

Reading the responses has also reminded me of how many questions I have left to pursue. How ironic that Hus, the reformer, was excommunicated and handed over to be executed by the ruling of the reforming Council of Constance. How important it is to remember that Zinzendorf, the ecumenist, has so much in common pre-Reformation mystics and the post-modern youth culture. How important that we continue to uncover and wrestle with the beliefs of our spiritual forebear so his thoughts can inform how we address the spiritual needs and questions of our day.

In closing I should note my own resonance with Art's comment, "I see him

(Jesus) in his suffering which more than his resurrection makes him God to me." While I have no problems with the victorious resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ, theologically, I have founded greater significance in his willingness to die on the chance that I might live with him. As I grow older, I find that many supposed victories or successes have become less meaningful. Now I find greater significance in finding meaning in the hurts and disappointments and experiencing the grace and the power for ministry that Christ somehow gives through them.

## Letters to the Editor

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Dear Editor:

I read your Fall 2000 issue with great interest. My pastor gave me a copy and said he thought I would be interested and particularly agree with Dr. Harvey's response. Perhaps the fact that I was also from a Calvinist background was pastor's main reason but also because I had discussed the Moravian motto with him. I had stated much the same idea as to the "essential" nature of the Bible as Dr. Harvey. I am new to the Moravian Church, joining the local congregation after retiring and moving here to the Pocono mountain area of Pennsylvania five years ago.

Before joining, I had discussed with the pastor the Church's teachings and made sure that the Bible was held as the only source and rule for doctrine, faith and practice. I had asked if there was a forum to discuss these matters and was told "no." I am delighted to find *The Hinge* and intend to subscribe.

I had thought to write and simply add a strong Amen to Dr. Harvey's article. After some considerable thought, I feel that one subject needs to be addressed which has bearing on the matter of "head" and "heart" and how they relate to the final part of the motto: "in all things, love." When pastor read I Corinthians 13 as our Epistle, I realized that without the Holy Scripture we

can't begin to know what love is! Without the whole of the Bible to show us God's love, his working out our salvation through Christ and Christ's love us as our Savior, we would be lost! Just look at the corruption of love and its meaning we see in the world around us. I love poorly but am saved by Christ's love for me. Without the Bible and faith in Christ, there is no way I could even begin to deal with love "in all things." So it seems that essential to following the whole motto is knowledge of the Scripture with our heads, so that we can love with our hearts.

I can see no way to accomplish the ideas of both Hus and Zinzendorf without the Bible. From the quotes I have read, I believe Count Zinzendorf would say that the Bible was an "essential" without hesitation, and perhaps he might wonder why such a question would need to be asked. (I know "The Bible" would easily fit on his "half sheet of paper.")

Christians have a unique blessing in that we have the Bible which God's, given to us for

our salvation (2 Pet. 1:16-21). No other religion can make this claim. They all have books written by men and they can add to or change them at will. They can make them relevant to whatever ideas men think are right at any point in history. When Christians try the same thing or try to interpret Scripture to suit what the world is doing they do so at the peril of losing the gospel and love of Christ. We have the example of the Hebrews and the disasters they got themselves into when they forgot God's word to them. We must be very careful not to make the mistake ourselves. God is love but He is also righteous and holy and demands that we do not continue in sin. He is forgiving but we need to be careful not to try his loving patience too far!

We need to affirm the Holy Scripture as the essential way to salvation through Jesus Christ as taught by the Moravian Church.

-- Elder Lew Parks, Canadensis, Pa.

## Ten-Year Retrospective: 1990-2000

Craig D. Atwood

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Time, as Einstein reminds us, is relative. *The Hinge* has been in publication for ten years, which is a blip in the five-hundred-year history of the Moravian Church, and yet it is a long time for independent Moravian journals. Several have been attempted through the years, including *The*

*Saal* which was the immediate predecessor of *The Hinge*, but few survived more than a few years. Often they have been the work of a single dedicated individual and were unable to continue under a new leader. *The Hinge*, however, now has its third editor and a new editorial board and is