

THE WESTMINSTER CONFERENCE
for theological and historical study
with special reference to the Puritans

2011

FREEDOM, COURAGE



AND THE TRUTH

TUESDAY 6TH AND WEDNESDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2011
AT
REGENT HALL
(THE SALVATION ARMY)
275 OXFORD STREET
LONDON
W1C 2DJ

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WWW.WESTMINSTERCONFERENCE.ORG.UK

FREEDOM, COURAGE AND THE TRUTH

TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER

10.30AM



CHRISTIAN LIBERTY AND THE WESTMINSTER ASSEMBLY

ROBERT LETHAM

The Westminster Confession of Faith (1647) contains a ground-breaking declaration of Christian liberty. What forces thrust this to the forefront of its agenda? On what basis did the Assembly set it? How did it work out in practice? How does it relate to the gospel? Robert Letham's address will seek answers to these questions, as well as considering what lessons can be learned for our own day.

1.30PM



THE COVENANTING EXPERIENCE

KNOX HYNDMAN

Within a few years of taking the throne Charles II began subjecting the Scots to a twenty eight year period of persecution and terror. During this period it has been estimated that the authorities "killed, impoverished or banished" over eighteen thousand people. However, the response to this cruelty was not uniform and this address will consider the different reactions in the church and the subsequent effect on its life and witness.

3.45PM



OBADIAH HOLMES: PIONEER OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

STEPHEN REES

Obadiah Holmes left Lancashire in 1638, crossing the Atlantic in search of purity of worship and clear gospel preaching. In New England he found saving faith but also came to Baptist convictions and found himself at odds with church leaders and magistrates alike. He discovered that there were limits to the religious liberty permitted by the Puritan establishment. Holmes' stand for freedom of conscience had greater consequences than anyone could have predicted.

WEDNESDAY 7TH DECEMBER

10.30AM



THE BROAD ROAD FROM ORTHODOXY TO HERESY

ROBERT STRIVENS

Anti-trinitarian views gained considerable ground in Old Dissent during the first half of the 18th century. By the second half of that century significant numbers of congregations had lapsed into heresy. Why did this happen? What attempts were made to turn back the tide and why were they largely unsuccessful? What lessons are there for us in this story, faced as we are today with increasingly strong attacks on central evangelical doctrines?

1.30PM



PURITANISM: WHERE DID IT ALL GO WRONG?

LEWIS ALLEN

Why, after they had made such strides in the churches and in national life, was there such a disintegration of Puritan principles? And what accounts for the doctrinal descent into Unitarianism in the first quarter of the 17th Century? This paper will give an overview of the period after 1662, considering the 'downgrade' of Puritan ideals during this time and giving salutary lessons for our day.

3.45PM



JOHN ELIOT: "APOSTLE TO THE INDIANS"

HUGH COLLIER

This remarkable man was one of the first to take the gospel to the Indians of North America. He learned their Algonquian language, and, as it had no written text, devised one. He then translated the whole bible into their tongue. He preached to them, cared for them and was loved by them. This was all on top of a 58 year pastorate! There is much for us to learn from this servant of God.

ATTENDANCE

If you wish to attend all or part of the conference (**please note the new venue**) you must complete the REGISTRATION AND ORDER FORM (see below) and return it, with your registration fee, to the Conference Secretary. Please return your booking form as soon as possible, and by **Tuesday 29th November** at the latest. We regret that we may not be able to accommodate those who do not book, and you are therefore strongly advised to return your form in good time.

If you know someone in Christian ministry who is unable to come solely because of financial constraints, please ask him to contact the Secretary. Such representations will receive sympathetic consideration, although we may not be able to help in every situation.

For further information please contact the Secretary at the address overleaf, call 01924 497184, or email at <jfharris@ntlworld.com>.

MISCELLANY

Hot drinks will be available during lunch and the break for all attending the conference. Please note that no packed lunches will be provided. For those who do not wish to bring their own lunch, there is a small café on the premises together with numerous facilities for the purchase of food on Oxford Street. Food can be brought back to the venue to eat.

Conference papers will be published by summer next year, God willing, and can be ordered below (£7 per copy in the UK, including postage). Those attending may order three copies or more at the discount price of £5.50 per copy. Past papers from 1951 are available from the Secretary and will also be on sale at the conference.

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| Ch | M | P | D/B |
| <p>THE WESTMINSTER CONFERENCE 2011 REGISTRATION AND ORDER FORM</p> | | | |
| CATEGORY | AMOUNT | | |
| Full registration (£40 per person) | £ | | |
| Student registration (£20 per person) | £ | | |
| . . . copy/copies of the printed papers <i>1 or 2 copies @ £7 each</i> <i>3 or more copies @ £5.50 each</i> | £ | | |
| Gift toward conference expenses | £ | | |
| TOTAL ENCLOSED | £ | | |

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- Please register no later than **Tuesday 29th November 2011**.
- Cheques should be made payable to "The Westminster Conference".
- Registrations will not be acknowledged and no receipt will be sent unless requested, and a stamped, self-addressed envelope provided.

RETURN TO:
John Harris
Secretary (The Westminster Conference)
8 Back Knowl Road
Mirfield
West Yorkshire WF14 9SA
01924 497184 · jfharris@ntlworld.com

PLEASE **BLOCK PRINT** YOUR DETAILS BELOW

Name

Title Rev/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Other

Address

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If you responded to advertisements or information in print or electronic media, please tell us where you heard about the Westminster Conference:

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DIRECTIONS

The Salvation Army's Regent Hall is located at 275 Oxford Street in London, W1C 2DJ (exactly opposite BHS, and look out for the protruding 'Salvation Army' sign above eye level), just west of **Oxford Circus** station (take Exit 3, Oxford Street West) on the London Underground Victoria, Bakerloo and Central lines and five to ten minutes east of **Bond Street** on the Central and Jubilee lines. Buses 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 25, 53, 94, 137, 139, and 159 pass down Oxford Street.



We regret that we cannot arrange accommodation but it may be available at one of the following venues:
Highbury Centre
26 Aberdeen Park, London, N5 2BJ, tel 020 7226 2663
William Booth College
Denmark Hill, London, SE5 8BQ, tel 020 7326 2744

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