
EDITORIAL

There must be something of a pioneering element to this edition of *Scriptura*. I am not aware of any publication up to now of a dialogue between Afrikaner theologians from South Africa, and colleagues from other African countries, from all over Africa, in fact. This is what this edition of *Scriptura* offers.

It all started with a dialogue which was organized by the Centre for Contextual Hermeneutics, and co-hosted by the All Africa Conference of Churches in Nairobi from 6-13 April, 1991. It brought together a group of theologians from the Afrikaner community with colleagues from *inter alia* Egypt, Cameroon, Nigeria, Kenya and Tanzania. A number of the papers read at that occasion are published here, as well as the welcoming address written by Nat Idarous. Other articles were written afterwards as a response to the issues discussed at the conference.

Together the articles make fascinating reading. Apart from the actual contents - which vary in scope, approach and themes as much as Africa is diverse - they informally portray all the ambivalences which characterize - at least for the time being - the meeting of 'African Africa' and 'European Africa'. But if Africa, and particularly if Christianity in Africa, is to make progress, it will have to look these ambivalences in the eye. And this will, *inter alia*, require rigorous academic dialogue - which is what this edition of *Scriptura* hopes to promote.

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