

A Festschrift for Dr. Herman Arthur Hoyt President Emeritus Grace Theological Seminary and Grace College

This issue of the *Grace Theological Journal* is dedicated to Dr. Herman A. Hoyt, President of Grace Theological Seminary and Grace College from 1962 to 1976. The studies offered herein to honor this man of God represent a broad spectrum from his former students and colleagues—from the dedicated pastor who strives to make practical the teaching of the Word of God to the hard-working scholar who strives to discern the intricacies of the text.

If a man's success in Christian ministry may be measured by the disciples he has trained, Herman A. Hoyt must stand tall among the evangelical leaders of the twentieth century. Only God can judge the hearts and motives of his servants, but his infallible Word gives some clear guidelines to determine quality in ministry and leadership. To those who have benefited from leaders faithful to their high calling in Jesus Christ, this admonition is given: "Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the outcome of their way of life, imitate their faith" (Heb 13:7).

We had the privilege of studying under Dr. Hoyt in the late 1940s and early 1950s and then serving with him as colleagues in the teaching of God's Word until his retirement in 1976. During that quarter of a century, we observed a dedication to the Word and work of God rarely seen in the world of Christian higher education. He was thorough and meticulous in the classroom, especially in his chosen fields of biblical prophecy, the Greek NT, and the ordinances and distinctives of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches. It is in honor of his writings in these three areas that this *Festschrift* has been prepared.

Dr. Hoyt was not just a man of books and of "letters." He was a discipler and leader of Christian men. His powerful stand on issues that threatened to destroy the church he loved, and the scriptures upon which that church must be built, literally drove him into controversy and confrontation, and into effective teaching in Grace Brethren and other churches around North America for decades. He would often drive hundreds of miles at night after strenuous conference ministries in order to be in his office at Grace the following morning. Few if any of his younger colleagues could match his stamina! And this continued

from the middle 1930s to the late 1970s. Surely, in this case, we saw an exemplification of Isaiah's words, "Though youths grow weary and tired, and vigorous young men stumble badly, yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like...

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