

EDITORIAL

The events of this past year have irrevocably altered the world in which we live. For me, 9/11 once again highlighted, among many other things, the importance of embracing the Bible's apocalyptic world view. Jarring assaults such as these shake any presumption or false confidence in earthly, material things or affections and call us back to a robust stance of Christian discipleship. They also challenge simplistic notions of God that fail to do justice to the complex and often puzzling developments with which we must cope.

In the midst of wars and rumors of wars, there remains a need for theological discourse. Last year's issue of the *Journal* provided plenty of food for thought. M. Parson's piece on "The Apocalyptic Luther" in the December issue was particularly timely. J. Carpenter's essay on "The Fourth Great Awakening" asked—and sought to answer—the provocative question, "Is American Evangelicalism Cycling Upwards or Spiraling Downwards?" *JETS* readers were also treated to essays "On the History of Identifying the Antichrist" (S. Nichols) and "Pastoral Turnover and the Call to Preach" (P. Harrison), to mention but a few of the seminal contributions featured in the pages of our *Journal*.

In the last year or two, I have received consistently and increasingly positive feedback on the quality of work printed in the *Journal*. May I take this opportunity to pass these compliments on to all those who deserve most of the credit: the contributors to our *Journal*, the board of referees, the book review editors, and last but not least our excellent typesetters and proofreaders at Eisenbrauns. Producing seven hundred and sixty-eight quality pages of material each year is no small challenge and requires a team effort. As editor of this *Journal*, I certainly could not succeed without the support of all of you. Thank you so much.

Moving from retrospect to prospect, I am pleased to announce that the June issue will feature Bruce Ware's plenary address on open theism delivered at last year's annual meeting, plus responses from Drs. Pinnock, Sanders, and Boyd, together with several other related contributions. It is hoped that the *Journal* may thus do its part in clarifying the issues and in informing our constituency on this important subject of current debate. Future volumes will also feature articles on "Origen on the 'Unknown' Author of Hebrews" and on "Some Historical Considerations on the Authorship of the Pentateuch."

Readers of our newsletter will already have noticed that there are plans to expand our book review editor staff by adding an editor specifically devoted to New Testament reviews. The executive committee hopes to have the new Book Review Editor (New Testament) selected and in place by the spring. I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to David Howard for his fine job in shouldering both Old and New Testament reviews

up to this point. I am grateful for his continued involvement in the Old Testament area and know that he, too, appreciates the reinforcement underway.

I conclude this editorial by wishing all of you a safe and productive year in your scholarly and many other pursuits. Please continue to remember *JETS* whenever you have a quality piece of scholarship that you would like to be read by a large, influential, worldwide audience. In light of recent events both outside and within our society, may we continue to be vigilant and ever more ready for our Lord's return, but may we also be the kinds of peacemakers who are worthy of being called sons and children of God.

ANDREAS J. KÖSTENBERGER

P.S.: Speaking of sons and children, may I take this opportunity to announce the birth of the one whose expected arrival was to a large part responsible for my absence from last year's annual meeting. My wife and I are grateful for the safe delivery of our fourth child and second son, Timothy John Köstenberger.