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# Editorial

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The articles and reviews in this issue of the journal are all essentially practical and immediately relevant to our contemporary situation. After attending the World Evangelical Fellowship General Assembly in Manila last June, Alan Gibson discusses some theological implications of the WORLD EVANGELICAL ISSUES which were raised there. The article is informative and stimulating.

THE BIG MAN MUST GO! is the first of two articles by David Boorman on *Spurgeon and the Downgrade Controversy*. In this first article, the author focuses on the 'prehistory' of the Baptist Union and the factors leading to Spurgeon's resignation from the Union. Here is a timely challenge and warning.

Gareth Crossley has written a penetrating article on COUNSELLING: PASTORAL CARE OR PSYCHOTHERAPY? His definitions and history of these terms are useful. The article proceeds to assess the relationship between evangelicals and psychotherapy (not even Jay Adams escapes from some penetrating criticism) before considering ministerial competence in pastoral care.

Our EXEGESIS article is written by Trevor Burke who examines the privileges and responsibilities of 'Adoptive-Sonship' as the ethics of the eschaton in the context of Romans 8:12-17.

At last we are able to include the long-promised article on the origins and early development of LIBERATION THEOLOGY by Eddy Muskus. This has previously been held back due to lack of space, and expands a topic first introduced in FOUNDATIONS as long ago as 1979.

BOOK REVIEWS are provided by Mark Johnston, Clifford Pond, Neil Richards and Eryl Davies of four very different recent works EVANGELICAL REUNION, MAKING IT HAPPEN, AN ANGRY GOD? and THE ROOTS OF CHRISTIAN FREEDOM.

Your prayers for the continued usefulness and wider circulation of the journal will be appreciated.

## **The Church and its Unity, IVP, £7.95**

This new addition to the *When Christians Disagree* series has been edited by BEC General Secretary Alan Gibson. The four issues discussed between evangelicals in a courteous but polemical format are Church Membership, Denominations, Doctrinal Purity and Charismatic Experience. The FOUNDATIONS editor is one contributor, together with seven others, including Derek Prime (FIEC), Graham Harrison (EMW) and Harry Uprichard (PCI).