

EDITORIAL



LAURENCE W. WOOD

This issue of the *Asbury Theological Journal* honors one of our recently retired professors, Dr. Robert Lyon, who was a professor of New Testament Studies for more than 30 years. His influence on students has been remarkable. These essays are written by his students and admirers who have learned from him as a scholar and as a friend. Dr. Lyon has been particularly gifted in challenging students to be serious scholars, and as a result many of his students were motivated to do further studies. This collection of essays is a sampling of those whom he inspired to pursue a Ph. D. degree in some aspects of religious thought.

One of Dr. Lyon's well-known ministries among students was the formation of a student organization in the '70s known as the "Loyal Opposition." This association reflects Dr. Lyon's vision to get students involved socially and politically in contemporary practical affairs. In Bob's communications with them, he customarily signs off with "Peace—and Towels!" The authors of these essays pay tribute to Dr. Lyon's success in influencing them in this regard—to be both serious scholars and community-minded believers whose primary responsibility is to be a faithful and loyal witness concerning the difference that Jesus makes for the whole world in every aspect of life.

It is with highest respect for Dr. Lyon and the cause of Christ for which he has embraced throughout the course of his long career at Asbury Theological Seminary that we offer these contributions in his honor.

Laurence W. Wood is the Frank Paul Morris Professor of Systematic Theology at Asbury Theological Seminary and Editor of The Asbury Theological Journal.

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