



# Calvin Courier

The newsletter of the H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies

Spring 1996, Number 17

## From the Director

The Meeter Center for Calvin Studies has had a very positive academic year. The *Newsletter* has been redesigned and renamed the *Calvin Courier*. Our collection of books and articles continues to expand, and our valuable rare book collection has also been enhanced. Furthermore, we have had an excellent group of applicants for our Faculty Research Fellowships, Student Research Fellowships and the Emo F. J. Van Halsema Fellowship.

Arriving from the U.K. in the middle of a western Michigan winter, one of our faculty fellows, Dr. Carl Trueman, will stay through the summer. On the faculty of the University of Nottingham, Trueman will be working on Calvin's influence on John Owen.

In addition to our normal activities, some exciting new projects are being planned or are under way. We announced earlier that we had produced a home page

for the World Wide Web (<http://www.calvin.edu/~pfields/meeter/html>). That home page has been updated, expanded and improved. We are hoping soon to add to the home page the ability to access the *Calvin Courier* electronically. We are also hoping to add the possibility of accessing electronically the annual Meeter Center Calvin Bibliography. This bibliography, which is scheduled to appear in hard copy in the fall edition of the *Calvin Theological Journal*, should be available electronically sometime after August.

If you have access to the Web, please visit our home page and see if the *Calvin Courier* is available! Remember that the bibliography will not be available before August, and between the time of your receipt of the *Calvin Courier* and the bibliography more information should be available to you through the Web.

Richard C. Gamble

## Colloquia

### Meeter Center Colloquium Series

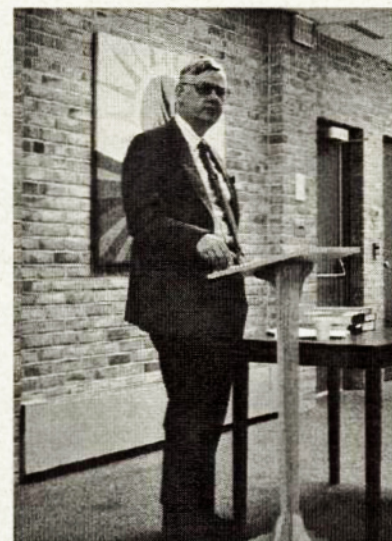
On February 15, Professor Philip Holtrop of the Religion and Theology Department of Calvin College gave a lecture entitled "Are There Tensions in Calvin's Theology? The Bolsec Controversy As a Case Study." Recounting his personal theological odyssey including contacts with H. Richard Niebuhr at Harvard and G. C. Berkouwer at the Free University of Amsterdam, Holtrop argued that Calvin's doctrine of predestination was hardened by his political ambition and animosity toward Jerome Bolsec.

Increasing scholarly consensus to the contrary notwithstanding, Holtrop contended that scholasticism is not merely a theological method, but in fact imports heteronomous Aristotelian categories into biblical thought. Holtrop maintained, in the tradition of Berkouwer, that rather than teach a determinate doctrine of election, the church should understand

election as pertaining to the "depth dimension of our lives."

Holtrop concluded with exhortations—directed particularly to the Christian Reformed Church—to avoid unbiblical presuppositions, to contend against "disputatiousness and polemics" and to give no quarter to intolerance.

Raymond Blacketer  
Calvin Theological  
Seminary Ph. D. student



Dr. Philip Holtrop



## New Acquisitions

### Books

- Cottret, Bernard.** *Calvin.* (Paris: J. C. Lattès, 1995).
- Davis, Thomas.** *The Clearest Promises of God.* (New York: AMS Press, 1995).
- Gleason, Randall C.** *John Calvin and John Owen on Mortification.* (New York: Peter Lang Publishing, Inc. 1995).
- Hillerbrand, Hans J.** *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Reformation.* Vol. 1-4 (New York: Oxford University Press, 1996).
- Jones, Serene.** *Calvin and the Rhetoric of Piety.* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1995).
- Kaplan, Benjamin J.** *Calvinists and Libertines.* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1995).
- Lindberg, Carter.** *The European Reformations.* (Cambridge, MA: Blackwell Publishers Inc. 1996).
- McKee, Elsie.** *Reforming Popular Piety in Sixteenth-Century Strasbourg: Katharina Schütz Zell and Her Hymnbook.* Studies in Reformed Theology and History 2:4. (Princeton: Princeton Seminary, 1994).
- McKee, Elsie.** *Erneuerung des Diakonats: Diakonie in der klassischen reformierten Tradition und Heute.* (Heidelberg: Diakoniewiss. Institut der Ruprecht-Karl-Universität. Heidelberg, 1995).
- Oberman, Heiko A.** *The Reformation. Roots and Ramifications.* (Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1994).
- Olevianus, Caspar.** *A Firm Foundation: An Aid to Interpreting the Heidelberg Catechism.* Translated and edited by Lyle D. Bierma. *Studies and Texts in Reformation and Post-Reformation Thought*, vol. 1. Edited by Richard A. Muller. (Grand Rapids: Baker/Paternoster, 1995).
- Sproxtton, Judy.** *Violence and Religion.* (New York: Routledge, 1995).
- Steinmetz, David C.** *Calvin in Context.* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995).

### Rare Books

- La Bible. Qui Est Toute la Sainte Escriture: contenant le Vieil & le Nouveau Testament.* (De l'Imprimerie de François Estienne, 1567).
- Calvin, Jean.** *Commentaires sur la Concordance des trois Evangelistes. Item sur l'Evangile S. Jean et sur les Actes des Apostres.* (Genève: Michel Blanchier, 1563).
- Barckhusen, Conr. Henr.** *Historica Narratio de Johanne Calvino* (Berlin: Dethmoldia-Lippiaco, 1721).

### Articles

- Beer, Jeanette.** "Patronage and the Translator: Raoul de Presles's *La Cité de Dieu* and Calvin's *Institution de la Religion Chrestienne* and *Institutio Religionis Christianae*." In *Translation and the Transmission of Culture Between 1300 and 1600*. Kalamazoo, MI: Medieval Institute Publications [Western Michigan University], 1995: 91-142.
- Berthoud, Jean.** "John Calvin and the Spread of the Gospel in France." Parts 1-4. *Christianity and Society* 4:3 (July 1994): 20-24; 4:4 (October 1994): 10-14; 5:1 (January 1995): 20-26; 5:2 (April 1995): 24-29.
- Büsser, Fritz.** "Johann Heinrich Hottinger und der Thesaurus Hottingerianus." *Zwingliana* 22 (1995): 85-108.
- Deddins, K.** "Rond de schuldbelijdenis in de littergie." In *Die Skriflig* 29:3 (September 1995): 491-529.
- Forsyth, Elliott.** "Calvin's Concept of the Justice of God." *Australian Journal of French Studies* 31:3 (1994): 274-291.
- Gilmont, Jean François.** "Comment Calvin choisissait-il ses imprimeurs?" *Australian Journal of French Studies* 31:2 (1994) 292-308.
- Harley, David.** "The Good Physician and the Godly Doctor: the Exemplary Life of John Tylston of Chester (1663-99)." *The Seventeenth Century* 9:1 (Spring 1994): 92-117.
- Kinder, A. Gordon.** "Agostino Boazio A Genoiese Protestant's Adventure with the Spanish Inquisition." *Mediterranean Studies Annual* 5 (1995): 51-62.
- Kinder, A. Gordon.** "Obras teologicas de Antonio del Corro: las dos redacciones de la Tabla de la obra de Dios y la Monas theologica." *Dialogo Ecumenico* 30:3 (Sept.-Dec. 1995): 311-340.



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## Fellowships Awarded in 1996

**Faculty Research Fellowship.** Dr. Michael Bihary, professor at John Calvin Theological Academy in Komarno, Czech Republic, will do research on Calvin's ecclesiology this summer. Dr. Carl Trueman, a professor of theology at the University of Nottingham, United Kingdom, is currently studying the background to John Owen's theology in John Calvin.

**Emo F. J. Van Halsema Fellowship.** Rev. Mark Gornik, director of New Song New York City Project, plans to do work on Calvinism and the poor. Ms. Mimako Saito, a vicar in the Presbytery of Tokyo, will study Calvin's sermons on Job.

**Student Research Fellowship.** Taedoo Chung, a student at the University of Texas, plans to research the topics of consistory, church and state.

**The Meeter Center fellowship applications** for 1997 are now available. Submit completed applications to the Director of the Meeter Center by January 1, 1997.

**Non-stipendiary scholars** have included Dr. Harold Kallemeyn, professor at Faculté Libre de Théologie Réformée, Aix-en-Provence, France, who did research in the area of Calvin's preaching. Princeton Seminary Ph. D. candidate Bonnie Pattison continues her work on the theological role of poverty in Calvin's doctrine of the church.



*Dr. Harold Kallemeyn and Dr. Carl Trueman*

## Hugh and Eve Meeter Calvinism Awards for High School Seniors

"John Calvin and Discipline: In Society, Home and Church" proved to be a very challenging topic for high school seniors participating in this year's essay contest. Students from Michigan, Ontario and British Columbia submitted papers. Scott Westhouse from Dorr, Michigan, won first place and received \$2,500. For the first time three students, Amanda Drost, Bronwyn Drost (twins from Sarnia, Ontario) and Stacey Wieland of Grand Rapids, Michigan, won second-place awards—each receiving \$1,250. All four winners plan to attend Calvin College in the fall of 1996.

## Colloquia and Conferences

### Meeter Center Colloquium Series

**September 30, 1995:** Dr. Dewey Hoitenga, professor of philosophy at Grand Valley State University, gave a lecture entitled "Does Calvin Have a Consistent View of the Will?"

**November 1, 1995:** Stan Sturing, a Calvin Theological Seminary student, presented "Here I Stand," a powerful reenactment of Martin Luther's trial at the Diet of Worm.



*Stan Sturing*

**February 15, 1996:** Professor Philip Holtrop from Calvin College's Department of Religion and Theology presented a lecture entitled "Are There Tensions in Calvin's Theology? The Bolsec Controversy As a Case Study." (See article on page 1.)

**April 17, 1996:** The second annual student colloquium featured two Calvin Theological Seminary students. Kathleen Smith read a paper entitled "John Calvin and Mission," and Michael Wittmer, a Ph. D. student, presented a paper entitled "Providence and Human Agency in the Thought of John Calvin."

**April 25, 1996:** The Meeter Center and the Art Department jointly sponsored a lecture by Dr. Donald A. McColl from Western Ontario University entitled "Politics, Piety and Swiss Public Fountains."

**October 10, 1996:** As a prelude to the biannual Meeter Center Lecture Series, Professor Dr. Bernard Roussel, director of studies at École Pratique des Hautes Études at the Sorbonne in Paris, will present the first fall lecture on the Lord's Supper.

**October 14, 1996:** The biannual Meeter Center Lecture Series will feature Dr. David Steinmetz, professor of historical theology at Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina. He will deliver two lectures on the theme, "Spiritual Real Presence: Christ and the Lord's Supper in Early Reformed Theology From Zwingli to Calvin."

**February 20, 1997:** Dr. William Stevenson, a professor of political science at Calvin College will deliver the February lecture on the political implications of Calvin's idea of freedom.

**April 16, 1997:** The third annual student colloquium.

### Sixteenth Century Studies Conference

The 1996 conference will be held on October 24–26 in Saint Louis, Missouri. For more information contact: Dr. Collette Winn, Department of French, Washington University, St. Louis, MO 63130



## Articles

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Kume, Atsume. "La reception de Calvin au Japan." *Bull. Soc. Hist. Fr.* 141 (Oct., Nov., Dec. 1995): 541-551.

McKee, Elsie. "Church Offices: Calvinist Offices." *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Reformation*, vol. 1. Edited by Hans J. Hillerbrand. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1996): 335-338.

Medyesy, Laslo M. "The Evolving of the 16th-Century Transylvanian Reformed Church and Its Impact on the Hungarians." *Communio Viatorum* 36:2/3 (1994): 121-134.

Schutzeichel, Heribert. "Die wahre Gluckseligkeit. Calvins Auslegung von Mt 5,1-12/Lk 6,20-26." *Aus reichen Quellen Leben*. ed. Hans-Gerd Angel et al. (Trier: Paulinus, 1995): 163-176.

## Forthcoming Works

John H. Leith is editing papers given at the Davidson Colloquium on the Westminster Assembly. These should be available by June from the Davidson College Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Simon J. DeVries is a biblical scholar who has made effective use of the Meeter Center's extensive collection in preparing a book titled "*Isaiah in the Hands of John Calvin*," a detailed analysis of the Reformer's exegetical method as exemplified in his magisterial commentary on the book of Isaiah (1551, second edition 1559).

## Announcement

We congratulate **Professor Heiko A. Oberman**, a Meeter Center governing board member, who was recently awarded the Dr. A. H. Heineken Prize for Historical Science by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. The Academy noted the new light Professor Oberman shed on the study of the history of the Middle Ages and Modern Age.

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