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From Hermann Lichtenberger,
University of Tübingen, Germany
For Professor Dr. J.H. Charlesworth
on the occasion of his retirement from PTS

Dear Jim,

We first met at the Society of New Testament Studies (SNTS) meeting in 1977 at Tübingen University. You were the chairman of the seminar on the Pseudepigrapha, and as I was among the organizers of the conference I only occasionally had the opportunity to attend the seminar. In the following year we met again in Paris and became friends. Later on, we ran the SNTS seminar group on the Dead Sea Scrolls and Christian Origins. We now enjoy an inspiring friendship for more than half of our lives.

Our most exiting joint event was your stay, along with your family, in Tübingen as a Humboldt Scholar in 1983-1984. As families, we had a lot of fun skiing and fishing in the Schwarzwald, or enjoying Sunday afternoons as a big family. It was a pleasure to meet later on from time to time also your daughters Michelle and Eve and your son James. I remember the sermon well you gave in our Methodist Church at Tübingen.

It was a pleasure to see you working with commitment and devotion at your work on Pseudepigrapha and the Dead Sea Scrolls. I always admired your knowledge of languages and your erudition in texts which are decisive for understanding and editing this literature. The many books and articles you have published give testimony of your profound learning and teaching.

One does not have to be a prophet to predict that when all our present-day theological books will be forgotten, three major achievements of your scholarship will survive for generations: The edition and translation on the *Odes of Salomon* (publication at the Clarendon Press, 1969, 1977), *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha* (vol. I 1983, vol. II 1985) and “The Princeton Theological Seminary Dead Sea Scrolls Project” (concordance 1991, editions, translations, commentaries since 1994).

Now we look forward to your edition of the *Hodayot*. These psalms and hymns have been the companions of your scholarly, personal and religious life for more than half a century. I am sure that after so many years as a scholar and teacher on the occasion of your retirement you gratefully will say: “I thank you, O Lord” אודכה אדוני .