As we welcome our readers to the second volume of 2011 (coming out in 2012) it is hard to ignore the challenging times we live in—continued social and political upheavals in the Middle East, deepening divisiveness in political discourse in western democracies, and growing worry about regaining economic stability throughout the world. The world deeply needs and desires to hear Good News. As usual, this issue probes aspects of that Good News at the deepest levels.

Helping us to understand the Bible for our times by looking at an old issue in a new way is Jiri Moskala’s study on ancient Levitical food laws in the light of Bible-based hermeneutics. Robert Johnston then invites us to examine the Biblical view of apocalyptic and free will—good news indeed for our times. Ekkehardt Mueller continues our pursuit of Good News with his review of Christological concepts in Revelation. Fernando Canale also continues his look at the Emerging Church and what it means for us today. Larry Lichtenwalter provides a timely comparison of how the character of God is revealed in Revelation in contrast to that of the Qur’an. Trevor O’Reggio takes us back for another look at Luther’s view on the state of the dead.

We are happy to report that this is our last “late” issue. We already have the articles in hand for the first issue of 2012 which should come out near the end of the summer and the second issue by late fall. We again thank our contributors and reviewers for their hard and timely work and our readers for their patience. We hope you enjoy this issue.

As usual, we again welcome your article contributions. You may send articles that you would like to have considered for publication to:
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ats86@email.com. Comments, questions, and reactions to the various articles we publish should be sent directly to the authors of those articles. Don’t forget to check out our website at: http://www.atsjats.org. You will find that more back issues are being added to our website. Blessings in your reading, studying, and contemplation.