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Editorial

Few topics today have stirred up more controversy among Fundamentalists than manuscripts, texts, and Bible translations. Battle lines have been drawn under the banners 'KJV Only', 'TR Only', and 'Only KJV.' Muskets are hot from firing, the smell of sulphur permeates the air, and a cloud of smoke rises anytime these topics are discussed. Consequently, Fundamentalists are being corralled to entrench certain positions, labels and accusations are hurled indiscriminately, and fruitful discussion is precluded. As with most wars, so with this controversy, truth has become the first casualty. This journal has been dedicated to help remedy this situation.

Most of these articles were presented in a condensed form at the 1996 National Leadership Conference held at Calvary Baptist Church, Lansdale, Pa. The Conference provided a forum to engage some of the issues surrounding this controversy. The articles of this volume will expand upon that initial endeavor. It is not intended to be a comprehensive work on the subject by any means; rather, it is an attempt to address critical issues with theological soundness and historical accuracy.

Some may be disappointed that this collection of articles is not an apologetic for a particular version. Others may be upset that no official resolutions were made to bring about a consensus. Such, however, was not the intention of the Conference or of this volume. Calvary Baptist Church and Seminary is committed to the Baptist distinctives, including two which are often overlooked—the priesthood of the believer and the autonomy of the local church. It is hoped that these articles will model the proper disposition as well as provide the necessary information for individuals and local churches to make responsible decisions concerning this very delicate subject.