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Introducing The Jonathan Edwards Centre for Reformed Spirituality

Its mandate

The Jonathan Edwards Centre for Reformed Spirituality seeks to help Reformed Christians and other Evangelicals develop and articulate an orthodox spirituality that is God-glorifying, fully biblical and soul-satisfying. To this end the Centre provides conferences, retreats, and mentoring for church leaders, as well as literature and this bulletin, Eusebeia. The name of Jonathan Edwards has been chosen since Edwards, born exactly three hundred years ago this year and who is recognized as one of the truly great theologians of the Church, had a passion for a spirituality that was deep in its biblical roots and broad in its theological reach. Moreover, the Greek term Eusebeia is ideal for the name of the bulletin of such a Centre since it has such meanings as "piety" and "fear of the Lord."

Some specifics

The Jonathan Edwards Centre for Reformed Spirituality fulfills its mandate under the auspices of Toronto Baptist Seminary (TBS). Toronto Baptist Seminary has been a centre for biblical and theological education since it was founded in 1927. This affiliation with TBS also makes it possible for conferences to be hosted in cooperation with other Reformed seminaries in the Association of Reformed Theological Seminaries (ARTS), an organization in which TBS currently has candidacy status.

Dr. Joel Beeke, the President of Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Dr. Joseph Pipa, the President of Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Greenville, North Carolina—both schools are in ARTS—have agreed to be involved in the teaching ministry of The Jonathan Edwards Centre for Reformed Spirituality, as well as to host conferences. Knox Theological Seminary in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and Dr. George Grant of the King's Meadow Study Center, Franklin, Tennessee, have also agreed to host conferences.

Under the umbrella of TBS, The Jonathan Edwards Centre for Reformed Spirituality will be able to provide tax receipts for all donations for the ongoing ministry of the Centre.

Eusebeis

The Jonathan Edwards Centre for Reformed Spirituality has a publishing arm in Joshua Press—for current information on it, see www.joshuapress.com. Joshua Press is an established publishing house of five years with a backlist of twenty titles—a good number of which deal with spirituality—and world-wide distribution. Joshua Press publishes talks given at the conferences, as well as other titles dealing with historical and contemporary issues that relate to spirituality.

The Centre also publishes Eusebeia: The Bulletin of The Jonathan Edwards Centre for Reformed Spirituality. This is a bi-annual bulletin, appearing in the spring and the autumn, which includes papers given by speakers at Centre conferences as well as other items relevant to the Centre's mandate, including articles, news items, and book reviews.

The staff

Five Senior Fellows are resident and responsible for doing some of the conference speaking, mentoring, and writing. Drs. Michael Haykin, Dennis Ngien, Roger Pascoe, Glendon Thompson, and Byron Wheaton serve in the capacity of Senior Fellow, which is an unsalaried position.

A resident Junior Research Fellow, Ian H. Clary, serves in a parttime capacity as researcher and co-ordinates the running of the Centre.

Visiting Fellows, who lecture at Centre conferences and retreats, include Drs. Joel Beeke, Joseph Pipa, Don Whitney, Carl Trueman, George Grant, and Rev. Fred Zaspel.

One final word

This Centre is an exciting possibility that, under the Triune God and solely by his grace, can have significant impact for his eternal glory. Please support it with your prayers and financial giving.

Michael A G Haykin October 5, 2003 (The tercentennial of the birth-day of Jonathan Edwards).