

Evangelical Theological Society

It is my understanding that the Evangelical Theological Society is not a body to bear witness to truth; it is not a church; it is not an organization specifically for religious work. It is an organization for discussion of Biblical problems. It was not founded in order to bear witness to its fundamental creedal statement, nor to the ~~most~~ more extensive evangelical doctrines that are believed by most perhaps all of its members. It was organized in order to have a forum in which scholars could get together and discuss various problems and profit by one another's insights.

Such an organization already exists in the Society of Biblical Literature which holds annual meetings many of them in Union Seminary, New York, and which issues a quarterly. Various evangelical scholars have participated in these meetings and have written articles for this Journal. However, the Society has become more and more dominated by those who consider the Bible as a book filled with errors and whose discussions often start with this as a beginning point and then discuss discuss a problem that would not even enter into consideration if one believed that the Bible is God's Word and free from error. The ETS was not founded in order to counteract or to oppose the SBL. It was formed so that individuals who accepted the Bible as God's inerrant word could devote their time to discussing details of their views on various points within this general area, rather than having to spend the greatest part of their time either listening to or trying to refute discussions that rested on a basis that is entirely foreign to them. This was the purpose as I understood it of the foundation of the ETS. This being the case it does