
Editorial

'**The Importance of Not Being Nice**' is the title of our opening article by the Rev Neil Richards. He reminds us, 'There are times when for the sake of the gospel and for the cause of truth, Christians must be narrow and exclusive; fierce in their resistance to error, and altogether "earnest contenders for the faith once delivered to the saints".' In this article the author comments pertinently on a recent book, **ESSENTIALS, A LIBERAL-EVANGELICAL DIALOGUE**, written by David L Edwards and John R Stott.

Principal A C Boyd provides our Exegesis article on '**The Gospel of the Kingdom**' from Matthew 4:23. This is an appropriate place for me to convey the prayerful good wishes of the Editorial Board and readers of *Foundations* to Mr Boyd on his recent appointment as Principal of the Free Church College, Edinburgh. We are sorry, however, that these added responsibilities have compelled Principal Boyd to stand down from our Editorial Board but we hope he will have time to write for us in the future.

A significant and worthwhile Study Conference was held by the BEC in March 1989 at High Leigh on the crucial theme of '**The Gospel and the World**'. The Rev Keith Walker has summarized the five Conference papers for us and I am sure that many will find the consideration of pluralism and universalism both stimulating and informative.

We also have a major article by Dr David Sullivan on '**Christianity and the Idea of a Just War**'. Dr Sullivan concludes that in order to avoid even greater evils, some wars have to be fought and can be regarded as just. However, 'fighting in such wars may bring moral dilemmas which cannot be resolved without incurring guilt, because all wars ... are fought by sinful men in a sinful world.'

Complementing this, we are also including an article on '**The Nuclear Threat**' which uses Biblical principles to raise questions Christians today cannot afford to ignore. It is the first published form of an address given by Pastor Robin Dowling and Dr Nigel Halliday.

Reviews of some recent Banner of Truth publications complete this issue of the journal. If you enjoy reading *Foundations* and find the articles helpful, why not encourage your friends to subscribe?