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Reports Relating to the Fifty-Second Annual Meeting of the Society

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REPORTS RELATING TO THE FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The 52nd annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society was held in Nashville, Tennessee, November 15-17, 2000, with a record-breaking registration of 1689, more than 350 over the previous year's record. The beautiful Opryland Hotel provided the setting. Participating publishers offered generous discounts on their books and other products from more than sixty booths in a large exhibit hall.

The program theme, "Israel: Past, Present and Future" was explored in six plenary sessions and by many of the several hundred individual papers. Participants came from as far away as Israel, Jordan, Indonesia, the Philippines, and from Europe to fellowship, exchange ideas, critique one another, and to keep abreast of the most recent scholarship in their disciplines. Nearly twenty study groups also met as part of the overall program.

President-elect Darrell Bock served as program chairman and put together an impressive array of plenary speakers. On Wednesday afternoon, Ronald Youngblood of Bethel Seminary West began with a superb address on "Israel in the Old Testament: Its History." That evening, a record 835 persons gathered in the presidential ballroom for the fellowship banquet and after a delicious meal heard ETS president John Sailhamer of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary deliver a provocative address on "Messiah and the Hebrew Bible," which appears in this issue of *JETS*. After the banquet, Marty Goetz, a Jewish Christian recording artist presented a vocal and piano concert, accompanied by violinist Joy Garmaise.

On Thursday afternoon, Louis Goldberg, past ETS president, currently with Jews for Jesus, addressed a plenary audience on the "Identity and Affirmation of the Messianic Congregation within the Body of the Messiah," followed by a time of audience participation. Immediately thereafter, Darrell Bock moderated a panel discussion on "Evangelizing Jews Today." The participants were Stuart Dauerman, a Jewish believer who founded Jews for Jesus with seven others and is now rabbi of Ahavat Zion Messianic Synagogue in Beverly Hills, CA; Michael Rydelnik, professor of Jewish Studies at Moody Bible Institute; David Brickner, executive director of Jews for Jesus, both of whose parents were holocaust survivors; John Fischer, executive director of Menorah Ministries; and Mitch Glazer, president of Chosen People Ministries. They discussed practical ways of reaching Jews with the message that Jesus Christ is God's promised Messiah.

The fourth plenary session was held on Thursday evening and featured two Arab believers, Bishira Awad, president of Bethlehem Bible College, and Imad Shehadeh, president of Jordan Evangelical Theological Seminary (JETS), as they each spoke on "Israel Present and Future from the Eyes of Non-Israelites in Contact with Israel." That was followed by a plenary session

address by David Friedman, "Israel Present and Future from the Eyes of a Messianic Jew Living in Israel." These two sessions featured viewpoints that were much in contrast, and lively public discussion followed each.

The sixth and final plenary address was delivered by Craig Blasing, professor of New Testament at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. His topic, "The Future of Israel as a Theological Question," wove together the various threads of the issue and gave well-reasoned critiques of positions that seek to eliminate a future for the literal descendants of Jacob.

As many as eighteen parallel sessions ran concurrently on such disciplines as Old Testament, New Testament, theology, archaeology, and philosophy, as well as on the conference theme. Parallel programs were also conducted by the Evangelical Philosophical Society, the Near East Archaeological Society, the Evangelical Missiological Society, and the Adventist Theological Society. As last year, an area was set aside for members to display resumes, for institutions to advertise available positions, and where informal interviews could take place.

On Wednesday at 1:00 p.m., the first business session was called to order by ETS president John Sailhamer. He then introduced president-elect Darrell Bock who gave a brief devotional, followed by prayer by John Sailhamer. It was moved, seconded and carried (MSC) to adopt the dockett, that is the program for the meeting which had been printed and distributed to all members previously. The secretary-treasurer, James Borland, then presented both the membership and financial reports.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Active Membership	Total	Full	Assoc.	Student
11-23-99	2871	1636	649	586
New Members (2000)	549	152	109	288
Members Reactivated	32	21	6	5
Members Dropped	(304)	(123)	(86)	(95)
Failed to pay 2000	269	110	83	76
Dropped per request	15	6	2	7
Bad addresses	17	4	1	12
Deceased	3	3	0	0
Total Membership 11-20-00	3148	1686	678	784

FINANCIAL REPORT
EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE

YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2000 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 1999

REVENUES	2000	1999
Dues and Subs	\$ 103,318.00	\$ 73,918.02
Annual Meeting	106,330.62	90,170.00
Interest on Savings	15,412.60	12,934.32
Miscellaneous Income	<u>8,606.71</u>	<u>14,375.15</u>
	<u>\$ 233,667.93</u>	<u>\$ 191,397.49</u>
EXPENSES		
Journal (<i>JETS</i>)	\$ 54,485.61	\$ 52,800.15
Monograph	0.00	2,000.00
Accounting	625.00	600.00
Annual Meeting	41,132.05	36,034.66
Newsletter	1,250.00	1,100.00
Office and General	11,866.66	9,023.46
Office Equipment	1,469.00	3,136.84
Postage	14,263.62	10,580.91
Regional	4,000.00	3,000.00
Secretarial Help	9,418.46	8,348.54
Web Site	1,155.00	300.00
Stipends	<u>51,700.00</u>	<u>38,375.00</u>
	<u>\$ 197,365.40</u>	<u>\$ 169,914.87</u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	 \$ 36,302.53	 \$ 21,482.62
NET ASSETS , beginning of year	\$ <u>248,875.40</u>	\$ <u>227,392.78</u>
NET ASSETS , end of year	\$ <u>285,177.93</u>	\$ <u>248,875.40</u>

It was MSC to accept these reports.

Four members were then nominated for the three slots to serve on the nominating committee along with the two most recent past presidents. By a show of hands, the tellers determined the three top vote getters to be Bruce Ware, Gerry Breshears, and Rick Taylor. Gerald P. Cowen, Mark Dubis and Doug Kennard were chosen to serve as the resolutions committee.

The secretary then read a motion that was passed unanimously by the ETS executive committee in their meeting on Tuesday evening, November 14, 2000. That motion expresses a concern and was read for the information of our members. It follows:

"The Executive Committee, in response to requests from a group of charter members and others, to address the compatibility of the view commonly referred to a 'Open Theism' with biblical inerrancy, wishes to state the following: We believe the Bible clearly teaches that God has complete, accurate and infallible knowledge of all events past, present and future including all future decisions and actions of free moral agents. However, in order to insure fairness to members of the society who differ with this view, we propose the issue of such incompatibility be taken up as part of our discussion in next year's conference 'Defining Evangelicalism's Boundaries.'"

In the second business session, held on Friday, November 17, president Sailhamer called the meeting to order at 7:45 a.m. James Borland delivered reports on the spring meetings of the various ETS sections, noting the times and places of their meetings, themes, some of the speakers, the officers elected, and the time and place of their next meeting. He also gave a brief necrology for the three members who had passed away since our last meeting, read Scripture, and led in prayer.

Andreas Köstenberger, editor of *JETS*, gave his annual report on the journal. He noted that each issue of the journal was published on time, and that an updated form and style guide for contributors would be forthcoming in the March issue of *JETS*.

Gerald Cowen, chairman of the resolutions committee, read and then moved the adoption of the following resolution:

"In the 52nd Annual session of the Evangelical Theological Society meeting in Nashville, Tennessee from 15-17 November in the second millennial year of our Lord,

Whereas the program for this year's session was well conceived and effectively presented by Darrell Bock, and

Whereas the President, John H. Sailhamer, the Secretary-Treasurer, James Borland, the Editor of *JETS*, Andreas Köstenberger, and the other Officers of the Evangelical Theological Society have well and faithfully served the needs of the Society and the professional development of the membership, and

Whereas the registration workers and recording teams have with great patience, Godly endurance, and a kindly spirit graciously served their assignments, and

Whereas the Staff, management, and employees of the Opryland Hotel have kindly, expertly, and superbly provided professional conference services to the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society,

Therefore, let it be resolved that the heartfelt thanks and appreciation of the Evangelical Theological Society be extended to those mentioned above and that we as a society pray for peace in Israel and that our Father's kingdom would come on earth as it is in heaven, all in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Given this day, November 17 in the second millennial year of our Lord."

This motion was passed without dissent.

During this second business session the following officers were elected for 2001:

President—Darrell L. Bock
 President-Elect—Millard J. Erickson
 Vice-President—David M. Howard, Jr.
 Secretary-Treasurer—James A. Borland
 Journal Editor—Andreas Köstenberger
 Vacancy on Executive Committee—John H. Sailhamer
 Vacancies on Membership Committee—Robert Thomas
 and Rick Taylor
 Vacancies on the Editorial Committee—Gary Habermas
 and Greg Beale

The previously mentioned executive committee resolution questioning the compatibility of open theism with the Bible's inerrancy was read one additional time. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 a.m.

The places, and themes for future annual meetings are:

- 2001 "DEFINING EVANGELICALISM'S BOUNDARIES" Nov. 14–16
 (Wed.–Fri.) The Broadmoor, Colorado Springs, CO (800) 634-7711
- 2002 "EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANITY AND OTHER RELIGIONS"
 Nov. 20–22 (Wed.–Fri.) The Regal Constellation (Toronto, ON)
- 2003 "JESUS" Nov. 19–21 (Wed.–Fri.) Atlanta Hilton (Atlanta, GA)

Our Society again added more than 500 new and reactivated members in 2000. We anticipate continued growth and effectiveness in our scholarly presentations and discussions in the years ahead. I encourage each member to join us next November 14–16 (Wed.–Fri.) at the Broadmoor, Colorado Springs, CO, as we consider the theme, "Defining Evangelicalism's Boundaries." Hotel rooms are \$104 per night for single occupancy; \$125 for double; \$146 for triple, and \$177 for quad, plus other taxes and fees. Rooms at these rates may be secured until October 13 at 800-634-7711. We contracted for 550 rooms for Tuesday, and 700 for Wednesday and Thursday nights, 200 for Friday evening, and 50 for Saturday.

JAMES A. BORLAND