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## Front Matter -- Quaker Religious Thought, no. 97

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# QUAKER RELIGIOUS THOUGHT

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# QUAKER RELIGIOUS THOUGHT

Cumulative Number 97

Volume 30, No. 3

September 2001

*Sponsored by the Quaker Theological Discussion Group*

The purpose of the Quaker Theological Discussion Group is to explore the meaning and implications of our Quaker faith and religious experience through discussion and publication. This search for unity in the claim of truth upon us concerns both the content and application of our faith.

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## Quaker Theological Discussion Group

November 16-17, 2001

This year's QTDG meetings will feature a review of Rosemary Moore's new book, *The Light in Their Consciences*, and a special session on the theme: "Quakers and Science." All are welcome to attend!

### QTDG Session I:

#### A Review of Rosemary Moore's *The Light in Their Consciences*

*Time:* Friday, November 16, 2001, 7:00pm—8:30pm

*Location:* The Hyatt Regency Denver:  
The Vista Conference Room

Moderator: Howard R. Macy, George Fox University

Review of Parts 1-2: Corey Beals, Fordham University

Review of Parts 3-4: Stephen Angell, Earlham School of Religion

Author's Response

### QTDG Session II:

#### "Quakers and Science"

*Time:* Saturday, November 17, 9:00-11:30am

*Location:* The Colorado Convention Center, Room C3-C101

Moderator: Paul Anderson, George Fox University

"Quakers and Science: An Overview" by Geoffrey Cantor, University of Leeds

"Coalbrookdale Quakers: Women, War and Money" by Grace Jantzen, University of Manchester

Response: Billy Grassie, META

Response: Nancey Murphy, Fuller Theological Seminary

Discussion

## ABOUT THIS ISSUE

This issue features six ground-breaking essays on early Quaker uses of Scripture and a characteristically brilliant response by Hugh Pyper. They were presented at the Nashville November 2000 QTGD meetings, and I believe they will be foundational for future understandings of Quaker approaches to Scripture. Interestingly, many of the issues Friends have continued to face over the centuries can be seen to surface within these essays: matters of authority, discernment, education, doctrine, and the role of the Spirit can be seen as important within the first generation or two of Friends, and they have certainly been important in later generations as well.

I might suggest using this issue as a discussion piece for exploring Quaker approaches to the Bible, then and now. This may be done very helpfully alongside the new publication of Robert Barclay's *A Catechism and Confession of Faith* (edited by Dean Freiday and Arthur Roberts, Newberg: Barclay Press, 2001). In it Barclay lays out—one after another—numerous Bible passages organized to address the sorts of questions raised by Friends and their adversaries. The apologetic and personal uses of Scripture by early Friends also present a recognizable pattern among the present essays, and every generation faces these issues anew. Hence the relevance of such a topic!

Happy reading, and may you abide in the truth.

—*Paul Anderson*

Editor