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Front Matter--Quaker Religious Thought, no. 71

Dean Freiday

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Friday: Front Matter--Quaker Religious Thought, no. 71

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OCT 27 1989

**The Universalism of Christ
in Early Quaker understanding**

Arthur O. Roberts

**Reciprocal Renewal
in Douglas V. Steere's ecclesiology**

David L. Johns

Habits of the Heart

AND

The Broken Covenant

REVIEWED BY

Jay W. Marshall

MURDOCK LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

Quaker Religious Thought

Cumulative Number 71

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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 the application of our faith.

Edited by Dean Freiday

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Editor's Page

Arthur Roberts' fine paper has been ready since July 1988. Rather than hold it up any longer by waiting for the other papers from last year's QTDG meeting, I put together this issue. Arthur Roberts' concise, clear writing needs no interpretation. Those familiar with his "Paths Toward a Quaker Future" (so significant that all three U.S. popular Quaker publications used it) will find that it is an elaboration of one of the themes of that article.

Terry Arendell, through a slip-up in my filing system, has waited almost as long to see her review reach print. We are fortunate, indeed, to have her review the two books by Robert N. Bellah, et al. She combines insights and commitment with sociological knowledge. Bill Moyers recognized the keenness of these books in analyzing the American scene by including Bellah in his series of interviews with formative thinkers in various fields on Public TV last fall and winter.

It is not too easy a generalization to say that a common theme of all of the interviews was America's loss of any compelling vision, along with the disintegration of ethics in both private and public spheres. A malaise exacerbated particularly by drug abuse, is going to require really concerted effort toward redirection. Terry Arendell suggests a part for Quakers.

It is a good many years since Douglas Steere has authored any articles for *QRT*, but it is a real pleasure to have him included through David Johns' study of Steere's writings. Once again, we discover another and fresh way of looking at the wellsprings and dynamics of Friends' faith and practice through an author's eyes.

Dean Freiday