

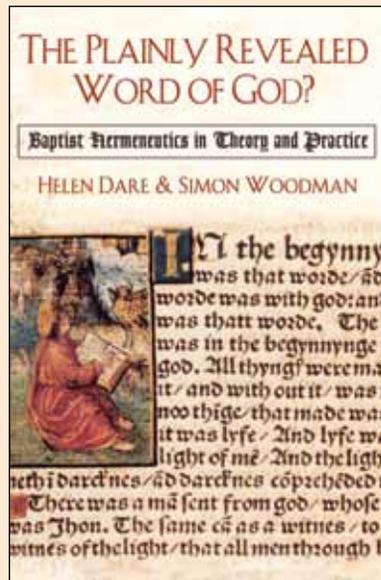
**Helen Dare** is a graduate of Regent's Park College (University of Oxford) and Cardiff University. She has completed Baptist ministerial formation at South Wales Baptist College and is currently undertaking doctoral research at Bristol University.

**Simon Woodman** is a Baptist minister and graduate of Sheffield University and the University of Bristol. Since 2004, he has been tutor in Biblical Studies at South Wales Baptist College, and a senior honorary tutor in Biblical Studies at Cardiff University.

## THE PLAINLY REVEALED WORD OF GOD?

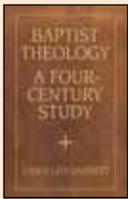
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in Theory and Practice

*Helen Dare and Simon Woodman*



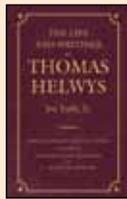
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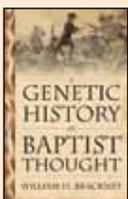
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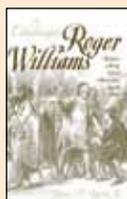
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**IN JANUARY 2009, AN INTERNATIONAL GROUP** of Baptist theologians met in Cardiff, UK, for a colloquium to explore the theory and practice of Baptist hermeneutics. Drawing primarily from the British Baptist community, the group's work was enhanced by insights from participants from the USA and Eastern Europe. Participants brought a diversity of scholarly and pastoral interests to the colloquium, and through presentation and discussion explored together the nature of Baptist hermeneutics.

The resulting volume addresses five core thematic areas. The first section surveys the way in which Baptists have engaged with the Bible both in their early history and more recent past. Section two analyzes some specific examples of Baptist hermeneutics in practice, while the third section turns attention to an exploration of theoretical approaches to the hermeneutical task in Baptist contexts. The problem of how to negotiate interpretative difference within Baptist reading communities is addressed in the fourth section. Finally, concluding responses to the project from two non-Baptist theologians challenge both contributors and readers to consider the wider implications of the volume for contemporary Baptist life.

**JUNE 2011 | RELIGIOUS STUDIES/HERMENEUTICS**

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