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James David "J. D." Thomas Papers, 1930-2004

J. D. Thomas

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**James David “J. D.” Thomas
Papers, (1930-2004)**

Center for Restoration Studies
Manuscripts #520

Abilene Christian University Special Collections and Archives
Brown Library
Abilene Christian University
Abilene, TX 79699-9208

16 August 2021

About this collection

Title: James David Thomas Papers

Creator: James David "J. D." Thomas

Identifier/Call Number: Center for Restoration Studies Manuscripts #520

Physical Description: 10.5 linear feet (19 boxes)

Dates (Inclusive): 1930-2004

Dates (Bulk): 1940-1990

Location: Center for Restoration Studies

Language of Materials: English

Scope and Content Note: These papers document Dr. James David "J. D." Thomas' research, teaching, and preaching careers. The papers are arranged in six series.

Biographical Note: The following [biographical note](#) is excerpted from a February 16, 2004 ACU press release:

"Dr. James David Thomas of Abilene, former chair of the Bible Department at Abilene Christian University, died Feb. 16 in Abilene at the age of 93.

The funeral service is scheduled for Feb. 18 at 2 p.m. at the University Church of Christ in Abilene. Burial will follow in Elmwood Memorial Park's "Garden of the Gospels." Visitation will be at Elliott-Hamil Funeral Home Feb. 17 from 5-7 p.m.

A 1943 graduate of Abilene Christian, Thomas also received a M.A. from Southern Methodist University and a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. Thomas served as assistant city manager of Lubbock from 1939-42 and as a minister at the Northwest Church of Christ in Chicago from 1945-49.

In 1949, Thomas began his 33-year career in the ACU Bible Department. While at ACU, he directed the annual Bible Lectureship for 18 years and coordinated the Elders Workshop. In 1981, he originated the Christian Scholars Conference, which was conducted at ACU until 1990. He was chair of the department from 1970-79.

Thomas was a member of the corporation board of Restoration Quarterly and was a staff writer for 20th Century Christian. He was a prolific writer of books and articles. He was listed in Outstanding Educators of America, Who's Who in the South and Southwest, Who's Who in

Religion and Who's Who in America. In 1989, the Kiwanis Club of Abilene named Thomas "Kiwanian of the Year."

Survivors include his children: John Paul and Cindy Thomas, Hannah and Dwayne Kissick; his grandchildren: Sammy Fish, Lucky and Tammy Fish, Christian and Edith Kissick, Packy and Andrea Kissick, Lindsay and Kyle Watson, Scott and Shawna Thomas, Todd Thomas, Shelley and Chris Chorn, Matt Connally, Mark and Lindi Connally; his great-grandchildren: Jessica Nicholle and Kirstie Dawn Fish, Lawrence Scott and Samantha Angel Fish, Riley Blake Whisenhunt-Kissick and Colton Patrick Kissick, Hannah Ashlynn Norrell-Watson and Jakeb Aaron Watson, Ryan Hunter and Tana Jo Thomas, Alyson Cherie and Austin Paul Thomas, Courtney Paige and Luke Christopher Chorn, Matthew Corbin and Abigail Brinley Connally. Also surviving are two sisters-in-law, Grace Thomas and Lena Belle Thomas, and several nieces and nephews."

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition: John Thomas

Date of Acquisition: July 23, 2020

Accession Number: R 2021.037; materials formerly in MS#364 (R 2014.103) and MS#280 were brought together and the whole reprocessed to form MS#520

Date of Accession: 26 July 2021

Accessioned by: Amanda Dietz

Processor and Date of Processing: Amanda Dietz, July 2021

Finding Aid Creator and Date: Amanda Dietz and Mac Ice, 16 August 2021

Using this collection

Processing Status: Processed

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Arrangement of Materials: The materials are arranged into six series:

Series I: Correspondence

Series II: Research and Writing

 Subseries A: Tobit

 Subseries B: Articles by James David Thomas

 Subseries C: Topical Files

Series III: Abilene Christian College/Abilene Christian University

 Subseries A: Classes

 Subseries B: General university materials

Series IV: Church, community, and organizations

 Subseries A: Churches

 Subseries B: Sermons and presentations

 Subseries C: Publications and presses

 Subseries D: Print materials

Series V: Photographs and audio materials

Series VI: Award and artifacts

Separated Materials: Print books relocated to the library section.

Subjects and Keywords

Churches of Christ -- History -- 20th century

Churches of Christ -- Texas -- Abilene

Thomas, Dr. James David "J. D."

Inventory

Box 1

[First Folder] Finding Aid

Series I: Correspondence

University of Chicago correspondence

A

B

C

D

E, F, G

H, I

J, K

L

M

N

P

Q, R

S

T

W

X, Y, Z

Divorce correspondence

Series II: Research and Writing

Subseries A: Tobit

Tobit

Original Languages

Tobit notes

The Dead Sea Scrolls

The History of Archaeological Research and Excavations

Old Testament Finds -- General, Palestine

Representative Daily Life

Kerygmatics and special doctrines

The Greek text of Tobit

Longstaff's bibliography, *The Synoptic Problem*

Gentile Religions

The Fourth Century Church Fathers

Quiz

Stoicism

Subseries B: Articles by James David Thomas

82 - Articles

Box 3

Articles by JDT 1970-71-72
Articles by Thomas - 1966
J. D. Thomas articles
Articles written by JDT
Articles by J. D. Thomas
Articles written by J. D. THomas - File 2
Advocate articles
Articles by JDT 1974-75-76
Articles by JDT - 1972
Articles

Subseries C: Topical Files

Divorce and remarriage: (1 of 3)

Box 4

Divorce and remarriage: (2 of 3)
Divorce and remarriage: (3 of 3)
Anti--
Apocalyptic
Attitudes Toward the World
[balance]
Bookstore addresses
Brotherhood
Christian Evidences
Cuts and mats
Premillennialism
The church
[divorce]
Education
Equal rights
Evolution
Fundamentalism
Inerrancy
Fellowship
God
Gospel
Heaven
Holy Spirit

Box 5

Homosexuality
Infallibility
Infidelity
Inspiration
Instrumental Music
Ketcherside

Knowledge
Jack Lewis articles
Miscellaneous
Mission magazine
Modernism
Mosers sermons
Personal involvement
Religion and science
Religion
Special articles - theology
WAR bibliography
Unity
Thesis - topics in Bible by area (discontinued listing in 1972)
Translation
Trinity
Synoptics
John
Acts
Romans
Pastorals
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
Hebrews

Box 6

Revelation
Holy Spirit miscellaneous
Responses from the Holy Spirit articles
Doctrine of the Holy Spirit, Bill Wiley
Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit
Humanism
Kiwanis

Box 7

Missionary information
Sermon ideas
Fellowship
Ketcherside
European trip
Inerrancy
World Christian Broadcasting Corporation, 1972
Organized structure of church
Loose research materials: (1 of 9)
Loose research materials: (2 of 9)

Box 8

Loose research materials: (3 of 9)
Loose research materials: (4 of 9)
Loose research materials: (5 of 9)
Loose research materials: (6 of 9)
Loose research materials: (7 of 9)

Box 9

Loose research materials: (8 of 9)
Loose research materials: (9 of 9)

Series III: Abilene Christian College/Abilene Christian University**Subseries A: Classes**

Syllabus - 2323M Genesis-Esther
Syllabus - 2324M Job- Malachi
Syllabus - 1314M Acts-Revelation
398 #2 [Romans]
Romans outlines
I Corinthians

Box 10

Philosophy
History of philosophy
John Baillie
Karl Barth
Berdyayev

Box 11

Bultmann
Bonhoeffer
F. F. Bruce
Brunner
Buber
Carnell
Clark
Culmann
Dewey
Dodd
Revelation
Ecumenical Movement
Hegel
Heidegger
Henry - current theology
Henry
Jaspers

Box 12

Kierkegaard
Maritain
Marx
New Hermeneutic
Niebuhr
Nietzsche
Pannenberg
Ramm
Richardson
Robinson
Sartre
Tillich
Van Til

Box 13

Bible 368 - Archaeology
44G3 - The Unity of the Bible
21G3, 62G3 New Testament Backgrounds and Early Christianity: (1 of 2)
21G3, 62G3 New Testament Backgrounds and Early Christianity: (2 of 2)
“M” Courses

Box 14

Archeology 390

Box 19 [oversized]

Bible 380 notes and notecards
Placecard from banquet
Copy of *Boles Bible Lessons*

Box 14, continued**Subseries B: General university materials**

Bible Ex Survey
S.T.B.
A.C.C. Self-Study Program
Orals
Comprehensive examinations
Chapel talks
Youth ministry
Difficult passages - 1976
Bibliographies
[history notes]
Thesis topics
Reading lists
S.T.B. Comp.

Word Processing Center
Jack Lewis hermeneutics

Box 15

Loose ACC materials: (1 of 3)
Loose ACC materials: (2 of 3)
Loose ACC materials: (3 of 3)

Series IV: Church, community, and organizations

Subseries A: Churches

College Church bulletins
Crossroads Church

Subseries B: Sermons and Presentations

Lectureship manuscripts
Sermon and Romans binders
“Reality and Values”
Oklahoma Christian University “Harmonizing Hermeneutics”

Box 16

Kiwanis speech
“Reality and Values”
“God”
“Grace,” UCC lessons
Pepperdine Lectureship
Brotherhood problems
Ohio Valley Lectures April 2-5, 1979

Subseries C: Publications and Presses

Biblical Research Press
ACU Press
Restoration Quarterly
Gospel Guardian
Lemmon’s editorials
Book review of *I Just Want to be a Christian*

Subseries D: Print materials

One folder of assorted print materials

Box 17

Two folders of assorted print materials

Series V: Photographs and Audio materials

Two folders of assorted photographs

Box 18 [oversized]

One framed photograph
A folder of photographs
Four cassette tapes

Series VI: Artifacts and Awards

Golden Anniversary Club certificate

W. J. Teague note

Oklahoma Christian medallion

Various name tags

Sermons outline booklet

A Layman's Guide to Protestant Theology, which bears heavy notations from J. D. Thomas

Assorted cuff links