

## **Editorial**

The average person in the pew pays very little attention to the Pastoral Epistles. Many people think that the Pastorals have nothing to say to them because they are not planning to be pastors. Further, the letters are addressed specifically to Timothy and Titus. But Paul expected these epistles to be read by believers. Consider the plural “you” that occurs at the end of each letter (1 Tim 6:21; 2 Tim 4:22; Titus 3:15) which indicates that Paul had not just his specific addressees in view as he wrote but also the church. So, all believers today should read and study these epistles and pastors should preach them.

A flurry of scholarly activity has taken place recently on the Pastoral Epistles—the contributors listed below add their articles to the mix. We are pleased to have as our special guest contributor, Professor I. Howard Marshall, a respected British evangelical New Testament scholar who has recently written a major commentary on the Pastorals. He is Emeritus Professor of New Testament Exegesis at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. He contributes the lead article, “The Pastoral Epistles in (very) Recent Study.” Dr. Terry Wilder is Associate Professor of New Testament at Midwestern. As Dr. Marshall and other scholars believe that the Pastorals were written by someone other than Paul after the apostle’s death, Wilder provides in the second essay, “A Brief Defense of the Pastoral Epistles’ Authenticity.” Dr. Greg Couser, another guest contributor, is Associate Professor of Bible and Greek at Cedarville University. He furnishes the third article, “Using the Law Lawfully: A Short Study on Paul and the Law in 1 Timothy.” Dr. Malcolm Yarnell, now Associate Professor of Systematic Theology and Assistant Dean for Theological Studies at Southwestern Seminary, contributes the fourth article titled, “Oijkoj qeou=: A Theologically Neglected but Important Ecclesiological Metaphor.” Dr. Alan Tomlinson, Associate Professor of New Testament at Midwestern, provides the fifth contribution, some useful exegetical outlines on 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus.

This issue also contains two other articles. Dr. Michael McMullen, Associate Professor of Church History at Midwestern, contributes an article on Robert Murray M’Cheyne, which includes a sermon of the Scottish preacher never before seen in print. Dr. Thomas Johnston, Assistant Professor of Evangelism at Midwestern, also provides an article in which he analyzes the Holman Christian Standard Bible’s use of the term “evangelize.” Enjoy!

Terry L. Wilder  
Editor, *Midwestern Journal of Theology*