



# About Faith Theological Seminary

## Welcome from the President

It is my honor and privilege to write about Faith Theological Seminary, its stand for the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ, and the position and importance of FTS in twenty-first century theological education. Every person is a “believer” and everybody believes in “something.” People are divided in their beliefs as much as they are divided by national boundaries, color, politics, culture, language,



ideologies, ethnicity, caste, and tribe. Religions compete with one another, encouraging people to believe in their particular faith, and employ different methods to win souls to their ideologies. Questions such as, “Who am I?”, “What am I doing here?”, and “Where am I going?” are being answered differently, resulting in chaos and in confusion. In the midst of this chaos and darkness, the voice of Jesus Christ thunders with authority: *“I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh to the Father, but by me.”*

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in His Great Commission said to His disciples, *“All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world”* (Matthew 28:19- 20). In order to preach and teach, testify and proclaim Jesus Christ, the Christian must be taught and trained in the Holy Scriptures. Theological seminary education is about communicating God’s Word in order to make disciples who shall be able to teach others also. Faith Theological Seminary has been fulfilling this command of our Lord since 1937. It stands “for the faith, by faith” and in its commitment to the Bible as the only infallible rule of faith and practice, it not only emphasizes the faith which is the inerrant, infallible Holy Scripture with all its content, but also the rule of practice.

Jesus clearly told His disciples about the Holy Ghost and His role as teacher and illuminator of the Word of God, before He ascended to Heaven. He said, *“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you”* (John 14:26). The disciples of Jesus obeyed His command by preaching the Gospel, baptizing believers, and teaching them to observe all things whatsoever He had commanded. But today’s so-called disciples of Jesus Christ and theological teachers are not teaching what Jesus commanded. There are conflicts in doctrine among theologians.

# About Faith Theological Seminary

What has gone wrong? Why do these discrepancies exist? Christians, instead of relying upon the Holy Spirit for illumination and interpretation of God's Word, use their own reasoning, feelings, and speculations, and introduce erroneous doctrines and creeds. These creeds and doctrines gain importance and insidiously replace the Word of God. Countless denominations arise with different theological persuasions, passionately preaching and promoting their own "biblical truth," while opposing other positions, calling them "satanic." Sadly, this is often the story of Christian denominations, both in America and in the world today. These denominations provide their own theological seminaries where they tend to spoon-feed their theological views to their students and these graduates eventually fill their church pulpits.

There are various theological divisions in evangelical Christianity today in America and the gaps are growing wider. Countless books have been written to defend one position, while attacking the opposite position. Faith Theological Seminary is not under any denominational or man-made theological pressure. Our seminary stands to uphold the Master's command. FTS teaches the inerrant, infallible Word of God plainly, systematically, and effectively from Genesis to Revelation. We teach the history and content of all the major theological perspectives, so that the student is apprised of the different theological denominational environments. These views are weighed for truth, using the Bible as the scale. Students are challenged to search the Scriptures inductively, relying upon the illuminating power of the Holy Spirit. God's Word, the Bible, is the ONLY authority in matters of faith and practice. We believe that the Bible alone is our guideline in everything we teach and do at Faith Theological Seminary, as the Apostle Paul writes to Timothy, *"the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."* And this is our position in theological education.

The late Rev. Dr. Francis A. Schaffer, one of Faith's noted graduates put it this way, and we quote, "Faith Seminary is a grand school, one the Lord has raised up to fill a specific need, and which by His grace is filling it. Many of us have had our confidence in one college and seminary after another swept away, but thank God we can say to the young men and women who follow us without hesitation, 'Go to Faith'."

I invite you to Faith Theological Seminary to study God's Word. We would be honored to help equip you for a Christian life and service to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. God bless you!

Norman J. Manohar, Th.D., D.D.  
President

## A Brief History

Faith Theological Seminary traces its origin to Princeton Theological Seminary and the days of the Modernist-Fundamentalist controversy that centered in that institution. Since this stronghold of the historic Christian faith was under the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., it was vulnerable to the changing ecclesiastical majorities in General Assemblies. The Presbyterian Church as a whole stood firm as a beacon of orthodoxy in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The conflict ensued between those who began to accept the historical-critical systems of interpretation and those who did not. By political manipulation, the board of control was altered and the whole direction of the seminary and denomination was changed. The conservative majority of the faculty thus suffered defeat, and many of them left.



The spirit of Princeton survived, however, in 1929 under the leadership of J. Gresham Machen who helped organize a faculty consisting of Oswald T. Allis, Robert Dick Wilson, Allan A. MacRae, John Murray, Paul Woolley, Cornelius Van Til, Rienk Bouke Kuiper, and Ned Stonehouse. They found quarters for a new seminary (Westminster Theological Seminary) in two townhouses in Philadelphia, housing students in the Drake Hotel.

*FTS at Wilmington, Delaware - 1941 to 1952*

In 1936 the disruption in the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., over the organization of The Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions brought about a new Presbyterian Church of America. Dr. Machen became the primary leader in a battle for the historic Christian faith. Upon the death of Dr. J. Gresham Machen, on January 1, 1937, the great cause for which he stood fell into some disarray.

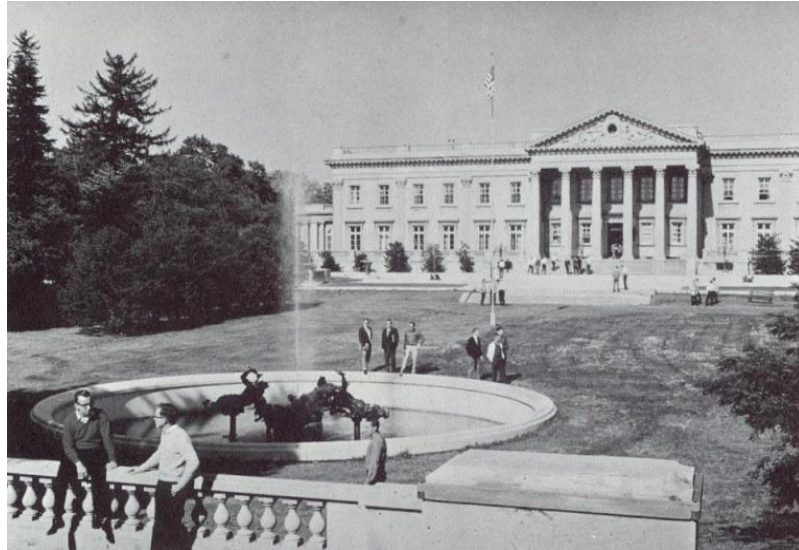
In the summer of 1937, Rev. Dr. Carl McIntire (President of the Board of Directors), Rev. Allan A. MacRae (President of the Seminary and Professor of Old Testament), Th.B., Ph.D., James E. Bennet, Esquire (Vice President), Rev. Harold S. Laird (Secretary), Roland K. Armes (Treasurer), Rev. Roy Talmage Brumbaugh, D.D., Rev. David Otis Fuller, D.D., William A. Chamberlin, P.D., Peter Stam, Jr., Rev. James R. Graham, Jr., Rev. A.L. Lathem, Ph.D., D.D., Rev. William R. McCarrell, D.D., Professor J.A. Barkley, Frederic M. Paist, Ernest R. Robinson, Rev. Percy B. Crawford, Rev. Milo F. Jamison, Rev. Merrill T. MacPherson, Rev. Martin Luther Thomas, D.D., LL.D., James L. Rankin, Esquire and Weidner Titzck, Esquire founded and incorporated Faith Theological Seminary to be an institution honoring the Lord through its witness to the faith once delivered to the saints, affirming the infallible Old and New Testaments as the only rule of faith and practice. Dr. Allan A. MacRae served as the Chairman of the Faculty until 1971. Dr. Carl McIntire served as the President of the Board of Directors from its inception until 2002,

# About Faith Theological Seminary

and also served as the President of the Seminary from 1971 to 2002. Dr. Norman Manohar became the President in 2002 and is currently serving in that capacity.

The Seminary initially conducted its classes at the Sunday School Building of Faith Bible Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, Delaware from 1937 to 1941. The Seminary gradually

grew in size, resources, and constituency and through the generous gift of a friend, occupied a nearby mansion, Huston Hall, where it enjoyed the blessing of God to a marked degree. Once again the Seminary outgrew its quarters in Wilmington; in 1952 it purchased the Widener Estate property in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania, in a lovely residential section less than a mile north of the city limits of Philadelphia. This was the home of the Seminary from 1952 to 1997.



*FTS at Elkins Park, Pennsylvania - 1952 to 1997*

From 1997 through 2001, FTS operated from 1001 W. 70th Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. From 2001 to 2004, FTS operated from 300 W. Cheltenham Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 2002, Dr. McIntire died, Dr. John Harden Norris was elected President of the Board of Directors, and Dr. Norman Manohar was named as President of the Seminary. In September of 2008, Dr. John Harden Norris died, having been elected as President Emeritus of the Board of Directors in July of 2008. Jack C. Briscoe, Esquire was elected as Chairman of the Board of Directors in July of 2008 serving until August of 2013 when Dr. Chong To Kim was elected as the Chairman of the Board of Directors.

In the fall of 2004, the Seminary moved to Baltimore, Maryland having received a Certificate of Authority from the Maryland Higher Education Commission, (MHEC) as a religious degree granting institution. On March 5, 2013, FTS filed a Stage One application with the MHEC seeking initial approval as an in-state degree granting institution. On September 8, 2014, FTS received a letter from the MHEC giving FTS approval to submit a Stage Two Application which has been filed. FTS was awarded Accredited Status as a Category IV level institution (approved to offer degrees through the doctorate level) by the TRACS Accreditation Commission on April 21, 2015. The status is effective for a period of five years or until April 2020.

## Mission Statement

The mission of Faith Theological Seminary is to prepare men and women for the dissemination of the Gospel of Jesus Christ locally and globally. By teaching the inspired, inerrant, infallible Word of God efficiently and training in practical ministry, the Seminary seeks to produce graduates, who do the work of missionaries, pastors, and theological teachers through preaching, teaching, and applying the Word of God by the power of the Holy Spirit.

## Purpose Statement

The purpose of Faith Theological Seminary is to establish and maintain a theological seminary of high educational efficiency and absolute loyalty to the Christian religion as taught in the Old and New Testaments, and for religious, educational, and charitable purposes. Faith Theological Seminary is to train thoroughly furnished and consecrated leadership for the church of Jesus Christ. In every phase of its work, the highest possible standards of scholarship are to be maintained. Its graduates are to be well-fitted to defend the truthfulness of the Scriptures against all forms of unbelief and to interpret it in the light of careful and accurate study of its words in the original languages.

## General Objectives

- To train consecrated Christian leaders for the Church of Jesus Christ.
- To maintain a theological seminary of high educational efficiency.
- To encourage loyalty to the Christian faith as taught in the Old and New Testaments.
- To hold every phase of its work to the highest possible standards of scholarship.
- To defend the full truthfulness of the Scripture against all forms of unbelief, including philosophical naturalism and determinism, postmodernist relativism, historical-critical hermeneutics, and all such that undermine confidence in the Bible as the revelation of God and his purposes.

The graduates of Faith Theological Seminary will demonstrate:

- Biblical and theological knowledge, recognizing the inerrant Word of God as the ultimate authority for life and godliness.
- The ability to interpret scripture adequately and faithfully, and to develop critical thinking skills and problem solving abilities.
- The ability to effectively communicate the whole gospel to a culturally diverse society.
- The ability to exhibit academic excellence in their field of study.
- Adequate preparation for Christian ministry in education, the pastorate, missions, worship leadership, and all forms of public service and God-honoring vocations.



## Doctrinal Statement

As stated in the founding *Charter*, “The system of doctrine contained in the Scriptures, and expounded in the historic *Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms*, shall form the basis of the instruction. True piety is to be nurtured, and an attitude of devotion and constant prayerfulness inculcated.”

**Believing the system of doctrine contained in the Scriptures, we maintain the following Doctrinal Statement:**

- We believe in the divine inspiration and authority of the Scriptures. By this is meant a miraculous guidance of the Holy Spirit in their original writing, extending to all parts of the Scriptures equally, applying even to the choice of words, so the result is the very Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice. Moreover, it is our conviction that God has exercised such singular care and providence through the ages in preserving the written Word, that the Scriptures as we now have them are essentially as originally given and contain all things necessary for salvation.
- We believe in one God, revealed as existing in three persons – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. These three are One God, the same in substance and equal in power and glory. We believe in the Holy Spirit as a divine Person, a personality distinct from the Father and the Son.
- We believe that God created out of nothing, by the power of his word, the existing space-time universe in six (twenty-four hour) days.
- We believe that, as through Adam and Eve’s temptation and deception by the created, angelic being named Satan, sin entered into the world, and death through sin, so death passed upon all men, for that all sinned.
- We believe in the death of Jesus Christ as a true substitute, and that His death was a sufficient expiation for the guilt of all men. We believe that those who receive Christ by faith have been given new life from God. We believe that men are justified by faith alone and are accounted righteous before God only for the merit of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
- We believe in the visible, personal return of our Lord Jesus Christ for His Church, and then with His redeemed to establish a worldwide Kingdom of righteousness and peace in the new creation. We believe in the everlasting conscious blessedness of the saved and the conscious punishment of the lost.
- We believe it to be the supreme responsibility of the disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ to make His Gospel known to all men.

## On Male and Female Distinctives

Faith Theological Seminary affirms and agrees with [The Danvers Statement](#) by The Council on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood.

## Educational Philosophy

*And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere [pure] and blameless until the day of Christ; having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.*  
Phil 1:9-11

*In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.* John 1:4

The tenets of our mission include a commitment to the ideals that govern our objectives. Our philosophy of education guides us towards the goal of preparing men and women towards the whole church proclaiming and demonstrating the whole Bible as revelation of the whole gospel of redemption for the whole person for the whole world. This is guided by our firm conviction that Christ calls us to live in this world as salt and light, as ambassadors of his righteousness, truth, and justice. We believe that Christ is King of all kings and Lord of all lords, and is presently reigning over his world and his church. In this regard, it is imperative that we attempt to redress our failures to practice in this world what he calls us to proclaim and demonstrate of his gospel of redemption.

We believe that the best context for such an education is one that is charitable and irenic in both classroom pedagogy and personal relationships. This necessitates academic freedom (see below) that includes free class-room discussion and debate wherein the Bible is acknowledged as the ultimate authority, and not any individual teacher or student. One of the unique aspects of FTS is its contemporary, evangelical, conservative ethos expressed in the context of a denominationally mixed faculty, staff, and student body. This creates a sometimes exciting atmosphere to adjust to, but we encourage this for the growth of all. Many students enter seminary studies without ever having had an opportunity to engage in open discussion about our various theological traditions and viewpoints done in the context of our acknowledged oneness in Christ.

Francis Schaeffer (class of FTS, 1938) wrote that there are four primary, corresponding ideals for the local church. We believe these are applicable to Christian higher education:

- Two Contents: sound doctrine and honest answers for honest questions.
- Two Realities: true spiritual reality and beautiful human relations.

The institution must consciously develop its courses, curricula, and other education/research programs from a framework and perspective consistent with biblical and Christian purpose. A viable philosophy of Christian education must guide the teacher to teach in harmony with the Word of God, the Bible. Such a philosophy results in an integration of biblical principles throughout the institution's curriculum course-by-course.

An institution is not fully Christian if it simply provides a program of instruction housed in a Christian environment. Courses and curricula must be designed and carried out

# About Faith Theological Seminary

within a framework of respect for biblical principles and practice. Indeed, this respect must result in an education process which is clearly Christian in philosophy and practice.

FTS has a four-fold emphasis in the curriculum: biblical hermeneutics, biblical history, biblical theology, and biblical exegesis. A thorough knowledge of the Bible is requisite for Christian education in preparation for Christian ministry.

A thorough knowledge of opposing viewpoints (within the secular, as well as within the Christian community) is requisite for Christian education in preparation for evangelism, apologetics, and practical ministry in our contemporary context. That is, knowledge of how the truth of scripture applies to all areas of human life is necessary for life-work and ministry callings.

For these reasons, we believe it is necessary to emphasize skills in biblical languages, exegesis, theology, church history, and modern religious/social issues. Therefore, we encourage our faculty, while modeling a zealous love for Christ and his Word, to present a balanced approach in which students are guided to study critically all opposing viewpoints, while we “take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ” (2 Cor. 10:5) through rigorous study of the scriptures.

## Academic Freedom

FTS is committed to the freedom of conscience of all faculty and staff in matters regarding scholarly debates, disputed points of interpretation, and Christian lifestyle, in so far as the FTS Doctrinal Statement and Standards of Conduct & Student Policies are in no way compromised. FTS encourages academic discussion in order to demonstrate our reliance on scripture and not human opinion.





## State Authorizations

Faith Theological Seminary is a Delaware non-profit corporation under Internal Revenue Service code of 1986, as amended, section 501(c)(3) and section 170 of the code. FTS has been operating as a foreign corporation in the state of Maryland since June 24, 2004.

Faith Theological Seminary is authorized by the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) as a non-profit, religious, degree-granting institution as set forth in sub-section 11-202.1 of the Education Article. On March 5, 2013, FTS filed an application with the MHEC seeking initial approval as an in-state degree granting institution, Stage One. On September 5, 2014, FTS received approval from MHEC to proceed to Stage Two of the Application Process.

## Accreditation

Faith Theological Seminary is a member of the Transnational Association of Christian College and Schools (TRACS) [15935 Forest Rd., Forest, VA 24551; Telephone: (434) 525-9539; e-mail: [info@tracs.org](mailto:info@tracs.org)] having been awarded Accreditation as a Category IV institution by the TRACS Accreditation Commission in April 2015. This status is effective for a period of five years.

On April 19, 2016, the TRACS Accreditation Commission placed Faith Theological Seminary on Probation for one year during which time the institution must come into compliance with all TRACS Standards identified in the Commission action.

TRACS ([www.TRACS.org](http://www.TRACS.org)) is one of only two national accrediting organizations that are recognized by CHEA ([www.CHEA.org](http://www.CHEA.org)) and the USDE ([www.ED.gov](http://www.ED.gov)) and in addition hold full membership with INQAAHE ([www.INQAAHE.org](http://www.INQAAHE.org)).



