

## PHILOSOPHIA CHRISTI

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### *Editor's Introduction*

On December 9, 2004, a story broke on the Associated Press news wire that a famous British atheist had changed his mind about the existence of God after a half century of leading the intellectual world for the cause of unbelief. Of course, his name is Antony Flew, and the AP account asserted that the "first hint" of such a "turn" came in September of that year. But in reality the legendary atheist had solidly landed on his new view as early as January 2004. Our dear colleague in the EPS, Gary Habermas, was one of the first to discuss Flew's change of view and began working on an interview for publication with professor Flew's full cooperation and review.

Now I naively believed that *Philosophia Christi* would break the story to the world when our definitive interview was published. But, journalists we are not. As we were plodding along getting our typeset pages looking just right in early December, the Internet came alive with the news. Soon, everyone from Rush Limbaugh to Jay Leno was broadcasting the story. The account that began to circulate, though, was very brief and had a spin that seemed to dilute the significance of Flew's shift in thinking. We are very grateful to professors Flew and Habermas for providing us with an authoritative, detailed version of the story that paints the more complete picture.

As you probably already know, we posted the entire interview on the Biola University website on the heels of the AP release in order to give those interested a chance at a deeper understanding of Flew's journey. We now present it in print in the pages that follow. As some have charged, we do not offer this interview in a triumphalist spirit. Indeed, we fully understand that this interview is but a snapshot of one man's thinking during a given period of time. There is always the chance that Flew might reverse course on this decision. If he does, I pledge that if I am editor at the time, I will make sure that story too is featured prominently in *Philosophia Christi*.

Please don't let this historic interview detract you from enjoying the rest of the fascinating articles, notes, and book reviews we have set forth in this issue. It is a gem of a collection.

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