**Pointed Reflections**, by Vartkes M. Kassouni, D. Min.

By Arthur Salibian, M.D.

*Pointed Reflections* is Rev. Kassouni’s second book, the first being *Points of Life*, his biography and narrative of life-time ministry.

*Pointed Reflections* is a compilation of nearly 300 articles previously published in church newsletters during Rev. Kassouni’s 53-year ministry in the Armenian Evangelical and American Presbyterian churches. These articles cover a wide range of personal, social, scientific and political topics viewed through the prism of the Bible. Of these articles, 152 are expositions of the scriptures with direct references to the Bible; they may be used for personal devotion. Rev. Kassouni’s style is dialectic, poetic and to the point.

Rev. Kassouni’s reflections are "pointed" in that they demand that critical interpretation of Biblical truth be carried out, to use his own words, in an "inductive, disciplined, scientific manner." In doing so, he challenges us to examine counterpoints to our beliefs and not to evade them in our response to God’s Word. Rev. Kassouni uses qualities of knowledge, intellect, and reason to guide us through faith-based decisions.

*Pointed Reflections* represents Rev. Kassouni’s theology. Foremost, it is a reform theology that has its roots in the Reformation. We are reminded that Protestantism, including the Armenian Evangelical movement, is a reform movement that needs to continue striving for changes that conform to Christ’s message. Its motto is "Reformed and Always Reforming." It recognizes the freedom in Christ that breaks the shackles of dogma, does not deny friendship to foes, serves others, and respects the rights of God’s creation. It is also a theology of the cross: freedom in Christ and suffering are inseparable, yet God identifies and suffers with humans and their physical world. Finally, it is a cosmic theology that reconciles not only humans but the universe in which they experience life.

The broad vision of Rev. Kassouni’s articles, some of which were written 50 years ago, retains its vitality today. The book is a treasure of honed gems reflecting the Gospel light.

Copies of this book are available through the AMAA Paramus Office or via the bookstore at amaa.org.