

# Diakonos

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November 2021

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I'm excited to share that I've had my first experience teaching Russian students this fall. In September, I did a full week of lectures (by Zoom) for a Department of Biblical Studies in University of the Nations with a combined group of students



*Here is a partial screen shot of my class in Rostov on Don and individuals from elsewhere.*

from Rostov on Don (in southwestern Russia near the Black Sea) and Vladivostok (in far eastern Russia on the Sea of Japan). Along with them were a handful of students from Irkutsk, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Belarus. I started lectures every day at 7:00 AM, which was 2:00 PM in Rostov and 9:00 PM in Vladivostok. I had 17 students from Rostov, 8 from Vladivostok, and the additional ones from more

or less in between. As much as I prefer teaching in person, Zoom has made possible lecturing for this extraordinarily wide range of students, and they were a delight to be with, even if virtually!



*Andrey, my Russian Translator.*

In my Russian lectures, I covered the intertestamental history of the Jews, the development of sects like the Pharisees and Sadducees, early translations like the Septuagint (Greek) and the Targums (Aramaic) followed up by a full treatment of the Gospel of Mark, usually considered to be the earliest of the four canonical gospels.

In October, I did a public lecture in Detroit titled “Wrestling with Revelation: Past, Present, or Future.” In this presentation, sponsored by Mariners’ Church (Anglican), I addressed the five major ways Christians

have read this book from the time of the early church fathers to the present. About a year ago, I did a similar public lecture on the Dead Sea Scrolls, but it had to be by Zoom. This year, however, we were able to offer the presentation in person, which is much to be preferred.



*Here I am in front of Mariners’ Church in Detroit.*



*Here are some of my European students: Eva, Kendra, MinYoung, Maria, Noe and George.*

Also in October, I did a week of Zoom lectures on the Book of Isaiah for

students in Lausanne, Switzerland. In addition to the European students, there were also students from Germany, Canada, South Korea, and the USA. I've been to the campus in Lausanne several times in the past, and I will likely go there again in the future, but for the present, travel to Europe is still uncertain for some countries, plus it is now much more expensive than before the Covid debacle.



*U. of N. students love Chad! They seem fascinated by the fact that he can fill several white boards in the process of his lectures!*

Still in the month of October, Chad Lewis, our son, also did a week's lectures in person for the University of the Nations in Honolulu. His subject was Old Testament Wisdom Literature, where he covered Proverbs, Job and Ecclesiastes. Chad, of course, is a full-time teacher as well as a pastor here in the USA, but he squeezes in trips to England and Hawaii in his already very tight schedule. He is in high demand, since he is such an excellent teacher and scholar, though he can only accept a very limited number of invitations.

At the end of October and early November, I did more Zoom lectures, this time in Toronto, Canada on the Book of Daniel. Usually, Peggy and I drive to this campus, since it is only about five hours from Detroit, but since Canada still is quite restricted,

Zoom was the order of the day. In mid-November, I was back with the students in Switzerland via Zoom, doing lectures on Ezekiel.

So, it's been a busy Fall. Winter will slow down a bit, but not much. In December, I'll have lectures in Mexico and Pennsylvania, in January I'll catch my breath, and in February I'll have in-person lectures in Amsterdam, Zoom lectures in Cambridge, England, and in-person lectures in Mexico.

As always, we are especially grateful for those who continually support this ministry. Your gifts make possible these lectures to pastors and missionaries. And to you who follow our mission travels, we extend our love and appreciation.

In God's grace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan and Peggy Lewis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Dan and Peggy Lewis

P.S. – If you should desire to be removed from our mailing list, don't hesitate to simply send me an email, and I will take care of it.