
Editorial

We are encouraged by the positive comments of our readers concerning the new format and contents of the last issue of *Foundations*. It is a further encouragement for us to hear how the journal is eagerly awaited and read by many church leaders both in Britain and overseas. If you appreciate this journal, can you encourage us further by commending and selling copies of *Foundations* to your friends, church members and/or Ministers' Fraternals? Please write in to the BEC office if you are willing to help us in this practical way.

This present issue is different in emphasis from the previous one. In **Focus** this time, the Rev. Hywel Jones, an Associate Editor, up-dates us on recent developments and trends concerning the Doctrine of Holy Scripture. This is an article of major significance which deserves the careful attention of readers.

The Right Balance article by Dr. Ian Shaw is a general introduction to the contemporary issue of human rights. The author makes some careful distinctions before pin-pointing relevant biblical considerations which should direct our thinking on the subject as Christians. This issue also introduces the first in a series of brief expositions with application for today. The Rev. Alan Gibson considers what 1 Corinthians 11:19 has to say to us about **Why Differences in the Church are Inevitable**.

Our longest item this time is a helpful summary of underlying principles relating to **Bible Chronology**, an area of study where there is frequent conflict between the claims of the Bible and archaeologists. This is an area of study which Evangelicals have generally neglected so we are grateful to Dr. John Peet for the benefit of his research in this area.

We have been able to include the second part of the **Review of Theological Journals of 1983-4**, begun in Issue 13, with a look at material on Hermeneutics and the New Testament. The Rev. Stephen Dray draws our attention to **Recent Helps to the Study of the Old Testament** including a brief review of eleven books. A **Review** is provided by the Rev. Hywel Jones on the **Song of Solomon** (G. Lloyd Carr, IVP). The last article on **learning the Biblical languages** is written by a Scottish missionary working in Peru who is responding practically to two earlier articles on the subject in *Foundations*.

Our next issue will be largely devoted to the doctrine of the Church including summaries of papers and discussions on the subject in a recent BEC Study Conference. The following practical aspects of the doctrine will be covered: **The Visibility of the Church Catholic, The Basis of Union, The Basis of Separation, Dealing with False Teaching, Biblical Principles and Freedom of Conscience, and finally, Contemporary Challenges**. In addition, we intend to carry a major article by the Rev. Sidney Garland of Belfast on the influence of Liberation Theology in Ulster.

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