

Partners in Grace

July 2010



Victor Street Bible Chapel Dallas, TX ~ June 13

One of the more puzzling and amazing passages in Scripture is Gen 6:1-8. Moses tells of a time when “the sons of God” married “the daughters of men” and had offspring that were giants. Who in the world, or who in the universe, are “the sons of God”?

I believe, as do many commentators, that the sons of God are fallen angels. Compare 2 Pet 2:4-5. Their offspring were a new race, a new species, half human and half fallen angel. When their offspring died in the flood, they became what we call demons.

I discussed other interpretations in the sermon, which you can hear online via our website. But if the view I suggest is true, it lets us realize that there many things which we do not know. We only know what God has chosen to reveal to us. Much more will be learned when we go to be with the Lord, and, I imagine, we will keep on learning every day of eternity.

The lesson of Gen 6:1-8 is that God is in charge. Neither humans nor fallen angels nor an alliance between the two can thwart God’s plan.

Spotlight on Your Support

It appears we set the price of our 2-volume commentary a bit too low. It probably should have sold for \$39.95 or at least \$34.95. Many who have called to order it have commented how cheap a 1334 page 2-volume hardback commentary is for just \$29.95.

We are actually losing \$2 to \$3 per commentary for those sold on Amazon. However, the Board feels it is worth it since we get the grace message into the hands of people who wouldn’t have it otherwise. (We probably will charge \$34.95 if and when we reprint so that we at least break even on Amazon orders.)

Commentary Sales Picking Up

After selling 460 commentaries at the April 19-22 conference, sales in May were steady at about 45 a week. June sales nearly doubled, with sales averaging 85 per week. Amazon has already ordered nearly 50 this month.

We printed 5,000 in the first (hopefully first of many) printing, figuring that it would take six to twelve months to sell them. It is too early to be very accurate at analyzing sales, but it seems likely that we may average sales of over 300 per month for the second half of the year. If we do, we probably will need to reprint the commentary about a year from now.



Grace on the Go

- July 11th—Garland (TX) Bible Chapel
- July 17th—GES Board Meeting
- July 18th—Harbor Trinity Church, Costa Mesa, CA (AM)
- July 18th—Church of Hope, Laguna Hills, CA (AFT)

Romans Commentary Update

I have completed the translation and commentary through Rom 16:18, leaving me just 9 verses to go. Hopefully I will complete the commentary by early July. Dr. John Niemelä should be done with the Introduction to Romans by early July as well. Then he will seek to complete the scholarly footnotes by the end of August. We are still shooting for a release date of late 2010 or early 2011.

My point is that we are able to sell the commentary so cheaply because of you, our Partners. Without your financial support, we’d have to charge a lot more for all our materials and sales would be much less.

This is a very exciting time for our ministry with the NT commentary, Zane’s commentary on Romans, my book on ten words, and re-releases of Zane’s out of print works.

Thank you for your support. It matters a lot.

Thank you!

Prayer Requests

We would appreciate prayer for our ongoing financial support, especially in the summer months when revenue typically falls, for the completion of the Ten Words book and the Romans commentary, for the health of our staff and their families, for reconciliation in the Free Grace movement, for free grace churches, for free grace missions (short term and long term), for good distribution of our Grace NT Commentary, for the July 17 GES board meeting (in which we will set the budget for July 2010 through June 2011), and the publication of our newsletter and Journal, that they would be outstanding in content and released on time.

The Ten Most Misunderstood

Words in the Bible: Close to Completion

Is it really close to completion? Well, it is in the sense that all of the chapters are done and the appendixes are nearly done. However, I have not yet added in quotes from leading Evangelicals that should stress my point that these words are misunderstood. That could take another few months to complete since I have other projects going at the same time. The other issue is my obsessive perfectionism that leaves me not wanting to release anything I've written since I know if it is not perfect. If I just spend a little more time, I can improve it. Of course, then we would never release anything. So I imagine I will let go of this by September and then we do proofing, typesetting, and printing. It could be in print by Christmas.

By the way, the ten words are **faith**, **eternal life**, **salvation**, **perishing**, **repentance**, **grace**, **final judgment**, **Heaven**, **Hell**, and **gospel**.



NOTES AND LETTERS:

Hebrews book by Zane Hodges

Thanks for making the book Hebrews: The Journey of Faith available to the church. I think it is probably the best short book on Hebrews out there. It certainly is the best one I have ever read. It would be impossible for someone to read this book and not have a much clearer concept of what the book of Hebrews—and the Christian life—is all about.

Email, BF

Editor's note: We are not the publisher. Victor Street Bible Chapel is. GES is merely acting as a distributor for the work. However, we are delighted to do that and agree that this is an important book to get into people's hands.

GES Commentary and Writings

I would like to thank you for your hard work through the years and I encourage you and staff to continue your work for the Lord. I have wanted to write you for quite awhile about your free grace materials. Because of your writings, and those of Zane and Jody Dillow, I see the interpretation of Scripture and understanding of God's word in a new light. Thank God through your ministry for helping me to understand salvation, discipleship, works, rewards, First John, James, and the parables. Words cannot describe how I feel about GES, but God knows. The new 2-volume commentary is great and just what free grace needed. I encourage you to continue running the race and continue writing. God has blessed me through your hard labor.

Email, C



Board Member
Walt Millet
stopped by for
lunch with Bob.

June Financial Report

Not counting the \$62,000 borrowed from the General Fund by the Commentary Fund to print the 2-Volume Grace New Testament Commentary (which was an off-budget item), our revenue exceeded budget by just over \$22,000, as you can see below. While we do want to restore the rest of the borrowed money to the general fund, we had a good year in a bad economy. Thank you for your support.

June Budget	\$26,432	YTD* Budget	\$317,180
June Revenue	\$48,100	YTD* Revenue	\$339,231
	+\$26,463		+\$22,051

**Our fiscal year ended on June 30th*

Partners in Grace is a publication of the Grace Evangelical Society for its financial supporters.

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