

FROM THE EDITORS

In this fourth installment of *Studies in Puritanism and Piety Journal*, we have two articles on John Owen (1616–1683), one on Stephen Charnock (1628–1680), and another on Isaac Ambrose (1604–1664). All these essays center on English Puritans around the time of the English Civil Wars (1642–1651), and the Westminster Assembly (1643–1653). These compositions devote detailed attention to the spirituality, doctrinal, and pietistical movements of the seventeenth century.

Dr. Willem Van Vlastuin, professor at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, contributes the first essay entitled, “Isaac Ambrose’s *Looking unto Jesus* in its Westminster Context.” Ambrose’s devotional classic is compared and analyzed with the Westminster Confession and yields surprising results of similarities, differences, and distinctions. The second article is from Helio Carneiro (ThM student at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary), on “Owen’s Christological Use of Acts 20:28—A Foundational Text in His Apologetic for the Intrinsic Sufficiency and Limited Extent of Christ’s Satisfaction.” In this article, Carneiro studies Owen’s comments on Acts 20:28. This is the classic text for the *communicatio idiomatum* (i.e., “the communication of natures”). Carneiro studies this text in chronological fashion beginning in 1642. The third contributor to the journal is John Woodlard, (ThM student at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary), entitled: “Infused by the Divine Life: Stephen Charnock and the Doctrine of Regeneration.” In this article, Woodlard analyzes the necessity, nature, efficiency, and instrument of regeneration and applies these conclusions to the Christian life. The fourth and final essay is from Simon Hitchings (MA Oxford University), “John Owen’s Use of Athanasius: Finding the Pedigree of Puritan Theology in the Early Church Fathers.” Owen, according to Hitchings, uses caution when using extrabiblical material such as the Church Fathers so as not to give the wrong impression as to *Sola Scriptura*. However, as Hitchings shows, Owen used Athanasius in his writings because they had similar opponents on various Christological and Trinitarian matters.

In this edition, we have several scholarly book reviews including Cameron Schweitzer reviewing Gilsun Ryu, *The Federal Theology of Jonathan Edwards: An Exegetical Perspective*. Studies in Historical and Systematic Theology (Bellingham, Wash.: Lexham Academic, 2021); Dr. Harrison Perkins reviewing Stephen Hampton, *Grace and Conformity: The Reformed Conformist Tradition and the Early Stuart Church of England*. Oxford Studies in Historical Theology (New York: Oxford University Press, 2021); Tony A. Rogers reviewing Michael J. Lynch *John Davenant's Hypothetical Universalism: A Defense of Catholic and Reformed Orthodoxy* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021); J. V. Fesko (professor at Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson), reviewing Anthony Milton's work *England's Second Reformation: The Battle for the Church of England 1625–1662* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2021); Mark Koller (PhD graduate at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary) reviewing David Como, *Radical Parliamentarians and the English Civil War* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018). Finally, Adam Quinell, PhD candidate Queen's University, reviews Elliot Vernon, *London Presbyterians and the British Revolutions, 1638–1664* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2021).