

GOD WHO IS RICH IN MERCY



Essays presented to
Dr. D. B. Knox

edited by

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Editors' Preface

A theological college has the special responsibility of bridging the gap between the world of academic theology and the demands of pastoral ministry. Effective leadership in such a situation demands breadth of learning and an ability to relate such learning to the context in which students are preparing to serve. Here especially "Christian theology should be studied with a view to furthering Christian life and ministry — faith and godliness, both individual and corporate".¹

This sentiment is certainly shared by David Broughton Knox, to whom these essays are dedicated. It has been demonstrated in a lifetime of theological reflection and teaching and found particular expression in his twenty-six year principalship of Moore Theological College, Sydney, Australia. DBK's influence on the Australian theological scene has been considerable. By means of his writings and through graduates of the College now ministering in many parts of the world his influence has extended in ever widening circles.

A presentation volume such as this might be expected to focus upon one area of biblical or theological scholarship, even upon a limited theme within that one area. This volume, however, reflects the broad range of interests of the honoree himself and thus includes essays dealing with biblical, historical and theological issues. In a number of cases DBK's own interests and concerns first stimulated the contributors to engage in scholarly work within these fields. The title, *God Who is Rich in Mercy*, aptly expresses DBK's own theological priorities and the motivation of his life, and several of the contributions relate to this significant theme.

We are particularly grateful to the Most Reverend D. W. B. Robinson, presently Archbishop of Sydney and formerly Vice-Principal of Moore College, for submitting a personal appreciation of DBK, and to Dr. Robert Banks, a distinguished graduate of the College, for his willingness to respond to our invitation to write an assessment of the theological work of DBK. We are pleased to be able to join with all the contributors and a large number of former students, colleagues and friends in honouring Broughton Knox on the occasion of his retirement.

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1. J. I. Packer, "Theism for our Time", 1.