

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

Blessed with delightful weather and stimulating fellowship, the Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society was held at the Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee, from Monday, December 27th, through Wednesday, December 29, 1965. Dean Charles Thigpen and Dr. Robert Picirilli, both of the Free Will Baptist Bible College, were considerate hosts who by their untiring helpfulness contributed greatly to the success of this three-day meeting. Indeed, the entire college staff demonstrated the spirit of gracious hospitality for which our Southland is traditionally famous.

The program, planned by Dr. J. Barton Payne and his committee, was devoted chiefly to the issue of Biblical inspiration, an appropriate focus of attention for a Society which has this statement as its sole doctrinal platform: "The Bible alone and the Bible in its entirety, is the Word of God written, and therefore inerrant in the autographs." While it would be invidious to comment on the excellence of particular papers, there was high commendation for the two panels which were conducted. The first of these, presented Monday night with Dr. Carl Henry as moderator, analyzed "Frontier Issues in Contemporary Theology from an Evangelical Perspective." Tuesday morning the second panel, moderated by Dr. John Walvoord, centered on the conference theme, "Biblical Inerrancy Today." The level of presentation and discussion demonstrated afresh that the position of our Society, far from being a theological fossil, is still a remarkably virile and thriving species of contemporary Christianity.

The reports of secretary and treasurer showed that the Society is steadily growing. In 1964 its membership totaled 660; in 1965 it reached a new high of 749. The increasing excellence of its *Bulletin* was pointed out as another sign of the Society's progress; Dr. Samuel Schultz was warmly commended for the work he has been doing as editor.

The Nominating Committee, made up of Wick Broomall, chairman, and Drs. Barton Payne, Burton Goddard, Delbert Rose, and Laird Harris, submitted a slate which was unanimously elected. These, then, are the 1966 officers of our Society:

President:	Dr. J. Barton Payne
Vice-President:	Dr. Stephen W. Paine
Secretary:	Dr. Vernon C. Grounds
Treasurer:	Dr. Richard N. Longenecker
Editor:	Dr. Samuel J. Schultz

Dr. Robert Strong and Dr. J. C. Wenger served as a committee to draft the following resolutions, which were adopted unanimously:

1. *WHEREAS* the Free Will Baptist Bible College has so graciously served as host to the Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, providing board and room at modest rates, and hospitably caring for our every need, therefore be it

RESOLVED that we express to President L. C. Johnson, to Registrar Robert R. Picirilli, to the entire staff, and to the Board of Trustees, our most sincere gratitude, and pray for God's continued blessings upon the institution to the glory of Jesus Christ and the extension of His kingdom.

2. *WHEREAS* the Executive Committee of the Evangelical Theological Society has faithfully served during the past year, with each officer performing his duties efficiently and effectively, and the whole committee doing its work well, therefore be it

RESOLVED that we go on record as declaring to the E.T.S. Executive Committee our profound appreciation for their labor of love, particularly for the arrangement of the exceptionally rich and profitable program which we have just enjoyed.

3. *WHEREAS* the members of the Evangelical Theological Society have been privileged to hear a series of well-prepared papers and presentations on topics of great theological relevance, enriched by live discussion and by edifying devotional meditations, therefore be it

RESOLVED that we express our deep gratitude to all who have served on the program for their significant and rich expositions of the eternal verities of the Christian faith, especially as related to God's Word written; and we dedicate ourselves afresh to the exposition and proclamation of the whole counsel of God, including the full truthfulness and divine authority of God's holy and inspired Word, the sacred Scriptures.

One unfortunate incident marred this outstanding meeting. On Tuesday night Dr. Gordon Clark fell down a flight of stairs just before the time for the banquet, the highlight of which is the presidential address. His injuries, from which he has since recovered, necessitated a shift in program. As a last-minute substitute, Dr. W. Harold Mare gave a paper on "Prophet and Teacher in the New Testament Period." The next morning Dr. Robert Strong read Dr. Clark's incisive manuscript on "The Evangelical Theological Society Tomorrow."

It was announced that the Eighteenth Annual Meeting will be held at The King's College, Briarcliff Manor, New York.

Respectfully submitted,
Vernon C. Grounds
Secretary



ANNOUNCEMENT OF REGIONAL ETS MEETINGS

Midwestern Section—held at the Baptist Bible College and Seminary, Grand Rapids, Michigan, on April 22-23, 1966. For further details write Dr. Elmer B. Smick, 12262 Conway Road, St. Louis 41, Missouri.

Far-western Section—held at Azusa Pacific College, Azusa, California, April 22, 1966. For further details write George Giacumakis, Jr., California State College, Fullerton, California.

Summary of Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand as of December 22, 1964	\$1788.88
(Outstanding bill of \$1883.40, thus deficit of \$94.52)	
Receipts during 1965	<u>5312.20</u>
	<u>\$7101.08</u>
Disbursements during 1965	<u>5286.09</u>
Balance on Hand as of December 22, 1965	<u>\$1814.99</u>

Summary of Membership Committee Report

	Members	Associates	Students
Active as of last year's report	447	151	109
Withdrew	-1	-2	-3
Dropped	-17	-9	-14
Deceased	-1		
	<u>428</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>92</u>
Transferred	+11	+4	-15
Received during 1965	+43	+19	+27
	<u>482 (+35)</u>	<u>163 (+23)</u>	<u>104 (-5)</u>