

PARTNERS IN GRACE

SEPTEMBER 2010

Ministry in San Antonio, TX August 27-29

I had not been to San Antonio to speak since about November of 2004. I had the opportunity to speak Friday night and Saturday morning for a Bible study group. We met in the home of Frank and Susie Mahan. Frank is the teacher of the study. I spoke on the vital distinction between eternal life and eternal rewards. I took a different approach than in the past, and it was well received by the 20 or so people present.



Bible Study

Sharon was able to travel with me and she really enjoyed meeting everyone and visiting. That included a Saturday night dinner with the Board of Graham Wilson's ministry, Greater Works Ministry.

On Sunday I spoke to Graham's Sunday school class as



Sunday School

well as the class of Gene Cole at Village Parkway Church. I spoke on the Parable of the Four Soils (Luke 8:11-18) as compared with the Parable of the Minas (Luke 19:11-27).

On this trip we were able to visit with many San Antonio area partners including George and Viva Garza, Jo Schweizer, Tom and Belinda Hailey, Graham and LaRue Wilson, Bob and Kathy Crow, and Frank and Susie Mahan.

It was good to be back to San Antonio and to be able to minister and to visit.



Bob and Sharon enjoy lunch with the Mahans on the San Antonio riverwalk.

Your Dollars Matter



In late August we learned that Logos electronic publisher had completed the pre-sale of our 2-volume NT commentary. GES partner Bill Feiss tells me that it is one of the fastest pre-sales in Logos history. (See note on reverse.) Very soon our commentary will be available electronically in the Libronix format and will be fully searchable. This is great news. And your support makes this possible.

A number of people ordering the commentary have commented that the price is quite low for a 1,334 page hardcover 2-volume work. They are right. But we were able to set such a low price (\$29.95) because of you, our Partners.

Thank you for your support that permits us to publish our newsletter, Journal, website, audio, conference, books, commentary, booklets, and so on. Together we are making a difference for the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ.



Prayer Requests

Please pray for the health of the staff and their families (Mark is feeling better) and for the health of our partners and of the GES Board members and their families, for our four major special publishing projects (Zane's Roman's commentary, Zane's trilogy: *The Hungry Inherit*, *The Gospel under Siege*, and *Grace in Eclipse*, Zane's book *Jesus, God's Prophet* [which we are combining with *Did Paul Preach Eternal Life?* and *The Atonement* and the transcript of the Q & A Zane and I did several years ago on problem passages in Matthew through Luke], and my new book, *The Ten Most Misunderstood Words in the Bible*), that our finances to continue to be at or above budget, for the Grace movement, for church planting in the US and around the world, for our government, for jobs for those Partners who are now out of work (Bob Swift landed a part-time hospice chaplain job which might work into full time in the future!), for Israel, for publication of our Journal and newsletter, and for preparation for next year's conference.

NOTES AND LETTERS

Do you happen to have your finger on, or have reference to any well written critical reviews of Francis Chan's book *Crazy Love*?

-B.B. via email

Editor's note: The review was a full-length article in our recent Journal. Normally we wait a year before posting articles (to encourage people to buy the Journal and thus help defray our Journal costs). However, as a result of the above email, we posted the review on our website.

The presale of the Libronix electronic version of *The Grace NT Commentary* by Logos has ***NOW REACHED 100%*** [it appears] and can begin publication! As I mentioned yesterday (Aug 22), this is one of the fastest [if not the fastest] Pre-Pub in Logos history.

Praise the LORD!

-Bill, via email

I appreciate GES and your ministry.

-D.M. via email

Update on Zane Hodges's Commentary on *Romans*

Ta-da. I finished writing the commentary for Rom 14:16 through the end of Chapter 16. And I've started proofing the manuscript for typos, grammar, style, etc.

John Niemelä is nearly done with the Introduction. Then he will begin on the footnotes. The research John did on the make up of the church in Rome helped me much in my commentary on Romans 16. John has written an excellent article on the tenement church. It is his belief, and it was Zane's (John had spoken with Zane about this subject), that Paul was writing to at least 16 small churches, most of which met in tiny rooms of about 10 feet by 10 feet and would have one family and a few relatives or friends present. These were apartments on the upper floors of buildings where the wealthy people lived on the first floor and then their tenants lived above them on the higher floors in very small rooms. Yet all together there must have been several hundred people in the church of Rome, enough so that by AD 64 Nero would single out the Christians as a group that was causing lots of trouble in Rome. That certainly would not have been the case unless by that time there were thousands of Christians in Rome.

We hope to have this commentary finished by Thanksgiving and in print early next year.



Victor Street Bible Chapel Dallas, TX August 8

Our journey through Genesis arrived at Genesis 9:1-17 and the sign of the rainbow. I called the sermon, "Somewhere Under the Rainbow." God put up his battle bow. The rainbow is God's promise that He will not destroy the earth again by water. Ultimately it is a promise that He will preserve the earth until the day when He destroys it by fire (2 Peter 3:10-12). The idea that we should fear man destroying the planet or wiping out all of mankind is foolish since the rainbow is God's promise of preservation until the fiery judgment after the Millennium.

This sermon is posted online if you'd like to listen to it.

Spring 2010 Journal at the Printer

We have caught up some. The Spring Journal should be in the mail in September. Our aim is to turn right around and have the Autumn Journal in the mail in November or December.

August Financial Report

August Budget	\$27,940	YTD* Budget	\$55,880
August Revenue	\$17,936	<\$10,004>	YTD* Revenue \$71,347 \$15,467

**Our fiscal year runs from July 1st through June 30th*

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