

thoroughly readable poems and a satirist par excellence. For our purposes the chief works were A TALE OF A TUB (1704), the DRAPIER'S LETTERS (1724) and GULLIVER'S TRAVELS (1726). He was a member of a number of literary clubs, intimate with most of the major political ecclesiastical figures of his time and, although he hated living in Ireland, became a great national hero for his pleas for civility in the Irish problem. "Swift," said one author, "is the incarnate spirit of hypocrisy reversed: all good qualities within, and genuine..."

His Modest Proposal (1729) is perhaps the most cuttingly inventive piece of satire I have ever read.

B. Calvin Miller (1936 --)

Somehow I feel that along the way I should have met Miller but never have. He was born in Oklahoma (Enid) and earned degrees at Oklahoma Baptist University and Midwestern Baptist Seminary. Ordained a minister in the Southern Baptist Convention, he has, since 1966, pastored the Westside Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska having previously held more rural pastorates. His earlier writings tended to magazine articles for CT and HIS, and more devotional books with Christian living advice. Important to us are his trilogy (the Singer, The Song, and the Finale) and the satirical PHILIPPIAN FRAGMENT and THE VALIANT PAPERS. He has also moved into fantasy with the GUARDIANS OF THE SINGREALE and other works. I think he is one of the most significant of the present satirists although only history can really answer that point.

It is noteworthy that apart from GULLIVER'S TRAVELS in the Great Literature collection, nothing of the writings of Swift or Miller are in the Biblical Library. We are growing though and one cannot obtain everything at once.

C. Observations on these and other satirists:

Certain things may be seen in all who write satire. I note the following and may, as time allows, illustrate them from the works of our subjects:

1. Moral criticism...satirists see themselves as guardians of moral liberty and life. Social conscience orientation-
2. Love of men is generally greater than love of man.(abstractness)
3. Ability to spot and identify the incongruities
4. Distrust of the establishment (even the establishment satirists fall into this camp...they are often very hard on their own)
5. Delight in general aims...this produces one of the great criticisms of satirists and satire...they are expert at designating the human foible...but much less successful at offering competent solutions. Theirs is the world of ideal and fantasy. It is occasionally hard to bring it into the practical now.
6. A claim of veracity...sometimes tongue in cheek...but very exacting.