

THL 8490-020 -- AUGUSTINE AND PAUL

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July 21 – 25, 2008

This seminar will be a concise overview of Augustine's *Paulinism*: his reading and interpretation of the writings of the Apostle Paul; the theological impact of Paul upon Augustine, especially as reflected in his controversies with the Manichees, the Donatists, and the Pelagians; Augustine's encounter with Paul as a model of grace, conversion, and Christian living; Augustine's preaching on the Apostle Paul; and finally, the lasting impact, often controversial, that "Augustine's Paul" has had on Western Christianity.

Augustine's engagement with the Apostle Paul spans the entire corpus of his writings, from his very first writing to come down to us, the *Contra Academicos*, to the final work left unfinished by his death, the *Contra Iulianum opus imperfectum*. In the 5 million+ words that Augustine has left behind, the presence of Paul as both writer and model is pervasive. Rarely, however, is this Pauline presence isolated from a host of other scriptural texts, complex theological questions and controversies, pastoral concerns and the widest possible perspective that is Augustine's vision of the Christian life. Except for three specific early attempts at commentaries on Pauline Letters, *Romans* and *Galatians* to be exact, it is no exaggeration to say that Paul is virtually everywhere—and this is the challenge in studying Augustine's Paulinism. In order to appreciate the impact of Paul upon Augustine a range of his writings along with important Pauline topics will be considered. At the end of the seminar some attention will be given to the reception of Augustine's Paulinism over the centuries.

Schedule:

Monday, July 21, 2pm to 5pm

1. “Paul before Augustine”—an overview of patristic Paulinism before Augustine.
Read: M.F. Wiles, *The Divine Apostle: The Interpretation of St Paul’s Epistles in the Early Church* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1967).
2. Augustine’s initial encounters with Paul.
Read: Thomas F. Martin, o.s.a., “Chapter One. Augustine and Paul: The History of a Relationship,” in *Rhetoric and Exegesis in Augustine’s Interpretation of Romans 7:24-25A*, pp. 1-44 (Lewiston, NY: The Edwin Mellen Press, 2001).
3. Augustine’s earliest Pauline writings and the beginnings of critical engagement.
Read: *Augustine on Romans: Propositions from the Epistle to the Romans, Unfinished Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans*, Text and Translation by Paula Fredriksen Landes (Chico, CA: Scholars Press, 1982).

Tuesday, July 22, 2pm to 5pm

cont’d.

- Read:** *Augustine’s Commentary on Galatians*. Introduction, Text, and Translation, and Notes by Eric Plummer (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003).
“Letter 66,” *83 Diverse Questions* (pdf file)
4. Augustine’s Pauline breakthrough: the *Ad Simplicianum*.
Read: “To Simplician, On Various Questions” (pdf file)

Wednesday, July 23, 2pm to 5pm

cont’d.

5. Paul “against the Donatists.”
Read: Thomas F. Martin, “*Paulus autem apostolus dicit* (Cresc. 2.21.26): Augustine’s Pauline Polemic Against the Donatists. *Augustiniana (Festschrift für Dr. G. Ring zum 70 Geburtstag OSA.)* 56 (2006): 235-259.
6. Augustine’s Paulinism at the eve of the Pelagian controversy.
7. Augustine, Paul and “the Pelagians.”
Read: “*The Spirit and the Letter*” (pdf file)

Thursday, July 24, 2pm to 5pm

cont’d.

- Read:** *Letter 140*, “On the Grace of the New Testament” (pdf file)
8. Reading Paul throughout the Pelagian Controversy: Original Sin, grace, freedom, and predestination.

Friday, July 25, 2pm to 5pm

9. Augustine Preaching Paul: *Exemplum Pauli*.

Read: *Sermons* 295, 296, 297, 298, 299.

Thomas F. Martin, "Vox Pauli: -- Augustine and the Claims to Speak for Paul: An exploration of rhetoric at the service of exegesis," *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 8:2 (2000): 237-272); "Reading the Psalms of David Through Paul: Augustine's Commentary on Psalm 31." In *L'Esegesi dei Padri Latini, dalle origini a Gregorio Magno. XXVIII Incontro di studiosi dell'antichità cristiana*, Roma, 6-8 maggio 1999. *Studia Ephemeridis Augustinianum* 68, 245-252 (Rome: Institutum Patristicum Augustinianum, 2000); "*Psalmus Gratiae Dei: Augustine's 'Pauline' Reading of Psalm 31,*" *Vigiliae Christianae* LV/2 (2001): 137-155.

10. Augustine's Pauline Legacy.

Contact:

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Select Bibliography

The vast majority of the literature on Augustine and Paul is in languages other than English. The following titles, beyond those listed already in the syllabus, will be helpful.

General Resources

Augustine Through the Ages: An Encyclopedia. Edited by Allan Fitzgerald, O.S.A. et al. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1999.

Augustinus Lexicon. Edited by Cornelius Mayer. Basel, 1990-.

Bonner, Gerald. *Life and Controversies.* Reissued and Revised. Norwich, UK: The Canterbury Press, 1986.

Brown, Peter. *Augustine of Hippo: A Biography.* A new edition with an epilogue. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000.

Patrology IV: The Golden Age of Latin Patristic Literature from the Council of Nicea to the Council of Chalcedon. Edited by Angelo Di Berardino, with an introduction by Johannes Quasten. Translated by Rev. Placid Solari, O.S.B. Westminster, MD: Christian Classics, 1990.

Paul and Augustine Studies

- Augustine and the Bible*. Edited and Translated by Pamela Bright. Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 1999.
- Babcock, William S. "Augustine and Tyconius: A Study in the Latin Appropriation of Paul." *Studia Patristica* XVII,3 (1982): 1209-1215.
- _____. "Augustine's Interpretation of Romans (A.D. 394-396)." *Augustinian Studies* 10 (1979): 55-74.
- Bammel, Caroline P. "Pauline Exegesis, Manichaeism and Philosophy in the Early Augustine." In *Christian Faith and Greek Philosophy in Late Antiquity: Essays in Tribute to George Christopher Stead*. Edited by L. R. Wickham and C.P. Bammel et al. Supplements to Vigiliae Christianae XIX, 1-25. Leiden, Netherlands: E.J. Brill, 1993.
- _____. "Augustine, Origen and the Exegesis of St. Paul." *Augustinianum* XXXII/2 (1992): 341-368.
- Bonner, Gerald. *Augustine and Modern Research on Pelagianism*. The Saint Augustine Lecture 1970. Villanova, PA: Villanova University Press, 1972.
- _____. "Pelagianism and Augustine." *Augustinian Studies* 23 (1992): 33-51.
- Burns, J. Patout. "The Interpretation of Romans in the Pelagian Controversy." *Augustinian Studies* 10 (1979): 43-54.
- _____. *The Development of Augustine's Doctrine of Operative Grace*. Paris: Études Augustiniennes, 1980.
- De Bruyn, Theodore. *Pelagius' Commentary on St. Paul's Epistles to the Romans*. Oxford Early Christian Studies. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1993.
- Ferrari, Leo C. "Augustine's 'Discovery' of Paul (Confessions 7.21.27)." *Augustinian Studies* 22 (1991): 37-61.
- _____. "Saint Augustine on the Road to Damascus." *Augustinian Studies* 13 (1982): 151-170.
- Fredriksen, Paula. "Paul and Augustine: Conversion Narratives, Orthodox Traditions, and the Retrospective Self." *Journal of Theological Studies* NS37/1 (1986): 3-34.
- Gorday, Peter. *Principles of Patristic Exegesis: Romans 9-11 in Origen, John Chrysostom, and Augustine*. Studies in the Bible and Early Christianity. New York: The Edwin Mellen Press, 1983.
- Katayanagi, Eiichi. "The last Congruous Vocation." *Augustiniana* 41/1-4 (1991): II, 645-657.
- Margerie, Bertrand de, S.J. *An Introduction to the History of Exegesis, III: Saint Augustine*. Introduction by Allan Fitzgerald, O.S.A.. Foreword by Anne-Marie La Bonnardière. Translated by Pierre de Fontnouvelle. Petersham, MA: Saint Bede's Publications, 1991.
- Markus, Robert A. "Augustine's Pauline Legacies," in *Paul and the Legacies of Paul*. Edited by William S. Babcock, 221-225. Dallas: Southern Methodist University Press, 1990.
- Martin, Thomas F. "*Modus inveniendi Paulum*: Augustine, Hermeneutics, and His Reading of Romans." In *Engaging Augustine on Romans: Self, Context, and Theology in Interpretation*. Edited by Daniel Patte and Eugene TeSelle, 63-90. Harrisburg: PA: Trinity Press International, 2002. (*all the essays in the work will be of interest*)
- Meyer, Paul W. "Augustine's *The Spirit and the Letter* as a Reading of Paul's Romans." In *The Social World of the First Christians: Essays in Honor of Wayne A. Meeks*. Edited by L. Michael White and O. Larry Yarbrough, 367-381. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1995.

- Reid, Marty L. *Augustinian and Pauline Rhetoric in Romans Five: A Study of Early Christian Rhetoric*. Mellen Biblical Press Series, Volume 30. Lewiston/Queenston/Lampeter: Mellen Biblical Press, 1996.
- Souter, Alexander. *The Earliest Latin Commentaries on the Epistles of St. Paul: A Study*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1927.
- Stendahl, K. "The Apostle Paul and the Introspective Conscience of the West." *Harvard Theological Review* 56 (1963): 199-215.
- Studer, Basil. "Augustine and the Pauline Theme of Hope." In *Paul and the Legacies of Paul*. Edited by William S. Babcock, 201-221. Dallas: Southern Methodist University Press, 1990.
- _____. *The Grace of Christ and the Grace of God in Augustine of Hippo: Christocentrism or Theocentrism?* Translated by Matthew J. O'Connell. Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1997.
- Wetzel, James. *Augustine and the Limits of Virtue*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992.

26 May 2008