

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the Fall 2012 issue of the *Midwestern Journal of Theology*. This issue's core theme is cross-cultural contextualization of the Great Commission, and features three lectures given at this year's Midwestern Mission Lecture Series (23-25 October 2012) by Dr. David J. Hesselgrave, Emeritus Professor of Missions & Director of the School of World Mission Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (Deerfield, Illinois) and author of numerous books including *Communicating Christ Cross-Culturally* (2nd ed. 1991), *Planting Churches Cross-Culturally* (2000), and *Paradigms in Conflict: 10 Key Questions in Christian Missions Today* (2005). Dr. Hesselgrave's lectures focus on contextualization of three different Great Commission Fundamentals: (1) the God of the Bible, (2) the Biblical Gospel, and (3) the biblical doctrine of God's judgment of humanity.

We then round out our theme core with a never-before-published sermon on the Gospel (Matt 11:28) by First-Great-Awakening evangelist Jonathan Edwards newly edited by Dr. Michael D. McMullen, Professor of History at Midwestern.

Next on the agenda is an extensive study by historian and Midwestern Seminary's Academic Dean, Dr. Jerry Sutton, comparing the Soteriology of Arminius and the Early Anabaptists. This article is based on research conducted by Dr. Sutton while studying with William R. Estep, noted Baptist historian of the Reformation and Anabaptist movements.

Following this, Midwestern's Professor of Evangelism Thomas P. Johnston translates and discusses a presentation of the Gospel he discovered in a 13th/14th century underground Waldensian-Albigensian manuscript.

Finally, the editor presents a discussion on distinguishing between James Zebedee and James the Brother of Jesus both in the Bible and in their respective iconographies.

As usual we conclude this issue with several interesting and relevant book reviews which we hope you will enjoy. Special thanks go to Dawn Clark for her careful proofreading and editing help.