

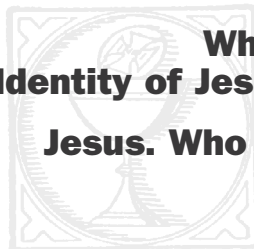
For the

LIFE of the WORLD

October 2004. Volume Seven, Number Four



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**4 “Who Do You Say that I Am?”
The Identity of Jesus in the New Testament**
By the Rev. Dr. Charles A. Gieschen, Chairman of the Exegetical Department and Associate Professor of Exegetical Theology, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana
In contrast to the befuddled understanding of Jesus’ identity often presented by modern media, the New Testament presents a clear and uncompromising confession of Jesus as God incarnate for the salvation of the world.

7 Jesus. Who is this Jesus? Jesus is...
By the Rev. Randall L. Golter, President, Rocky Mountain District, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS)
Jesus, the Christ, true God and true man, the only-begotten Son of the Father, is the source of all spirituality. His blood erases and guarantees our sin-debt (Heb. 10:12-14), draws us near to God (Eph. 2:13), and brings holiness to the unholy (1 John 1:7b; John 17:17).

**10 Everybody Loves Jesus.
The Culture Cherishes a Counterfeit Christ**
By the Rev. Todd A. Wilken, St. Louis, Missouri, is the host of the nationally syndicated radio program, *Issues, Etc.*
Why does Jesus make the cover of *Time*, *Newsweek*, *U.S. News & World Report*, and even *Popular Mechanics*? Why is He the subject of best-selling fiction and blockbuster movies? ... Everybody claims to know who Jesus was and what He would do. Everybody loves Jesus.

13 What Does This Mean?

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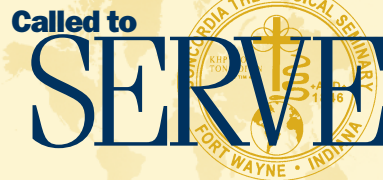
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Missions, International Students, and Homeland Security

By the Rev. Dr. Timothy C. J. Quill

Anyone following the events surrounding the report of the 9/11 Congressional Commission or the regular news updates issued by the Department of Homeland Security is aware that a lot more activity is going on below the tip of the iceberg than is reported in the media. One way to glimpse beneath the surface is to follow the massive restructuring of homeland security taking place on university, college, and seminary campuses.

Before September 11, 2001, the U.S. borders were wide open. Every year thousands of foreigners applied for student visas, came to America and never showed up on campus. Their financial affidavits and bank statements were often bogus. They simply disappeared into America's cities. It is understandable that the new Department of Homeland Security is now cracking down. Unfortunately, legitimate students often get penalized in the process. Robert M. Gates, former director of the CIA (1991-93) and now President of Texas A&M University, recently offered some sobering observations. "Osama bin Laden and other terrorists are on the brink of achieving an unanticipated victory, one that could have long-term consequences for the United States. Over the decades, millions of young people from other countries have come to America to study at our colleges and universities. ... After 9/11, for perfectly understandable reasons, the federal government made it much tougher to get a visa to come to the United States. Sadly, the unpredictability and

delays that characterize the new system—and, too often, the indifference or hostility of those doing the processing—have resulted over the last year or so in a growing number of the world's brightest young people deciding to remain at home or go to other countries for their college or graduate education."¹

Foreign students studying in America have always faced financial, language, and cultural challenges and adjustments. Since September 11, 2001, all American universities, colleges, and seminaries face strict new laws governing the issuance of I-20 documents that are necessary for foreigners to obtain a student visa for study in America. An entirely new electronic program (SEVIS) has been instituted by the government. CTS now uses this program to communicate directly with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and foreign embassies via real time e-mail. No visa is granted by the U.S. Government unless proof of financial support for the entire duration of the academic program is guaranteed. This includes tuition, academic fees, room, board, travel to and from the U.S.A., and other living expenses. The location and academic status of all students are strictly regulated and monitored. If an off-campus graduate student changes his residence, he must notify the school, which is required to electronically inform the proper authorities of his change of address. If a full-time student drops a class, he is in violation of status. CTS must abide by all the new regulations or lose the right to invite foreign students to study on its campus.

In spite of recent events, CTS has not been daunted in its commitment to home and foreign missions. In the fall of 2001, CTS established a new International Studies Office which is headed by a Dean of International Studies. The position was created to assist and coordinate the many requests from overseas for our professors to teach at Lutheran semi-

naries and lecture at seminars and conferences. It was also created to care for international students who study on our campus. At the time, no one could have predicted how things would change. Despite the changes, challenges, and inconveniences of the new regulations, CTS has not been prevented from bringing international students to study in Fort Wayne. Twenty-three international students were enrolled at CTS in 2003-04. In 2004-05 CTS anticipates 26 students from Argentina, Cameroon, Canada, Chili, Denmark, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Madagascar, Nigeria, Russia, Slovakia, South Korea, and Tanzania.

The theological education of international students on campus remains an important part of the missionary enterprise at CTS. The seminary is passionately committed to overcoming all obstacles so legitimate Lutheran students from around the world may continue to take advantage of the faculty and campus life in Fort Wayne. International students are necessary in that they keep the administration, faculty, and student body connected to the broader Lutheran world community. No Lutheran Church can live in isolation—neither can a confessing seminary.

Dr. Timothy C. J. Quill is Associate Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions and Dean of International Studies at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

¹ “International Relations 101” in *The New York Times*, March 31, 2004.



CTS Mission Facts Did you know?

- 1. CTS was founded as a seminary to train missionaries in 1846.**
- 2. This year we will have international students from Argentina, Cameroon, Canada, Chili, Denmark, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Madagascar, Nigeria, Russia, Slovakia, South Korea, and Tanzania.**
- 3. Over 30% of the CTS faculty had the opportunity to teach overseas during the 2003/04 academic year.**
- 4. During the 2003/04 academic year our faculty taught in Georgia, Germany, India, Kenya, Russia, and Sri Lanka.**
- 5. We have two full-time deployed pastors overseas, one at the University of Klaipeda, Lithuania, in the Department of Evangelical Theology, and one at the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Novosibirsk, Russia.**