



In Memoriam
the Very Rev. Professor Thomas F. Torrance

Lucerna pedibus meis verbum tuum, et lumen semitis meis
(Ps. 119:105)



Photo courtesy of the Church of Scotland

The papers in this collection were those given at two day conferences in memory of the Very Rev. Professor Thomas F. Torrance (1913–2007). The first took place on the 29th of October 2008 at the School of Divinity, New College, Edinburgh, and the second on the 24th of February 2010 at St. Mary’s College in the University of St. Andrews. Both conferences were well attended and included many former students, such is the esteem with which Professor Tom Torrance is still regarded. The lectures published here were given at these conferences to mark a celebration of his life and work.

As to the lectures themselves, these consist of a rich and wide range of papers. We are deeply honoured to be able to publish the Blanshard-Torrance correspondence on Karl Barth from the pages of *The Scotsman* of April 1952 co-edited by the Very Rev. Professor Iain Torrance and Morag Torrance. Professor Andrew Purves contributes an assessment of the characteristic form of Torrance’s theology. Both Dr. Sandra Fach and the Right Rev. Dr. Peter Forster return to re-engagement with Torrance’s work and its significance for today. Dr.

Fach provides a fresh reading of Torrance's renowned essay *The Mind of Christ in Worship: The Problem of Apollinarianism in the Liturgy*, while Dr. Peter Forster re-examines *Theological Science*. Robert Walker contributes two valuable papers on T. F. Torrance's lectures to students at New College on the incarnation and the atonement, introducing readers to the background and major themes of Torrance's theology. Dr. Gary Deddo leads us in a profound reflection on two crucial aspects of Torrance's thinking, demonstrating how a theology at once incarnational and Trinitarian is developed within a realist and onto-relational framework. As former students, the Rev. Colin Williamson, the Rev. Eddie Simpson and the Rev. David Randall write of the lucid intelligibility and lasting influence of Torrance's lectures in dogmatics.

Interest in the theology of T. F. Torrance shows no sign of abating. With the recent publication of the second volume of lectures on the atonement as a companion volume to the lectures on the incarnation, his work continues to be the subject of vital and vibrant interest. Those present at New College and St. Mary's enjoyed a rich and stimulating series of lectures and I am delighted that *Theology in Scotland* has this opportunity to publish the conference papers.

Ian Maxwell
Editor