

# Dan & Peggy Lewis

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Dear Friends and Supporters,

Greetings to you all in the name of Christ, our Lord! I closed out the year with lecture trips to England and Canada—Cambridge, Birmingham and Toronto. As everyone knows, Cambridge is the quintessential college town. The School of Biblical Studies, where I lectured on Deuteronomy, is one of the smallest and newest, but I had a great group of diligent students from a wide range of countries, including not only England, but also Australia, South Africa, Canada, USA, Holland, Norway, China, Korea and Ecuador. The days were non-stop from morning 'til evening. Each day began with a short meeting with the resident faculty followed by my three-hour lecture until 1:00 PM. Lunch was with students in one of the student houses, and the evening meal likewise, which included considerable time for Q/A, not only on my lecture topic, but a wide variety of theological and biblical topics. I felt particularly honored to have the two Chinese students tell me they have adopted me as their grandfather! I have a photo of them, but at their advice, I won't include it, since China's laws regarding Christianity are so rigorous, they did not want any publicity, however small, due to the risk of repercussions in their homeland.

The students attending my lectures live in student houses in Cambridge and bike to the campus/classroom. Cambridge is a veritable world of bicycles, and this branch of the University of the Nations maintains a fleet for student usage.



One of the highlights for me while in Cambridge, in addition to the privilege of teaching there, was the opportunity to attend Evensong at King's College, which has the largest chapel in England. (A chapel,

incidentally, is a privately-owned church as opposed to a parish church or cathedral.) I was pleasantly surprised to find that about 200, more or less, attended the service (probably many of them tourists).



After my Cambridge lectures, I took the train to London, where I spent the rest of the week and weekend doing research at the British Museum and British Library. A few years ago, I authored a guide to the British Museum, which assisted visitors in making the connections between various artifacts and

the biblical narratives. The guide covers more than a hundred artifacts. About a year ago, the British Museum changed several of their displays, and in any case, some of their artifacts on display sort of “come and go”, so I needed to update my guide. It is used especially in Europe where students have more immediate access to this incredible repository of ancient history. (Should any of you be interested in a copy of this guide, let me know by email, and I’ll send you a digital copy.)



This is a statue of Pharaoh Taharqa (Tirhakah), the Nubian Pharaoh of the 25<sup>th</sup> Dynasty whose threat to the Assyrian army convinced Sennacherib to withdraw from his siege of Jerusalem (Isaiah 37:9).

From London, I took a train northward, where I had a week’s lectures in the Acts of the Apostles at the School of Biblical Studies in the Midlands branch of University of the Nations. I have been to this campus many times previously, so it is almost like “coming home”. About 25 students from England, Ireland, Canada, Brazil, Sweden, Italy, India, the Netherlands and the USA (including one young woman from Auburn Hills, Michigan, a graduate from Oakland University) were in this course of study.

They were very engaged, posed a host of intelligent questions, and otherwise were a joy to be with. One afternoon, I had a delightful and intense discussion with an Orthodox and a Lutheran about the finer points of the doctrine of the Trinity as

discussed among the eastern and western Ante-Nicene Fathers. One of my other students was a pastor from northern India, a true gentleman and passionate Christian leader. Another was deaf, but he had a device that was attached to the side of his head, while I wore another device around my neck sending wireless signals that enabled him to hear the lectures.



Classroom lectures in England are pretty typical of any of the countries in which I teach. Laptops, projected Powerpoints, and a white board are the order of the day.

From England, I made a quick turn-around, was able to attend the Parish Dinner for my home church at Mariners', and drove to Toronto the same weekend to begin lectures on 1 & 2 Samuel and 1 & 2 Kings (and Chronicles). I spent two weeks in Toronto teaching an all-Korean group. Lecturing with a translator is more of a challenge, but Ruth and Deborah, my translators, did a super job. I also spoke in their chapel service as well as to a monthly meeting of Korean churches. There is a sizable Korean community in Toronto—about 30,000.



Here I am with two of the leaders in the Toronto School of Biblical Studies, JaeGoo and David.

In between lectures, I keep up with a variety of other things. I'm currently writing a commentary on the Hebrew text of the Book of Job. I still have several on-line overseas students taking Greek and Hebrew language studies with me, and at various times, teachers in Biblical Studies from other countries contact me for lesson assistance and research. Looking to the future, for next year, 2019, I'm already fully booked with lectures in Mexico, Montreal, Richmond, the Netherlands, England, Honolulu, Kona, Cape Town, Panama and Kansas City. It will be a busy year but very fulfilling!



Lecture room in Cambridge—obviously not at King's College or Corpus Christi College or any of the other famous institutions—but very comfortable, none the less.

Many thanks to all of you who give us support and make it possible to do this work! May God's grace be with you all!

Dan and Peggy Lewis