



## **ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF DR. BRUCE WALTKE TO THE FACULTY OF KNOX THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

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### ***Dr. Bruce K. Waltke***



Dr. Bruce Waltke is one of the preeminent Old Testament scholars holding a Th.D. in Greek and New Testament from Dallas Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. in Ancient Near Eastern Languages and Literature from Harvard University. His teaching appointments as Professor of Old Testament at Dallas Theological Seminary, Regent College and Westminster Theological Seminary, have won for him a reputation of being a master teacher with a pastoral heart. He has pastored several churches, lectured at most of the Evangelical Seminaries in North America and has spoken at numerous Bible conferences. He is currently Professor Emeritus at Regent College. He taught at Reformed Theological Seminary in Orlando from 1996-2010. He is a member of the Committee of Bible Translation of the *New International Version* and helped translate the *New American Standard Version*. He served as editor for the *Theological Word Book of the Old Testament*, *The New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology and Exegesis*, and *The New Geneva Study Bible*. He has authored the *Commentary on Micah* in the *Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries*, and an *Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*, along with numerous articles. Dr. Waltke recently completed a two-volume commentary on Proverbs. Prior to that, he wrote a popular volume called *Knowing the Will of God* and an exegetical commentary on Genesis.

Dr. Waltke has traveled widely as a Bible expositor, as an Area Supervisor for excavations at Gezer, Israel, and as Director of field study trips to the Middle East and the Classical World. He is married and has three grown children.

## **Joint Statement**

*Joint Statement from Dr. Luder Whitlock, Chairman of the Board, Dr. Ron Kovack, President of the Seminary, and Dr. Warren Gage, Interim Dean of Faculty regarding Dr. Bruce Waltke's teaching appointment as Distinguished Professor of Old Testament at Knox Theological Seminary.*

Knox Theological Seminary, a graduate school of theological education, is committed to the inspiration and inerrancy of Holy Scripture, believing the Bible to be the ultimate authority for all faith and practice.

Disagreements regarding the interpretation of the Bible and the text of Genesis 1 have occurred throughout the centuries, even among faithful pastors and theologians in the conservative Reformed tradition. While some of them believe the text says that all things were created in six twenty-four-hour days, other views on Genesis 1 have also been accepted within the Reformed tradition. Dr. Waltke believes that the text provides a "framework" to describe God's sovereign creation of all things. Notable theologians have advocated this "framework" understanding, including James Montgomery Boice and Palmer Robertson (a former faculty member at Knox). Other able scholars on our tradition think that a "day" refers to an age or epoch. Knox Theological Seminary will uphold the confessional boundaries of our Reformed heritage (e.g. creation from nothing, special creation of Adam and Eve, the doctrine of original sin, opposition to naturalism or materialism). Knox Theological Seminary pledges that theistic evolution will not be taught or advocated by faculty or staff.

In the past Dr. Waltke has referred to "theistic evolution" favorably. His concern has been the harmonization of general revelation with the ultimate authority of Holy Scripture as well as evangelical avenues to apologetic debate with persons engaged in contemporary scientific research. He has recently clarified his remarks, emphasizing that his competency is in the field of biblical and theological studies, not the natural sciences. He has no intention of advocating or teaching any scientific theory regarding origins.

Dr. Waltke will begin teaching in the spring of 2011. We look forward to learning much from this esteemed scholar as he joins us.