

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the Spring 2018 issue of the *Midwestern Journal of Theology*. I am again indebted to those who work so hard each Semester, to ensure the Journal appears. My particular thanks go to Dr. Jason Duesing, Provost and Academic Editor, for all his invaluable assistance, and also to Mrs. Kaylee Freeman, for all her work as Journal secretary.

We are honored to begin this issue, by publishing the 2018 Sizemore Lectures given at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. The two wonderful lectures were given by Dr. Andreas J. Köstenberger from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, on the subject of Biblical Theology. His first lecture, given on March 13th, was entitled ‘The Promise of Biblical Theology: What Biblical Theology Is and What It Isn’t.’ His second lecture, given the following day, was entitled, ‘The Practice of Biblical Theology: How is Biblical Theology Done?’

We are pleased to follow Dr. Köstenberger’s erudite analyses, with articles from three Professors and one Doctoral student at Midwestern Seminary, together with one article from Dr. Hurley of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. These articles begin with a thought-provoking piece from Midwestern’s Hebrew and Old Testament Professor Dr. Stephen Andrews, as he challenges the church, to reconsider the value of learning and using Biblical Hebrew. Dr. Alan Branch, Professor of Ethics at Midwestern, then gives a detailed and timely analytical survey of the relationship between epigenetics and homosexuality. This is followed by an in-depth study from Dr. Todd Chipman, an assistant Professor of Biblical Studies at Midwestern, entitled, ‘Weapons, Wealth and the End of the World,’ as seen in and through the books of Haggai and Hebrews.

Our penultimate article is from Dr. Hurley of Scarborough College at Southwestern Seminary, who presents the fruits of his research into early missions in America, as he compares the missional methodology of the Moravians and the New Lights. Our final article, describing how missions is at the very center of God’s heart, comes from Jason Alligood, a Doctoral student at Midwestern, in his ‘Biblical Theology of the Great Commission’.

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