

Treasury of Christian Literature: The Orthodoxy of the Church

Instructor: Dave Shields

Time: Mondays 7:30–8:30 PM

Class Size: No limit

Book: *The Orthodoxy of the Church*, by Watchman Nee

Course Description:

In Revelation 1:11 the Lord told the Apostle John, “Write in a book what you see, and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.” Thus John was given a writing assignment by the Lord Jesus for the benefit of seven specific local churches that John served and knew well. The content of his writing was also prophetic concerning the state of the church in the coming years. Today those years have passed into history, giving us a vantage point from which we can see the fulfillment of these prophecies clearly. With the help of Watchman Nee’s book, we can also learn from this history to see warnings and solutions for our church life today.

Each student is expected to obtain a copy of the book before the first class. It is available from Amazon in paperback [HERE](#) and Kindle form [HERE](#). Each student should also read the first three chapters of Revelation at least once, but several times if possible.

Syllabus (week by week)

1. Introductions, goals, class requirements, homework expectations, and any questions.
2. Chapters 1 (Introduction) and 2 (Ephesus)
3. Chapter 3 (Smyrna)
4. Chapter 4 (Pergamos)
5. Chapter 5 (Thyatira)
6. Chapter 6 (Sardis)
7. Chapter 7 (Philadelphia)
8. Chapter 8 (Laodicea)
9. Chapter 9 (Conclusion)

Class Structure:

Most of the class time will be used for mutual discussion, led by the instructor, over the week’s reading assignment. Everyone should come on time with their Zoom camera turned on, prepared to speak up and volunteer something profitable. Students who do not

volunteer will be called on. No one will be left out.

Homework:

Reading: Each student is expected to read the week's assigned chapters and attend class ready to discuss the material.

Blog Post: This will be explained in the first class. Each student will post something about that week's reading assignment on the class blog located at Christian-Lit.mystrikingly.com. Posts could be about what you especially enjoyed, how something changed your understanding, or how you applied or experienced something from the book.

- Be specific. Do not post something general like, "I really liked it."
- Feel free to read other's posts and, if inspired, give an encouraging reply or a thoughtful answer to a question.
- All posts should be kept positive to maintain an atmosphere in which everyone can participate. The blog is intended to become an avenue of edifying fellowship among us between classes.