

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Paper 1: *Crisis or catharsis, justice or retribution? A snappy introduction to a florid and complicated book* Jenny Chalmers

- 1) If you had been at the Council of Jamnia deciding which books would be in the canon and which would not, where would you have placed Revelation? Why?
- 2) There are a number of distinctly different ways to read Revelation, do you think that it is a book of prophecy applicable to this age; or a response to an external or internal crisis or crises, or do you have another explanation.

Paper 2: *So which one are you? Letters to the seven churches* Deborah Broome

- 1) What do you think is the greatest danger facing the church today?
- 2) Where do Christian communities face pressures to assimilate to the rest of society?
- 3) Internal or external threats to Christian communities: which ones have you noticed, and which would you address first?

Paper 3: *The Silence of the Lamb or Worthy is the Lamb that was slain: Reactions to the presence of the Lamb in The Revelation of John* Barb Lash

- 1) How do we know that the Lamb in revelation is Jesus?
- 2) What does the Lamb in the book of Revelation add to our understanding of Jesus?

Paper 4: *Raging Beasts and Fiery Dragons: Revelation and the Role of the Imagination in Theological Construction and Interpretation.* Sarah Beattie

- 1) How does Revelation remind us of the indescribable nature of God and the limitations of language?
- 2) How does Revelation address our tendency to want to fit God and his revelation into our own comfortable categories thereby confining him to the limitations of our imagination and desires?
- 3) How does Revelation challenge us to move beyond those limitations?
- 4) When reading Revelation is it true that 'in the work of hermeneutics, we find imagination coming in at the initial stages and imagination going out at the final ones.'