

LECTURES IN CHRISTIAN FAITH,
THOUGHT AND CULTURE

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AT

St Cyprian's Church
Glentworth Street
NW1 6AX

(near Baker Street Tube)



Baker St Tube

A five part lecture series on

DANTE'S DIVINE COMEDY

Presented by Brian Horne

Thursdays in January – February 2008

7.30pm – 9pm

17th, 24th & 31st Jan;

7th & 14th Feb

*Recommended translation by Mark Musa
(3 volumes – Penguin Classics).*

*COST : £40 for the series (Concessions £20)
No-one need be excluded because of finance.*

*For further details and bookings,
contact the Rev'd David Cherry
davidcherry@onetel.com*

Brian Horne is a retired lecturer in Systematic Theology at King's College, University of London. Educated in South Africa, England and the United States of America, he was an English Literature scholar before becoming a theologian. His principal interests are the work of Dante Alighieri, Charles Williams and the relation between the arts and religion. He is the chairman of the Charles Williams Society and is also on the editorial board of the Anglo-American literary journal, *Seven*. His publications include the books *A World to Gain* (1983), *Imagining Evil* (1996) and his edited volume of essays on Charles Williams: *Charles Williams: A Celebration* (1986). He has also contributed essays to: *Heaven and Earth: Essex Essays in Theology and Ethics* (1986), *Istina Trimistelle* (1990), *A Dictionary of Biblical Interpretation* (1990), *Persons Human and Divine* (1993), *The Oil of Gladness* (1993), *Trinitarian Theology Today* (1995), *God and Freedom* (1995), *Order and Ministry* (1995), *The Companion Encyclopaedia of Theology* (1996), *The Rhetoric of Vision* (1996), *Jesus in History, Thought and Culture* (2003).

“There was born nine years before Thomas (Aquinas) died a man who would give something more, who would have the capacity to unite feeling and intellect, who would be able to take Thomas’ theological propositions and turn them into poetry: this man was Dante Alighieri... As Thomas was the theologian of order, so Dante became the poet of order; the very shape of the *The Divine Comedy* exemplifies this.... The whole poem in its very construction acts as a metaphor of order. The theological point being made by this symbolic means is that the universe – everything from the seraphim and cherubim to rocks and trees – is created to exist in a glorious and harmonious hierarchy which is held together by the love of its creator. And love, as Dante makes clear, is the force which accomplishes this feat: like gravity, it is the law of the universe. It is as foolish to pretend that there is another law by which we can live as it is to pretend that we can flout the law of gravity. If we step into space we shall fall ; if we refuse to love we shall die....”

Brian Horne : **Imagining Evil** : DLT 1996

5 part Lecture Series

DANTE’S DIVINE COMEDY

BOOKING FORM

Your Name

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I enclose a cheque for

£40 / £20 /

PLEASE SEND TO

The Rev’d David Cherry
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