

Christianity & Culture

Evangelical Theology in Post-Christian Britain Conference,
Alfreton, Derbyshire, Saturday September 25–26, 2015

FOREWORD

British society has been radically transformed in just a few short years to become, arguably, anti-traditional and anti-Christian, with social media contributing to the phenomenon. This new reality presents Christians with considerable challenges, for example how to respond to other faiths, atheism, proclaiming Christian truth within a pluralist context, and human sexuality. A conference held on Friday 25th and Saturday 26th September 2015, *Christianity & Culture: Evangelical Theology in Post-Christian Britain*, sought to bring biblical, exegetical, legal, political and practical perspectives to bear upon these issues to help equip today's Evangelicals to engage this new expression of culture for Christ. Calvin L. Smith spoke of Evangelicals in the public square, asking the pertinent question, to what extent should evangelicals be socially and politically engaged; David Williams confronted the thorny question of same-sex relationships also asking the question, was the final frontier in the sexual revolution; Anthony Royle considered what an apocalyptic hermeneutic for Biblical hospitality would consist of; Daniel Kayley extended the debate by focusing on the case for post-tribulationism and the implications therein for Social Engagement (who cannot be published here). Paul Diamond (who likewise cannot be published here) examined the legal challenges facing British Christians and what

the implications are for recent legislation. Alex Jacobs widened the debate to consider the cultural challenges to Jewish Evangelism (drawing on some insights from the ministry of The Church's Ministry for the Jews (CMJ)). Thomas Fretwell extended this by examining anti-Semitism, the question of modern Israel and the Evangelical Church. Andy Cheung brought in a further perspective by bearing in mind the social and cultural impact upon modern Bible translations.

To order an audio CD of the conference
please call email: office@kingsdivinity.org

CONTRIBUTORS

ANDY CHEUNG is the Director of Operations at King's Evangelical Divinity School, UK, where he has taught courses in New Testament Studies and Biblical Languages. His PhD (Birmingham, 2012) was titled *Functionalism and Foreignisation: Applying Skopos Theory to Bible Translation*, with particular interest in the Letter to the Romans. His research interests have predominantly been in descriptive translation studies, particularly in mapping purposes (*skopoi*) for Bible translations. He is currently undertaking research into relay translation, looking particularly at the development of Bibles with English as a mediating language.

PAUL DIAMOND is a barrister who combines his considerable strength in the field of religious liberty with his knowledge of public and European law, he is a specialist in European Human Rights law, EU law and certain aspects of International Law. Paul's analytical expertise of socio legal developments in the United Kingdom and internationally, combined with his sense of humour and blunt eloquence make him an exceptionally dynamic speaker. His counsel and strategic insight is sought out by policy makers and religious leaders. Paul Diamond is an independent practising barrister and is currently Standing Counsel to the Christian Legal Centre, a sister organisation of Christian Concern. As such, he does not presently receive any direct financial support from any other group or organisation based in Europe, the United States or elsewhere.

THOMAS FRETWELL holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Theology and works as an Associate Tutor for Kings Evangelical Divinity School. He serves as an Elder and Youth Minister at Calvary Chapel Hastings in the UK.

ALEX JACOB is a United Reformed Church Minister, ordained in 1985. Since 2006, he has worked with the Church's Ministry among Jewish People (CMJ). Alex has travelled widely in his teaching, pastoral, evangelistic and leadership role within CMJ and is the author of three theological books: *The Case for Enlargement Theology* (2010), *Receive the Truth!* (2011) and *Prepare the Way!* (2014). Alex is also a major contributor to and the editor of the Olive Press Research Papers. These are occasional papers promoting insight into key areas of Jewish-Christian relations. Alex holds an M.A. in Theology (Cambridge Theological Federation/Anglia Ruskin University) and a M.Phil research degree (Nottingham

University). Alex lives in Cambridgeshire and is married to Mandy and they have three grown up children.

ANTHONY ROYLE is a Tutor for the Know Your Bible and Certificate in Jewish-Christian Studies courses at King's Evangelical Divinity School. Anthony has papered at various conference including The British New Testament Society conference. He is also the editor for the forthcoming book *Purge the Old Leaven: Aspects of Church Discipline in the Bible, Theology, and Culture*.

CALVIN L. SMITH is Principal of King's Evangelical Divinity School, and Director of Postgraduate Studies. He specialises in Biblical Theology and Interdisciplinary Studies; he has published widely on Pentecostalism, politics and economics in relation to the Gospel and the Church, and *The Jews, Modern Israel and the New Supersessionism* (King's Evangelical Press)

DAVID WILLIAMS holds a BTh [Hons] from the University of Wales [Lampeter] and an MA [Theology] from the University of Chester. He is an Approved Tutor of the University of Chester and is a member of King's Evangelical Divinity School's Academic Committee. He is the tutor for several modules on KEDS' BTh and MA programmes. Additionally he is the Director of Studies for KEDS' "Knowing Your Bible" course. He has recently published his first book, *It's All In Your Head* (2015).