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In this issue of the *Quarterly*, we first present an essay by New Testament scholar Ron Fay, who teaches at Liberty Divinity School. Fay helps readers reflect on the theme of truth in the Gospel of John and in 1 John. Examining key texts, Fay argues for a progression on this theme: in John's Gospel, the focus is on the person of Christ *before* the cross, while in John's first epistle, the focus is on the reality of truth for the Christian community *after* the cross. At the same time, John also anticipates a time after the cross, when the Holy Spirit will enable believers to live in the truth, while 1 John is further rooted in the notion that, ultimately, salvation is found only in the person and work of Jesus Christ. Thus, truth in these two books exists both in the historical person of Christ and in its theological significance for the individual believer.<sup>1</sup>

In the second essay, Casey Barton, who directs the Pastoral Ministry program at Lancaster Bible College and Capital Seminary, examines the relevance of eschatology for preaching. In fact, Barton is calling for preachers to bring "the future into the present." He begins by showing readers how eschatology has been diminished in the pulpit. Taking cues from theologians such as Jürgen Moltmann and others, Casey helps readers see how eschatology should be viewed, and apprehended, more holistically in preaching. As he notes, preaching with an eschatological framework is about pursuing God's future for the present of God's people.

In the third essay, Boaz Johnson, who teaches Bible and theology at North Park University, draws on his background in India and on his

<sup>1</sup> For some of this author's further work on the Gospel of John, note: Stanley E. Porter and Ron C. Fay, eds., *The Gospel of John in Modern Interpretation*, Milestones in New Testament Scholarship (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2018).

own teaching experience in Ukraine to reflect theologically on the current conflict between Russia and Ukraine, and beyond. Johnson does so by examining the historical relationship between Leo Tolstoy, the well-known Russian Christian author, and Mahatma Gandhi, the seminal twentieth century leader in India, who was introduced to the Christian tradition through Tolstoy. From this context, Johnson brings out relevant lessons on nonviolent love, peace, and truth for readers, and suggests ways in which these can be applied in various contexts, including our own.

Before the final book reviews, Dwight Perry, provost at the Moody Bible Institute, and Elizabeth Pierre, who teaches at North Park Theological Seminary in the areas of pastoral care and counseling, offer a brief reflection on their 2021 book, *Even the Best of Us: Clergy Sexual Failure—the Church's Hidden Sin*.<sup>2</sup>

It is our prayer that the content of this issue will encourage and build up those who serve the Lord Jesus Christ in the church and in the academy.

<sup>2</sup> See Dwight A. Perry and Elizabeth O. Pierre, *Even the Best of Us: Clergy Sexual Failure—The Church's Hidden Sin* (Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2021).