

EDITORIAL

Welcome to this edition of *A Journal from the Radical Reformation*. This journal was established to provide a voice for theological positions which were not being heard, positions which found expression in some segments of the Radical Reformation, especially among the Evangelical Rationalists.

Espousing these positions often leaves us isolated from the mainstream of theological thought. But we are convinced that a minority voice ought to be heard, and that some positions have lost their biblical grounding, something we desire to maintain.

With concerns in areas of theology, anthropology and matters eschatological, we seek to raise the consciousness of biblically based views. Whereas Trinitarianism is the dominant explanation of *theos*, this journal raises the awkward concerns about the biblical evidence relative to Jesus' origins and nature.

Positions regarding the immortality of the soul have long been held to be non-biblical and of Platonic origin. Many, dare it be said, most, legitimate theologians are coming to the acknowledgement that orthodoxy must face the biblical evidence and admit to great weakness in its traditional views of man. A holistic view of man is coming to be the norm now in seminaries, though admittedly it has not filtered down into local pulpits nor to local theological thought.

Concerns over the nature of the Kingdom of God were part of this journal's originating impetus. To proclaim that the Gospel involves only Jesus' death and resurrection is to minimize, even ignoring Jesus' self-proclaimed purpose — to preach and proclaim the good news of the Kingdom.

Jesus, when he was present with his followers, said that the Kingdom was present with them, but he assuredly looked forward always to an eschatological event of an apocalyptic nature. That it was and is heavenly in nature, as originating in heaven, is without question, but its location and the chronology of the events themselves continue to be of intense interest and concern.

This issue consists of three articles: one by Jesse Acuff expresses concern over the "pre-tribulation rapture" view, once dominant but now much in decline; the article by Marian Hillar (one of the world's foremost experts on Michael Servetus) examines anew the development of the primary doctrine of orthodoxy, namely the Trinity; and the article by Jeffrey Fletcher on Christ's "pre-existence" as generally held, often because of presuppositions concerning Jesus' origin, but a position difficult to maintain.

We hope you will enjoy and benefit from exploring these issues with us. We welcome your interaction and invite your responses.