

CHRISTIAN STUDIES

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With this issue of *Christian Studies*, I begin the duty and privilege of serving the faculty as editor. Since its inaugural issue in 1980, this journal, known at that time simply as the “Faculty Bulletin,” has been in the capable hands of its founding editor, Michael Weed. It is with gratitude for Dr. Weed’s visionary labor and with humility for the work at hand that I assume the role of editor, with the indispensable aid of the managing editor, Todd Hall.

From its inception, this publication has sought to provide responsible and biblical theological reflection that is beneficial and accessible to the scholar as well as to the interested “layperson.” This aim is summed up well in the journal’s motto: Scholarship for the Church. I want to assure our readers, old and new alike, that we press on toward the future mindful of what has come before. As in the past, so in the future, the goal of this journal will be not merely to publish the “results of scholarly research,” but to address real issues in the faith and practice of the church and of individual believers. As in the past, it will continue to be a publication of the faculty of Austin Graduate School of Theology, but also with contributions from other scholars. Within these parameters, the intent is to provide readers with the best theological writing in Churches of Christ, but also with a reach that extends beyond our walls.

All issues of *Christian Studies*, including this one, are available online, via the Austin Grad website, at <http://austingrad.edu/resources/christian-studies-publication>. If you find the content beneficial, please share this journal, in its print and online forms, with others.

In that first issue of the “Faculty Bulletin” that appeared thirty-five years ago was a contribution by Paul Watson. Watson is an Old Testament scholar who taught at the Institute for Christian Studies (now Austin Grad) from 1979-1983. He had a lasting impact on his colleagues and students during his years as a professor here. He left the Institute to work in full-time congregational ministry, where he has continued to influence countless souls for God’s kingdom. This issue of *Christian Studies*, whose theme is “The Old Testament and the Life of the Church,” is dedicated to Paul Watson and to the legacy of scholarship and ministry that he has passed on—and continues

to pass on—to the church. The contributors bring this gift to him, and to us all, in the hope that it will bring honor to whom honor is due.

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section of scholarship and the life of the church. For decades, then, Paul has offered service both to the Cole Mill Road congregation and the broader fellowship of Churches of Christ in both the pulpit and the study. We are grateful for his scholarly and pastoral work.

In addition to his work, Paul has also proven to be an excellent colleague and friend. Michael Weed and Allan McNicol fondly recall discussions with Paul around the faculty lunch table, discussions that have continued over the years. Throughout his ministry, Paul has shown a strength of character and integrity that have inspired the Christians he served both in joy and in tragedy. Michael and Allan also remember grieving with Paul and his children over the loss of his wife Ann, and rejoicing with Paul as he built a new life with his wife Kay, also widowed, and their children. Having recently celebrated their twenty-fifth anniversary, Paul and Kay continue their life together in faithful service to the church.

My own interactions with Paul have revealed a man who, in addition to his scholarly and pastoral acumen, exhibits immense grace, wisdom, and patience. He has shown deep concern for ways in which scholarship intersects with the church and specifically the church's ministers, and his careful and thoughtful deliberation on such matters serves as a guide for those who follow him in these thoughts.

Here we offer, in gratitude, a limited bibliography of Paul's scholarly and pastoral work. This list of course does not capture the entirety of the man who has served the church for so many years. It does, though, offer a glimpse into his deeply pastoral heart, and it provides a written legacy of a faithful servant and friend who continues to offer insight and wisdom to the church.

Book Sections

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“Haggai” and “Malachi” in *The Transforming Word: A One-Volume Commentary on the Bible*. ACU Press, 2009.

“Ministering to a Church Traumatized by Sexual Abuse” in *Good Shepherds*, ed. David Flear and Charles Siburt. Leafwood Publications, 2007.

Video Production

“Understanding the Old Testament.” A series of 20 thirty-minute presentations introducing the Old Testament. Foundation for Biblical Studies, 1988.

Journal Publications

“The Spirit and the ‘Spirits’ in the Old Testament.” *Leaven*; 22/3 (2014), 146–151.

“‘A Light to the Nations’: Israel’s Mission to the World.” *Mission Dei: A Journal of Missional Theology and Praxis*; vol 4, no 2 (August 2013).

“Jeremiah: A Resource Guide.” *Leaven*; 15/4 (2007), Art. 12.

“Standing on the Promises: Genesis 15:1–6.” *Leaven*; 11/3 (2003), 118–123.

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“‘My God, My God’: Prayer and Lament in the Psalms.” *Carolina Christian*, May, 1999.

“Renewing Our Worship.” *Leaven*; 6/1 (1998), 22–25.

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“Preaching from the Old Testament.” *Leaven*; 5/1 (1997), 23–27.

“Israel’s Worship, and Ours.” *Leaven*; 1/1 (1990), 6–9.

“The Old Testament as Moral Compass.” *ICS Faculty Bulletin*; Oct., 1982, 36–53.

“The Authority of the Old Testament for Christians.” *ICS Faculty Bulletin*; (1981), 37–45.

“‘The Discipline of Freedom’: A Response.” *ICS Faculty Bulletin* (1980), 28–31.

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“The Death of ‘Death’ at Ugarit.” *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 1972, 60–64.

“Yahweh’s Grace.” *Mission*, 1968, 303–306.

“The Ras Shamra Discoveries and Their Impact on Old Testament Studies,” *Restoration Quarterly*, 1968, 144–152.

“The Deuteronomic Historian.” *Restoration Quarterly*, 1966, 281–284.

“Old Testament Theology.” *Restoration Quarterly*, 1966, 261–274.

“A Note on the ‘Double-Portion’ of Deut. 21:17 and 2 Kings 8:9.” *Restoration Quarterly*, 1965, 70–75.

“Form Criticism and an Exegesis of Micah 6:1–8.” *Restoration Quarterly*, 1963, 61–72.

Journal Issues Edited

“Jeremiah.” *Leaven*, vol. 15, no. 4 (Winter, 2007).

Book Reviews

Living as the Community of God: Moses Speaks to the Church in Deuteronomy, by Phillip G. Camp. In *Restoration Quarterly*, forthcoming.

Reading the Old Testament with the Ancient Church, by Ronald E. Heine. In *Restoration Quarterly* 51 (2009): 256.

Like a Shepherd Lead Us, by David Fleer and Charles Siburt. In *Restoration Quarterly* 49 (2007).

Preaching Biblical Wisdom in a Self-Help Society, by Alyce McKenzie. In *Leaven*, 8/2 (2000).

Worship and the Hebrew Bible: Essays in Honor of John T. Willis, edited by M. Patrick Graham, Rick R. Marrs, and Steven L. McKenzie. In *Restoration Quarterly* 41/4 (1999): 245–246.

Making Sense of the Old Testament: Three Crucial Questions, by Tremper Longman. In *Stone-Campbell Journal* 2/2 (1999): 285–287.

Two Testaments, One Bible: A Study of the Theological Relationship Between the Old and New Testaments, by David L. Baker. In *Restoration Quarterly* 35 (1993).

Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah: A Commentary, by J. J. M. Roberts. In *Restoration Quarterly* 34 (1992).

Micah: A Commentary, by H. W. Wolff. In *Restoration Quarterly* 33 (1991). *Interpreting the Prophetic Tradition*, edited by Harry Orlinsky. In *Restoration Quarterly* 11 (1969).

Creation versus Chaos, by Bernard Anderson. In *Reflection* (1968).

A History of Israel, by John Bright; and *The History of Israel*, by Martin Noth. In *Restoration Quarterly* 8 (1966).

Invited Lectures and Papers

“‘A Light to the Nations’: Israel’s Role in God’s Eschatological Intent for the World.” Faulkner University; May 29, 2014.

“Preaching from Ezekiel.” Three lectures; Austin Graduate School of Theology, May, 2010.

“The Theology of the Book of Jonah.” Paper. Christian Scholars Conference; June, 2009.

“When Sexual Abuse Occurs in the Church.” Two lectures, Elderlink Atlanta, March, 2008.

“Preaching Old Testament Stories: Ruth, Jonah, Esther.” Three lectures, Austin Graduate School of Theology; May, 2006.

“Holy, Holy, Holy: Isaiah’s Proclamation of Holiness.” Three lectures; Abilene Christian University, February, 2004.

“Hosea—a Prophet for All Seasons.” Three lectures; Austin Graduate School of Theology, May, 2003.

“The Law and the Covenant in Exodus.” Three lectures; Rochester College, October, 2001.

“The Psalms in Preaching and Worship.” Three lectures; Austin Graduate School of Theology, May, 2001.

“Preaching about God from the Old Testament.” Three lectures; Austin Graduate School of Theology, May, 2000.

“Preaching from the Book of Exodus.” Five lectures; Midwest Preachers Retreat, September, 1999.

“I Lift Up My Soul: Communing with God Through the Psalms.” Three lectures; Pepperdine University, April, 1999.

“John’s Use of the Old Testament.” Two lectures; Ohio Valley College, March, 1999.

“Approaching God through the Psalms.” Three lectures; Heartlands, July, 1997.

“Preaching from the Old Testament Narratives.” Three lectures; Ministers Sermon Seminar, Austin Graduate School of Theology, May, 1997.

“Preaching from the Prophets.” Three lectures; David Lipscomb University, May, 1997.

“Preaching from the Old Testament Narratives.” Three lectures; Harding Graduate School of Religion, November, 1996.

“Israel’s Exodus, and Ours.” Three lectures; Heartlands, July, 1996.

“Preaching from the Psalms.” Three lectures; Ministers Sermon Seminar, Austin Graduate School of Theology, May, 1995.

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“Preaching from the Book of Exodus.” Three lectures; Seminar for Preachers, David Lipscomb University, May, 1993.

“The Crucial Moment in Israel’s History: Expository Study of Exodus.” Three lectures; Pepperdine University, April, 1989.

“The Inspiring Book of Psalms: Israel’s Hymnbook, and Ours.” Three lectures; Pepperdine University, April, 1988.

“Old Testament, Marriage, and Family.” Three lectures; Ministers Sermon Seminar, Austin Graduate School of Theology, May, 1988.

“The Book of Exodus.” Three lectures; Ministers Sermon Seminar, Austin Graduate School of Theology, May, 1983.

“The Books of Amos and Hosea.” Three lectures; Ministers Sermon Seminar, Austin Graduate School of Theology, May, 1982.

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