

## *Disrespect for water immersion is disdain for Spirit immersion.*

literal interpretation is to be preferred. Another response is that the doctrine of the dispensational forming of a distinct body results from investigation of three areas, not from just one or a few verses. This survey has considered Spirit immersion; equally important are studies of the word church (*ekklesia*) and the phrase "in Christ" which occurs some one hundred fifty times in the NT. Thus word studies and systematic studies (from God's revelation of Himself and His work) plus dispensational studies (God's varying methods of working among men) combine to make firm the teaching that God's special formative endeavor in this era is the making one of all believers into an eternal spiritual body, the body of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Three messages of John the Baptist were important. That the Lamb would take away the sin of the world (Jn 1:29, 36) is important to all men of all ages. That the kingdom of heaven is at hand in the appearance of the Messiah King is important for physical sons of Abraham. That the Son of God will baptize in fire unextinguishable should warn unsaved of all ages. That He would baptize with the Holy Ghost has special encouragement for all saints of this dispensation. An exalted identification in the one great body of which Christ is the head is a present reality, with full function of that completed body to follow worlds without end.

### Book Reviews

Beale, David O

**In Pursuit of Purity American  
Fundamentalism Since 1850**

Greenville, SC: Unusual Publications, 1986, 460 pp paper \$12.95 hard \$15.85; reviewed by E Robert Jordan

I consider myself an amateur history buff since I have a tremendous compulsion to buy every history book I see. After reading *In Pursuit of Purity* by Dr Beale I realized that I have read one of the finest, most articulate

accounts of history that I have ever read.

This book is clear on fundamentalism, where it started, what the tenants of fundamentalism are, and who the people of fundamentalism were. He does an exceptional job in dealing with men and movements and their contribution to the rise or fall of fundamentalism. He has the tremendous ability to put historical fact with frankness and yet treat each person with fairness and honesty.

One of the outstanding things of this book which I observed was that almost every time there was a crisis surrounding fundamentalism in the denominations there were always three groups: fundamentalism on one side, modernists and liberals on the other side, and a moderate group in the middle. The amazing thing that I discovered in this book was that each time the gavel fell and the vote was counted the moderates were almost always on the side of the liberals and modernists rather than the fundamentalists. The defeat of fundamentalism whenever it was defeated in denominationalism was not so much the work of the modernists and liberals, but many times it was the work of moderates that wanted to mediate rather than take a clear cut stand.

I hate to use an over used phrase, but no pastor in America should allow this book to go out of print without having it in his library and sitting down and digesting the book slowly, purposely and thoroughly. It is the most outstanding book on the history of the movement I have ever read, and I have read many. This should be a best seller for fundamentalists.

Ryrie, Charles C  
**Basic Theology**

Wheaton, IL: Scripture Press Publ, 1986, 544 pp hard \$14.95; reviewed by Warren Vanhetloo

This "popular systematic guide to understanding Biblical truth" will be of great help to many kinds of people. New converts will find it clear and complete.

Mature believers will benefit from summaries and distinctions. Although not written for professional theologians, this book is a handy reference for the most technical and advanced. Dr Ryrie's writing is always exact. His position as a premillennial dispensationalist is clear. This work will be frequently used by pastors and Christians at large as well as by teachers and students in schools studying theology.

Lightner, Robert P  
**Evangelical Theology**

Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1986, 303 pp hard \$15.95; reviewed by Warren Vanhetloo

Dr Lightner in this survey provides a brief sketch of the historical development of each doctrine along with a survey of contemporary considerations. His summaries of each doctrine in the positive statement section of each chapter are particularly clear and beneficial. In each chapter he surveys major differences among evangelicals (approximately one-fifth of the book). Three major groupings predominate in the groupings presented: reformed, dispensational and pentecostal. The author is admittedly a dispensationalist. Both pastors and laymen will benefit from these studies.

Hoekema, Anthony A  
**Created in God's Image**

Grand Rapids: Wm B Eerdmans Publ, 1986, 264 pp hard \$19.95; reviewed by Warren Vanhetloo

The organization and development of this concise study is a delight to those who regard

theology as study of God's self-revelations rather than of man's thoughts about God. Various interpretations are recognized, but the aim of the author is to understand Scripture. Obviously beneficial on a seminary level, this book is simply and interestingly written. It will be valuable to all who use it whether trained in theology or not.

Showers, Renald E  
**The New Nature**

Neptune, NJ: Loizeaux Bros, 1986, 182 pp hard \$12.95; reviewed by Warren Vanhetloo

This is a brief study of the concepts old man and new man as representing the unregenerate human nature and the regenerate nature. Many distinctions are clear and helpful; some at times are confusing. For helping to comprehend the nature and means of Christian growth, this book makes a definite contribution.

Law, Peter W  
**A Portrait of My Father**

Portland, OR: Multnomah Press, 1985, 196 pp paper \$6.95; reviewed by Warren Vanhetloo

This popular presentation of theological truth is well-conceived and well-developed, assisting comprehension of the heavenly Father by building on human father relationships. Part one is Gazing at My Father's Portrait and part two Gazing into My Father's Eyes. Pastors who seek to make truth relevant and vivid will benefit from the author's presentations.

Evans, Gillian R, Alister E McGrath and Allan D Galloway

**The Science of Theology Vol I**  
Series editor: Paul Avis

Grand Rapids: Wm B Eerdmans Publ, 1986, 363 pp paper \$14.95; reviewed by Warren Vanhetloo

This first volume of a series traces philosophical influences on theology in three studies: patristic and medieval, reformation to enlightenment, and 19th - 20th centuries. Written from a continental point of view, it does not include American evangelicalism (except C Hodge). Explanations of modernism and neo-orthodoxy are helpful, as are a few gems in earlier studies, such as "the *sola scriptura* principle is initially to be associated with the Zwinglian, rather than with the Lutheran, Reformation" (p 123).

McDonald, H D

**The Atonement of the Death of Christ**

Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1985, 371 pp hard \$19.95; reviewed by Warren Vanhetloo

The subtitle "In Faith, Revelation, and History" indicates the three major divisions of study. The style of writing, especially in the first section dealing with the importance of the doctrine in Christian living, is often hortatory pulpit proclamation. The second section, grouping teachings by sections or authors of Scripture will be of great help for textual preaching. The third section, historical survey, will lose most readers in its complexity. The author tends to see some good in every variation. He identifies his own position as

holding to vicarious sacrifice, recognizing the atonement of the cross as "an act of God's holiness and his love." "The death of Christ must be regarded as penal." It must, he says, include sacrifice and substitution.

Swindoll, Charles R

**Growing Deep in the Christian Life**

Portland, OR: Multnomah Press, 1986, 408 pp hard \$14.95; reviewed by John M Garber

Why do we believe what we say we believe? In this book, Charles Swindoll has accomplished his purpose to write a book on doctrine that is not for the theologian, but for "the truck driver, the athlete, the waitress, the high school student, the person in military service, the homemaker with a house full of kids at her feet, the business person whose world is practical, earthly, tough and relentless."

The book is readable, enjoyable and fascinating. It covers in non-technical language Bible doctrines that fall into ten major categories: the Bible, God the Father, the Lord Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the depravity of humanity, salvation, the return of Christ, resurrection, the body of Christ, and the family of God.

A useful tool in the appendix includes "A Glossary of Major Terms" listing over 125 terms with their definitions. Dr Swindoll has produced an invaluable tool for the Sunday School teacher, the Bible Institute student, or any Christian who would grow in the knowledge of God's Word. Pastors will find it helpful in

translating doctrines that sometimes may seem heavy into understandable language with good illustrations.

Harris, R Laird, Swee-Hwa Quek and J Robert Vannoy (editors)

**Interpretation and History**

Singapore: Christian Life Publ, 300 pp hard \$10.95; reviewed by Warren Vanhetloo

A *Festschrift* by nature contains a variety of studies. This one includes tribute to Dr A A MacRae (fifty pages), then studies of hermeneutics, OT, NT, theology, church history and missions, all by former students. The articles are beneficial for scholars and genuine tribute to a gifted conservative (reformed) scholar.

Kohlenberger, III, John R

**The NIV Interlinear Hebrew-English Old Testament Vol 4/ Isaiah-Malachi**

Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publ Co, 1985, 591 pp hard \$24.95; reviewed by Charles E McLain

This volume completes this set designed primarily for "beginning Hebrew students as well as those reviving their language skills or improving their reading pace and translation skills." The aim of the set is to present "a word-for-word, grammatically literal translation of the Hebrew Scriptures." This is intended to eliminate the need for constant reference to lexicons and grammars while allowing the student to cover large portions of the Hebrew text. It is also intended to aid "the identification of nominal and verbal inflections."

Several things recommend this set. First, the Hebrew text is that of *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. It is clearly printed and easily read as well as being well spaced for ease of following the interlinear English translation. Second, the format and arrangement of the texts and translations are clear and easily followed. Third, the texts are footnoted with several helpful and informative features including: *Kethib-Qere* readings from the MT; "major textual conjectures" including those of the versions; helpful definitions and explanations regarding measurements, names, etc.

One caution should be kept in mind by the student when using this set. Because the aim of the NIV translators was for "more than a word-for-word translation" with a particular concern for "fidelity to the thought of the biblical writers" (p viii 'Preface') and because this set has an interlinear English translation based "on the vocabulary of the popular New International Version" the interlinear translation will not always accurately reflect lexical meanings. The lexical meaning of individual words is occasionally lost in the 'dynamic equivalence' of the thought.

Armstrong, Terry A, Douglas L Busby and Cyril F Carr

**A Reader's Hebrew-English Lexicon of the Old Testament Vol III**

Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publ Co, 1986, 220 pp hard \$14.95; reviewed by Charles E McLain

This volume covering the Latter Prophets is the third of a

proposed set of four following the order of the Hebrew OT. The general aim of this set is to provide a Hebrew equivalent to Sake Kubo's *Reader's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*. Specifically the set is designed "as a means to a more rapid reading of the Hebrew text." Thus the set is primarily to aid the student in developing reading abilities and to aid the pastor in saving time in translation.

The authors have included much helpful information in this small volume. In the text words occurring fifty or fewer times are listed as they occur verse by verse. The format of each entry is: (1) to list a lexical form of the Hebrew word; (2) to give concise definitions based on Brown, Driver, Brigg's lexicon as checked against usage in context; (3) to survey the frequency of usage as based on the concordances of Lisowsky and Mandelkern (for verbs usages of the particular stem are noted in the book and whole OT as well as all stem usages in the OT; for other words usage in the book and OT as a whole are given); and (4) to give the page number of the corresponding entry in BDB. This section also makes note of suggested meanings and questionable definitions.

In the appendix all words occurring over fifty times with the exception of proper names and numerals are listed. Each entry contains the lexical Hebrew form; several concise definitions (by stem for verbs) and the BDB entry page number.

This reviewer not only appreciated the material

contained in this volume but also the attitude of the authors toward their work. They state that this set "should not, therefore, be considered a replacement to a standard lexicon." In listing the value of this work as an exegetical tool they stress its value as a springboard to more in depth study. In this day of 'self-taught' language programs and promises of language 'mastery' for the layman, the attitude of the authors is refreshing.

Detzler, Wayne A  
**New Testament Words in Today's Language**

Wheaton: Victor Books, 1986, 407 pp cloth \$14.95; reviewed by Gordon H Lovik

In selecting slightly more than two hundred words used in the New Testament, the author provides a general discussion of the words by giving the usual Greek meanings, a survey of its use in the NT, and several illustrations for the pastor or Sunday school teacher. The length of each article is two pages. The author is an evangelical who writes "devotionally" for those not skilled in the Greek language. Unfortunately he provides no table of contents, Scripture index or subject index, which makes the volume difficult to use even though the words are listed alphabetically.

Gundry, Stanley N and Robert L Thomas, editors

**A Harmony of the Gospels with Explanations and Essays**

San Francisco: Harper & Row,

1978, 351 pp hard \$15.00; reviewed by Gordon H Lovik

Using the text of the NASV New Testament the editors have put together a harmony of the four Gospels with helpful footnotes to better understand the text. Included in the volume are twelve helpful essays on subjects relating to the Gospels. Whether the essays are subjects from the critical school or basic studies relating to the life of Christ, their conclusions are conservative and well done. Included are helpful bibliographies to study further the subjects of the essays. This is a helpful study tool.

MacArthur, John Jr

**The MacArthur New Testament Commentary Matthew 1-7**

Chicago: Moody Press, 1985, 506 pp cloth \$14.95; reviewed by Gordon H Lovik

There are few helps for the pastor who comes to Matthew seeking aid in understanding the message of the book. This author, believing in expositional preaching, sets forth explanations and applications that are the fruit of his study and preaching. He provides an English Bible commentary that is conservative, reflects research, and makes use of first century history in its explanations. The comments are very thorough. While not based on the Greek text, the writer's knowledge of Greek is evident throughout the volume. He omits discussion of problem passages and synoptic difficulties. The treatment is undocumented, with a very limited bibliography of only conservative books. Most

readers will find the treatment refreshing and stimulating as they read about Israel's Messiah King from one who loves the Lord deeply.

Morris, Leon

**Reflections on the Gospel of John volume 1 The Word Was Made Flesh John 1-5**

Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1986, 201 pp paper \$8.95; reviewed by Gordon H Lovik

The author is renowned for his solid studies in the Gospel of John. Rather than add another technical work, Leon Morris provides a devotional exposition which is first rate. He assumes a conservative evangelical approach, relating the content paragraph by paragraph. In doing this the thought development of John becomes very clear, although every verse is not treated. Those seeking a proper understanding of John will find it. This volume is the best tool for help in a lengthy Bible study of John that this reviewer has seen. Its quality is sufficient to be used as a text in a college course. It is highly recommended for its clarity and biblical content.

Boice, James Montgomery

**Christ's Call to Discipleship**

Chicago: Moody Press, 1986, 169 pp hard \$9.95; reviewed by John M Garber

This book deals with the false notion that one can be a believer and not a disciple. The author sees the lack of true discipleship to be a fatal defect in the twentieth century church. While there is much talk about Christ and furious activity, there seems

to be very little following of Christ Himself. Dr Boice, who is the author of more than thirty books, has provided a very readable and challenging call to discipleship.

The first of four sections deals with "The Meaning of Discipleship" which includes hearing His call, listening to and obeying His teaching. The section on "The Path of Discipleship" deals with obedience, service, humility and the laying aside of weights of this world's goods and securities. This is a sobering section noting that material blessings are a rightful expectation of the development of man, but that there are many warnings against accumulated riches. We ought to handle wealth as God's property.

The section on "The Cost of Discipleship" warns that in the eagerness to win people to Christ the Gospel is often "watered down" such that believing in Christ hardly means anything. A verbal assent to Christianity is not salvation. While salvation is all of grace through faith, it costs the believer self-righteousness and sin. Salvation is knowing the joy of holiness, rather than the empty mockery of transgressions. Personal opinion must be given up to bring every thought into the captivity of Christ.

The final division deals with "The Rewards of Discipleship." Here the author shows that the happy Christian is best described by the Beatitudes and shows that such an one is like Christ. This is not an easy world, but a tough, hard, grasping, evil, covetous world. Where is a place for those who would be poor in spirit, who mourn for sin, who are meek,

who hunger and thirst after righteousness, who are merciful, who are pure in heart, who are peacemakers, who are persecuted for Jesus' sake? It is at the cross. That is where the imitation of Christ is practiced and where there is fellowship with Him. The world says of such as it did of Christ, that they are not fit to live. At the cross is where the happy Christian is found. At the cross is where the gulf between a holy God and sinful man is bridged. At the cross is where Jesus is found who is the fountain of all happiness.

The book closes with an excellent commentary on the great commission, emphasizing the disciples' responsibility and authority delegated to them by God.

Finzel, Hans

**Unlocking the Scripture: A Fresh, New Look at Inductive Bible Study**

Wheaton: SP Publications, 1986, 144 pp paper \$7.95; reviewed by Curtis Watke

The author has endeavored to set forth a simple approach to the inductive study of the English Bible—and he has accomplished it. The content is structured in a workbook format complete with practice exercises applying the methods which are discussed. The book is divided into thirteen chapters covering the value of Bible study, introduction to inductive Bible study, and step by step instructions in the three stages of observation, interpretation and application. The stages are related to a thorough study of Philippians 2:1-11.

For a pastor who desires to train the laymen in his church in inductive Bible study methodology this workbook provides an excellent source for both instruction in methodology and programmed application. Also included is a leader's guide for use in small group study, a short list of study materials, and endnotes which refer to many of the standard textbooks in inductive Bible study methodology. An outline of the methods taught in the workbook is detachable for use in personal Bible study. This book is highly recommended for use as a workbook in a Bible Institute setting or home Bible study group.

Youssef, Michael

**The Leadership Style of Jesus**

Wheaton: Victor Books, 1986, 168 pp paper \$3.95; reviewed by Jeffrey P Tuttle

True biblical leadership is often little understood and little practiced in our day. In this intriguing study, subtitled "How to Develop the Leadership Qualities of the Good Shepherd" Dr Youssef suggests Christlike qualities every leader needs. Eighteen leadership principles are drawn from the life and ministry of Christ. Five sections deal with the Beginnings, Qualities, Temptations, Problems, and Future of Leadership. While not theologically deep, the book is thoroughly biblical and intensely practical. Pastors and lay leaders alike will benefit from a closeup look at Jesus Christ—the greatest leader that ever lived.