

Crucible Editorial May 2016

Dear readers,

Welcome to our latest edition of *Crucible*. This edition has been generated by my colleagues here at Malyon College, Brisbane, Australia.

The edition exemplifies the best of what *Crucible* offers its readers. "*Crucible's* aim is to enhance creative thinking about the relationship of biblical and theological principles to the life, ministry and mission of the church. It is a forum for scholars and practitioners to publish material, interact and resource the Christian community."

In the peer-reviewed section, *Cauldron*, we have three articles emerging from three different theological disciplines: Bible and language, Systematic Theology and Practical Theology.

First, we have an article by D Morcom on the authorship of 2 Peter. Drawing on recent literature on Greek-language literacy in 1st Century Palestine, D is able to demonstrate that the widely held assumption that the Galilean fisherman could not have written the Petrine corpus is far from certain.

Alongside D's article we have one from Anne Klose on "Church and Mission in Redemption: Exploring Church and Mission through the Communal and Missional Priesthood of All Believers." Addressing the sometimes perceived tension between church and mission, Anne lucidly demonstrates that the church is not comprehensible as a covenant community unless she is turned outward to the world in mission.

The final article in the *Cauldron* section addresses the strongly contemporary issue of self-worth. Peter Sondergeld critiques the current popular obsession with "self-esteem" from a theological perspective highlighting the shortfalls of the concept and affirming the alternative, Christian, basis for self-worth.

In the Test-Tube section we have two articles emerging straight from the furnace of ministry. Peter Francis presents an engaging narrative about a short term mission trip to a former Eastern-Block nation. The story deals with some big issues related to cross-cultural ministry in a profoundly practical manner.

John Sweetman draws on his vast experience and insight to generate some sage advice for those in vocational ministry. Although the statistics on burnout trends remain a little inconclusive, it remains a dangerous hazard for those in vocational ministry and so John's suggestions for longevity are well worth a read.

The edition also includes a number of reviews of a diverse range of books in the Filter section.

My thanks to my Malyon Colleagues who took on this challenge of generating our own college-specific edition on top of everything else they are trying to do.

A special thanks also to our peer-reviewers. Because of our double-blind peer review process, you are the unsung heroes without whom the Journal could not function. My appreciation for taking on a thankless task for the benefit of others.

Finally, thanks to my colleagues on the *Crucible* editorial executive, Brian Edgar, Stuart Devenish, Ian Packer, Rob Fringer, Steve Smith, Graeme Chatfield and Cheryl McCallum. Your expertise and willingness to serve is an encouragement.

The November edition of *Crucible* will be a "generic" edition. We are open to submission of articles in all three sections. Please spread the word about *Crucible* amongst your colleagues.

Kind regards

Ian