

P R E F A C E

This fourth issue of *Immanuel* appears around the first anniversary of the Yom Kippur War which had such a profound impact on all spheres of life in Israel. In the section on "Contemporary Religious Life and Thought in Israel", echoes of this come through in the translation of parts of an address given by Rabbi Yehudah Amital shortly after the war. Since in his address the concept of *atchalta de-geula* (the dawn of redemption) plays an important role, it seems appropriate to set against this a diametrically opposed view in a translation of an article published some years ago by Prof. Yeshayahu Leibowitz. Subsequently, our editor Zvi Yaron presents his point of view as expressed in a recent article in one of the Hebrew daily newspapers.

We are also happy to present, in the rubric "Jewish-Christian Relations", an extensive report on a consultation in Jerusalem between Jews and Christians on "Biblical interpretation and the Middle East", held in preparation for a World Council of Churches Conference in January 1974 in Cartigny (Switzerland) which was devoted to that theme. This Jerusalem consultation was an important illustration of what is meant by "dialogue with men of other faiths", to which the WCC has committed itself.

We hope that these contents, and the other material presented in this issue, may interest our readers and may contribute to a better understanding between Jews and Christians in these days of great strain in their relationship.

The Editorial Board
of "Immanuel"