The book of Numbers is a historical book. It is part of the Pentateuch that bridges the 40-year gap between Exodus and Deuteronomy. The book takes its name from the two censuses in chapters 2 and 26. The first census describes the ones who died in the wilderness and the second describes the ones who entered the Promised Land. The book of Exodus reveals Israel’s departure from Egypt, setting camp at the base of Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments and the construction plans of the Tabernacle. The book of Deuteronomy relates the second giving of the law by Moses. It was written as the last testimony of Moses before he died.

Moses was not permitted to complete the final conquest of the Cis-Jordan even though his eyes were not dim and his body was not weak. Why was he replaced by Joshua? What happened to the generation that came out of Egypt? Why did Israel take 40 years to enter the Promised Land when the distance from Mount Sinai to the Promised Land required less than a few months of travel? The answers are found in the book of Numbers that deals with the ups and downs of Christian living as God’s people sojourn on earth. It deals with relationships—family relationship, church relationship, and people’s relationship with God. It deals with the problems of temptations and sins and their consequences, and repentance, forgiveness, prayer, and much more!

The book of Numbers prepares the child of God to live for His Lord in a way that pleases Him. He learns to avoid the pitfalls of sin and embrace godly convictions.

In this course, we will study the development of Christian doctrines over two millennia of Church history. Roger Olson rightly observed, “No doctrine of Christianity ever developed out of thin air. Every belief—whether considered ‘orthodox’ (theologically correct) or ‘heretical’ (theologically incorrect)—arose because of a challenge… every major Christian belief arose for pressing, practical reasons.” As such, this is a study of Historical Theology—“The branch of theology that studies the historical development of the understanding and statement of Christian doctrine in the church.”

The need for such a study cannot be overstated especially in these modern times when Christians at large do not know their roots—their history, heritage, and theology. As Olson says, “Our situation is like that of people who do not know their ancestry—where their family came from or who they were. Only the situation is more serious than that. It is more like the situation of people who wish to be good citizens of a nation but know little or nothing of its history, including its founding, its wars, its heroes, its principles and its leaders. Living as fulfilled and functioning followers of Jesus Christ is similar to being good citizens of a nation. It requires knowing the stories of the people who have sought to follow Christ and be his disciples through many different cultures and epochs of history.”

Biblical Anthropology is the study of man in the light of Scripture. This course seeks to answer the age-old questions of “Who am I?” “Where do I come from?” “Why am I here?” and “Where will I go after I die?” We shall study the origin of man and of sin, the Genesis Flood and the spread of human civilization and culture, the issues of sex and marriage, family and children, education and national service, finance and business, and many other things concerning our life and livelihood.
ONLINE COURSES

MINOR PROPHETS I
Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew
A study of the Minor Prophets will help us know more deeply how loving and merciful God is. We shall discover His prophecies and judgements, and how longsuffering He was as He dealt with the nation of Israel and the nations of this sinful world. (2 credits)

BIBLICAL COVENANTS
Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy
This course seeks to provide students with a proper understanding of the nature, function, and purpose of the divine covenants in the Bible. Understanding the biblical covenants will help us in our personal relationship and spiritual walk with God. (2 credits)

CALVIN’S INSTITUTES I
Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
John Calvin said, “True wisdom principally consists of two parts—the knowledge of God and the knowledge of ourselves.” The study of Calvin’s Institutes is the worshipful study of God and reverential application of the divine knowledge in our daily life. (2 credits)

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