council of Orange (529 AD).

<https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/11604a.htm>

Augustine and Original Sin

The Gospel Coalition

A theological summary of Augustine's impact on the Protestant Reformers, particularly Luther and Calvin, and how his understanding of original sin shaped the Reformation.

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/augustine-original-sin/>

Infant Baptism

History of Infant Baptism

Britannica

Explains the development of the rite of infant baptism in the early church, including its relationship to the doctrine of original sin.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/baptism>

The Canons of the Council of Carthage (418 AD)

New Advent

The actual legal decrees — Canons 1 through 3 — that condemned Pelagius's view on babies and officially tied infant baptism to the doctrine of inherited guilt. A primary source document.

<https://www.newadvent.org/fathers/3816.htm>

Augustine — On the Merits and Remission of Sins

Christian Classics Ethereal Library (CCEL)

The primary document where Augustine uses the baptism of babies as evidence for Original Sin. Essential reading for understanding the Augustine-Pelagius debate in depth.

<https://www.ccel.org>

Pelagius and Infant Baptism

Journal of Theological Studies

An academic paper exploring how Pelagius struggled to justify the practice of infant baptism without admitting to the existence of original sin.

<https://academic.oup.com/jts>

Did the Early Church Baptize Infants?

Christian History Institute

A scholarly look at the evidence from the first three centuries of Christian practice, examining what the earliest sources actually say about who was baptized and when.

<https://christianhistoryinstitute.org>

The Rise of Infant Baptism

Oxford Academic

An academic analysis of the social and theological drivers behind the development and spread of infant baptism across the early church.

<https://academic.oup.com>

Core Themes of Soteriology — Further Study

What Is Justification?

Ligonier Ministries

Provides the classic Protestant and Reformed definition of justification, focusing on the doctrine of Faith Alone (Sola Fide). Useful for understanding how the Reformers read Augustine.

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/what-is-justification>

Justification — The Roman Catholic View

Catholic Answers

Explains the Roman Catholic understanding of justification as an internal transformation involving both faith and charity. Helpful for understanding the differences between Catholic and Protestant soteriology.

<https://www.catholic.com/tract/justification>

SESSION 3 — RE-READING OUR SOTER FROM MOSES

These references support the word studies on Soter and Yasha, and the soteriology discussions from the books of Exodus, Deuteronomy, and Samuel.

The Word Soter — Greek Studies

Soter (Greek)

Strong's Greek Concordance — G4990

The full lexical entry for the Greek word Soter, including its range of meanings, its usage across the New Testament, and its cultural background in the Greco-Roman world.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/4990.htm>

Soteria (Greek)

Strong's Greek Concordance — G4991

The full lexical entry for Soteria — salvation — tracing its 45 appearances across the New Testament and its semantic range from physical deliverance to spiritual rescue.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/4991.htm>

The Word Yasha — Hebrew Studies

Yasha (Hebrew)

Strong's Hebrew Concordance — H3467

The primary lexical entry for the Hebrew word yasha — to save, to deliver, to give victory. The root from which both Yeshua (Joshua) and Jesus are derived.

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/3467.htm>

The Books of Moses — Soteriology in Narrative

Puzzles and Riddles? Revisiting the Basics of the Old Testament — Part 1

Bible Study with OBS — Substack

Our guide to reading the Old Testament well, including how to approach the Pentateuch, the narrative structure of Moses' writings, and how to trace theological themes across books.

<https://biblestudywithobs.substack.com>

The Theology of the Exodus

Desiring God

An exploration of the Exodus as the defining act of salvation in the Old Testament and its significance for understanding the work of Christ.

<https://www.desiringgod.org>

Moses as a Type of Christ

Ligonier Ministries

A theological article tracing the parallels between Moses and Jesus, including their roles as mediator, lawgiver, deliverer, and prophet. Directly relevant to the Deuteronomy 18:15 discussion.

<https://www.ligonier.org>

Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 3:18



God's Word. Made simple. For everyone.

Open Bible School