

Thy Kingdom Come

A Conference on the Bible, Theology and the Future
Westminster, London, October 17-18, 2014

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In late 2012 Chosen People Ministries (New York, London) and King's Evangelical Divinity School (United Kingdom) agreed to co-host a conference to be held in London in November 2014 focusing on the subject of eschatology. The general aims of the conference were threefold:

1) To focus academically on an area of theology which, in recent years, has arguably fallen by the wayside among British scholarly Evangelicals (perhaps in large part because this vital area of Christian theology has been seized upon, sensationalised and become the exclusive domain of popular, fundamentalist Evangelicalism);

2) To offer a scholarly and broadly premillennial treatment of the Bible's teachings of the end times, thus bolstering and encouraging debate among a dwindling minority of UK premillennial scholars, as well as challenging narrow and/or erroneous stereotypes of premillennialism among the wider British Evangelical scholarly community; and

3) Given growing Evangelical engagement with these public square issues, to further the current theological debate and encourage a more theologically-nuanced treatment of issues such as whether or not God retains a plan for the Jewish people, Christian responses to the situation in the Middle East, the impact of the current debate within Evangelicalism upon Jewish evangelism, and hermeneutical issues related to these questions.

The conference, held at Emmanuel Centre, Westminster, featured speakers from across the

Evangelical spectrum, each bringing their own unique contribution to the conversation. Dr Derek Tidball (formerly Principal of London School of Theology and Vice-President of the Evangelical Alliance) spoke from a non-premillennial perspective, highlighting the need for Evangelicals, regardless of their doctrinal position, to engage seriously with the issue of God's plans for the future. Dr Calvin Smith spoke as a premillennial non-dispensational posttribulationist on the future hope of Israel. Uniquely Jewish-Christian papers were presented by Dr Mitch Glaser (President, Chosen People Ministries, New York) and Daniel Nessim (Director, Chosen People UK), exploring Jewish evangelism and Old Testament teachings on the Day of the Lord. Scholarly dispensational and progressive dispensational contributions were presented by Dr Craig Blaising (Southern Baptist Theological Seminary) and Dr Darrell Bock (Dallas Theological Seminary). Finally, a Call for Papers yielded four perspectives related to the wider conference theme of Evangelical eschatology from across the Evangelical spectrum.

With the exception of Blaising's excellent presentation (recently published in...) all the conference's final publication versions of each paper are published in this edition of the *Evangelical Review of Theology and Politics*. Video recordings of the actual presentations are also available for purchase from Chosen People UK.

Video Recordings—

http://shop.chosenpeople.org.uk/epages/es140432.sf/en_GB/?ObjectPath=/Shops/es140432/Products/141001