

Editorial

The name of Samuel J. Schultz has been virtually interchangeable with that of our Society's main publication, the *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society*. Sam, as his friends affectionately know him, is a charter member of the Society and has been intimately associated with its *Journal* (originally called the *Bulletin*) since the first issue appeared in 1958. Its editor from 1962 through 1975, Sam has given his energies, selflessly and without fanfare, to the editorial oversight of the *Journal* and to countless other related details as well. Recognizing that 14 years of editing may sometimes seem to be a rather thankless task, I want to join with the other members of our Society in expressing to you, Sam, our heartfelt gratitude for the sterling job you've done throughout your entire tenure of service. As I step into your shoes beginning with the current issue, I do so with fear and trembling—but also with the sincere hope that you and our colleagues will pray for me as I continue and build on the work that you have carried out so effectively and efficiently for so many years. Thank you for the valuable counsel that helped to smooth the transition between editors, and may God bless you as you continue to serve him in increasingly significant ways in the future.

I am deeply grateful also for the vote of confidence placed in me by the Executive Committee's decision to appoint me as the new editor of the *Journal*. I shall do everything in my power to carry out my duties as though I were in some measure worthy of that sacred trust, and I look forward with keen anticipation to working with people of the tested calibre of Vernon Grounds, Simon Kistemaker, Walter Kaiser, and others too numerous to mention.

And now for a brief word to my fellow Society members. The excellence and stature of our *Journal* is directly dependent on the extent to which you are prepared to contribute articles that exhibit excellence and stature. I intend to do everything I can to publish your articles in the finest possible form and to make the *Journal* a forum for the clearest possible expression of your major professional concerns. While I cannot guarantee that your manuscripts will always teach the truth inerrantly (as the Biblical autographs do), I can promise to do my best to keep grammatical mistakes and typographical errors in the finished product to the barest minimum.

So send me your manuscripts, your ideas for improving the *Journal*, and whatever else you think might be helpful. Although Sam Schultz kindly left me a substantial backlog of articles, a good manuscript will displace a mediocre one every time.

Harold Lindsell of *Christianity Today* and Sherwood Wirt of *Decision*, distinguished editors of highly respected evangelical journals, graciously agreed to contribute articles to my inaugural issue. Two timely topics are treated by Bruce Waltke (abortion) and Millard Erickson and Ines Bowers (euthanasia).

And be sure not to miss Ward Gasque's first-rate book review section!

Ronald Youngblood