

Dan & Peggy Lewis

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Dear Friends,

Back again in Michigan after a busy spring! Peggy and I have managed to complete most of the four seasons in just three months! We had spring in England (sunny but cool), winter in Germany (rain and snow), spring in Oregon (sunny and warm), summer in Kona (hot!) and back to winter in Queenstown (snowy and cold). These were all great lecture venues, teaching, as usual, for University of the Nations in biblical studies. Here's a blow-by-blow:

England

We always enjoy England in the spring, and I must say, they kept us hopping. In the mornings, I was lecturing in one department on the Book of Isaiah, in the afternoons in another department on the Books of Joshua, Judges, Ruth and Psalms, and in the evenings attending various events (speaking in the campus chapel service, Q/A with students, private meetings with staff). England is like a



Speaking in Campus Chapel, The King's Lodge

second home to us, we've been there so often (this was our 27th trip), going back to 1991. The campus buildings have had several usages over the past century and a half, but now, as part of the U. of N. world-wide network of campuses, it is the center for their international on-line courses, several of which I have taught, plus my current new project of Biblical Greek on-line.



The King's Lodge campus

Germany

Usually when in Europe, I try to link up with two countries (which saves considerably in terms of airfare). We left England for Bavaria, flying into Munich and spending the next week lecturing at another U. of N. campus. Here, the



subject was the Torah. Unlike England, all lectures in Germany were with translation, and in the photo (right) you can see me with my translator as we cover the Levitical code. One of the highlights in Germany was the opportunity for Peggy and I to visit Augsburg, where there was a city-wide celebration of Luther. We visited the

actual church were Luther faced off against Cajetan in 1518. Another was meeting a delightful gentleman, Dr. Frank, a retired Physics Professor from the University of West Sydney, who like me uses his retirement years to lecture for U. of N. (he lectures in World View subjects and he heads up the Australian chapter of L'Abri if you are familiar with the work of the late Francis Schaeffer).

Oregon

From Germany, it was a quick turn-around on the weekend in order to be in Oregon for lectures there, also in the Book of Isaiah. Oregon is special for us, since Peggy and I met there when undergraduates back in the late 1960s. In addition to the lectures, we had the opportunity to visit some family and long-time friends in the area. Upon returning home, we spent the remainder of May catching up with our lives in Michigan before the next trip, this time a three-week excursion to Kona, Hawaii and Queenstown, New Zealand.

Hawaii

The U. of N. campus on the Big Island is larger than most of the smaller campuses, this one with about 1500 residents. As always, Hawaii is beautiful (though for us, a bit too warm). In addition to lecturing on the Synoptic Gospels, I had a chance to catch up with some of my Greek students as well as a couple of my Hebrew students. I've just started an on-line course in Biblical Hebrew, and on the Kona Campus I have two Korean students and one Egyptian (who also knows Arabic). Sylvia Barsoum, my Egyptian student, comes from The United Arab Emirates, where her father is a Presbyterian pastor in Abu Dhabi. We had one evening of Q/A in which students and staff can ask virtually anything about anything. We discussed questions about everything from the Syriac Peshitta version of the Bible (probably from the 2nd century AD) to hermeneutical theories about the Song of



Affectionately known as "the Castle", the German campus was initially constructed by one of the kings of Bavaria.

Solomon. The Kona campus is the vision of Loren Cunningham, founder of Youth with a Mission, now the largest mission organization in the world. Students arrive



View of part of the U. of N. campus at Kona just outside the Go-Center, where Peggy and I were housed as guest lecturers.

from all over Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas to study missions and engage in everything from Bible translation to water purity systems for the Two-thirds World. A couple of my language students are working with Wycliffe Bible Translators and others on translations of the Bible into the many languages of Papua New Guinea. From Kona, Peggy and I flew eastward and southward via

Fiji to near the bottom of the south island of New Zealand. We left on Thursday evening and made it to New Zealand by Sunday, crossing the International Date



Peggy & I with Christer & Miji Bergus, a leader in one of the schools. (Christer just finished Advanced Greek with me and was an exceptional student!)

Line in transit, and leaving summer in Hawaii for early winter in New Zealand.

New Zealand

The Land of Hobbits is fascinating, to say the least! The mountains are majestic, the lakes pristine and the air clear and cold. Here, I had two weeks lectures, the first covering several of the New Testament letters of Peter, James, Jude and Hebrews, and the second on the Johannine writings, both the Fourth Gospel and the Letters.

We finished up with a tour of the hermeneutical theories of the Book of

Revelation. It may seem odd, I suppose, but in mission work, such as these mission students from all over the world will engage in, they will rub shoulders with Presbyterians to Pentecostals, Anglicans to Baptists, Lutherans to Wesleyans and pretty much everything in between. Knowing the hermeneutical landscape for working with Christians of such diversity is important, and no place is it more critical than in subjects like eschatology. After a long 40-hour trip home (Whew!), we made it back to Michigan and are recouping our energies before the fall season of lectures begins (Kansas City, Quebec Province and Toronto). For those of you who have chosen to give



Lectures in Queenstown

support to Diakonos, our international lecture and educational resources ministry, we offer our deep appreciation. As usual, this is not intended as a solicitation



letter, but for those who wish to give support, any gifts (tax deductible) can be sent to Diakonos, Inc., 400 E. Long Lake Rd., Troy, MI 48085.

Grace and peace to you all!

Dan and Peggy Lewis

Looking toward the Remarkable Mountains and over the inland lakes surrounding Queenstown. The U. of N. campus is on the other side of the shadowed hill to the left in this photo.