

# Calvin Studies XII



Presented at a Colloquium on Calvin Studies  
Erskine Theological Seminary  
Due West, South Carolina  
January 27 – 28, 2006

Michael D. Bush

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*Editor*

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## PREFACE

The Twelfth Colloquium on Calvin Studies met January 27 & 28, 2006 at Erskine Theological Seminary.

John H. Leith began organizing these gatherings of Calvin scholars and pastors in the early 1980s. He believed both pastoral ministry and Calvin scholarship would be strengthened by such a regular gathering. For many years, the Colloquium met at Davidson College Presbyterian Church, where Charles Raynal was pastor. When Dr. Raynal moved to Columbia Theological Seminary to direct the Doctor of Ministry program, the Colloquium moved with him. As the time came to begin organizing a Colloquium in 2006, he passed responsibility for the Colloquium to my colleague Richard Burnett and me, in order to host it in John Leith's home village, and at the institution where he first studied theology. We appreciate this opportunity to serve.

We owe several debts of gratitude. The administration of Erskine College and Seminary has supported the Colloquium in many ways. The Rev. Neely Gaston, Executive Vice President of Erskine Seminary, has provided encouragement and material resources. Faith Murdock worked tirelessly at organizing the logistics, putting up with professorial disorder with astonishment and good humor. The staff of Moffatt Dining Hall provided splendid meals, and laid out the Friday evening banquet wonderfully.

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), through the agency of Dr. Joseph Small of the Office of Theology and Worship, has supported the Colloquium financially and with encouragement.

While many people gave time and energy to bring the Twelfth Colloquium together, the one person of whom it can be said that without his vision, relationships, and work ethic it would not have occurred is Richard Burnett. He realized Erskine could and perhaps should serve God and the constituents of this Colloquium well by offering to host this occasion, and poured himself into making it work.

The papers presented here, with one exception, were presented at the Colloquium. Almost all the scholars who presented them have indicated that their papers represented their thinking at the time regarding issues of ongoing interest and study, and most intend in the future to publish revisions or expanded presentations of their research. Following a precedent set by John Leith, one paper is included in this collection that was not presented. The Rev. G. Christopher Scruggs's paper on Calvin's ecclesiology as a resource for post-modern Presbyterian polity is included because of its timeliness, and because it does not fit our plans for the Colloquium before 2012, when its relevance may have passed.