

Study Guide
Introduction to Theology
First Exam

1. What is the etymology of the word “theology”?
2. According to Migliore, how does faith differ from fideism? Why does he think that faith should seek understanding? Do you agree, why or why not?
3. A friend who finds out you’re taking this class might raise any or all of the following objections about studying theology:
 - Faith is sufficient for salvation
 - Theology can confuse faith
 - Theology can be so abstract that it is unrelated to faith
 - Faith should start with living a Christian life (“praxis” or practice of faith), not intellectualizing about itHow might we respond to these objections?
4. How does Migliore define the following types of theology: Biblical theology; Historical theology; Philosophical theology; Practical theology; Systematic theology?
5. How does Migliore define the following theological methods: Christocentric Theology; Correlation Method; Praxis Method?
6. What is the root meaning of “revelation”? What does Migliore mean when he says revelation is not simply knowledge *that*, or knowledge *about*, but knowledge *of* God?
7. Explain what Migliore means when he says that revelation is not information but an experience of a new paradigm by which we know.
8. What are the five characteristics of revelation according to Migliore?
9. What is the difference between special and general revelation? What benefits are there to general revelation? How do Calvin and Aquinas compare in their views of general and special revelation?
10. What are the four models of special revelation given by Migliore? Which does he prefer? Why? Which do you prefer and why? Be able to discuss in some detail the model Migliore prefers.
11. How does scripture and the church relate to revelation?
12. What is meant by the “Enlightenment ideal of autonomy”? What is its significance for discussing the authority of scripture? For Migliore, what is true authority?

13. Be able to explain the strengths and weaknesses of the biblicist view, the historicist view, the literary view, and the devotional view of scripture. Do you agree or disagree with Migliore's assessments of these models?

14. What principles of interpretation does Migliore suggest? Be able to explain them. How does Grünwald's painting illustrate Migliore's view of scripture's authority?

