



A Quarterly Journal for Church Leadership
Volume 7 • Number 1 • WINTER 1998

Our Lord has many weak children in his family, many dull pupils in his school, many raw soldiers in his army, many lame sheep in his flock. Yet he bears with them all, and casts none away. Happy is that Christian who has learned to do likewise with his brethren.

—J. C. RYLE

The excellence of the church does not consist in multitude but in purity.

—JOHN CALVIN

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

John H. Armstrong

Adams, Jay E. *Handbook of Church Discipline*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1986. A very useful small book that takes a sound approach to church discipline.

Alston, Wallace M., Jr. *The Church*. Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1984. A volume in a helpful series, "Guides to the Reformed Tradition," edited by John H. Leith and John W. Kuykendall. This is a readable and profitable book, but is now out of print.

Anslie, James L. *The Doctrines of Ministerial Order in the Reformed Churches of the 16th and 17th Centuries*. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1940. A very helpful historical overview that is worth finding in a theological library or from a used book dealer.

Aulen, Gustaf. *Eucharist and Sacrifice*. Edinburgh: Oliver & Boyd, 1958. Bishop Aulen, one of the great Lutheran theologians of our time, directs attention to the sacrifice motif in the thought of Luther, Irenaeus, Cyprian and the apostle Paul.

Avis, Paul D. *The Church in the Theology of the Reformers*. Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1981. A serious academic study of the marks of the church as tied to its ministry and mission.

Baillie, D. M. *The Theology of the Sacraments*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1957. Baillie, late professor of systematic theology in the University of St. Andrews, was an able writer but not always a confessionalist in his views.

- Bannerman, D. Douglas. *The Scriptural Doctrine of the Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1976 reprint. Bannerman, who taught at New College, Edinburgh, originally presented the famous Cunningham Lectures, and from this presentation came this extremely valuable work. This is classical Reformed thought.
- Bannerman, James. *The Church of Christ*. (Two Volumes) Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1974 reprint. This is a classic treatment of the first principles of the church from a Presbyterian position. Useful and recommended.
- Basden, Paul and David Dockery, editors. *The People of God: Essays on the Believers' Church*. Nashville: Broadman, 1991. This extremely useful volume should be used by all who are interested in the free church baptistic tradition. It is a well-designed and well-written collection of original essays.
- Beasley-Murray, G. R. *Baptism in the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1962. One of the most impressive scholarly arguments written on the subject. This is a work of first rate scholarship!
- Blue, Ken. *Healing Spiritual Abuse: How to Break Free from Bad Church Experiences*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity, 1993. Many are victims of abusive church leadership in North America. This little volume is very helpful in understanding the problem and in getting out if you are trapped.
- *Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *Life Together*. New York: Harper, 1954. This little book is a classic on the life of the Christian in community. I have read it again and again and regard it very highly.
- Bridge, Donald and David Phypers. *Communion: The Meal That Unites?* Wheaton, Illinois: Harold Shaw, 1981. An introduction to the Lord's Supper which attempts to show how various interpretations of the meal divide us

- and why some of these views should not divide us.
- Bridge, Donald and David Phypers. *The Water That Divides*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity, 1977. In the same vein as the book above on the Lord's Supper. Helpful and irenic.
- Bromiley, Geoffrey W. *Children of the Promise: The Case for Baptizing Infants*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1979. Bromiley, retired as professor at Fuller Theological Seminary, writes from an evangelical Anglican stance.
- Bromiley, Geoffrey W. *Sacramental Teaching and Practice in the Reformation Churches*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1957. This is a useful small book now out of print.
- Bromiley, Geoffrey W. *The Unity and Disunity of the Church*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1958. A marvelous little book rarely found today.
- Brooks, Oscar S. *The Drama of Decision: Baptism in the New Testament*. Peabody, Massachusetts, 1987. Brooks seeks to show how the New Testament follows a central unifying theme regarding water baptism.
- Bruce, Robert. Translated and edited by Thomas F. Torrance. *The Mystery of the Lord's Supper*. Richmond, Virginia: John Knox Press, 1958 reprint. This volume includes the sermons of Bruce preached before the Kirk of Edinburgh in 1589. A wonderful volume of practical, heart-searching divinity.
- Booth, Robert R. *Children of the Promise*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1995. Booth, formerly a Baptist, provides an argument for infant baptism which convinced him to change his own ecclesiastical position.
- Bunyan, John. *Baptism and Church Communion*. Laurel, Mississippi: Audubon Press, 1995 reprint. Bunyan believed that baptism was for believers, yet he refused to close

the communion table to only those so baptized. This reprint gives his view.

Carson, Alexander. *Baptism . . . Its Mode and Subjects*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1977 reprint. Carson, an Irish Presbyterian, came to Baptist beliefs and sought to explain how and why. An able nineteenth-century work.

Carson, D. A. (Editor). *The Church in the Bible and the World*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1987. A collection of essays published on behalf of the World Evangelical Fellowship.

*Clowney, Edmund P. *The Church*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity, 1995. Clowney, who has served the church ably for a lifetime, provides one of the finest theological works on the doctrine of the church now available. (Cf. review in this issue.)

Cunningham, William. *Discussions on Church Principles: Popish, Erastian, and Presbyterian*. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1863. This is a standard work on the three systems of polity both historically and theologically.

Eastwood, Cyril. *The Royal Priesthood of the Faithful*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1963. This volume covers the doctrine of the priesthood of the believer from biblical times until the Protestant Reformation.

Eastwood, Cyril. *The Priesthood of All Believers*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1962. The companion volume to the above which covers the doctrine from the Reformation until the present time. Serious students of this great truth need these volumes.

Elert, Werner. *Eucharist and Church Fellowship in the First Four Centuries*. St. Louis: Concordia, 1966. Elert, the late professor of theology at the University of Erlangen, was a great Lutheran theologian. This work is valuable for serious students.

Ferguson, Everett. *The Church of Christ: A Biblical Ecclesiology for Today*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996. Ferguson, a respected biblical scholar, has written a genuine biblical theology of the church. He grounds the subject in the person and work of Christ.

Frame, John M. *Evangelical Reunion: Denominations and the Body of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1991. Frame's approach has an appeal due to the need for greater expression of unity in Christ, but I am afraid it will leave opposing sides unhappy with the solutions offered.

Furman, Richard. *The Children of Church Members*. Laurel, Mississippi: Audubon Press, 1995 reprint. It is often thought that Baptists have no place for children since they do not baptize them into the visible church on the basis of the covenant. Furman, a nineteenth-century Baptist, shows why this is not true and challenges parents regarding their proper duties. A valuable little booklet.

Giles, Kevin. *What on Earth Is the Church?* Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity, 1995. Giles, an Anglican, explores the subject from the standpoint of a New Testament theology.

Griffiths, Michael. *God's Forgetful Pilgrims*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1975. This little out-of-print volume helped me immensely when I preached a series on the church twenty years ago. Highly recommended but hard to find.

Hall, David W. and Joseph H. Hall. *Paradigms in Polity: Classic Readings in Reformed and Presbyterian Government*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994. A much-needed and useful resource volume.

Harvey, Hezekiah. *The Church: Its Polity and Ordinances*. Rochester, New York: Backus Books (P. O. Box 17274),

1982 reprint. Harvey (1821–93) was professor in Hamilton Theological Seminary, and wrote what is still one of the very best Baptist works available.

Jewett, Paul K. *Infant Baptism and the Covenant of Grace*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1978. The late Paul Jewett wrote one of the two or three finest volumes available on the subject. Both Baptists and non-Baptists should read it and discuss the content, both irenically and seriously.

Kingdon, David. *Children of Abraham*. Haywards Heath, England: Carey Publications, 1973. A very well-written Reformed Baptist study of the covenant and children. Needs to be reprinted for another generation.

Klug, Eugene F. A. *Church and Ministry: The Role of Church, Pastor and People from Luther to Walther*. St. Louis: Concordia, 1993. To understand the Lutheran view of the church this is a wonderful place to begin.

Kuiper, R. A. *The Glorious Body of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, n.d. The late professor Kuiper gave us an important study in this volume. This book, along with Clowney above, would probably be the best *basic* Reformed volumes written during the last fifty years.

Leith, John H. *The Church: A Believing Fellowship*. Atlanta: John Knox, 1981. Leith, a wonderfully clear thinker with a true gift for writing, provides a solid answer to the question: "What does it mean to be a member of the church?"

Leithart, Peter J. *The Kingdom and the Power*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1993. Leithart, a Presbyterian pastor, helps us to see the church's role in the present cultural decline. A significant interaction with some Reformed models that need such a critique from within the camp.

*Mack, Wayne A. and David Swavely. *Life in the Father's House*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1996. This book is a member's guide to the local church and is the kind of resource pastors can use to train and equip new members for responsible life in the community of Christ.

MacGregor, Geddes. *Corpus Christi*. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1958. This is a serious study of the nature of the church according to the Reformed tradition. Full and quite useful.

Marquart, Kurt E. *The Church and Her Fellowship, Ministry, and Government*. Fort Wayne, Indiana: The International Foundation for Lutheran Confessional Research, 1990. One in a series edited by the late Robert D. Preus which opens up the Lutheran concern for the church.

Marshall, I. Howard. *Last Supper and Lord's Supper*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1980. Marshall, a Methodist New Testament scholar, opens the text with clarity, but cannot escape some of his own presuppositions at certain points.

Milne, Bruce. *We Belong Together: The Meaning of Fellowship*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity, 1978. This simple book is quite helpful.

Olson, Jeannine E. *One Ministry, Many Roles: Deacons and Deaconesses Through the Centuries*. St. Louis: Concordia, 1992. A complex subject opened up with much erudition and helpful insight. The only modern survey of this subject which covers the entire history of the church.

Peck, T. E. *Notes on Ecclesiology*. Greenville, South Carolina: Greenville Presbyterian Seminary Press (P. O. Box 9279), 1994 reprint. A helpful photo reprint of an 1892 volume of note.

- Richardson, Cyril Charles. *The Church Through the Centuries*. New York: Scribners, 1938. A survey of the various ways the word "church" has been used with attention given to the historical/theological questions.
- Sing, Poh Boon. *The Keys of the Kingdom*. 106 Jalan BS 5/3, Taman Bukit Serdang, 43300 Seri Kembangan, Malaysia, 1995. This study of the biblical form of church government, by a Malaysian Reformed Baptist minister, is a helpful critique of the form of government known as independency.
- Sasse, Hermann. *This Is My Body*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1959. This is a study of Luther's contention for the real presence of Christ in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. An important theological treatment.
- Saucy, Robert L. *The Church in God's Program*. Chicago: Moody, 1972. A dispensational theologian provides an extremely useful volume. Recently reprinted. Simple and helpful.
- Smith, David L. *All God's People: A Theology of the Church*. Wheaton, Illinois: Bridgepoint Books, 1996. Smith, a professor in Providence Seminary, Manitoba, surveys the subject of the church universal in historical, biblical and systematic perspective.
- Strauch, Alexander. *Biblical Eldership: An Urgent Call to Restore Biblical Church Leadership*. Littleton, Colorado: Lewis & Roth Publishers (P. O. Box 569), 1986. A widely used volume which is useful if balanced by retaining the proper view of a divine call to the ministry of the Word given to some elders but not to all.
- Walker, Warham. *Harmony in the Church: Church Discipline*. Rochester, New York: Backus Books, 1981 reprint. Another Baptist reprint that is useful in understanding a sound view of church discipline.

- Warns, Johannes. *Baptism*. Minneapolis: James & Klock, 1976. Warns (1874-1937), a German who came to Baptist views, provides a serious study of baptism in relation to the concept of the state church and then demonstrates why this view is important for our time. An important book.
- White, John and Ken Blue. *Healing the Wounded: The Costly Love of Church Discipline*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity, 1985. This is a well-written argument for the practice of church discipline.
- Whitney, Donald S. *Spiritual Disciplines Within the Church*. Chicago: Moody, 1996. Answers, very practically, questions such as: "Why go to church?" or "Why join a church?" etc., very well. Could be used by pastors for new member orientation.