

R. Laird Harris

Ad magistrum honorarium

As a former student, colleague and friend, I join with many others, Allan, in saluting you on the occasion of the publication of this volume of studies in your honor. Two months after I was called by the Lord to leave a career in chemistry and become a minister, I was enrolled in your course in beginning Hebrew. I cannot truly say that you made a dead language come alive for me, but you taught me Hebrew well and, more, you showed me the value of Hebrew. Then you went on to show me the riches of Old Testament study and the value of the new resources of linguistics and archaeology bearing on Old Testament study. What fruit I have had in my own study was in great measure the result of those beginning years.

Your contribution has not only been in the classroom. Many do not realize that your seminary administration was not primarily valuable because you gave the job smooth operation, but because you gave it ideas and direction and above all because of your unvarying loyalty to the Holy Scriptures. As a result, your spiritual children rise up also and call you blessed. For all of these things, combined with your warmth and friendship over the years, we salute you in the Lord and congratulate you on your years of effective service to him and his church.

We cherish this fellowship together, and especially so because, "our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ." (1 John 1:3).