Editorial

Welcome to the third issue of the Volume 15 of the Journal of Reformed Theology. It offers four great articles.

What does the laughter of God mean in the face of human agitation in Ps 2:4? Traditionally, Christian theology has asked how this laughter related to God’s impassibility. Using analytical and narrative theology Jan Martijn Abrahamse links it to God’s passion for justice and reconciliation on earth.

Christopher R.J. Holmes has analyzed Calvin’s understanding of providence in the commentary on the Acts of the Apostles. He discovers that Calvin develops this systematic theme in a more elaborate way in this commentary. Providence as divine permission is limited to what is evil. Providence in the sense of God’s determination reveals what God stands for.

Ton van Eijk describes the way Calvin and the Lutheran theologian Heshusius both referred to a text of Irenaeus on the defense of the resurrection of Christ to reach different interpretations of the Lord’s Supper. This dispute on the understanding of the Lord’s Supper would continue to be a divisive issue within Protestantism until the Leuenberg Agreement.

The fourth article is something special. It provides Collin Cornell’s translation of an article in German by Friedrich-Wilhelm Marquardt that compares Karl Barth’s call for a biblical attitude in dogmatic theology with ‘the biblical ABC’ theology of the Dutch theologian K.H. Miskotte (1941). “Barth wishes not to commit us to a certain language, but to warn us against any absolutized language. Miskotte wishes to work by forming us in a language.” A fascinating article that provides a wonderful introduction to the richness of Miskotte’s theology to an English-speaking audience.

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