

*Pastor Dolapo Lawal*



# **SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY**

## ***(Part 5)***

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# Systematic Theology 5

Pastor Dolapo Lawal

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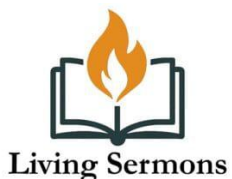
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# Foreword

In a time where voices are many and interpretations are multiplied, the Church is called back to a single anchor—**the written Word of God as revealed in Christ Jesus**. The early believers did not build doctrine on imagination, tradition, or sentiment, but on apostolic witness, prophetic continuity, and the revealed counsel of God.

This manuscript carefully lays out why the canon of Scripture stands as it does—not by human preference, but by divine alignment, historical recognition, and doctrinal coherence. It also exposes the danger of writings that, though ancient or intriguing, do not carry the consistent testimony of Christ as revealed in the Law, the Prophets, the Psalms, and the Apostolic writings.

More importantly, it calls the believer back to a disciplined way of handling Scripture—where interpretation is not driven by assumption, but by context; not by curiosity, but by truth; not by mystery, but by revelation in Christ.

May this work strengthen your confidence in the Word of God.

May it sharpen your discernment.

And may it deepen your love for Jesus Christ, who is the centre of all Scripture.

For in Him, the Scriptures find their fulfilment, and in His Word, the believer finds life, direction, and truth that endures forever.

— *Wisdom Epsi*

*Chief Editor, LivingSermons.com*

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## **Publisher's Note**

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The message you are about to read was originally ministered in a live congregational setting. As such, it carries the weight, urgency, and atmosphere of that sacred gathering. Minor grammatical and structural adjustments have been made solely to enhance readability, without altering the substance, intent, or power of the original delivery.

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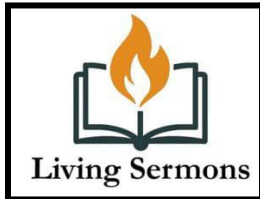
It is our prayer that as you read, the same grace, conviction, clarity, and impartation present in the live service will minister to you afresh.

— *Livingsermons.com*

*A Spirit-led Publishing Stewardship*

## ***Main Message***

*Begins Here:*



## THE STRUCTURE OF SCRIPTURE

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So I check further: Is there supporting idea in poetry—the Psalms?

Was it prophesied? Maybe a messianic Psalm?

Then prophets.

When you read Luke 24, you see the full structure. Old Testament canon: 39 books, recognised by the Jewish community and affirmed by Jesus and the apostles.

**Luke 24:44 (KJV)**

“And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.”

New Testament canon: 27 books—written by apostles or their close associates, recognised by the early church, consistent with apostolic doctrine.

## WHAT IS CANON?

Canon means a rule, or a measuring stick. It refers to the set of books recognised as divinely inspired and authoritative.

## UNDERSTANDING “FAITH” IN SCRIPTURE

Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to exhort you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once delivered unto us.

That “faith” is not just emotional belief—it is doctrine, a body of knowledge. So when Jude says contend for the faith, he is speaking about a body of revealed truth. Certain men crept in unnoticed. How did they attack the faith? Through teaching. So faith can be attacked through doctrine.

## FAITH AS SCRIPTURE

### **Romans 10:8 (KJV)**

“But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach.”

Faith is also scripture.

### **Romans 1:16–17 (KJV)**

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ... For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith...”

“From faith to faith” is not levels of faith. It is from faith in the promise—what was prophesied in Genesis to Malachi—to faith in the fulfilment of that promise in Christ. So faith is not emotional progression. Faith is revelation progression.

## **THE PROPHETS SEARCHED SCRIPTURE**

### **1 Peter 1:10–11 (KJV)**

“Of which salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently...”

They searched. They studied. They looked into the Scriptures. So when we read the Bible, we are not reading disconnected stories. We are reading one unified story—the unfolding of God’s promise.

## **CHRIST-CENTRED SCRIPTURE**

The Bible is Christocentric. Bible study is not moral lessons. Bible study is Jesus revealed through Scripture. When you read Joseph, it is not just betrayal—it is Christ typified. When you read Job, it is not just suffering—it is redemption revealed. Even Samson, even David, even the prophets—they all point to Christ.

## **THE MYSTERY OF THE INCARNATION**

The death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus was to fulfil God’s promise. That promise is: *Christ in you, the hope of glory*. Jesus became the means to an end. He said it was expedient that He goes, because the Holy Spirit would come. God in man was limited to one physical location—but in resurrection, He becomes Spirit available to all.

## **BORN OF THE WORD**

### **1 Peter 1:23 (KJV)**

“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God...”

We are born of the Word. Just as Jesus was conceived by the Word and Spirit, we also participate in that divine life. So Christianity is not religion—it is life from the Word.

## HOW TO READ THE BIBLE

When you understand Scripture as Christ revealed, your Bible study changes. You are not reading for moral improvement. You are reading to see Christ. The Holy Spirit does not primarily reveal problems—He reveals Christ. Revelation is showing Christ. Once your heart is set on seeing Jesus in Scripture, you begin to see Him everywhere.

- Joseph reveals Christ.
- Job reveals Christ.
- Isaiah reveals Christ.

Everything in Scripture points to Him.

## SEEING BEYOND THE FLESH

### **2 Corinthians 5:16 (KJV)**

“Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh...”

We do not interpret Scripture after the flesh. We do not interpret events after the flesh. Even Christ’s death was not random—it was God’s predetermined counsel.

### **Isaiah 53 (KJV excerpt theme)**

“He is despised and rejected of men...”

Who killed Jesus—man, God, or devil?

They all participated within God’s predetermined plan. This is what it means to not see after the flesh. When you read Scripture rightly, you are not reading different stories. You are reading one story: The unfolding of God’s promise fulfilled in Christ. From Genesis to Revelation, it is all Christ revealed. Let your Bible study become Christ-focused. Let your doctrine be Scripture-aligned. Let your revelation be Christ-centred. Because everything in Scripture is pointing to one person:

**Jesus Christ, the fulfilment of God’s promise.**

They are knowing Him after the flesh. He has to be known in His resurrection. That is where Christianity comes from. That salvation is called *sōzō*.

What God did in His Christ.

And then I start to read. So with Scriptures, I am not looking for the answer. I have the answer. I am looking for the questions.

Do you get that?

And it makes sense because Alpha is Omega.

Are you understanding this?

Alpha is Omega.

So I am not going there asking, “Where is the answer?” No. I already have the answer. I am searching for the questions that brought this answer.

That is revelation.

I hope you know that I just taught you in 15 minutes how to teach the Bible. You are made for life.

## **SEEING CHRIST IN GENESIS**

So I go through the book of Genesis. I go to Genesis 1 and I start to ask:

Where is it? Is there?

I am looking at the story of creation and what am I seeing?

The story of the new creation. If He calls Himself Light and God said, *Let there be light*—where is darkness?

My life.

Where did His light come into my life?

So I am not light in myself. I am dark, but His light is shining in my heart. And because His light is shining, you can say, “This room is lightened.”

So my light is not self-sufficient. My light is that His light is shining in me. I am now explaining the Scriptures.

## **SEEING CHRIST IN EVERYTHING (TYPOLOGY)**

Let me give an example of how intentional God is. May I look for Christ?

Now Solomon’s sons—and you can also do David’s sons. I have done both. I have done the names of the twelve spies that went to check the promised land. Do you know that if you put all their names together, they were preaching the gospel?

God was using people. If somebody says this Bible is incorrect, I do not know why angels do not slap them. God put too much effort and intelligence into it. I have an entire teaching on Jesus in Genesis 1:1. It is a 2-hour sermon: *Jesus in Genesis 1:1*.

If I start, you will be bored because it is Scripture upon Scripture upon Scripture. It is too precise. It is one thing to preach it; it is another thing to find it. You do not want to imagine how I was in my study. Because if it takes 2 hours to preach it, it did not take 2 hours to find it. But the zeal of the Lord... it is like God is showing you His wisdom—“Come and see what I did.”

Tonight you are receiving an impartation: the love for the Word of God.

## **THE MESSAGE IN NAMES (GOD'S DETAIL IN SCRIPTURE)**

Look at the names of the sons of Solomon:

- Reho—means he enlarges the people. Aba—means my father is Lord.
- Jehoshaphat means Yahweh has judged.
- Joram means Jehovah is exalted.
- Joash means fire of God.
- Amaziah means the strength of the Lord, or Yahweh is mighty.
- Azariah means Yahweh has helped.
- Jotham means Jehovah is perfect.
- Ahaz means Jehovah has held.
- Hezekiah means God is my strength.
- Manasseh means causing to forget.
- Amon means faithful or roaming streams.

Now this is in chronological order. The man was naming his children by impression.

When you put all their names together, this is what it means:

He has enlarged the people. My Father who is the Lord and the healer, the physician. Yahweh has judged and exalted. The fire of God. The strength of God has helped. Jehovah is perfect. Jehovah has held. God is my strength. Causing to forget. Roaming streams. He is faithful.

That is the name of his children. That is how particular God is about revealing His Christ. And you now want to read the same Bible and reduce it to moral lessons?

It is an insult to the intelligence and wisdom of God. We must stay and find His Christ—because that is what He wants to show.

His Christ.

## **CHRIST IN TYPES AND SHADOWS**

Let's look at examples. We are doing types and shadows, then fulfillment in Christ. Adam is the first Adam. Adam means mankind. In 1 Corinthians 15:45, the first Adam was a living soul, and the last Adam a life-giving spirit.

So Adam typifies Christ. When Eve was deceived, Adam chose to remain with his wife in rebellion. In other words, two became one in rebellion. Christ also, for His bride—the Church—became sin so that we might partake in His righteousness in resurrection.

So what you see in Genesis 3 is not just the fall—it is also the pattern of redemption. The seed of the woman shall bruise the head of the serpent. Immediately, Christ is revealed.

So every time I see “seed” in Scripture, I know there is something there pointing to Christ. I can build doctrine around “seed” from Genesis to Malachi and trace Christ through it.

## **NOAH'S ARK – SALVATION IN CHRIST**

Noah's ark is salvation from judgment. Christ is the Ark of safety.

Genesis 7:16 says:

“And the LORD shut him in.”

The ark is safety in the midst of destruction. There is flood everywhere, but inside the ark there is preservation. And those who entered did not enter by merit. Noah was called a preacher of righteousness. In 1 Peter 3:20–21, eight souls were saved through water—this is a type of baptism.

Even the shutting of the ark is symbolic. It is the sealing of salvation. The ark typifies Christ. When you come into Him through genuine repentance, He shuts the door. That is assurance of salvation.

## **CHRIST IN SCRIPTURE PATTERNS**

Passover lamb—Christ. Manna—Jesus said, *“I am the bread which came down from heaven.”*

Temple—His body.

When He said, “Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it,” He was speaking of His body. Solomon’s temple was never the ultimate dwelling of God. God does not dwell in temples made with hands.

## **READING JOSEPH, JONAH, AND NEHEMIAH**

Joseph is rejected by his brethren—Christ is rejected by His own.

Joseph is exalted in Egypt—Christ is exalted among the Gentiles.

Jonah was in the fish three days—Christ in the tomb three days.

Jonah preached resurrection, and even Nineveh repented.

Nehemiah is not just about rebuilding walls—it is about restoration of God’s people from all nations. Everything is pointing to Christ.

## **SEEING SCRIPTURE CORRECTLY**

We do not read the Bible for moral lessons. We read it to see Christ. Revelation is showing Christ. Once that becomes your focus, you begin to see Him everywhere. They had hope, but it was not a living hope because it was not aligned with God’s revelation.

Even the disciples misunderstood Jesus. They expected political deliverance, but God was revealing eternal salvation. So we must move from expectation shaped by men to revelation shaped by Scripture. The Bible is not a collection of stories.

It is one unified revelation of Jesus Christ. From Genesis to Revelation—it is all Christ. And when you see Him, you see the answer. Listen, I am telling you, this is the reality of about 90% of Christians. A lot of people are still disappointed in Jesus because it is not what they were told.

They are still disappointed.

They have leanness in their hearts. They cannot say it openly, but in their heart of hearts, there is something unresolved.

## **JESUS RESPONDS TO JOHN**

You see, Jesus told John—because he had that question:

“If the Christ is supposed to set us free from bondage, why am I in prison? Go and ask Him: Are You the Christ, or should we expect another?”

Jesus answered him like this:

He said, *Tell John...*

The blind see. The lame walk. The gospel is preached. The poor are helped. In other words, because I am not doing it for you does not mean it is not working.

People have entitlement to miracles. But what God does is to surround them with the miraculous. Your neighbours will be getting it while you are trying to force it. He answered with testimonies.

“I am not doing it for you... but it is happening.”

And with that entitlement, until somebody went and danced. If you cannot praise, someone who can praise will take your place. That expectation was wrong.

## **FALSE EXPECTATION OF THE MESSIAH**

That is why people come to church with expectations that are not aligned. Some say, “We are preparing for... comets...” or strange expectations.

No.

He is not like that. He has to promise you. There is a system to it.

“If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will...”

(John 15:7, KJV)

In other words, what you are asking is an overflow of the Word abiding in you. You do not ask what you did not hear.

## **MISSING CHRIST EVEN WHEN HE IS PRESENT**

If you think Jesus is only about material things, Solomon would have been our saviour. God is specific. The Messiah—the Almighty God—the Lamb of God—was born in a manger, and people still missed it. If you are looking for a lamb, where should a lamb be?

Yet they missed Him. Bethlehem means *house of bread*.

And He said, “*I am the bread which came down from heaven.*”

They still missed it. It is impossible to miss, yet they missed it.

## **THE VEIL OF UNDERSTANDING**

Revelation is not intelligence. It is not smartness.

The Bible says when you turn to Christ, the veil is taken away. You are not searching for hidden gems. You are feeding on the Bread of Life.

“I want to see Jesus.”

If I do not pray or study, I feel restless. It is a gift God gave me. I become unsettled inside until I return to the Word. Some people may notice when I am outside preaching—I can be “um... um...”—my thoughts are not as structured.

It is because revelation is not natural intelligence. It is dependency on Him.

## **THE WAY OF SEEING CHRIST**

The people who receive revelation are not the smartest. They are those who say:

“I don’t know You, but I want to see You.”

And how do I see Him?

Through Christ in the Scriptures.

## **THE EMMAUS EXPERIENCE**

On their way to Emmaus, they said: “We thought He was the One... but He died.”

That is the disappointment of misplaced expectation. Even the disciples had seen miracles, signs, wonders—but still misunderstood Him. They thought deliverance meant political freedom. But God was revealing something deeper.

## **MISUNDERSTOOD JESUS**

They were so confident.

“We are with Jesus... we are covered.”

But they did not understand Him. Even Judas miscalculated. He did not believe Jesus could die. He thought he could return later and apologise. But the moment came, and misunderstanding collapsed.

## **THE CROSS AND THE SCATTERING**

When Jesus was arrested, they reacted with force. Peter cut the ear of the servant.

Jesus said, “Calm down.”

They still did not understand. Even at the cross, they thought it was a continuation of teaching in parables. When He said, “*It is finished,*” they scattered. Because they did not expect freedom through death.

But what Jesus promised is fulfilled in you—the Spirit within.

Peter said:

“Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee...” (Acts 3:6, KJV)

That means Christ has become what we carry.

Paul said:

Poor, yet making others rich. Having nothing, yet possessing all. Who speaks like that?

## **LIFE IN DEATH WORKING**

“So then death worketh in us, but life in you.” (2 Corinthians 4:12, KJV)

There is a life that flows through surrender. If I step out of something and life is produced in others, that is the point. This is endurance.

Many Christians plan their lives and expect God to fund it. That is not Christianity. If you understand this, you will not backslide easily. Because God never disappoints. Even when outcomes differ, He is still faithful.

## **THE COST OF FAITH**

Peter died upside down on a cross. Why did God not deliver him?

Because sometimes the expression of power is not escape—it is endurance. He is worth dying for. Faith is not always about receiving results—it is about remaining faithful in spite of outcomes.

Faith is not only “getting it.”

Faith is remaining when it is not seen. Even if healing does not manifest immediately, you remain in Him. That is faith.

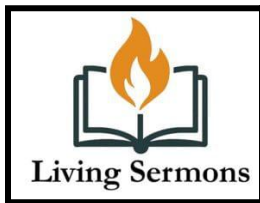
God trains His people. Even when things feel uncomfortable, it is training. Not punishment. Not shame.

Training.

If He can trust you with many, He will first train you with few.

I went to a place once—Bariga Market—to preach. I had never been to a market like that before. It was muddy. I stood there unsure where to begin. But God said, “Wait until someone hears you.”

After a long time, one person responded. That was the beginning.



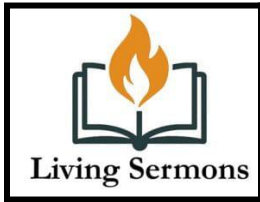
## About the Speaker

**Pastor Dolapo Lawal** is a teacher of God's Word with a clear, practical, and uncompromising voice. His ministry is marked by biblical accuracy, spiritual depth, and direct application to everyday life.

He is committed to raising believers who are grounded in Scripture, mature in character, and intentional about growth. His teaching addresses real issues—faith, relationships, purpose, leadership, and personal responsibility—without exaggeration or sentimentality.

Pastor Dolapo Lawal is known for clarity, accountability, and balance. He challenges listeners to look inward before looking outward, to embrace process over shortcuts, and to pursue transformation rather than appearance.

His desire is simple: that believers grow into stability, wisdom, and Christlike maturity through the uncompromised teaching of God's Word.



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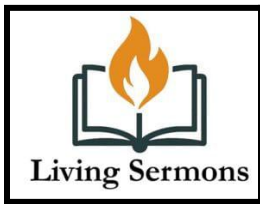
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Our mission is simple: to preserve the wisdom, revelation, and anointing carried in the preached Word and make it accessible in formats that can be studied, shared, and revisited for generations. By turning sermons into high-quality Christian books and eBooks, we extend the life and influence of each message far beyond the pulpit.

At Living Sermons, we believe that the preached Word is living and powerful (Hebrews 4:12). Every sermon carries truth that can instruct, comfort, rebuke, inspire, and transform. Our role is to faithfully capture these words, polish them for clarity and readability, and present them in a way that maintains the preacher’s unique voice and anointing.

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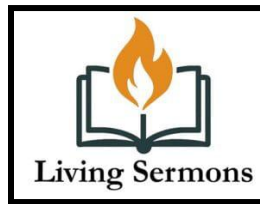
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