



Dear readers,

It is with a degree of pride (non-sinful I hope!) that I bring to you the latest issue of *Crucible* themed on the book of Psalms. When my colleague at Malyon College, AJ Culp, asked me whether *Crucible* may be interested in publishing a number of articles based on the fruit of the “Young Scholars Summit,” convened at Tyndale House, Cambridge, in the summer of 2014, I jumped at the opportunity. The Summit was sponsored by the International Reference Library for Biblical Research and directed by the Institute of Biblical Research. The work was presented later in 2014 at the Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting. The Summit’s goal was for four young scholars, with the leadership of two senior scholars, to pursue a question of “How are we as Christians to understand the Psalms messianically?” The task of the young scholars was to develop literature addressing this question for the pastor and interested churchgoer. More details about the process are included in Professor Anne Reese’s introduction to the Young Scholar’s Summit included below.

It is exciting for *Crucible* to host such quality scholarship. Bryan Babcock tackles the question, “Who is ‘My Lord’ in Psalm 110?”, AJ Culp uses a canonical reading to interpret Psalm 45 and Kathy Maxwell adopts a literary approach to Psalm 22.

Even though the young scholars all look at the implications of their interpretations of the psalms for the Church, this issue of *Crucible* also brings a series of shorter ministry focussed articles in the Test Tube section. After reflecting on the nature of the Psalms, Andrew Brown makes an appeal to worship leaders and writers of worship songs. David Cohen explores how the three types of psalms in the Psalter can be used for prayer. Stan Nickerson looks at the issues related to preaching the Psalms while Andrew Sloane reflects on the place of theological poetry in the life of the Church. Finally, Lindsay Wilson discusses how to preach different psalm types in the light of the New Testament.

Together, in this issue of *Crucible*, we have a compendium of theological and ministry resources for the interpretation and application of the Psalter.

A special thanks to our peer reviewers who are willing to sacrifice time in the busyness of their schedules for the benefit of others without receiving any recognition in return (except by the One who sees all.)

We are already collecting material for the May 2018 issue of *Crucible*. Please extend this call for papers through your networks. Submission guidelines are at: <http://www.crucibleonline.net/>

Thanks for your support of *Crucible*.

Ian Hussey

General Editor.