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EDITORIAL

This edition of the Bulletin features contributions from across the English-speaking world and includes articles from contributors living in Canada, Scotland, The United States of America and Australia.

Clint Humfrey's paper on Robert Haldane presents a figure of importance in Scottish church history, yet one whose life and works are not so widely known today. For myself, while Haldane is a familiar name, this was the first treatment of his life or works I had read other than in the form of a brief survey. It is a welcome addition to the Bulletin. Humfrey addresses a case of 'guilt by association' that undeservedly cast a shadow over Haldane's ministry. As well as introducing Haldane and his ministry, the argument serves to caution against misrepresentation of those who enter into ministry having attained success in other spheres.

In our second article, Catriona Macdonald takes up the subject of faith and feminism. She argues for an understanding of feminism tempered by evangelical belief and studies developments of women's roles in Christian work through the lens of foreign missions. She addresses the subject of unwarranted discrimination and raises to our attention the achievements of women in Christian work, especially since the mid-nineteenth century. Some of the women she discusses in the paper, I expect, will be lesser-known names to us. It is always valuable to learn of saints in the history of the church who have patiently endured trials while faithfully serving in the promotion of the gospel.

Next in this issue is an article from Kenneth Stewart. His paper was originally offered as one of a series of papers at the Patristic and Medieval History group of the Evangelical Theology Society. On that occasion the group engaged with a subject of contemporary interest, namely the influence of asceticism upon evangelicalism. Stewart has newly formed his contribution on that occasion for the purposes of the Bulletin. He expertly guides us through historical movements in church history related to asceticism. He offers a balanced critique of the movement while raising to our attention the importance of sanctification, a matter which must be of chief importance for all who profess Christ. I anticipate readers will appreciate Stewart's coverage of the subject and how he relates these widespread and historic Christian trends to the present day.

Our fourth and final paper, from Timothy Yap, discusses a sermon preached by Charles Spurgeon during the course of London's cholera epidemic in the mid-nineteenth century. The focus of the paper is the manner in which Spurgeon developed characterisation in his sermon to compel his congregation to Christ. We can be grateful to Yap for directing

our attention to Spurgeon's method in this sermon as a means of appealing to a congregation. The subject of the sermon is itself also of interest following Covid-19 and provides a reference point for preaching the gospel in an appealing way in the context of a pandemic.

CONTRIBUTORS IN THIS NUMBER

Revd Clint Humfrey is Senior Pastor of Calvary Grace Church, Calgary, Canada and a PhD student at Theological University Apeldoorn, Netherlands.

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Revd Humfrey's article was originally delivered at the 73rd Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theology Society in Fort Worth, Texas, United States on 16th November 2021.

Professor Stewart's article was originally delivered at the 74th Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theology Society in Denver, Colorado, United States on 16th November 2022.