

FALL BIBLE STUDY—OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS

By Prof. James T. Dennison, Jr

Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm

Beginning September 9, 2010

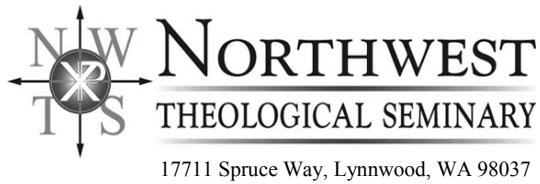
(first Thursday of the Fall Semester)



WEBSITE RESOURCES

The NWTS faculty's response to the continuing discussion of merit in Reformed circles is available at kerux.com ("Merit or 'Entitlement' in Reformed Covenant Theology: A Review"). The lecture series on the "Life of David" is now complete and can be downloaded in MP3 format at nwts.edu.

Please visit www.nwts.edu for schedule and class updates; downloadable lectures and more!



Volume 11, Issue 2

June 2010



NORTHWEST THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY NEWSLETTER

His story is...

Our Story

ON THE PASSOVER BY MELITO OF SARDIS

1. First of all, the Scripture about the Hebrew Exodus has been read and the words of the mystery have been explained as to how the sheep was sacrificed and the people were saved. 2. Therefore, understand this, O beloved: The mystery of the passover is new and old, eternal and temporal, corruptible and incorruptible, mortal and immortal in this fashion:

3. It is old insofar as it concerns the law, but new insofar as it concerns the gospel; temporal insofar as it concerns the type, eternal because of grace; corruptible because of the sacrifice of the sheep, incorruptible because of the life of the Lord; mortal because of his burial in the earth, immortal because of his resurrection from the dead. 4. The law is old, but the gospel is new; the type was for a time, but grace is forever. The sheep was corruptible, but the Lord is incorruptible, who was crushed as a lamb, but who was resurrected as God. For although he was led to sacrifice as a sheep, yet he was not a sheep; and although he was as a lamb without voice, yet indeed

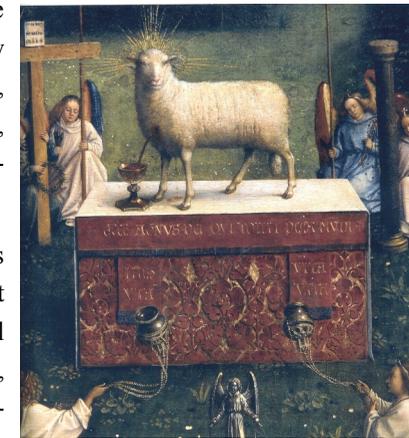
he was not a lamb. The one was the model; the other was found to be the finished product.

5. For God replaced the lamb, and a man the sheep; but in the man was Christ, who contains all things. 6. Hence, the sacrifice of the sheep, and the sending of the lamb to slaughter, and the writing of the law—each led to and issued in Christ, for whose sake everything happened in the ancient law, and even more so in the new gospel. 7. For indeed the law issued in the gospel—the old in the new, both coming forth together from Zion and

Jerusalem; and the commandment issued in grace, and the type in the finished product, and the lamb in the Son, and the sheep in a man, and the man in God.

8. For the one who was born as Son, and led to slaughter as a lamb, and sacrificed as a sheep, and buried as a man, rose up from the dead as God, since he is by nature both God and man. 9. He is

(Continued on page 3)



STUDENTS

We expect two returning students in the fall and have an M.Div. application for a new student in process.

We covet your prayers for our student body.

FACULTY NEWS

Dr. Bill Dennison, Professor of Apologetics and Systematic Theology, is involved in a public forum discussion of “Christ and Culture” with Daryl Hart, Nelson Kloosterman, and Doug Wilson, available at: <http://reformedforum.org/category/guests/bill-dennison/>. Also available at this link are interviews with Bill on his books *Paul’s Two Age Construction and Apologetics* and *The Young Bultmann: Context of his Understanding of God*.

Bill also has the following forthcoming (all in one volume) in the Summer of 2010: “Comparing J. Gresham Machen and Rudolf Bultmann: Reflections upon the Marburg Experience, 1905-06” *Journal for the History of Modern Theology/Zeitschrift für Neuere Theologiegeschichte* (2010). [part one]. J. Gresham Machen’s Letters Home from Marburg, 1905-06,” edited, forward, and footnotes by William D. Dennison. *Journal for the History of Modern Theology/Zeitschrift für Neuere Theologiegeschichte* (2010). [part two]. Rudolf Bultmann’s Review of J. Gresham Machen’s, *The Origin of Paul’s Religion*,” [republication of Bultmann’s review that appeared in *Theologische Literaturzeitung* (1924), William D. Dennison, facilitator, an English translation by Richard B. Gaffin, Jr.], *Journal for the History of Modern Theology/Zeitschrift für Neuere Theologiegeschichte* (2010). [part three].

Bill presented two Lectures on “The Marburg Experience of J. Gresham Machen and Rudolf Bultmann in 1905-06” at Sandy Springs Presbyterian Church, Maryville, TN (James Ganzevoort, Pastor) on September 13, and at Cornerstone OPC, Chattanooga, TN (Calvin Keller, Pastor) on December 13, 20. He presented the same material as one lecture on October 25 at Immanuel OPC, Coraopolis, PA (Mark Garcia, Pastor). Bill will also be teaching Apologetics for MTIOPC (Ministerial Training Institute OPC) for the Summer of 2010.

Rev. J. Peter Vosteen, Professor of Homiletics, continues to supply occasionally at Burlington URC in Burlington, WA. On May 9, he preached at Cornerstone OPC in Chattanooga, TN.

Scott F. Sanborn, Professor of Systematic Theology, is working on an article and book review for *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary*.

DONATIONS

Our summer is a challenging time for us. Please do not forget to include NWTs in your giving. We appreciate all your support and prayers.

everything: in that he judges he is law, in that he teaches he is gospel, in that he saves he is grace, in that he begets he is Father, in that he is begotten he is Son, in that he suffers he is sheep, in that he is buried he is man, in that he comes to life again he is God. 10. Such is Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever. Amen.

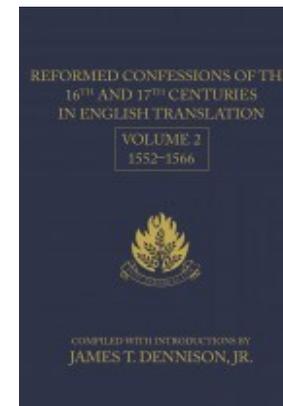
31. O inexpressible mystery! the sacrifice of the sheep was found to be the salvation of the people, and the death of the sheep became the life of the people. For its blood warded off the angel. 32. Tell me, O angel, At what were you turned away? At the sacrifice of the sheep, or the life of the Lord? At the death of the sheep, or the type of the Lord? At the blood of the sheep, or the Spirit of the Lord? Clearly, you were turned away 33. because you saw the mystery of the Lord taking place in the sheep, the life of the Lord in the sacrifice of the sheep, the type of the Lord in the death of the sheep. For this reason you did not strike Israel, but it was Egypt alone that you made childless.

71. This is the lamb that was slain. This is the lamb that was silent. This is the one who was born of Mary, that beautiful ewe-lamb. This is the one who was taken from the flock, and was dragged to sacrifice, and was killed in the evening, and was buried at night; the one who was not broken while on the tree, who did not see dissolution while in the earth, who rose up from the dead, and who raised up mankind from the grave below.

103. Therefore, come, all families of men, you who have been befouled with sins, and receive forgiveness for your sins. I am your forgiveness, I am the passover of your salvation, I am the lamb which was sacrificed for you, I am your ransom, I am your light, I am your saviour, I am your resurrection, I am your king, I am leading you up to the heights of heaven, I will show you the eternal Father, I will raise you up by my right hand.

(The above excerpts were taken from the *Peri Pascha* of Melito of Sardis (ca. 180 AD), the full text of which is available online at

JUST RELEASED



Volume Two of *Reformed Confessions of the 16th and 17th Centuries in English Translation* by Academic Dean and Professor of Church History and Biblical Theology, James T. Dennison, Jr. This volume contains 35 Confessions from 1552 to 1566, including the first English translations of Reformed Confessions from Eastern Europe, i.e., Hungary and Poland.

It also contains the 1558 Geneva response to the anti-Trinitarians (Biandrata, Alciati, and Gentile) when Lattanzio Ragnoni was pastor of the Italian refugee church there. This congregation was a magnet for Italian humanists and was therefore a significant battleground for Trinitarian orthodoxy. To order from the publisher, see the nwts.edu website.