

EDITORIAL

Welcome to a very special issue of the *Midwestern Journal of Theology*. As has already been noted, we are honoring the contribution of a beloved professor at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Dr. Alan F. Tomlinson with this, our Fall 2016 *MJT*. The articles have all been submitted by his colleagues, friends and former students. I would like to again, thank all those who have given willingly of their time, to make this issue a reality. Special thanks are due to Dr. Todd Chipman, for his initial vision of such a tribute, and for his commissioning of the articles. Thanks go to Dr. Jason K. Allen, for his moving tribute to Dr. Tomlinson, and to Dr. Jason Duesing, for his valuable oversight of the Journal.

We have eight scholarly yet helpful pieces in this issue, all of which are reflective of Dr. Tomlinson's passion, the Word of God. We begin with Dr. Chipman's fruit of research into linguistic studies, with his 'What is the Perfect State', where he investigates linguistic aspects of the Epistle to the Hebrews. This is followed by Dr. Eric Turner's investigation into the use of Metaphors in scripture, especially in 2 Corinthians 4:7. Dr. Bechtold then expertly introduces us to the hermeneutics of Old Testament Narrative. 1 Peter then becomes the focus, as Dr. Liebengood explores the Trinitarian foundation of that Epistle's missional identity and in so doing, seeks to help his readers participate more fully, in the Life of God. Dr. Lockett then steers us towards another Epistle, as he reveals how James uses Scripture in developing a theme. We then shift from biblical books per se, to a study of a person, namely the letter-carrier Phoebe, with Dr. Wilder's analysis of her impact on biblical theology. Another of Midwestern's own, Dr. Madsen, then gives the very pointed challenge - 'listen to Him', as he carefully unpacks the exhortation given in Matthew 17:5, in the context of the Transfiguration narrative. Our penultimate piece is from the pen of Dr. Lee, with his research into the areas of sacrifice, Monotheism and Christology. Dr. Mark DeVine provides the final article, with his fresh analysis of the twin concepts of *Shalom* and *Khessed*.

This special issue of the *MJT* again concludes, with several relevant and thought provoking book reviews, edited by Dr. Blake Hearson.