

Taylor, Vincent. *New Testament Essays*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1972. vii + 146 pp. Paperback, \$2.95.

The contents of this posthumous publication of some of Vincent Taylor's *Kleine Schriften* are representative of his interests in NT theology and literary criticism. Taylor was a careful, thorough, cautious, and scrutinizing scholar who did not follow every new whim in NT studies. He is not known for making spectacular break-throughs or setting forth novel ideas.

The ten articles provided in this volume and dating from 1926 to 1962 are characteristic of his approach. His forte is his ability to set forth traditional positions in new and substantial ways. This is characteristic of his defense of the following: Jesus' creativity ("The Creative Element in the Thought of Jesus"), showing especially how Jesus taught that the Son of Man must suffer; the eschatological and soteriological elements of the Eucharist ("The New Testament Origins of Holy Communion") and the Markan passion sayings going back to Jesus ("The Origin of the Markan Passion-sayings"); the final Lukan authorship of the Gospel against Loisy's contention that it was a second-century expansion of a genuine writing of Luke ("The Alleged Neglect of M. Alfred Loisy"); the existence of Q as a literary document ("The Order of Q" and "The Original Order of Q"); and the traditional view of Rom 3: 25, 26 ("A Great Text Reconsidered").

Somewhat unexpected is Taylor's view that the NT shows restraint in calling Jesus "God" ("Does the New Testament Call Jesus 'God'"). This does not mean a denial of Christ's divinity, but the author feels that "to describe Christ as God is to neglect the sense in which He is both less and more, man as well as God within the glory and limitations of His incarnation" (p. 87). More original and provocative is Taylor's view that the sayings relating to the Parousia are early and do not refer to the Second Coming but to the coming of the Kingdom.

The articles are introduced by an interesting intellectual autobiography entitled "Milestones in Books." They are prefaced by a short tribute by A. Raymond George given at Taylor's funeral service and by a helpful assessment of Taylor's contributions by C. L. Mitton. Included also at the end of the book is a compilation of Taylor's publications by Owen E. Evans.

Andrews University

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Wells, David F., and Pinnock, Clark H., eds. *Toward a Theology for the Future*. Carol Stream, Ill.: Creation House, 1971. 329 pp. \$4.95.

The purpose of this symposium dealing with many aspects of theology is to set forth evangelical alternatives to the central issues of the day with the bold hope that evangelical scholarship might recapture leadership in theological research. The editors feel that the time is propitious for such a program since the available theological options have become bankrupt. The aim of each essay is to focus on a central problem in a specific field and "to indicate where the decisive action is taking place and to move toward a constructive, evangelical proposal" (p. 10).