A Study of Christian (systematic) Theology Books Used as Texts in A. T. S. Schools

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Abstract
In an era today of rapid growth in knowledge, the average contemporary man has forgotten the Creator, applauding only the creations of his own mind. It has been and is the task of theologians, whether pastors or professors, to keep alive the option of belief in the reality of God—to remind man to clap. In the theologian's field of knowledge, as in all arenas of thought, literary works have exploded, bombed, and even splintered in a mind-expanding wilderness of information. Access to this knowledge and its availability to theologians was the impetus for the following study.

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Christian theology is studied much the same way. It is looked at chronologically and is referred to as Biblical Theology. It is studied topically and is called Systematic Theology. A Good Explanation of Biblical Theology. In this particular text in Genesis, God says to the serpent/Satan, "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." Systematic theology would not study the progressive development of beliefs throughout the Bible as Biblical Theology does, but puts all references to a particular belief together and synthesizes the information into a dogmatic statement. Here is a simple example of how this works on the subject of salvation.

John 3:16-God loves everyone in the world. The best systematic theology text there is. This book is beyond partisan theology, and thus it is a must have for every theology student. Oden's use of primary sources, specifically early church fathers makes this book priceless. Chances are you will never be able to read the volumes of writing produced by the early church. Don't worry, you won't need to.