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EDITORIAL

The following statement appeared in our editorial that began the 20/1 (March, 1977) issue of *JETS:* "Production difficulties have resulted in unfortunate delays in getting each issue of the *Journal* into your hands during the past year. We can only say that we are working hard on that problem, and we hope to get on top of it by the end of this year."

We are delighted to be able to report that with the expert and efficient help of Bethany Fellowship, Inc., our new printer, we are now back on schedule—and, barring unforeseen difficulties, we plan to stay there. While it is not uncommon for professional society journals to fall behind with respect to their self-imposed deadlines (despite the best of intentions), we feel that ETS members deserve the finest in every way. Editing our *Journal* is a sacred trust as well as a privilege, and we shall continue to try to be somewhat worthy of that trust.

As to format, 1977 was the first year under our new editorship in which each of the four issues reached the 96-page limit allowed by our executive committee. We shall continue to publish at that pace in order to give you, our readers, the maximum possible number of scholarly articles and reviews. Beginning with the current issue, each article that we run in the *Journal* will be immediately identifiable for future reference by a brief rubric containing volume and number, date, and pagination and located in the upper left-hand corner of the first page of said article. I deeply appreciate the fact that you are still sending materials to me that are for the most part of high quality, so that surfeit rather than scarcity is our current problem.

Thank you for sending in your articles and reviews at a steady rate—and thank you also for waiting so patiently as they wend their tortuous way toward publication. If, however, you fail to conform them to the "Instructions for Contributors" section printed in *JETS* 20/1 (March, 1977) 57-72, their publication will only be delayed. All other things being equal, we shall also continue to prefer articles that are irenic rather than inflammatory and to avoid articles that major in gratuitous insinuation, irrelevant comments based on guilt by association, *ad hominem* argumentation, and the like. At the same time, our united and total commitment to the cardinal evangelical doctrines of Scripture, including the inerrancy of the canonical autographa, remains firm in conviction and joyful in confession (for an excellent representa-

tive summary, especially for those of us who are engaged in education and proclamation, see John W. Alexander's brief article in *Decision*, September 1977, p. 4).

As to the issue of *JETS* that you are now perusing, let me call your particular attention to Walter Kaiser's presidential address as well as to Gordon Fee's article on New Testament textual criticism. The Fee essay will be responded to by Zane Hodges in the June issue—accompanied, perhaps, by a Fee rejoinder.

Happy reading!

Ronald Youngblood