

# Calvin Studies V



**Presented at a Colloquium on  
Calvin Studies  
at  
Davidson College  
and  
Davidson College Presbyterian Church  
Davidson, North Carolina**

---

John H. Leith  
January 19-20, 1990

## PREFACE

The Davidson Colloquium on Calvin Studies has from the beginning sought to bring together communities of faith and learning in the common study of Reformed theology and its significance for contemporary life in the church and in the world. Church people, ministers of the Word and sacrament, and academicians meet together to hear papers, to discuss, and to share common fellowship. The Fifth Colloquium, held at Davidson College Presbyterian Church on January 19-20, 1990, was attended by over 120 persons.

A highlight of the conference was the presentation at the dinner on Friday evening of scrolls to four persons who have made significant contributions to the Colloquium and to Calvin studies. The inscriptions on the scrolls are printed on page 5. The scrolls were framed by Charles Cooke, M.D., out of oak and walnut wood that was grown in the Davidson community.

The papers are printed very much as they were given. In addition, this collection contains the translation of an article by Professor Rodolphe Peter from Strasbourg. It has been made available by the very kind permission of the editors of *Revue d'Histoire et de Philosophie Religieuses*. Professor Peter was an outstanding Calvin scholar of this generation.

The Lilly Foundation made available funds which enhanced the conference and which enabled us to invite Professor Thomas F. Torrance from Scotland and Professor Wilhelm Neuser from Germany. Robert Lynn and Craig Dykstra of the Lilly Foundation were alike personally interested in this conference, and to them we wish to express our great appreciation.

The proofreading for this collection was done by Michael Bush, Mary Catherine Miller, and William T. Stuart, M.D. Sally Hicks did the typing and copyediting.

Appreciation must also be expressed to Davidson College President John Kuykendall and Professor Alexander McKelway, to the Davidson College Presbyterian Church, Charles Raynal, minister, and Carol Barber, administrator, and especially to Dr. and Mrs. Richards Burts, who served as registrars and facilitators for the conference.

The next Davidson Colloquium will be held in January, 1992. Its theme will focus on life in the church and will include discussion of piety, catechetics, and worship.

John H. Leith

## Table of Contents

Preface .....	1
The Davidson Colloquium on Calvin Studies: A Brief History .....	5
<i>John H. Leith</i>	
Presentations for Distinguished Service to Calvin Studies .....	5
The Doctrine of the Holy Trinity: Gregory of Nazianzen and Calvin .....	7
<i>Thomas F. Torrance, Emeritus Professor of Theology, University of Edinburgh</i>	
The Work of the Calvin Congresses and their Future Tasks and Goals .....	21
<i>Wilhelm Neuser, University of Münster</i>	
The Work of the Holy Spirit in Calvin's Theology .....	29
<i>I. John Hesselink, Professor of Theology, Western Theological Seminary</i>	
Heinrich Bullinger's Theology: Thematic, Comprehensive, Schematic .....	41
<i>Edward A. Dowey, Emeritus Professor of Historical Theology, Princeton Theological Seminary</i>	
The Spread of Apocalypticism, 1188-1500: Why Calvin Could Not Reject It ..	61
<i>E. Randolph Daniel, Professor of Medieval History, University of Kentucky</i>	
Calvin's Teaching About Eternal Life .....	73
<i>Charles Raynal, Pastor, Davidson College Presbyterian Church</i>	
The Constructive Revolutionary Revisited .....	95
<i>W. Fred Graham, Professor of Religion, Michigan State University</i>	
The Body in Calvin's Theology .....	103
<i>James Goodloe, Pastor, Gilwood Presbyterian Church, Concord, North Carolina</i>	
Calvin's Significance for Evangelism Today .....	119
<i>Merwyn Johnson, Professor of Theology, Erskine College</i>	
The Geneva Primer or Calvin's Elementary Catechism .....	135
<i>Rodolphe Peter, Strasbourg University. Translated by Charles Raynal from Revue d'histoire et de Philosophie Religieuses</i>	