
WINTER 2023 EDITION



SYMBOL OF THE REFORMATION FIVE SOLAS



**For the Word of God, and for the
testimony of Jesus Christ, Revelation 1V9.**

PROTESTANT
ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTH AFRICA

Founded
1925

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR.....

THE DAY IS AT HAND

“The night is far spent, the day is at hand,” Romans 13V12.

Dear Readers

It is an honour to take up the “pen” again of Protestant Reveille editorship, for which I thank Dr Kenny Allen, chairman of PASA, and the other Council members.

Our purpose and aim is to promote the Word of God, the Holy Bible, and to stand for the testimony of Jesus Christ, which the Protestant Reformation did at such a cost. We are not a purely academic publication dealing with the niceties of fine theology, but are handling a life and death heritage. The night is far spent, the day is at hand; yet our generation’s rulers don’t know Joseph, a type of Jesus; and mankind in general, has little sympathy for an exclusive Gospel, and its “offence of the Cross”! Exodus 1V8; Psalm 2V1-12; Galatians 5V11; Revelation 1V8.

Unthinkable and shameful laws, and bills, under consideration, are threatening the Christian Faith: “For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and which I was afraid of is come unto me,” Job 3V25. Judgement begins in the house of God, and the Church urgently needs to examine its calling, being awake to WOKE, a mockery of the Creator’s making of man and woman, and the institution of marriage, and the family relationship, Genesis 2V7-25, Matthew 19V4.

The burning on 2 January 2022 of the S A Parliamentary building complex, could be symbolic of the Lord’s warnings, in that it had become a circus with the antics of certain divisive political opportunists flirting with threats, intimidation, and bullying of opponents, and citizens who pay their salaries! Pray in the love of Jesus, for our President and all in authority, for God’s will to be done here.

THE DAY IS AT HAND!

Yours in Jesus,
Craig.



**“My Jesus, my King, my life, my all,
I again consecrate my life to Thee”**

Dr David Livingstone’s last message (1813-1873).

“Listen to him,

‘O Father, help me to finish this work to Thine honour.’ ”

D L’s opening words in his Diary of 1871.

**“Cursed be that unity for which the
Word of God is put at stake” Martin Luther.**



A PROTESTANT - SET ON A ROCK

“Set for the defence of the Gospel” Philippians 1V17.

A Protestant is a Christian believer, whose life and witness is **against** sinful unbelief and falsehood, and whose testimony is **for** Jesus, who is the spirit of prophecy, 1 John 4V3 and Revelation 19V10. A believer who participates in a peaceful “Protest”, as a redeemed soul lifting the Banner of Jesus’ love, Song of Solomon 2V4. The apostle Paul had a clear sense of his appointment as a watchman, and of his being placed on earth to be faithful to his calling of standing true to Jesus. It is not only a mark of a prophet, apostle, Church Reformer, to stand firm on conscience as captive to the Holy Scripture, but of every Christian, including those reaching out to other cultures:

“The more they wish me to give up one point, the divinity of Christ, the more I seem to feel the necessity of it. I would rather give up my life than surrender it.” Anglican missionary, Henry Martyn (1781-1812), whilst in Islamic Persia.

In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity (love):

This saying is attributed to St Augustine bishop of Hippo, and says much in a few words. Evangelicals have at times adopted the spirit of its practical wisdom. Sadly, there is still much splitting of hairs, and denominations multiplying “ad infinitum”, endlessly and sprouting up – a letterhead; confession; mission statement; and “brand” name, all adding to the confusion, as if Christ is divided! 1 Corinthians 1V13:

“O poor Christendom: what a state it is in! If it is not false doctrine on the one hand, or worldliness on the other, then it is sectarianism, which is just as effectual in grieving or quenching the Spirit as either of the others.”

AW Pink in a letter to the Pressel family, on the wiles (tricks) of the devil.

Judas Iscariot’s covetous spirit drives “empire” building: supposing godliness is gain, and thus makes merchandise of Christ’s Death on the Cross for our sins; or exploits vulnerable people with “miracles on tap”, 2 Peter 2V3 and 1 Timothy 6V5.

A Protestant – thirsts for the living Word:

A sign of the Holy Spirit’s working in a life, is the deep desire to love and seek the Truth as it is in Jesus, which the Holy Bible is the source Book of:

“Seek the truth, hear the truth, learn the truth, love the truth, speak the truth,

and adhere to the truth, defend the truth even till death.”

John Huss Czech Bohemian Church Reformer and Martyr (1369-1415).

That love reaches out to believers who carry the Name of Christian, and all others, and at the same time remains firmly grounded in, and set on our Heavenly Father’s revelation of Himself in Christ our Saviour, who is the Rock of Ages.

May He grant each one of us a deep spiritual thirst to desire and defend the Gospel till our dying breath; not to compromise it, nor to become petty and short-sighted:

“Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not” the woman of Samaria at Jacob’s well”, speaking to Jesus, the Rock of Ages, about His fountain of water springing up into everlasting life, John 4V15.

This spiritual rock is Christ, the Living Word, John 1V1 and 1 Corinthians 10V4.

Rev. Craig Hounsom.

“
Hidden in the hollow of His blessed Hand
”
F R Havergal.

DOROTHEA SCARBOROUGH – A “mother in Israel”.

**“I, Deborah arose, that I arose a mother in Israel”
Judges 5v7.**

A former Council member and Protestant Reville contributor, Dorothea Scarborough, passed on to glory during 2022. German born Mrs. Scarborough, was the widow of LMS missionary and Congregational minister, the late Rev. Charles Scarborough, mother of Rev. Thomas Scarborough and Mrs. Ann Moore.

Her Lutheran and French Huguenot heritage certainly influenced her maternal heart's love for the Protestant Faith's stand on Sola Scriptura, by Scripture alone, the Holy Bible, the Word of God. Like Deborah of old, Mrs. Scarborough encouraged others to be bold in fighting the "good fight of faith." She herself was no stranger to denominational debate and theological controversy; undaunted by big names and reputations. On the political front she held strong and distinctive views, and an article about her adopted land, South Africa, once occasioned a debate in the Swiss Parliament, the Federal Assembly!

Mrs. Scarborough, albeit of a vastly different viewpoint to Hugh Wetmore (also featured in this edition), regarding church and state relationships, held Hugh in high regard for his faithfulness to the Evangelical witness in an increasingly hostile ideological climate. Two dedicated, and somewhat unique servants of Jesus who sowed in tears over many decades, now reap with joy:

"a great deal of living must go to a very little writing"
Frances Ridley Havergal.

Dorothea Scarborough's "pen of a ready writer" rests, but other hearts overflowing with a good matter and theme, now take up the sacred pen of exalting One fairer than the sons of men. Psalm 45v1-2. (Hugh Wetmore composed a hymn on this Psalm).

A "mother" of many has left a legacy in a generation of Christians, including myself, the editor, Craig Hounsom



**“The line separating good and evil passes not through
states, nor between political parties neither
but right through every human heart”
Alexander Solzhenitsyn USSR
(Nobel Prize 1970).**

HUGH WETMORE MISSIONARY, UNIFIER, ACTIVIST, PASTOR, AUTHOR,
EDUCATOR,
SONGWRITER GRADUATES TO GLORY (1937-2022)

On, 2 Nov. 2022, Hugh Wetmore, founder of the Evangelical Fellowship of South Africa (EFSA), the predecessor of the Evangelical Alliance (TEASA) and the Evangelical Seminary of South Africa (ESSA), passed on.

Hugh grew up in Cape Town where he enjoyed mountain hiking and caving at Kalk Bay. On his conversion he became involved in evangelism including outreach to a gang in Woodstock. He worked at Old Mutual until he had saved enough to study at Bible Institute, Kalk Bay. He married, Thearl, who then were sent as missionaries to Pondoland, Transkei, an area hardly touched by Western culture, where he operated a barter trading store. Unknown to him at the time, he was closely monitored by spies from the security police.

Later Hugh caught the vision of the World Evangelical Alliance and founded the South African Evangelical Fellowship of South Africa, an association of Biblically faithful denominations, uncomfortable with the Modernism of the South African Council of Churches. Each year, he energetically toured the country by train visiting and encouraging branches in each province. At the same time, he represented Evangelical Churches in making political

submissions to the apartheid government, which are now stored in the ESSA archives, Pietermaritzburg. He led a delegation of church leaders challenging apartheid policy to PW Botha, who at the last minute cancelled and told them to meet with a subordinate who rudely told them they must listen to him because they had 'two ears and one mouth'. Noting tampering with his mail, he laid a charge against the security police, who then revealed they had been watching every detail of his life since seminary. As a leader, Hugh walked a lonely road opposing both competing political power bases of apartheid racism and Marxist violence - unifying Evangelical factions while opposing those who dismissed the authority of the Bible. He took flak from all sides and kept smiling. He was not only visionary and theoretical leader, but had a deep interest and concern for people and families - a care that moved a theological and political opponent to tears. Hugh was a champion of broad evangelical unity, encouraging churches to overlook differences on secondary issues and unite around the core of the Gospel. His book 'Why Christians disagree' argues a strong Biblical case as to interpret which issues are essential to believe - and which we can maintain unity in diversity. This was adopted by the Baptist Seminary as a textbook on Bible interpretation. Unlike so many influential visionary leaders, Hugh was humble, approachable, accountable and always wanting to serve rather than control other leaders. His Baptist style of leadership facilitated an environment where everyone had a say.

SOME TRIBUTES RECEIVED

- * "He was a true soldier of the cause" Moss Ntlha, General Secretary of the Evangelical Alliance of South Africa
- * "Another of God's faithful servants, safely home! He left a huge impact on many of us still on the battlefield" Neil Henry Bible Institute of SA.
- * "Know ye not that there is a prince and great man fallen this day in Israel?" 2 Samuel 3v38 KJV. God bless Hugh's legacy to the larger Evangelical cause in our country" Craig Hounsom, Editor, Protestant Reveille,

Protestant Association of South Africa

* "We mourn the passing of a great man." Jean-Ray Knighton-Fitt, U-Turn Ministries

* "Hugh was a great statesman of the Christian faith and a soldier of the gospel" Ndaba Mazabane, former chair of TEASA and the World Evangelical Alliance. Currently at Rosebank Union Church.

* "Hugh Wetmore was someone who lived Colossians 3:12 and in whose life compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience were evident and who glorified Christ through them. I thank God for this brother who preached and lived reconciliation all his life." Martin Frische, Bishop of Evangelische Stadtmission in Southern Africa; founder of the Association of Christian Media.

An extract from Gateway News –

Tribute of Philip Rosenthal ChristianView Network: mail@christianview.co.za

**“Despise not the ministry for God had but one Son,
and He was a minister”**

Dr Thomas Goodwin – Puritan (Quoted by Prof G N M Collins.)



The Bible Institute of South Africa –

Celebrating 100 years of God’s faithfulness!

In 1923 a few churchmen of the day, concerned about the erosion of Biblical truth by academia, wanted to create a university endowment for the study of evangelical theology. That didn’t happen, but a Bible college was founded instead, and a dream was realised. The first classroom was in Mowbray, eventually transferring to the home of the founder in Kalk Bay and remains the present campus by the sea.

Starting with a handful of post WW1 students the college has become a Kalk Bay landmark. Having the sea in front and the mountain behind fosters a family atmosphere where the classrooms, library, dining and function Hall, plus residences, become home to ladies and men who are Bible trained to serve as ministers, mission workers or valuable citizens in the marketplace. BISA offers several Theology courses, Undergrad and Honours, full and part time, on and off campus as well as distance learning. Lecturers teach on site as well as off-campus in venues across the Cape Flats. The college is accredited in SA and recognized abroad and has produced Gospel committed men and women, serving across the world.

A campus Recording Studio used for online tuition affords blended learning, while the practical side of training includes student visits to local churches, schools, prisons and a night shelter. Most recently BISA has partnered with Wycliffe Global Alliance to offer an accredited Master of Arts in Linguistics and Bible Translation degree programme!

The college looks back on a century of teaching and practical training that has produced Christian men and women committed, as the motto says, to Know Christ and to Make Him Known.

With the current projected growth of the church on the African continent, the need for quality ministry training offered by colleges like BISA remains as great as ever.

Soli Deo Gloria.

Submitted by Kathy Noland.

“At the source of every river of service there are springs of intercessory prayer. God not only chooses the nobodies of the world but He also uses unknowns to pray them into service”

Bishop A J Appasany of India on Dr J Edwin-Orr.

BI KALK BAY TURNS 100 YEARS OLD (FOUNDED 1923).

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge”

Proverbs 1v7.

The Bible Institute of SA commenced in the same year that South Africa began to issue its own coin currency; one to do with eternity, and the other, though necessary, dealing only with this world’s “passing show”. The fear of the Lord is the treasure of the Christian: the Kingdom of Heaven, the pearl of great value Psalm 19v10; Isaiah 33v6; Matthew 13v46.

Former students, including myself, can look back with gratitude at the rich heritage of BI’s pioneers at the Cape of Good Hope. The value of such formative years is better seen in retrospect.

To the faculty, staff, students, past and present, keep faithful to the vision of the godly founders, in this time of national lawlessness, and confusion in the Christian Church. Great is Thy faithfulness!

“The heart makes the theologian”

WH Thomas Introduction to Romans.

Editor.

NOTE: Margaret Gordon, the widow of Rev. Murdo Gordon former principal of BI, passed on late 2022. English born Mrs. Gordon was a “mother” to many students.)

“Ah! There is nothing like a calm look into the eternal world to teach us the emptiness of human praise, the sinfulness of self-seeking, the preciousness of Christ”

Rev. Robert Murray M’Cheyne
(Scottish saint who died at 29 yrs of age)



“WHAT IS LOVE, LORD?”
“but the greatest of these is love (charity).”
1 Corinthians 13:13.

Bible Readings:

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Introduction:

The following sermon of cricketer and evangelist Peter Pollock, termed “God’s fast bowler”, was preached on 27th June 2021 in the city of his birth, Pietermaritzburg, KNZ, South Africa. It was for us to honour his contribution to sport, and more important, the cause of the Christian Gospel which he once brushed aside. The timing was prior to his 80th birthday on Wednesday 30th June, and not long after he was spared and recovered from the Pandemic virus, while his late wife off 55 years, Inez, was “promoted to higher service” and is now in God’s presence.

Half of the evangelist's life, roughly 40 years, has been serving the Lord. After telling the world, with his extensive travels, that "God loves you", and noting no change, "not one iota" (bit/jot), he prayed for insight! The world speaks of "love", which is self-serving and ego related; the confusion over this word, love, the "L" word, and the burning question on his heart, "What is love?", led him to study the Word of God, the Bible.

"What is love, Lord?"

1. Love for God is humanly impossible – "but the greatest of these is love." (1 Corinthians 13:13).

"Love" without God's working in our lives, is a pipe dream and unachievable. This set Peter Pollock on a path to enquire: "What is love Lord?" He then proceeded to check the meaning in the dictionary – it is an intense feeling and affection or fondness. The world and media major on the erotic and passionate relations, while older persons may simply define love as an "enchanted evening." Though we all look for love, the bottom line is that it is humanly impossible. The apostle Paul saw this in his own life, "O wretched man that I am!" Romans 7:24.

The devil has a go at us because our "do good formula", and the world's modern ecumenical church approval, miss the true meaning of love as in the passage. Neither can the super-spiritual love, and its synthetic replacement get to the truth. Compromise, and a made-made unity of common-cause, is what King Solomon would call, "vanity" and a chasing after wind (Ecclesiastes 1:14etc).

2. Peter's early morning prayer answered – "I will stand upon my watch
...what will He say to me ..(Habakkuk 2:1).

The early prayer he said, with Bible in hand, was, "Lord, what is love?" To this heart felt cry, the answer seemed to come:

“I, the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, am love.” Not any of the other things you have made it (love)...Without Me you can do nothing, but only in Me – I enable you to suffer, overcome, not to envy, nor be puffed up (with pride), and to think no evil – you cannot achieve this without Me.” (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

The Beatitudes, which is really the core of the Law, produce despair in a man or woman. The Lord Jesus Christ has started a work, so that the Beatitudes are not a goal, but a promise when the Holy Spirit has complete access to a life lived only in Jesus. Not just faith in faith, and rudderless “hope”, but the essence of the New Covenant (contract & agreement). “I will write my Law on your heart” (Jeremiah 31:33 etc.), and change you – I AM.

The failed Christian life is simply, “no Jesus!” We do not have all the answers, as we only know in part (1 Corinthians 13:12). Preachers often preach “in full”, but they miss the point – “it is about Jesus”. To write books on love, grace and mercy, is presumptuous and naïve. Peter then confessed about this true love imparted by the Holy Spirit, “I do not understand it ...but live it.” (John 3:16).

THE SIMPLE TRUTH

No greater love than what Jesus has done for us – the greatest commandment (Deuteronomy 6:4&5). Not seasonal, or just on Sunday morning, and treating church as a hobby. A seminar on God’s Will in Durban was very good, but Peter did not attend the Saturday seminar conclusion. His wife had asked him to purchase something at Pick & Pay. There he ran into a dear friend, Fransie, who had also attended the Friday night session. Peter touched on God’s “absolute” and “permissive” will, and got a rather direct answer:

“Why do we always complicate everything...all these things are so simple.” To Peter’s question “What is God’s will? Fransie answered, “God’s will is to love Jesus with all your mind, soul and heart.” He then asked Peter if he was

planning on attending again, to which the Evangelist replied: “No, God has just spoken to me in Pick & Pay!”

Peter Pollocks’ sermon to be continued in the next Protestant Reveille.
St John’s United Church, Pietermaritzburg KZN.

**“Now faith cometh not of our free-will; but is the Gift of God
given us by grace ere (before) there be any will in our hearts to
do the will of God”**

William Tyndale (English Reformer and translator).

ACCEPTING CHRIST

**“As many as received Him.
to them gave He power to become the sons of God”**
John 1v12

The people who shut their doors on Christ always shut out great blessings; those who open to Him let all heaven’s love and joy into their lives.

Some say it does not matter whether they receive Christ or not; they believe in God’s mercy and love, and do not see why they need accept Christ. Here it is made very plain in that the only way to receive God’s love and mercy is by receiving Christ. They, and they only, who accept Him become God’s children. Christ is the only way to God, the only door into the Father’s house. To refuse Christ is to refuse adoption into the family of God.

Then we learn also from this morning's text another thing. Some people are puzzled to know how to become Christians. Here the way is surely made as plain as a pathway of light. Christ comes to us as the one Mediator, the Son of God, the Divine Saviour; and we have only to receive Him, to accept Him with our hearts, and commit ourselves to Him.

"But there is that mystery of the new birth; I can't understand that," says someone. You have nothing whatever to do with that; for does not this verse say that if we receive Christ we become the children of God? The same sentence goes on to say that those who thus receive Christ are born again; but it says expressly that this change is not their own act, not the act of any man, but is divinely wrought, – they are born of God. All that belongs to us is simply to receive Christ.

We have nothing whatever to do with the mystery of the new birth. That is God's work, and He is able to effect it. Our part is the acceptance of Christ; God will

change our hearts. If we accept God's Son as our Saviour, the new life will at once flow into our heart, and we shall become children of God, not by any fiction of name, but by the communication of Divine life.

Come Ye Apart – 5th January reading
J.R. Miller, D.D.

Editor's Note: J.R. Miller (1840-1912) shows that "born again" is of sovereign grace, as the Spirit works saving faith in us Philippians 1v29.

**“In His dealings His own people may discover Him;
but from the world He lies hid”
Alexander Carson.**

BORN AGAIN – OF GRACE OR EARNED?

“Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God” John 3v3.

Our Lord Jesus is crystal clear on the necessity of the new birth; in so doing He dismisses all false religions, and humanistic self-salvation. The apostle John under the Spirit’s inspiration affirms that the new birth is from Heaven, and not from men:

“Birth is the beginning of life; to be born again, is to begin life anew... We must have a new nature, new principles, new affections, new aims....This new birth is from heaven, and its tendency (leaning towards) is to heaven”.

Puritan Matthew Henry (17th century).

Those of us who once sought our own dreams and ideals, such as myself, and neglected and rejected the teachings of the Holy Bible, should have an appreciation of the Master’s use of the word, to “see”, as our translators use in John 3v3; and affirm the testimony of one of the most popular of hymns: “I once was blind, but now I see”. John Newton – Amazing Grace. Only when the Holy Spirit opens our eyes, can we “have or exercise the power of discerning object with the eyes” of our heart. Any who parade their “born again” free gift as a spiritual badge and rank, should note that pride is not a fruit of the Spirit, but of the evil one 1 Corinthians 4v7:

“Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what Law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith” Romans 3v27.

To be born again is of God's grace and for His glory alone: SOLA DEO GLORIA.

Craig Hounsom

“Regeneration. A word used to describe the radical and permanent change in a person's whole outlook achieved by the Holy Spirit... other terms which relate to it are ‘new birth’...The initiative is God's whose decisive act of regenerating someone is once for all”. Concise Bible Dictionary – Inter Varsity Press (IVP). Refer Rev. Murdo Ross Gordon (MRG) New Bible Dictionary (IVP) on Regeneration.

**“Truth is truth, and error, error, and that which is unlawful is unlawful, whether men think so or not”
Richard Sibbes (Puritan).**



CHRISTIANITY AND LIBERALISM (1923)
DR. J. GRESHAM MACHEN.

“As learned and valiant a spiritual warrior as the Protestant Church has produced in modern times.” Quoted by Ned B Stonehouse.

A hundred years ago “Christianity And Liberalism” was published by J Gresham Machen, who dedicated the book to his mother, Mary. A graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, Machen furthered his studies in Germany; something which he never regretted; though he entered a deep spiritual conflict regarding the issue between the Christian Faith, and the Modernism espoused by local theologians:

“My mother (spoke to me) in those dark hours when the lamp burned dim, when I thought faith was gone and shipwreck had been made of my soul...’Christ, she used to say, keeps firmer hold on us than we keep on Him” Machen.

Fight the good fight of faith

The Lord prepared His servant by letting him experience firsthand the destructiveness of unsanctified human learning. His purpose thereafter, was to present the issue sharply and clearly, and to warn of a synthesis of old pagan thought with orthodox Christianity; Pluralism and Interfaith trends now a poisonous fruit of: i.e. “tolerance”:

“Liberalism (Modernism) on the one hand and the religion of the historic church on the other, are not two varieties of the same religion, but two distinct religions proceeding from altogether separate roots” Dr Machen.

Machen maintained that men fight over the important things; and his book subjects do reflect this: Doctrine, God, Man, the Bible, Christ, Salvation, and the Church. We must learn to distinguish between the essential and non-essential.

“Christianity And Liberalism” is as relevant today as it was a century ago, when much learning, called knowledge, lacks the fear of God, the very basis of understanding. Proverbs 1v7. Names and forms are different, but it is the same garnished humanism.

“For Christianity depends, not upon a complex of ideas, but upon the narration of an event.” Dr Machen on the Bible’s revelation of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Machen saw disturbing changes at Princeton Theological Seminary, thus his heartsore departure and forming of Westminster Theological Seminary in 1929.

Editor

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What is Faith? J Gresham Machen

The Origin of Paul's Religion J Gresham Machen

The logo for the Protestant Association of South Africa (PASA) features the letters 'PASA' in a large, bold, black serif font. The letters are centered over a solid orange rectangular background.

DETAILS

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you!*