

# DRTS NEWSLETTER

## The Dutch Reformed Translation Society

### Number 22 – December 2019

#### “The Heritage of the Ages for Today”

---

#### DRTS Board News

Following its long-established pattern, the DRTS board met twice in year 2019. On May 29, it convened at Calvin Seminary and on November 6 it met at Puritan and Reformed Theological Seminary. At the spring meeting Dr. John Bolt, Dr. Earl William Kennedy, and Dr. Adriaan C. Neele were again elected to three-year terms as regular board members and officers were selected to the customary one-year terms. Re-elected officers were:

James A. De Jong, President  
Joel Beeke, Vice-president  
Ronald Cammenga, Secretary  
Henry I. Witte, Treasurer

Invited to that meeting to consider joining the board was Mr. Peter Vander Schaaf, Senior Vice-President for Investments at Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc. in Grand Rapids. Following that meeting, Vander Schaaf indicated his willingness to serve and was added to the board this past summer, with great appreciation from board members for both his willingness to serve and the valuable business acumen he brings.

At the spring meeting, our long-standing secretary, Henk Witte, announced his need to retire from the board by the end of the calendar year. Board officers began making plans for a transition immediately, and with full board concurrence Vander Schaaf assumed that office in October. Henk Witte has served as the DRTS board treasurer for more than a decade, and the board thanks him and the Lord for his superb service. He will be missed on our board.

#### New Projects

Work commenced on several new projects in 2010.

*Days for Good News* is a collection of Abraham Kuyper meditations for Christian holidays in four volumes of about twenty-five meditations each: 1) Advent and Christmas, 2) Good Friday and Easter, 3) Ascension Day and Pentecost, and 4) Old and New Years' Days. These are days when the Dutch Reformed tradition held special worship services. This project was approved a number of years ago along with *Honey from the Rock*, but work was deferred on it until the latter project had been completed and funds had been raised for it. Work on the new endeavor began this summer.

*Treatise on Saving Faith* by Alexander Comrie, a notable eighteenth century devotional writer in the Netherlands, was solicited by Reformation Heritage Books for DRTS partnership. The board decided to provide a \$5,000 subvention for the work now underway by Rev. Bartel Elshout.

*Lectures on Natural Law* by Geerhardus Vos was recently discovered in the Calvin archives in manuscript form. Relatively brief but very timely in terms of today's interests and discussion, the board approved a DRTS translation by Dr. Albert Gootjes with oversight by Dr. Richard Muller. The lectures date from Vos's years in the 1890s while on the Calvin Seminary faculty.

The board will keep DRTS membership informed on progress on these new ventures, and when available, they will be listed on our website with other DRTS titles. Society members are encouraged to watch for them.

## Translations of Translations!

Unforeseen twenty-five years ago when the DRTS was founded was that its projects would not only be translated into English, but that requests would come for permission to translate many of our works into other languages.

Herman Bavinck's *Reformed Dogmatics* has been translated into the Korean, Portuguese, and Indonesian languages. Portions have also been rendered into Italian and translation of the complete work is underway in Chinese Mandarin.

Several titles in our *Classics of Reformed Spirituality* now also appear in Korean. And a Chinese translation of Kuyper's *Honey from the Rock* is underway. At our November board meeting, representatives of Reformation Heritage Books informed the board that volume 1 of Van Mastricht's *Theoretical Practical Theology* had just been published in Korean.

Your board is humbled and grateful for this unanticipated global interest in having a number of projects born with your support now available in other languages. The several U.S. publishers of our titles are to be thanked for working out the contractual details for making this happen. Society members are likewise to be thanked for their prayerful support of our work.

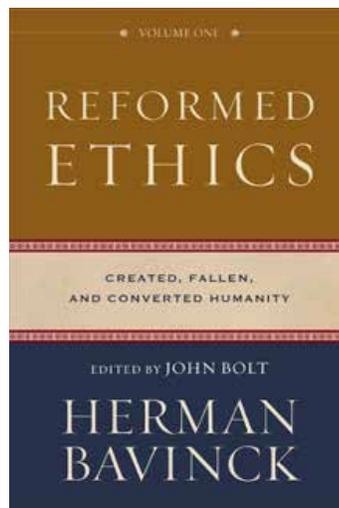
## Progress on Projects Underway

The major on-going project of your society is the seven volume Van Mastricht work. Capably overseen by Dr. Beeke, translating is in the hands of Dr. Todd Rester, now on the faculty of Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, and editing is being handled by Michael Spangler, a gifted and theologically trained young Latinist. Rester is finishing his work on vol. 5 as Spangler begins his on vol. 4.

Volume one of Van Mastricht has already sold more than 2,000 copies and is currently being reprinted. Volume two has sold in excess of 1,000 copies after a year in print. And volume three is scheduled to come off the press this summer.

Lexham Press, the publishing arm of Faithlife, reports that its paperback reprint of the 31 Psalms meditations from *Honey from the Rock* is scheduled to be in bookstores next February.

Editor John Bolt presented board members with volume one of Bavinck's *Reformed Ethics*, now in print. Volume two will be submitted to the publisher this summer, and editorial work is commencing on volume three. DRTS has underwritten this project with a significant subvention. Baker Academic is the publisher.



**Remember to place your orders and claim your DRTS member discount at:**

**Reformation Heritage Books**  
2965 Leonard St. NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525.  
Phone: 616-977-0599.  
[www.heritagebooks.org](http://www.heritagebooks.org)

**Follow our work at: [www.dutchreformed.org](http://www.dutchreformed.org)**

An updated DRTS brochure is enclosed with mailed copies of this newsletter or available upon request from [dejj@calvinseminary.edu](mailto:dejj@calvinseminary.edu)