

has gone so far as to paraphrase part of the text as saying, "We are of good courage [even in the face of disembodiment], and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord" (ibid.). A careful reading of the text and its context certainly does not support the interpretation presented by Ladd in the bracketed material.

On the whole, this is an excellent little book in spite of certain gaps in its presentation and the occasional instance of what, in my view, is exegetical and interpretational aberration, such as that just mentioned. Undoubtedly this volume will be particularly helpful to laity who find themselves confronted with concepts fostered by dispensationalist/pretribulationist teaching.

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Martin, Ralph P. *New Testament Foundations: A Guide for Christian Students*. Vol. 2: *The Acts, The Letters, The Apocalypse*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1978. xii + 463 pp. \$11.95.

This is the final volume of Martin's Introduction to the NT. It is a large work because it includes matters not usually dealt with in ordinary introductions such as historical, religious, and philosophical backgrounds, an extended treatment of the contents of Acts, the authority of Paul's letters and other issues in Paul, three samples of exegesis of NT texts (in 1 Corinthians), and an epilogue more appropriate in a NT theology dealing with the issue of the central message of the NT. He has obviously tried to do too much at the expense of doing too little in some areas, e.g., with respect to Romans, Hebrews, and Revelation.

The author approaches the issues dealing with introductory matters with a conservative orientation but with a serious effort to deal with the problems objectively. This means in some instances that he must admit that a final answer is not possible. Such is the case with the question of the location of the Galatian churches, the place of Paul's imprisonment when he wrote Philippians, what happened to Paul after his Roman imprisonment, and to whom the letter to the Hebrews was sent.

Martin also deviates from the strict traditional conservative position when he considers 2 Cor 6:14-7:1 as an independent fragment which later became attached to its present position, that Gal 2:1-10 is to be equated with Acts 11:27-30, that Colossians was written during Paul's Ephesian imprisonment, and that Hebrews was written between A.D. 80-100. In matters concerning authorship Martin, having espoused the view that pseudonymity is "kosher," can attribute Ephesians and the Pastorals to a later Pauline compiler, 2 Peter to a devoted student of Peter's earlier epistle, and the Johannine Epistles to a Johannine editor. It would be interesting to watch the reaction of conservatives to these positions which approach the generally held liberal views.

Martin deals adequately with the major issues raised with each of the books of the NT. If a student wishes to pursue the matter further, the extensive footnotes and the select bibliography at the end of the volume will give him ample material. The book is written well, but in certain instances there is lack of clarity as to the author's meaning or position, even in cases when he says that he cannot give a final answer. Also, at times certain basic information for which a student looks is not provided; e.g., nothing is said about the author of the book of Hebrews or the place from which this epistle was written.

In spite of these criticisms, students will have much to gain from this volume and its earlier companion.

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