



The congregation at Victor Street

Victor Street Bible Chapel Genesis 42 June 23

There is a shift in theme from Genesis 41, which is about Joseph, and Genesis 42, which concerns Joseph's relationship with his brothers. Due to the start of the seven lean years, Joseph's brothers travel to Egypt to buy grain. This becomes a test. Are they ready to move to Egypt? Will they confess their sin concerning Joseph? Will they submit to his leadership? In Genesis 42 they do confess their sin, though they do not know that he is Joseph or that he understands them, for he had spoken to them with a translator.



Joseph and his brothers. Actual photo.

Repentance was necessary before the brothers would be allowed to travel to Egypt, where the nation would grow and develop. So harmony with our spiritual brothers and sisters is necessary for our growth and development as Christians. If we are out of fellowship

with our brothers, we need to repent and get right with them and with the Lord.



The Congregation at Kingwood

Kingwood (TX) Bible Church June 30

Pastor Woody Woodward was out of town on sabbatical so he graciously asked me to fill the pulpit. Kingwood is a suburb of Houston.

I spoke on Matt 16:24-28 and the call to give up our lives that we might gain our lives. I stressed the idea of condition and consequence. In evangelistic contexts the condition is faith and the consequence is everlasting life. In discipleship contexts, such as this one, the condition is works (deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow Christ) and the consequence is eternal (or temporal) rewards. The message was well received in both services.

I stayed Saturday night with Joe and Sarah Stratton and their dog Briggs (Briggs & Stratton). The entire Stratton clan came over and we had a great time visiting.

These books are all destined for the Liberty University Library. My last library donation included *The Ten Most Misunderstood Words in the Bible*.
—BP, email

Lunch w/ Mike Gendron & Jason Hauser, Proclaiming the Gospel Ministries June 3

I've known Mike for twenty years. He is a DTS grad who is a former Catholic and who has a ministry of evangelism directed toward Catholics. I set up a lunch with him and his new associate, Jason. We had a great



Bob with Mike Gendron and Jason Hauser

time discussing gospel issues. While we do not agree on the issue of repentance or Calvinism (both Mike and Jason hold to what I'd say is a mild form of Lordship Salvation), we were in strong agreement on the drift away from inerrancy and expository preaching in the church and Christian education today.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for our staff and their families (Mark Gray and his daughter Michelle; Bethany Taylor and her husband David; Shawn Lazar and his wife Abby and their daughter Daphne; Sharon and me); for the Zondervan book I co-authored: *Four Views on the Role of Works in the Final Judgment*, which comes out this month (late July release date); for all the GES supporters and their families; for two new books we are working on (one by Shawn and me on Calvinism and one by me responding chapter by chapter to MacArthur's *The Gospel According to Jesus*); for the U.S. and world economies; for the selection of speakers for next year's GES conference (the call for paper titles has just gone out); for the August 17 GES summer board meeting; for GES finances; for the magazine and journal; and for our materials to get in many hands and influence many.



Bob with the Stratton Clan

I cringe every time I read about someone saying we preach a "crossless gospel"—especially when a free-grace person says it. That's just crazy and ridiculous!
—DB, email

Spotlight on Your Support

We had a good June, but the entire fiscal year fell well under budget. The good news is that the last fiscal year 2012 (July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012) more or less balanced out what we lost this year. We did tap into our reserves, but not so much as to strap us for the future.

Our budget in fiscal 2013 was up from previous years. At our August 17 board meeting we will likely set a budget more in keeping with the ones we had the five years before fiscal 2013.

Thanks to your support, we are publishing more books now and those books are generating more revenue from sales. The Romans commentary did very well in its first two and a half months (April 22 till the end of June). More of our books are now available in Kindle and Nook formats.

June Finances

June Budget	\$35,413	
June Revenue	\$20,377	<-\$15,036>
YTD Budget	\$424,956	
YTD Revenue	\$309,180	<-\$115,776>

We are very thankful for your gifts.

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Grace Evangelical Society, 4851 S I-35 E Ste. 203, Corinth, TX 76210 www.faithalone.org 940.270.8827

