

EDITORIAL

This *Journal* of the Evangelical Theological Society comes to you as part I of volume XII. The previous volumes consisting of four issues annually have been published under the title *Bulletin*. At the twentieth annual meeting of the society held in December of 1968 the executive committee decided to make this change to enlarge our publication opportunities. Each volume will be issued in four parts with a minimum of sixty-four pages in each.

During the early years of our society some of the papers presented at the annual meetings were made available in mimeographed form. The first volume of the *Bulletin* was published in 1958. Stephen Barabas and John Luchies each served two years as editor. Since 1962 your present editor has served in this capacity assisted by the editorial committee. Beginning with the 1965 volume, book reviews have been published under the editorship of Kenneth S. Kantzer.

The Bible—The Living Word of Revelation is the most recent publication added to our monograph series. Edited by M. C. Tenney this symposium offers a series of essays by ten authors on the source of authority in the Christian faith. Says the editor in his preface:

The essays incorporated in this symposium are an attempt to present in positive and relevant fashion the reflections of ten evangelical scholars on the subject of the revealed Word of God. In an age of relativism and skepticism they declare their confidence in the divine origin and authority of Holy Scriptures as the Word of God to men, revealed to and through His prophets and apostles. Certainty without presumptuousness, clarity without naivete, and scholarship without pedantry have been their aim. Many other works more extensive than this volume have been written on the subject of the authenticity and inspiration of the Bible, but this book is intended to speak in modern terms while presenting historic truth.

This symposium is very timely in this generation. Repeatedly in current literature pertaining to the Bible the concept of the Bible as the Word of Revelation is misunderstood. Scholars in biblical studies frequently approach the Bible as being the mere product of authors who wrote with the limitations of their times from the human perspective. The distinctive characteristics about the biblical writers as prophets and apostles in and

through whom God disclosed Himself in events and messages and enabled them through the Holy Spirit to record this divine disclosure is often omitted in modern concepts of the Bible. Consequently this emphasis on the Bible as the Word of divine Revelation is relevant to the current dialogue.

Frequently scholars and laymen consider the Bible in its written form as totally human or wholly divine. Few, however, would consider the latter seriously. Uniquely the Bible can be recognized as human-divine. The prophets and apostles through whom the Bible was produced were men of their times who were divinely enabled in their writing so that what they wrote has divine authority. It is from this perspective that the authors of this symposium discuss the Bible as "The Living Word of Revelation."

S. J. S.