

Dr. R. Alan Streett W. A. Criswell Chair of Expository Preaching Criswell College Dallas, Texas

Dr. R. Alan Streett moved to Dallas in 1983 from his home near Baltimore, Maryland. While attending the University of Baltimore, where he earned his B.A. (1969), Alan heard the gospel for the first time through the witness of a psychology professor. His interest sufficiently piqued, he began attending evening classes at the Baltimore School of the Bible, where he was introduced to the great doctrines of the faith. Although not yet converted, Alan applied for admission to Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC, where he came under the conviction of sin and cried out for Christ to save him. In 1972, he earned his M. Div. with a concentration in World Christianity.

Upon graduation, Alan served as pastor of two churches before accepting a position as Executive Director of Hampstead Youth For Christ, which gave him valuable experience in leading a parachurch organization. Along with his wife Lynn, he founded Streett Meetings, Inc., a faith-based ministry, which enabled him to conduct evangelistic crusades, organize a community Bible class, host a radio program, and write several books on evangelistic and apologetic subjects. He simultaneously served as Associate Director of the Baltimore Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, an evangelistic outreach to the city's business and political leaders. During this time, his study of the Scriptures led him to submit to believer's baptism.

Because of his position in the Christian community, Alan was instrumental in bringing a Billy Graham crusade to Baltimore, and served on the General and Finance committees. Dr. Graham asked Alan to write a fifty-page briefing on the history and spiritual heritage of Baltimore, designed to introduce the Graham team to the Baltimore area.

After earning his Ph.D. from the California Graduate School of Theology (1982), Dr. Paige Patterson invited Alan to become the Professor of Evangelism at Criswell College. His dissertation on evangelistic preaching, published in 1984 under the title *The Effective Invitation*, became a standard textbook in Bible colleges and seminaries. It has since been revised, updated and translated into Spanish. He has also written chapters for the *Apologetic Study Bible* (Broadman and Holman), *Baker's Dictionary of World Religions and New Religious Movements* (Baker), *The Blackwell Encyclopedia of World Civilization* (Blackwell), Baptists and Calvinism: A New Perspective (Broadman and Holman, forthcoming, 2010), and *Lifestyle Witnessing* (Billy Graham Evangelistic Association). Besides authoring numerous articles for popular magazines and scholarly journals, Dr. Streett has penned a gospel tract, *How Do You Plead?* (Crossway). Additionally, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA) commissioned him to produce a series of videos on sharing the gospel with cultists, which has been used to train BGEA telephone counselors around the world.

In 1988, Dr. Streett left the college to plant Trinity Church (SBC), where he served as pastor for the next ten years and preached verse-by-verse expository sermons through 39 books of the Bible. He returned to Criswell College in 1998.

Over the years, Dr. Streett has served as Editor of the *Criswell Theological Review* and Director of Encounter Missions. On two occasions he was voted "Professor of the Year" by the student body.

In 2006, Dr. Streett began work on a second Ph.D. in the area of Biblical theology from the University of Wales under the supervision of noted NT scholar, William S. Campbell. The following year, he was awarded an endowed chair and appointed to be the W. A. Criswell Professor of Expository Preaching.

Alan and his wife, Lynn, are members of First Baptist Church, Dallas, where he serves as Teacher of the 250 member Presidents' Class. They have three grown sons, Aaron, Daniel, and Andrew, and five grandchildren.