



Grace literature for these Nepalese students

Nepal Bible Institute April

I (Ken), went to Nepal with my daughter, Kathryn.

While we all live in a fallen world, the devastating effects of sin is just so stark in a place like Nepal. Idols are everywhere. On a given hill there might be ten temples to different idols. In the Old Testament it often speaks of how the idolaters worshipped on every hill. The Hindus here worship everything – the mountains, fish, pigeons, cows, trees, the sun, etc. They have national gods, family gods, made up gods. Just like in the Old Testament, they have fertility gods.

Kathryn and I visited a cave. It was about 100 yards long. A sign outside said not to disturb the gods in the cave. There were probably over 500 formations made with rocks in the cave which each represented a god.

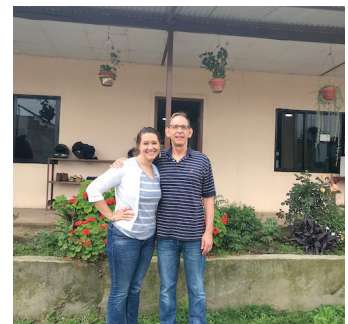
At the bottom of the cave a Hindu holy man was blessing people. Coming out of the cave and elderly woman grabbed my arm for help getting out. When we got out of the cave she danced with other ladies. They were pilgrims from India. The lady believed that her god would give her “salvation” because she had entered thru the “narrow gate” (of the cave) and overcome (Satan’s

distortion of Matthew 7). Of course, who knows what salvation she thought she would receive – longer life, a better reincarnation.

The highlight of the trip, without a doubt, was the chance Kathryn and I had to teach three hours a day, five days a week, for three weeks at the Bible Institute. I also spoke at the school chapel three times. There were two classes of about 25 students. About 20% of the students are women. A generous donor donated the books we gave out. We gave them Zane Hodges’s *The Gospel Under Siege*, and Bob Wilkin’s *The Ten Most Misunderstood Words and Confident in Christ*. We also were able to give single copies of other books to the library of the school (*The Grace New Testament Commentary*, James, etc).

I was able to speak at a local church once while here.

I am anything but an expert on the church in Nepal. But it appears that there is a strong strain of Arminianism that runs throughout it. At the beginning of our time in Nepal



Ken and Kathryn



Teaching Free Grace in Kathmandu



Worshipping with Nepalese Christians

none of the students had assurance of salvation. They all thought you could lose eternal salvation. Lordship salvation does not seem to be nearly as prevalent as we are used to in the States. Kathryn and I kept hammering home the point that eternal life is permanent, no works, by faith alone, and that when we believe we know we have eternal life that we cannot lose. This was foreign to them, but almost all of them have come to believe the Free Grace gospel.

A trip like this reminds us of how God has poured out His goodness on us. The heritage of a Judea-Christian culture, even if it is falling apart in many ways, has given us so much. Those of us who have been exposed to Free Grace teachers and theology have a debt we cannot repay. Surely the Lord expects much of us who have been given so much.

Thanks for all those who support us with their donations of books, tracts, and online material. Thanks for those who support us with prayers. You are all a vital part of what we are doing.

Culberson Bible Study Allen, TX April 26

Bob spoke to a Bible study group at a restaurant in Allen, only 8 miles from where our national conference will be in a few weeks. He spoke on the Parable of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15:11-32. It was a good discussion. The majority of the eight people present came in believing these parables were about evangelism. By the end of the hour-long study, most of the people were convinced that the issue in the parable is fellowship with God, not being born again.

Victor Street Bible Chapel Dallas, TX April 29

Bob came to one of the toughest passages in Romans. That is Rom 5:12-21. Several of the words in this passage are not translated correctly. The word translated as *condemnation* actually means *penal service* or *slavery to sin*. That is one of the things Adam gave us and the Lord Jesus took away (so that we are no longer slaves of sin in our position as Romans 6 clearly shows). The word translated as *justification* actually means *righteous living*. The Lord gives us the ability to live righteously.

This understanding of the passage was new to most of the people.

Lunch with Dallas Seminary Dallas, TX April 12

Bob had lunch with Dr. Mark Bailey, President of Dallas Seminary, and Dr. Mark Yarbrough, Academic Dean of Dallas Seminary. They discussed issues related to Christian education. It was a good time of interaction.



New Books By the Conference

Shawn *hopes* to have two new books by the conference: Bob's *Grudem Against Grace* and Ken Yates' commentary on *Hebrews: Partners with Christ*. But it's going to be close. Very close.