

School of Religion

Faculty Publications and Presentations

Liberty University

Year 1997

Reports Relating to the Forty-Eighth
Annual Meeting of the Society

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REPORTS RELATING TO THE FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The forty-eighth annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society was held in Jackson, Mississippi, November 21-23, 1996. It was the second largest ETS meeting ever held. The total registration was 894. The Harvey Hotel in historic downtown Jackson provided a lovely and spacious setting. Over two hundred papers were presented as participants from around the world came to fellowship, exchange ideas, critique one another and keep up with the most recent scholarship in their disciplines.

President-elect Moisés Silva served as program chairman and put together a superb array of speakers on the conference theme, "The Holy Spirit—His Presence, Ministry, and Gifts." Plenary speakers were Daniel I. Block, who spoke on "Empowered by the Spirit of God: The Holy Spirit in the Historiographic Writings of the OT"; Richard Gaffin, Jr., who spoke on "Life-Giving Spirit: Probing the Center of Pauline Pneumatology"; and invited guests Gary M. Burge, whose topic was "Spirit and Christology in John," and Gerald Bray, who answered the question, "Can Evangelical Theology Dispense with the Double Procession of the Holy Spirit?"

More than two hundred parallel sessions were conducted on the conference theme and other disciplines such as OT, NT, theology, missions, archeology, and much more. Parallel programs were conducted by the Evangelical Philosophical Society, the Near East Archaeological Society and the Adventist Theological Society. Study groups were held in the areas of dispensationalism, hermeneutics, literary studies, and Stone-Campbell theology.

The food and fare of the annual fellowship banquet on Thursday evening was enjoyed by a crowd of four hundred. Afterwards Robert C. Newman delivered his ETS presidential address, "Breadmaking with Jesus." The audience listened intently as Newman masterfully presented and applied an exposition of Jesus' warning about the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees. Moved deeply by what had been heard, the audience could scarcely cease its applause.

Forty-eight display tables, featuring the latest books and computer software, adorned the prefunction area of the Harvey. Business was brisk, and many suitcases were heavier on the return trip home.

During the first business session, president Newman welcomed the attendees and president-elect Silva gave a brief devotional. Following the adoption of the agenda, secretary-treasurer James Borland presented the membership and financial reports:

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

	Total	Full	Assoc.	Student
Active membership 11/1/95	2287	1394	556	337
New members	273	102	60	111
Members reactivated	29	20	7	2
Changed status	0	6	0	(6)
Members dropped	(243)	(100)	(60)	(82)
Failed to pay 1996	212	88	57	67
Dropped per request	12	1	7	4
Bad addresses	15	7	3	5
Deceased	4	4	0	0
Total membership 11/1/96	2346	1422	556	368

FINANCIAL REPORT

EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
YEARS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1996 and 1995

	1996	1995
REVENUES		
Dues and subscriptions	\$ 64,258.52	\$ 59,926.51
Annual meeting	41,077.00	48,771.00
Interest on savings	6,657.07	7,412.04
Miscellaneous income	<u>4,411.45</u>	<u>7,709.28</u>
	116,404.04	123,818.83
EXPENSES		
<i>JETS</i>	54,321.47	29,989.48
Accounting	545.00	500.00
Annual meeting	15,150.34	13,629.76
<i>Newsletter</i>	890.00	844.00
Office and general	6,425.63	4,263.78
Office equipment	1,757.07	0.00
Postage	6,475.00	5,280.98
Regional	2,500.00	1,500.00
Salary	6,756.85	6,034.78
Stipends	<u>22,400.00</u>	<u>18,000.00</u>
	119,309.21	80,042.78
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	(2,905.17)	43,776.05
NET ASSETS, beginning of year	<u>187,855.76</u>	<u>144,079.71</u>
NET ASSETS, end of year	\$ 184,950.59	\$ 187,855.76

In the second business session, president Newman called the meeting to order. Vice-president Norman Geisler then gave a brief devotional and led in prayer. James Borland read short reports on the spring meetings of the various ETS sections. *JETS* editor Ronald Youngblood had to be in New York City to receive this year's Citation of Appreciation from the Laymen's National Bible Association, an award that he accepted on behalf of the *New International Reader's Version* translation team. In his absence, Borland read Ron's report on the status of the *Journal*. Ron noted that the size of *JETS* was increased to 176 pages per issue in 1996, and he reiterated his goal of having each issue of the *Journal* in our members' hands by the month printed on the cover.

The secretary-treasurer then read memorials for our members who had gone to be with the Lord during 1996. These included Robert Alden, Donald Burdick, Ralph Keiper, John Lawrence, Thomas McComiskey and Harold Stigers. He then led in prayer.

During the second business session the following officers were elected for 1996:

President—Moisés Silva
 President-Elect—Norman L. Geisler
 Vice-President—Wayne A. Grudem
 Vacancy on Executive Committee—Robert C. Newman
 Vacancies on Membership Committee—Robert Pyne
 and Gary W. Derickson

The Society adopted the report of the resolutions committee, composed of H. Wayne House and Kenneth Barker:

RESOLUTION ONE

Whereas the Evangelical Theological Society exists for defending the faith, and

Whereas the annual national meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society provides opportunity for networking with other evangelical students and scholars for intellectual stimulation and fellowship, and

Whereas the forty-eighth annual meeting has convened a collection of scholars and presenters in an atmosphere of discussion and debate on the important theme of God the Holy Spirit and a variety of other topics,

Therefore be it resolved that the Evangelical Theological Society, meeting in plenary session on November 22, 1996, commend Moisés Silva for his labors in planning the program.

RESOLUTION TWO

Whereas the physical well-being can affect how the mind receives information, and whereas the Evangelical Theological Society planning team, in cooperation with the management and staff of the Harvey Hotel in Jackson, Mississippi, and especially Jan Wilson, has created an atmosphere in which the Society can meet in comfort and convenience, and

Whereas one of the pleasures of coming to the annual meeting is reviewing and purchasing newly published books, and

Whereas the work of registration demands considerable effort,

Therefore be it resolved that the Evangelical Theological Society, meeting in plenary session on November 22, 1996, commends James Borland and his son Daniel for handling the details of registration and arrangements, and Rosalind Hal and Suzanne Schutt of the Jackson Convention and Visitors Center who assisted in the registration, and

Be it further resolved that the Evangelical Theological Society express gratitude for the many exhibitors this year, and

Be it further resolved that the Evangelical Theological Society extend appreciation for the daughter organizations of the Society—namely, the Near East Archaeological Society, the Evangelical Philosophical Society, and the Adventist Theological Society—and the study groups for their important participation this year.

The dates, places, and themes for future annual meetings are:

1997, Santa Clara, California: "General Revelation."

1998, Orlando, Florida: "Teaching Them All Things. . . ."

1999, Boston, Massachusetts: "Eschatology."

2000, "Israel: Past, Present and Future."

Our Society anticipates continued growth and effectiveness in its scholarly presentations and discussions in the years ahead. I encourage each member to join us November 20–22, 1997, at the Santa Clara Westin Hotel and Convention Center as we consider "General Revelation." Hotel rooms are \$75.00 per night for up to quad occupancy and may be secured by dialing 1-800-WESTIN-1.

JAMES A. BORLAND