

## EDITORIAL

Welcome to another special issue of the *Midwestern Journal of Theology*. Once again, I am indebted to several who work incredibly hard to make sure the Journal appears each Semester, and as such I am especially indebted to Dr. Jason Duesing, Provost and Academic Editor, for all his invaluable assistance. My sincere thanks also go to Mrs. Kaylee Freeman, for all she does as Journal secretary.

The last issue was a special one, dedicated as it was to honoring the contribution of Dr. Alan F. Tomlinson here at Midwestern, and this issue is special too, being comprised of Articles from doctoral students here at MBTS. With the arrival of Dr. Jason Allen as President, Midwestern has been blessed with incredible student growth, including in the Research and Professional doctorate programs. To celebrate all that God is doing at Midwestern, we are dedicating this issue to highlighting those programs by publishing six Articles by current doctoral students. These Articles were Papers that the students submitted as part of their seminar requirements, and after professor feedback have been briefly edited by them for publication here. We believe their work is reflective of the high standard of both the teaching and of the students in the various doctoral programs.

We begin with Jenny-Lyn de Klerk's carefully researched work on the transformation and thinking of Augustine. This is followed by Nathan Rose's examination of Charles Spurgeon's stance on Slavery and the opposition in some quarters that that caused him. Daniel Slavich then presents his well-reasoned argument for the membership of the local church not just being regenerate, but one that is ethnically-diverse too. The next article is from Madison Trammel, who admirably defends Ignatius of Antioch's Martyrdom and his view of Redemption. For many, Ignatius seemed maybe a little too keen to suffer as a Christian leader in the early church. Our penultimate piece is from Camden Pulliam, who very helpfully outlines the concept of Familial Covenants, by analyzing the familial language in the Covenants found in Genesis 17 and 2 Samuel 7. Chad McDonald provides the final article, with his timely and helpful study of time management from the perspective of a church pastor.

We again conclude this issue of the *MJT* with several relevant and thought provoking book reviews, helpfully secured and edited by Dr. Blake Hearson.