

# PARTNERS IN GRACE

APRIL 2011

## Victor Street Bible Chapel Dallas, TX March 13



I spoke on Genesis 20. Abraham and Sarah again lie and deceive a king. The king of Gerar, Abimelech, shows he knows what happened to Sodom and why. And he claims that his is a righteous nation (v 4). God does not destroy Gerar (implying Abimelech is correct), and after the king returns Sarah, he opens the wombs of the women of Gerar. A clear lesson for Israel and for us is that God is control of everything, including conception. Idolatry in that day centered on fertility. Yet the one true God is He who opens and closes wombs. A prime example will be the coming birth of the miracle son, Isaac, which follows in Genesis 21. (And, of course, his miraculous birth is a type of the even more miraculous birth of the Messiah two millennia later.)

## Speaking at Evangelical Theological Society Regional Meeting Dallas Theological Seminary March 18

I spoke on the importance of meditation in exegesis (interpreting the Bible). I had a little over 20 people in my session, so it was well attended. And the audience feedback was very positive.



I was able to visit with a number of Free Grace friends at the conference. And I sat in on some very interesting papers.

## Garland (TX) Bible Chapel March 20

I spoke on the reign of death that Moses discusses in Genesis 5. From Adam to Noah death reigned. Over and over again in Genesis 5 Moses said, "and he



Donald Branch, Joe Park and Bob (L to R)

died." However, there is an encouraging break in Gen 5:21-24. Enoch did not die. God made an exception in his case. He walked with God so God took him. Enoch foreshadows a time when there will be no more death, and a time when we will have glorified, pain-free bodies.

## Jansen (NE) Bible Church March 25-27

Speaking at the JBC Spring Bible Conference, I gave four messages from the Old Testament: Daniel 3 (3 men in the fiery furnace), Daniel 6 (Daniel in the lions' den), 1 Chronicles 13 (Uzzah dies when he unwittingly touches the ark), and Genesis 6 (the reign of death from Adam to Noah). All four dealt with the importance of obeying God rather than men, and the fact that God blesses obedience and curses disobedience.



I've been to Jansen Bible Church many times. Everyone makes me feel right at home. Thanks, Paul and Carol (above) and all at JBC.

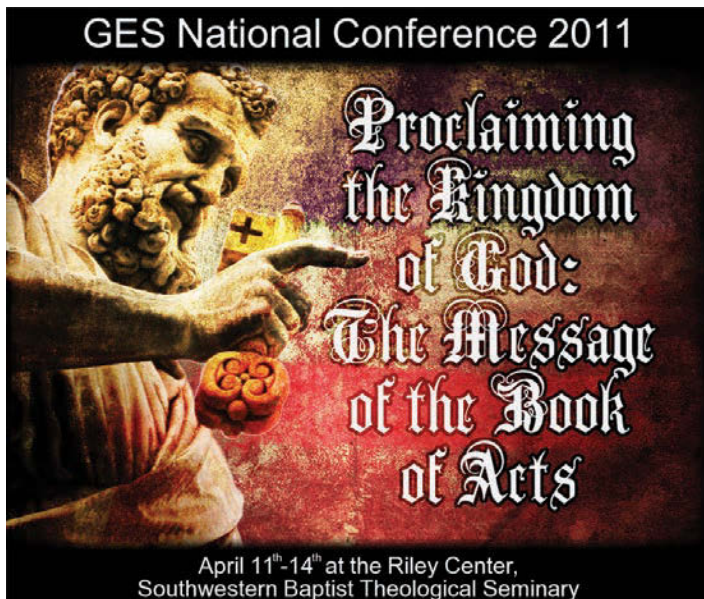
## Old Color Printer Bit the Dust

You may have noticed that the last five or so Partner's newsletters had streaked pages and splotches of ink on the pages. We thought our printer was just having a temporary problem. But then one day in March the printer burned up. We now have a new printer and the printing is much better! We hope you like it. And we hope this one lasts a long time.

## Sixteenth Annual GES Conference Fort Worth, Texas April 11-14

The conference is upon us. We have a super line up of speakers and messages. For the first time we will have the main sessions of the conference professionally filmed from two different camera locations. The resulting dvds will be available for just \$25. That will hopefully greatly benefit those watching the dvds and also boost interest in the next conference.

We had t-shirts made up for this conference. They are cool. We expect to have plenty left over after the conference to sell via our bookstore. An outer ring will read: "I'm a believer, John 3:16, faithalone.org." Inside the ring will be the letters "GES."



## Spotlight on Your Support

We had a good March, which kept us in the black. With three months to go, it looks quite possible we will end the year above budget. However, whatever comes in, we have had a great first nine months during very tough financial times for our country and our donors. We are very thankful for your support and we are committed to using the gifts wisely. Thank you for your partnership in this ministry.

## NOTES AND LETTERS

So glad to see in the February *Partners in Grace* that GES will launch a church planting ministry. I'll be praying for the needed finances and wisdom on moving ahead with this.

Looking forward to your new book along with Zane's Roman's commentary and the reprinting of *Jesus, God's Prophet*. I so appreciate the ministry of GES and its handling of the Word. Hope to be able to attend a GES conference at some point.

—email, RAD

I just wanted to send a quick note saying I had a fabulous time with you and Paul [Pastor Paul Carpenter of Jansen Bible Church] Saturday afternoon and I enjoyed the messages I heard from you over the weekend. The time with you and Paul was so encouraging and refreshing for me. I would also like to encourage you in the continuation of your work with GES. It's of great benefit for me as I interact with others. Hang in there.

—Email, CN

## Hodges Trilogy Book Delayed: To Go to the Printer by End of April

We missed our goal of having the trilogy book to the printer in time to have the book at the conference. We hit lots of problems with typesetting and indexing the text. But that is all fixed and the trilogy should go to the printer by the end of April. We now estimate it will be to our office and ready to mail out by mid June. We are sorry for the delay, but we are thrilled to be working on such an important work and we are committed to getting it right.

## March Financial Report

Mar Budget	\$27,940		YTD* Budget	\$251,460	
Mar Revenue	\$34,255	\$6,315	YTD* Revenue	\$280,449	\$28,989

We are very thankful for your gifts.

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

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Grace Evangelical Society 100 W Oak St., Ste. G Denton, TX 76201  
www.faithalone.org 940.565.0000

