





Thursday, September 17, 1998 11:43:30 AM



Message

From:  Bill Kostlevy
Subject: 1999 WTS Meeting
To:  altruesdale@nts.edu,Internet

Al,

I am sending my evaluation of the WTS proposals through the mail. We have some very strong proposals.

By the way, I had been led to believe that Ken Collins had submitted a proposed debate with Randy Maddox. If this is true, I think it would be a fun exchange worth the price of going to Oklahoma.

Also, have you thought of inviting John Cobb? He is a member and has shown considerable interest in the theme. How about a Cobb-Wayne Meeks exchange?

I do have several reservations about the conference. We seem very weak in Biblical Studies proposals. My experience with WTS suggests that Biblical Studies folks will feel let out. Also, I am concerned about the abstract nature of many of the proposals. I am suspicious of academic jargon and those who use it. Do we really expect people to set through a paper, such as the one proposed by Brint Montgomery? This is especially true of Post Modernism--an abstraction that means different things to different people. As you know, the majority of our members are pastors. Although in most cases they also scholars, they may not be patient with a conference filled with abstractions and elitest academic jargon.

I do think many of the proposals are very strong and this has the potential to be a very good conference, but I think we need to consciously lighten the program.

Bill K.

This is especially true of an inter-disciplinary society such as WTS.