

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING

Temperatures on December 26-28, 1979, were mild for central Minnesota when Evangelical Theological Society conferees met on the beautiful campus of Bethel College and Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. The warmth and hospitality, the pleasant service and excellent facilities at Bethel made a lasting impression on the visitors.

The theme for the thirty-first conference was "Hermeneutics for the 80s" with an elaborate program presented by Wilber Wallis. Some thirty speakers lectured on the various aspects of that theme in either plenary sessions or in sections devoted to studies of Old Testament, New Testament, history, philosophy and archaeology. Marten H. Woudstra, ETS president for 1979, delivered the presidential address. He pointed out that the exemplaristic use of Scripture by liberation theologians tends to dissolve history into moralism. Liberation theology promotes moralism with an emphasis on man and not on God. Scripture, however, presents the acts of God as revelation to bring man to repentance. In Scripture, God is first and man is second. Last but not least, Christ emerges from the Scriptures and not from moral lessons.

In the first business session the secretary-treasurer submitted the following reports:

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

	Full	Associate	Student
Active as of last year: 1202	718	185	299
Dropped:	(9)	(3)	(5)
Received during 1979:	71	20	102
Total Membership, 12/31/79: 1378	780	202	396

FINANCIAL REPORT

CASH ON HAND, January 1, 1979 \$ 8,315.55

RECEIPTS

Dues and Subscriptions	\$ 20,552.72	
Sales of Books and <i>Journals</i>	1,597.08	
Miscellaneous Income	297.06	
Interest on Savings	<u>448.47</u>	<u>22,895.33</u>
		<u>\$31,210.88</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Postage	\$ 906.68	
Telephone	22.02	
Office Salaries	3,780.00	
Office Supplies	2,928.47	
Printing Expenses— <i>Journal</i>	9,694.95	
Miscellaneous Expenses	559.01	
Regional Expenses	<u>625.00</u>	<u>\$18,516.13</u>

CASH ON HAND, December 31, 1979 \$12,694.75

Deposit Guaranty National Bank

Checking Account	\$ 5,458.16	
Silver Savings Account	7,236.59	
	<u>\$12,694.75*</u>	

*The Society is still indebted to Bethany Fellowship, Inc., for *JETS* 22/4.

During the second business session the following officers were elected for 1980:

- President—Wilber B. Wallis
- President-Elect—Kenneth L. Barker
- Vice-President—Alan F. Johnson
- Secretary-Treasurer—Simon J. Kistemaker
- Vacancy on Executive Committee—Marten H. Woudstra
- Vacancies on Membership Committee—Ralph H. Alexander and Robert J. Kepple
- Vacancy on Editorial Committee—James A. Borland

The Society adopted the following report of the resolutions committee:

Be it resolved that warm expressions of thanks be extended to Carl Lundquist, president of Bethel College and Seminary, for hosting this thirty-first meeting of the Society.

Be it resolved that we express deep appreciation to Walter Wessel, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Hafemann, Bruce Kankel and Wayne Erickson and their staff for handling the local arrangements of the meeting.

Be it resolved that we express our gratitude to President Marten Woudstra, Program Chairman Wilber Wallis, Secretary-Treasurer Simon Kistemaker, *Journal* Editor Ronald Youngblood, and the other officers for their excellent services this past year.

Be it resolved that we commend the Near East Archaeological Society and the Evangelical Philosophical Society for their fine programs and endeavors to extend the influence of the Bible and our common faith.

Be it resolved that in view of the urgency of the hermeneutical task as discussed in these meetings we continue with all diligence our search for evangelical solutions that combine our commitment to God's Word with a sensitivity to our society and to the needs of the world.

The executive committee acted on these matters:

The thirty-second annual meeting will be held from 1:00 p. m. on Monday, December 29, through 9:30 p. m. on Tuesday, December 30, 1980, on the campus of Columbia Bible College in Columbia, S. C. The theme for the meeting is "Evangelicals and Social Ethics."

The committee accepted the invitation of Ontario Bible College and Ontario Theological Seminary to meet in Toronto, Canada, for the thirty-third annual meeting. The dates are December 28-30, 1981, and the theme is "Relationships Between the Testaments."

The committee accepted the invitation of the International School of Theology to meet in Arrowhead Springs, San Bernardino, California, for the thirty-fourth annual meeting in December, 1982.

Plans were made for the thirty-fifth anniversary meeting. The theme for that meeting is "Preaching and Biblical Exegesis."

With regret and appreciation, the committee accepted R. Longenecker's resignation as newsletter editor.

The committee ruled that those ETS members who are retired and who because of insufficient income request a reduced rate for the *Journal* be granted the rate of half the regular membership fee.

The program chairman for 1980 has been asked to select no more than five "working" papers for duplication and to have the program ready for the printers by July 1, to be mailed to the membership by September 15. The committee has asked him to make the necessary arrangements for the duplicating and mailing of the select papers to those members of the Society who preregister before November 1. The cost for these papers will be charged to the registrants.

The Society paid tribute to those members who died in 1979: W. G. Brown, R. C. Fullerton (1978), P. T. Holliday, C. M. Horne, J. H. Johansen and J. B. Payne.

As we enter a new decade we "fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith" (Heb 12:2).

Simon J. Kistemaker