We are focusing in this issue of FOUNDATIONS on a number of pastoral concerns which are of immediate relevance to our churches in Britain and overseas.

Alan Gibson, the BEC General Secretary, provides the opening article relating to the Lausanne II Congress on World Evangelisation in Manila which he attended last July. Mr Gibson here reviews Dr Jim Packer's contribution to a Congress seminar on 'The Kingdom of God and Evangelisation'.

The relevance of the next article, To Call or Not to Call? will be immediately apparent to readers. Keith Walker here tackles the subject of evangelistic methods and, in particular, Altar Calls. In the wake of the recent missions held in Britain by Billy Graham and Luis Palau this article makes compelling reading.

Denis Pells Cocks contributes a useful article entitled Moral Issues in Biotechnology. Here is a pressing subject which is responsible for some complex pastoral questions in our churches.

Salman Rushdie's now notorious novel The Satanic Verses is reviewed by Merle Inniger of SIM International who then sets it in the context of the contemporary discussion about the blasphemy law in Britain.

Our Study Conference Chairman, Hywel Jones, shares with us some of his reflections on the relevance of the BEC Study Conference in the next article, Applied Theology. The Exegesis item this time is provided by Stephen Dray and is on Reformation and Renewal, a study of Zephaniah 1:1-6.

A quite different article is written by the Editor in response to requests by readers for information on two radically different movements, the 'Campbellite' Churches of Christ and the New Age Movement.

Paul Finch then contributes An Indigenous Initiative focusing on the need for biblical, theological reflection on the part of evangelicals in Italy.

New Conceptions of God? is a review article by Alan Tovey of the authorised biography of the late John A T Robinson. This will be of particular help to those interested in contemporary theology.

Stephen Dray has written another OT Literature Update which concentrates on recently published commentaries. We conclude with another selection of Book Reviews and trust this more varied issue of the journal will be of significant help to all our readers and their churches.

The Rev Ronald C Christie MA BD MTh is minister of Govanhill Free Church of Scotland in Glasgow and we are pleased to announce his appointment as an Assistant Editor for FOUNDATIONS.

GOSPEL AND CHURCH is the title of a new book by Hywel R Jones, another of our Assistant editors. A 176 page paperback, it is an evangelical evaluation of ecumenical documents. Orders placed before the publication date in January 1990 will qualify for a £1 discount at the price of £8.95.

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