

Meeter Center Newsletter

The H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies
Calvin College and Seminary
Grand Rapids, MI 49546 (616) 957-6089



FALL 1989

Number 4

Editorial

The Meeter Center for Calvin Studies has just completed a busy summer and suddenly the new academic year is upon us. Our three visiting scholars, David Foxgrover, Bob Clouse, and Ray Mentzer brought to us differing research projects, each with unique goals. It was a pleasure having them among our ranks for a season.

As the academic year begins we look forward to forthcoming conferences especially the meeting of the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference and the Calvin Studies Society in Minneapolis in October and the Davidson Calvin Colloquium in January. Please notice the exact dates and contact persons in the body of the *Newsletter*. Mention should also be made of the forthcoming International Calvin Congress sponsored by Calvin Theological Seminary and to be held at the

College and Seminary campus in August of 1990. We will be highlighting that Congress in a later *Newsletter*.

David Wright, Dean of the Faculty of Divinity at New College, Edinburgh, has asked us to mention to the readership of the *Newsletter* that there is currently a project sponsored by Eerdmans Publishing here in the United States and Paternoster in Britain, to translate Calvin's Old Testament Commentaries. That series, which promises to be the very highest quality, is still looking for a few translators. If you may be interested in participating in that project, please contact: David Wright, New College, Mound Place, Edinburgh EH1 2LX, SCOTLAND.

Richard C. Gamble
editor

Recent Publications

Books

Elsie Anne McKee and Brian G. Armstrong, eds. *Probing the Reformed Tradition: Historical Studies in Honor of Edward A. Dowey, Jr.* (Louisville, KY: Westminster/John Knox, 1989)

John Calvin. *Calvin's Institutes: a new compend.* Ed. by Hugh T. Kerr (Louisville, KY: Westminster/John Knox, 1989)

F. Whitfield Barton. *Calvin and the Duchess* (Louisville, KY: Westminster, 1989)

Alister E. McGrath. *Reformation Thought: an introduction* (Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1988)

David A. Weir. *The Origins of the Federal Theology in Sixteenth-Century Reformation Thought* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1989)

Elsie Anne McKee. *Elders and the Plural Ministry: the Role of Exegetical History in Illuminating John Calvin's Theology* (Geneva: Librairie Droz, 1988)

Guy Bedouelle & Bernard Roussel, eds. *Le temps des Réformes et la Bible* (Paris: Editions Beauchesne, 1989)

Ralph C. Hancock. *Calvin and the Foundations of Modern Politics* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1989)

Articles and Reviews

I. John Hesselink, Jr., "Calvin's understanding of the relationship of the church and Israel based largely on his interpretation of Romans 9-11" *Ex Auditu: an International Journal of Theological Interpretation of Scripture*, 4 (1988).

Ivan L. Zabilka, "Calvin's contribution to universal education" *The Asbury Theological Journal*, 44 (Spring 1989) 77-96.

David Curtis Steinmetz, "The reformation and the ten commandments" *Interpretation* 43 (1989) 256-266.

John Kelsay, "Prayer and ethics: reflections on Calvin and Barth" *Harvard Theological Review*, 82 (1989) 169-184.

Marion D. Battles, "John Calvin's Mystical Poetry" *The Banner* 124 (May 1, 1989) 5; "Cry 'Abba' with One Accord" *The Banner* 124 (May 8, 1989) 14; "Calvin's Conversion" *The Banner* 124 (May 15, 1989) 5; "The Church as Pilgrim" *The Banner* 124 (May 22, 1989) 5; "Faith" *The Banner* 124 (May 29, 1989) 12.

Bernard Roussel, "Strasbourg et l'école rhénane d'exégèse (1525-1540). 1. une école et son programme" *Bulletin de la Société de l'Histoire du Protestantisme Français* 135 (1989)

Reviews of William Bouwsma's *John Calvin: a sixteenth century portrait*: by Brian Armstrong in *Church History*, 58 (1989) 105-106; by Fritz Büsler in *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, (29. March 1989).

Review of John Leith's *John Calvin's Doctrine of the Christian Life* by William Klempa in *The Presbyterian Outlook*, 171 (August 7-14, 1989) 11-12.

Reviews of *Calviniana: Ideas and Influence of Jean Calvin*, Robert V. Schnucker, ed. by Donald Sinnema in *The Sixteenth Century Journal*, 20 (Summer 1989) 365-366; by Francis Higman in *Bibliothèque D'Humanisme et Renaissance*, 51 (1989) 506-508; by W. Charles Heiser in *Theology Digest*, 36, no. 1 (Spring 1989) 50.

Review of T. H. L. Parker's *Calvin's Old Testament Commentaries* by Ronald S. Wallace in *Revue de Théologie et de Philosophie* 121 (1989) 125-127.

Works in Progress

Books

I. John Hesselink, Jr., *Calvin's Concept of the Law* to be published soon by Pickwick Publications is a revision of his doctoral dissertation written in 1961 for the University of Basel.

Alister E. McGrath is currently producing a work concentrating upon Calvin's social, economic and political thought, and its impact on modern western culture. It also includes a detailed re-examination of Calvin's Paris period on the basis of manuscript sources, which challenges the general belief that Calvin attended the Collège de la Marche, prior to the Collège de Montaigu.

Jean-François Gilmont of the Catholic University of Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve has received a grant from the Swiss National Scientific Research Fund for the preparation and publication of a bibliography of the works of John Calvin published in the sixteenth century. The work will be based on the documentation assembled by the late Professor R. Peter. The project, which will take two years starting in Oct. 1989, will be carried out in close collaboration with the Institute for the History of the Reformation (Geneva).

Daniel Shute of Le Collège Presbytérien, Quebec is working on an annotated English translation of Antoine Jean

Baumgartner's *Calvin hébraïsant et interprète de l'Ancien Testament* originally published by Fischbacher in 1889.

Forthcoming Articles and Reviews

I. John Hesselink, Jr. has a forthcoming review of Alexandre Ganoczy's *The Young Calvin* (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1987) in *Reformed Review*.

Richard C. Gamble has a forthcoming review of Ronald S. Wallace's *Calvin, Geneva and the Reformation* (Edinburgh: Scottish Academic Press, 1988) in *Calvin Theological Journal*.

Dissertations Recently Completed or in Progress

Dennis E. Tamburello, "Christ and Mystical Union: a comparative study of the Theologies of Bernard of Clairvaux and John Calvin" (PhD in progress, University of Chicago).

Guenther Haas, "The Concept of Equity in Calvin's Ethics" (ThD 1989 Toronto School of Theology, University of Toronto).

Pamela Ann Moeller, "Worship in John Calvin's 1559 *Institutes*: With a view to Contemporary Liturgical Renewal" (PhD 1988 Emory University).

Conferences and Events

September 21, 1989 - The H. H. Meeter Center for Calvin Studies and Calvin College depts. of History and Religion and Theology sponsored a special lecture "Linearity in Calvin's Thought" given by Dr. Francis Higman, director of the Institut D'Histoire de la Reformation, Geneva, Switzerland.

October 6-9, 1989 - The Second Asian Congress of Calvin Studies will be held in Seoul, Korea. Contact: Nobuo Watanabe & Han Chul-Ha.

October 26-29, 1989 - The Sixteenth Century Studies Conference and the Calvin Studies Society will meet at the Univer-

sity of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. Contact: W. Fred Graham & Robert V. Schnucker.

December 27-30, 1989 - The American Historical Association will hold its annual meeting in San Francisco, CA.

January 20-21, 1990 - Calvin Colloquium at Davidson College, Davidson, NC. Contact: John H. Leith & Charles Raynal.

August 20-23, 1990 - The Fifth Quadrennial International Calvin Congress on Calvin Research will be held in Grand Rapids, MI at Calvin Theological Seminary. Contact: James A. De Jong.

Announcements

The Directors of Teylers Stichting and the members of Teylers Godgeleerd Genootschap present the following prize-question to be answered before 1 May 1990: An investigation is requested into an episode or aspect of the encounters between Christianity and Christians with one or more other religions and their adherents. More information may be obtained by writing to the Directors of Teylers Stichting, Damstraat 21, 2011 AH Haarlem, The Netherlands.

The Religious Sciences Section of the Ecole Pratique de the Hautes Etudes, Sorbonne...is a place where research in the history of religions can be pursued and a Diplôme de l'école des Hautes Etudes or a Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies can eventually be prepared. This gives access to a Doctorate of the State. Matriculation in the school confers the status of a

University student and opens the possibility of access to the diverse Parisian libraries.

During the 1989-90 year, Bernard Roussel, Director of Studies, will give lectures on the following subjects: (1.) Knowledge and interpretation of Judaism by the Christians at the end of the 16th century (1580-1600). (2.) The ritual and doctrinal choices of Reformed Christianity according to the decisions of the National Synods of the Reformed Churches in the Kingdom of France between 1571 and 1598.

Professor Bernd Moeller of the University of Göttingen has been invited as Director of Foreign Associated Studies. For information please contact Bernard Roussel, Sorbonne, 45 rue des Ecoles, 75 005 Paris, FRANCE.

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