Seminary Studies 52 (Autumn 2014)

Gane, Roy E., Nicholas P. Miller, and H. Peter Swanson, eds. Homosexuality, Marriage, and the Church: Biblical, Counseling, and Religious Liberty Issues. Berrien Springs: Andrews University Press, 2012. 600 pp. Paper, \$24.99.

Andrews University Press recently released this book containing the following chapters:

Section 1: Theological Issues

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- 1. Homosexuality in the Old Testament (Richard M. Davidson)
- 2. The Scriptural Case for a Male-Female Prerequisite for Sexual Relations: A Critique of the Arguments of Two Adventist Scholars (Robert A. J. Gagnon)
- 3. Some Attempted Alternatives to Timeless Biblical Condemnation of Homosexual Acts (Roy E. Gane)
- 4. Return to Innocence (Miroslav M. Kis)
- 5. Homosexuality and the Bible: What Is at Stake in the Current Debate (Richard M. Davidson)

Section 2: Legal Issues

- 1. Should Adventists Care About Protecting Traditional Marriage? (Nicholas P. Miller)
- 2. Wake Up and Smell the Equality: Same-Sex Marriage and Religious Liberty (Alan J. Reinach)
- 3. Northern Exposure: How the Church Is Faring under Canada's Same-Sex Marriage Regimen (Gerald Chipeur)
- 4. Freedom and Marriage (Scot Zentner)
- 5. Same-Sex Marriage and the Declaration of Independence (Gary V. Wood)
- Section 3: Counseling Issues
 - 1. A Pastoral Applications of a Three-Tier Distinction Between Same-Sex Attraction, a Homosexual Orientation, and a Gay Identity (Mark A. Yarhouse)
 - 2. Ex-Gays? An Extended Longitudinal Study of Attempted Religiously Mediated Change in Sexual Orientation (Stanton L. Jones and Mark A. Yarhouse)
 - 3. The Psychological and Scriptural Care of a Gay Man Who Chose Celibacy: A Case Study (Carlos Fayard)
 - 4. Sexual Orientation and Skin Color: Deconstructing Key Assumptions in the Debates about Gay Marriage and the Church (Stanton L. Jones and Mark A. Yarhouse)
 - 5. Good News for Adventists Attracted to Their Own Sex (Inge Anderson)

Section 4: Testimonies

- 1. Homosexuals Are God's Children, Too! (Ron Woolsey)
- 2. Into His Marvelous Light (Lisa Santos)
- 3. "Born That Way" and Redeemed by Love (Winston King)

- 4. Bondage to Freedom: From My Plan B to God's Plan A (Jonathan Smith)
- 5. By Beholding His Love (Virna Santos)
- 6. To Know His Love (Wayne Blakely)
- Glanz, Oliver. *Wenn die Götter auferstehen und die Propheten rebellieren* [When the Gods Resurrect and the Prophets Rebel]. Alsbach-Hähnlein, Germany: Stimme der Hoffnung e. V., 2012. 304 pp. Paper. €24.99.

Oliver Glanz is a newly appointed assistant professor in the Old Testament Department of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, Berrien Springs, MI. Prior to that, until April 2014, he worked as a researcher at the Department of Theology at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (The Netherlands). Glanz, who holds two Master's degrees (Theology and Philosophy) and a Ph.D. (Exegetical Methodology and Philosophical Hermeneutics), is not unknown to the readers of *AUSS* due to several articles on biblical-theological methodology published in this journal.

In his monograph "Wenn die Götter auferstehen und die Propheten rebellieren" ("When the Gods Resurrect and the Prophets Rebel") Glanz offers an integrated approach to the question of reality in a postmodern culture, in dialogue with the biblical prophetic worldview. This prophetic outlook on reality reveals a criticism of religion (in biblical times the religions of the nations/Gentiles), which is similar to the modern religious criticism as revealed in the works of Marx, Feuerbach, Freud, Nietzsche, and others, where religion is rejected as a human projection of desires, hopes, and fears, and thus the faith in god(s) as a merely human invention. The biblical prophets have a very similar standpoint: common religion (as manifested in the nations) is merely an attempt to have a god/several gods at man's bidding, gods who can be manipulated by certain rituals, sacrifices, and other religious activity to give to man what man wants. But-and that is the big differencethey hold that true religion is only to be found with JHWH, the God of Israel, who cannot be manipulated but is an independent being who reveals himself when, where, and to whom he wants. Revelation always starts with God, never with man. There is no ritual mechanism made by man that ensures the reaction and blessings of JHWH, but rather JHWH himself reveals what he wants. The Bible is full of signs of JHWH's independency: "he speaks when he wants-even then, when nobody asks or inquires for it. He gives fertilityeven then, when nobody expects it anymore. JHWH is a personality with His own will and own ideas, and this is the reason why he can become a 'you,' an opposite for man. The prophets declare that JHWH is a real 'you' for man and not only a mere reflection [of human desires]" (91. Translation by A. Kaiser). In an easily readable and intellectually inviting way, Glanz takes his reader on a journey through the implications this basic thought has for our understanding of reality: of history, of the future, of creation, of sin and sense, of fear, longing, and anthropology, as well as of death. Always dialoguing with