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Thomas B. Ommen, Relativism, Objectivism and Theology

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The College Theology Society is a professional organization of college and university professors of religion in the United States and Canada.

The purpose of the College Theology Society is to improve the quality of the teaching of religion: by stimulating and sharing scholarly research; by developing programs of theology and religious studies which meet student needs and interests; and by exploring, evaluating, and encouraging effective ways of teaching which are interdisciplinary and ecumenical.

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The Journal of the College Theology Society

A journal exploring developments in Catholic theology, the total Christian tradition, human religious experience, and the concerns of creative teaching from the college and university environment.

For those of you who have not yet had the opportunity of attending the excellent CTS Teaching Workshops, this issue has two of the papers presented and discussed at the 1985 Workshop on Christology. John Galvin examines contemporary reflections on Jesus' death in our leadoff article, and Jane Kopas casts feminist light on the topic in our Creative Teaching section.

Sandra Schneiders, Peter Drilling, and Thomas Ommen take up foundational questions from their respective perspectives of spirituality, theology, and philosophy. Schneiders clarifies the relationship between spirituality and theology, Drilling brings Lonergan and Fiorenza into conversation, and Ommen looks beyond relativism and objectivism. From foundational issues we move to apocalyptic imagery and mystical vision as Lucy Bregman and Ellen Weaver bring us into the worlds of Robert Lifton and Simone Weil.

In this context of Christology, foundations, apocalyptic, and mystical vision we come to the Editorial Essay and Editorial Symposium. The Essay is the CTS Presidential Address given at the 1986 Annual Meeting by William Shea, currently enjoying his Presidential retirement as a Woodrow Wilson Fellow at the Smithsonian Institution. The Editorial Symposium is a new feature recommended by our Associate Editors—a place for exchange of views on those points where theology meets church and society most directly. This first Symposium engages Daniel Maguire in a lively discussion with Lisa Cahill, Avery Dulles, William May and Bernard Cooke.

Foundational issues surface again with the help of John McDargh, Joann Conn, Vernon Gregson, and Sebastian Moore in our Review Symposium on William Meissner's *Psychoanalysis and Religious Experi*ence. Finally, of course, we have reviews of fifty-four books in the usual variety of fields.

—Walter E. Conn