

EXEGETICAL • VERSE BY VERSE • HISTORICAL-GRAMMATICAL HERMENEUTICS

BIBLE LESSONS INTERNATIONAL

A Great Commission Ministry: Evangelism and Discipleship – Matthew 28:18-20

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“Thus says the Lord, ‘Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, justice and righteousness on the earth; for I delight in these things.’”

– Jeremiah 9:23-24

A LETTER FROM BOB

Hello Everyone!

Another year has come and gone! We are still actively seeking to make Jesus known to the world and helping believers to understand the Bible. The Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) has two parts:

- Evangelism/discipleship (“make disciples”)
- Christlikeness (“teaching them to observe all that I commanded you”)

More people are either downloading the commentaries or viewing them online. The current number of visitors is over 2,700,000. This is about 500-600 a day!

At this time we have over fifty translation projects in process. Wow, it is difficult to handle so many different languages and translators. Peggy and our language coordinator, who lives in Russia, need your prayers!!!

My time is spent with writing my commentary on 1 Samuel. I am almost finished. It will then be typed and edited and hopefully added to the website by the end of the year. Please pray for me as I begin 2 Samuel. I love my call and ministry task and it a joy to go to work every day!

In January I returned to the John Wesley Methodist Seminary in Monterrey, Mexico and taught the book of Revelation. There were over 60 students, one of the largest classes the Seminary has ever had! I love being with these pastors and teachers who want to know the Word of God.

We now have over 1,100 videos on YouTube:

- Bible studies through books of the Bible
- Sermons
- Seminars
 - Hermeneutics
 - Christology

The viewership is significant and growing rapidly. See “YouTube videos by Dr. Bob Utley” on our website. The trend in the twenty-first century is audio and visual learning, not the printed page. We receive many emails regarding the videos on our website and also on YouTube. Several audio tapes are added weekly to my Facebook site. This, too, has proven to be effective in reaching interested people.

Thank you so very much for your interest, prayers and financial help that allows us to touch the world in Jesus’ name. This is especially true of the translations of my exegetical commentaries into languages that are not spoken by many people. For-profit publishers do not print for these small language groups, but we do! Often, our commentaries are the only evangelical, conservative Bible study aids available. I hope that as you read the emails in this newsletter you can see how God is using this ministry. Often these emails are written to me but in reality it is the Gospel and the Spirit who are to be praised!

If you know people who are interested in verse by verse, historical-grammatical Bible study please tell them about our website, www.freebiblecommentary.org.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

“And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.”

– Luke 1:30-31

SOME WORDS FROM PEGGY

We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year! It's hard to believe that a year has passed since we sent the last newsletter. When we were young it seemed like time went by so slowly but as we get older it is the opposite—now it flies by!

Bob mentioned in his letter that we have several new translations that are in process. Please pray for Alexander, our Russian translator and Translation Coordinator, who really has a difficult job. He lives in Russia so all of our communication is through email.

This is an email that we received from our BLI Translation Coordinator:

Tatiana and I also share your joy in seeing how God expands the borders of your ministry because it is a part of our daily prayers. We consider this as not only a testimony of the value of BLI ministry to God, but, above all, the fact that God is intensively preparing the world for the coming of Christ. We pray that every translator would be a blessing for the BLI and for all readers of your comments in that language.

Blessings, Alexander Shadov, BLI Translation Coordinator

Pray for me also; my brain is not as young as it used to be! We are so grateful that God takes our efforts and uses them for His glory. We are grateful for you because we could not do anything without your love, prayers and support. It is so encouraging and humbling to know that many of you pray daily for us. We know that God uses all of us to proclaim the good news of Jesus to many parts of the world. He answers our prayers for His glory.

Many of you want an update on our family; so here goes! Michelle, John and Tiffany (17) just moved to Longview, Texas. John is Assistant Principle (9th grade) at Hallsville High School. Michelle teaches fifth grade Science (Resource) in Hallsville and Tiffany is a junior there. You have been praying for Tiffany for

several years. She has Lyme disease and after three years is finally improving. She missed two and one-half years of school but she is back now and is doing well. We are praising the Lord for healing her. She still deals with some

Lyme effects but she has improved so much. Thank you for praying for her. Taylor is attending Pulaski Technical College in Little Rock, Arkansas. She is preparing to be an X-ray technician.

Jason and Shannen, Avery (13) and Noah (11) are still in Tomball, Texas. Jason is a Regional Manager for American Home Shield (home warranty company) and Shannen just began a new job with Texas Institute for Research and Rehabilitation in Houston. She is a Speech Therapist and is working with patients who have had strokes, brain injuries and other traumatic issues. Avery and Noah are attending Cypress Christian School in Tomball and are doing great, making excellent grades.

Jeremy and Daniell, Tucker (13) and Drake (9) have moved from Marshall to Longview, Texas. Jeremy is a Nurse Practitioner in the Emergency Room at Longview Regional Hospital. Daniell is a full-time mother and home-maker. Tucker and Drake both attend Hallsville schools and are doing well with their studies. They all live busy lives! They are involved in church and for that we are thankful. So, you can see that God has blessed us with a wonderful family.

YOU ARE LOVED!

“When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.”

– Luke 2:15-16

Some verses that have been meaningful to me this year are:

“Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” – Romans 15:13

“Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.” – I John 4:8

“Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.” – 1 Timothy 6:12

“I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.” – Romans 12:1-2

“She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

– Matthew 1:21

“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

– Isaiah 7:14

COMMENTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

You can see how God is using the Bible study materials by the emails we receive. We could not include all of them but we hope you can get a sense of how God is using your prayers and financial support to build His kingdom. It is ALL ABOUT HIM!!!

"Most of the emails we receive thank Bob for the ministry of BLI or him personally. We want you to know that Bob could not do any of this without you, our faithful partners and friends. Please know that you are receiving the emails as if they have your name on them! We have typed them just as they are received so the grammar and spelling are not always correct. I admire them for trying to communicate in English which is not their native tongue!" – Peggy

Dear Respected Bob,

Greetings to you in the name of Jesus Christ. Your Commentary is awesome, and I always use this for my sermons. Just today, for preaching to a small congregation, I was preparing a sermon topic of Blind Bartimaeus in Mark 10:46-50 and your commentary really helped me. You are such a blessing to me.

*God bless you abundantly,
Dr. Kiran Babu, Evangelist
SOUTH INDIA*

I have no doubt John Overton will make very good use of your commentary. When I put them onto T4T materials, they promptly used them in three different countries to train pastors. I'm sure they will distribute your materials to many more pastors. I thank God often for your generosity toward your fellow shepherds around the world; there is no way to measure the Kingdom impact you have had over these years.

In His service...Allan T.

Hello Sir,

I am grateful for a free study that is sound and respectable. Thank you for your work and generosity with sharing it with the world. Have you ever considered a word study? Are there any you prefer?

Thank you and happy Sunday... Joe

Brother Bob,

We just wanted to write and tell you that we love you. Jessica and I are still thoroughly enjoying your commentary. God is using your commentary for us in a mighty way. I was going through 2 Thessalonians 2 and wanted I remember when you preached at First West; you were basically preaching your Evidence of Salvation message. Afterwards I approached you and said, I hope everyone in this building truly heard you this morning.

Your gentle reply was, "they probably didn't." We thank you for being bold for Jesus and not watering down the truth! We pray the Body will rise up, get out of the four walls of the church house, and begin living like Christ daily. If we will all come together and do this, think of the lost souls that would come to Christ. I always love writing to you. I know you may not even remember what Jessica and I look like, but we see your face and passion for the Lord every day! Send Mrs. Peggy our love as well!

*Your Brother and Sister in Christ...
Josh and Jessica*

I am Pastor Joe, writing from Malawi. I am a Salvation Army pastor and currently am teaching in a Bible School. However, I lack proper skills for interpreting the Bible; so when I saw the material on your website, I was really overwhelmed. While I have access to the books online, I would like to have a DVD also on hermeneutics so that I can learn by watching and listening to you full time.

Pastor Joe...MALAWI



Dear Dr. Bob,

Every abundant "Grace and Peace" to you. I'm Pastor Daniel from Tanzania, East-Africa and a Swahili Free Bible Commentaries and Bible Study Tools. I'm glad and moved with your eye-opening Free Bible Commen-

"We thank you for being bold for Jesus and not watering down the truth!"

tary and Bible Study Tools. I read it while translating and proofreading, but still read it again and again with newer appetite, for the great revelation. I have found that the materials are unique and that they would help ministers of the Gospel in my area and wherever I can reach. However, I am trying to plan on how we can start translating your audio materials into quality Swahili that many Swahili speakers can benefit and help in equipping the church of Christ. Pray for us! Under your permission, we may need to use the materials in our leadership seminars and training by use of a projector for wide view.

*Pastor Daniel, SWAHILI BLI Translator,
TANZANIA, EAST-AFRICA.*

Hi, I was raised Catholic and I am now married to a Baptist gentleman who was also raised Catholic. He was in the Baptist church a good 10 years before we met. My question for you today is this. What version of the bible do you use in your audio commentaries? The reason I ask is I listen to them at work. Then I listen to your commentary and follow along. My husband likes the KJV but from using that I know that is not the one you use. I have no preference either way; I would just like to pick the right one to listen along with. I know there are a lot of people that are very vocal about which version should be used. I don't ask to offend. I just want to follow along. Any help would be appreciated

"Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift."

– 2 Corinthians 9:15

although with your commentaries alone you have helped so much.

Love, Light & Peace...Angela

Dear Bob,

I am writing from a small town called Wellington in the Western Cape – South Africa. My name is Morne, a 23 year old theology student working part time for our Church Bible School. Two years ago I felt drawn to download your commentary and I downloaded “the Word” Bible software. From then until now I still use your commentary for personal use and assignments. I would really like to be trained as you are in order to equip others to accurate Bible reading. However, I often fall into the trap of relying more on commentaries than on the Holy Spirit. I believe that God has given me a teaching-gift but feel sometimes too “dumb” to be able to teach the word as you do. If there is one piece of advice that you can give me –regarding Bible interpretation and teaching, what will it be?

Blessings from Morne... SOUTH AFRICA

Dear Brother Bob!

We praise our Lord for the magnificent work you are doing, helping thousands of people around the globe to get better understanding of the Holy Scripture.

Any blessings and God’s protection...

David, RUSSIA

Dear Sir,

I am glad to inform you that in 2012 I have received your Bible commentary CD and its help me a lot and made me clearer and understood the Bible. So, thank you so much sir. May God bless you and your Ministry abundantly?

Thank you man of God for these commentaries in several Languages and formats.

Hi Bob,

You sent me a copy of your CD which I received a little while ago. Being a Baptist pastor in N Ireland for several years now and as you would know always on the lookout for good material to help me in my ministry. I would

like if you give me the authority to use some of your material in my Logos Bible Study program which I use on a daily basis (V6). This means of course converting PDF’s to Microsoft Word docs as this is the only way Logos can read docs. But when I tried to do this by means of a program called PDF Converter Enterprise which has the ability to do such a conversion almost perfectly the PDF’s were locked because of being password protected. Hence my reason for emailing you to ask is it possible to allow me to know the password. Look forward to your reply.

Kind regards, Rev Gerald...

NORTHERN IRELAND

Hi Bob,

I am listening to your commentary on You Tube daily after doing my daily devotions (Daily Bread) and really appreciate your presentation and wisdom on the scriptures. You are a blessing and I just felt the need to tell you.

Thank you! God Bless...John

I was listening to your commentary and love the way you present things where even I can better understand scripture. You had mentioned that you have a tape available on the Femininity of God. Where can I find this as I am teaching a Sunday School class on Mothers’ Day this year.

Thanks...Phil

I’ve gone to your “difficult texts” section so many times I’ve lost count! When I am struggling with an issue, I often think, “I wonder what Dr. Utley says about this.” Thank you so much for sharing your incredible knowledge and study.

Shaundra

Dear friend,

Thank you man of God for these commentaries in several Languages and formats. I will always use them and I will also encourage our Bible Institute students to use them. I will start teaching using them as tools as I will be

teaching Discipleship to our students. I will teach them how to observe, interpret and apply scriptures. So it is now time to begin using these commentaries in our Bible Institute,

Pastor Mahamba, INDIA

Hello and greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus...I just want to say THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU! Brother I thank God for you and love you as a brother in Christ. I have been a pastor in Alabama. I have searched for good biblical teaching and there are NONE out there but you! Thank you so much! I probably will never meet you in this world but please look me up in heaven (lol!). Thank you so much!

God Bless...Derek

Hi, I am a French woman and have read “Genesis 1-11” by Bob Utley (in French) The website <http://www.freebiblecommentary.org/> is very useful, and to me like a God blessing.

Thank you, Marie-Laure, FRANCE

Blessed to visit one of my heroes of Christian faith, Dr. Bob Utley. My 1st semester at ETBU, I took Dr. Bob’s Biblical Interpretation class. His passion for God and the bible spilled over into my life, and I learned how to learn the Bible – a blessing I have been confident in sharing with many others through the years! His commentaries (in 40 languages!) and other resources can be found at: www.freebiblecommentary.org.

Dr. Bob,

We received the shipment of CD’s in good order. I’ve shared them with our staff and making them available to seafarers. Will keep you informed.

Thank you very much...Bill

Thank you for responding. I surely miss you. I know when we met in your office to talk about baptism I was still an extremely shy kid. I probably could not have told you more than my name. I have a heart for ecumenical work, and your ministry just feeds those desires. The Body has been fragmented so that anything short of the Second Coming

or possibly greater persecution seems incapable of getting the brothers and sisters together. Anyway this shy kid has been working for CPS for more than 21 years. I have testified in just about every kind of trial and hearing, criminal and civil, that I could possibly get into. If GOD did not want me here, I would not be here. I will check out the Bible on the hyperlink. Thank you and God bless you so very much! P.S. There are several persons that are starting to get into your ministry here. I don't know what it will amount to, but I showed them a short clip off UTube and some of the materials I have purchased over the years plus the free disk I received years ago and try to copy for others without giving away my copy. So far, so good. There is a hunger, but few live the lifestyle.

Glynn

Dear Dr. Utley,

I know the type of man you are. I know you will deflect any praise back to the glory of God and wooing of the Spirit and so forth and I absolutely get that. So, I won't embarrass you like that. I pray for you by name daily Dr. Utley. Hopefully I'll meet you here on Earth someday. If not, let's make it a point to meet in Heaven

...Sam

Greetings in the matchless name of our Lord and Savior Jesus. I am so encouraged by your explanations of the word of God. I have decided to hear your audios from Genesis to Revelation in 2017 and by the end of 2017 I hope and pray, God willing, I shall have listened to all. Please pray for it, I love people who preach the word of God. I am 29 and have been five years since I came into saving faith. I have been married for two years and we are both seeing God's grace in our married life. We are the only ones saved in our families. The rest of them are still Hindus. Pray that our families get saved. I thank God for His faithfulness in your life, you have been serving God from your youth, what a grace it is.

Konidala...INDIA

Good morning. Several years ago Dr. Utley blessed our leaders in the country of Panama by providing several Spanish language commentaries via DVD, which were distributed to our pastors and leaders. We used them in our Bible Seminary and many of the pastors are still using them. Thank you. After serving in Panama for nearly 30 years as church planters my wife and I have been led to minister in the state of Missouri. Currently I serve in the State Association of Free Will Baptist Churches. One of my primary responsibilities is to be a pastor to our pastors. One of the primary needs I am finding among our leaders is the lack of any type of formal training. The majority of our pastors are bi-vocational and entered the ministry with a calling, passion and zeal to serve God, but with little to no training. I have a burden to

change that scenario. Many of our men express

a secret feeling of inadequacy in their ministries. I hope you can help me. What I sense God leading us to do is establish 4-5 localized training points across the state, making it feasible and possible for any who desire to receive hands-on and personalized training without have to drive several hours, or invest financially beyond their capabilities. We would like to start with some basic teaching on Hermeneutics, personal evangelism, conflict resolution, prayer and other practical topics. I have watched Dr. Utley's teaching on Hermeneutics and would like to know if it is available on DVD and in printed form. Again, I appreciate so much your help in rooting and grounding our current leaders in Panama and thank you for being a part of what God is doing among them.

The glory is God's...Stanley, Missouri

Hello Bob,

I've been using your commentary "Luke the Historian: The book of Acts" for about 8 months now as my Adult Bible class at our

church has been making our way through the book of Acts. I use several resources in my teaching, but yours has a really good combination of commentary and language study that I have benefitted from. I've quoted you several times in the class, so thank you. I'm not a Greek scholar but I still enjoy and make sense of your explanation of the language. I just wanted to express this to you personally.

Ron

Hi there!

My name is Maddie and I am a native to Lubbock, Texas but recently moved to Houston so my husband could be a discipleship pastor. Carson, my husband, discovered you about a year ago and has watched about every YouTube sermon you have. (We literally clean our house listening to you! Haha!) Your teachings have been a huge inspiration for his discipleship programs at our church and also to our marriage. We find ourselves discussing topics you teach on often and researching evidence to back up (or alter) our beliefs.

So thank you!...Maddie

Hello Dr. Bob,

My name is Jeff. I am 24 years old, am from the country of Belize in Central America. I have a passion to serve the Lord. I actually took some classes to eventually become a spiritual mentor but was confused about what I was being taught, and one day I came across your lessons on hermeneutics. I have learned many things from those lessons. Those lessons have changed my life to studying the word of God and I want to thank you. You may not know but you are a great mentor of mine. I appreciate you for investing soooooo much of your time to compile those lessons for me; it has been a great blessing to my life. I go to bed every night listening to you. I

Your teachings have been a huge inspiration for his discipleship programs at our church and also to our marriage.



pray the Lord continues to grant you favor as you labor for Him

Jeff...BELIZE

We have great help from your files as we are in many different countries and can use your translations at times. Our conviction for these last days is that the church needs the word of God and so we gave up all other missionary work to concentrate on teaching God's word from the Bible wherever we have an invitation. Thank you so much for your faithfulness in producing this material.

Ben

Greetings in Christ Jesus the son of the Living God. We have congregation of more than 30 members in our church. After reviewing your website it was of much moving and encouraging. We gather for fellowship weekly in Western part

of Kenya, East Africa. We're looking to partner with you and empower us to spread the gospel in our community and region. Hope that will be for much blessing to us.

Pastor Kenis...KENYA

We're looking to partner with you and empower us to spread the gospel in our community and region.

Dr. Bob,

I deal with legalists and heretics every day. They use verses to say Jesus is not God and we must keep the Ten Commandments to be saved. I have used your commentary to help me defend the Word of God against these extremists.

Thanks for sharing...LaSonya

Hello, my name's Lilian and I am from Ecuador. I found your pdf's on the Internet and they have been very helpful in my study of the Word of God. Well, thank you and God bless!

Lilian...ECUADOR

Dear Dr Bob:

Thank you. I have been praying for your efforts. So, the other day as I was praying for it, I thought perhaps you had plans to

translate this to Sinhalese? I am from Sri Lanka and recently I found 2 copies of the Sinhalese bible. They are very hard to read, even for someone like my mom (whom accepted Christ recently). My mom is a college graduate and was an advanced level Sinhala teacher for many years, and even she cannot understand it well. There are very limited ways for people in Sri Lanka to find information about God or Bible teaching. Please let me know if you need any help translating your study to Sinhalese. I don't know how, but I felt that there is something I can do to help. Thank you again!

Nirupama...SRI LANKA

Dear Dr. Bob:

I hope this email find you well. I cannot thank you enough for posting these commentaries online. For the past year the Lord has been prompting my heart to study the word, but I just did not understand what that meant, until I prayed so much and came across your web site. I have no word to thank you for generously posting these online. I was raised Buddhist without any awareness of existence of God. I grew up believing God is like Santa Clause, a man-made concept. It is through a very strange and supernatural series of circumstances that Lord revealed himself to me. Your bible study helps me understand the personality behind the sovereign Lord whom I experience. God has not changed at all! You are also humble and unbiased person who teaches scripture for what it is. I have an amazingly colorful and supernatural journey with the Lord. Lately, and privately, you have been a part of my Christian journey. I hope I get to see you one day to express my gratitude. I hope you receive this message to get a glimpse of how far Lord God is taking your discipleship. There are people to whom I alone get to reach. They have never heard about the Lord, and you, through your good work you

have done to the kingdom, get to be a part of it. I hope this email will delight your heart and I pray that Lord will speak to you in audible voice, just to let you how delighted he is in you. In Christ!

(Name withheld for security reasons)

Hello Dr. Utley,

Just a quick thank you for all the research, dedication, and honesty your videos and audios offer to laymen like me who seek to know more of Biblical history without straying from Holy Scripture. I just discovered your work as I was seeking a commentary on I & II Samuel. OUTSTANDING. May Almighty God keep using you to teach all of us seekers.

Dear Brother Bob.

Warmest greetings to you from the Russian land! First, let me express my personal thankfulness to you for your help for organizing IC Conference in Russia. We had around 60 people attended, who were not just visitors, but really wanted to go. I recorded several video interviews with the participants and sent them to IC office for duplication into English. When it will be ready, I hope you will like what they said. And here I send you some photos from the Conference in case you do not have them.

RUSSIA



Do you ever feel distant and detached from God? I hope you don't mind my asking, (and would understand if you didn't want to respond as I know it's really none of my business). I just ask because you are someone that I perceive to have an intentionally intimate relationship with God. This isn't the first time in my relationship with God I've felt far from Him so I just wonder if it's all part of the normal ebbs and flows of my walk with Him. (another email from her) Happy Resurrection Sun-

day to you and yours! I hope this message finds you well! I just watched a sermon of yours called, "Do you get it?" and I felt compelled to reach out and tell you that God spoke directly to my heart through the message. I have 3 young children who are all sick right now and a husband who is out of town on business. I have been pretty down that I couldn't attend Easter services but I feel as though God led me to that sermon because I desperately needed the message. I have been a Christian most of my life and attend church regularly but I have been feeling a deafening distance from God lately. I was beginning to fall into the ways of "American Christianity." I was asking Him last night to open my eyes and give me what I need to bridge the gap. (Why do I make life harder by allowing myself to grow complacent and distant from Him?) Anyway, I believe God led me to your "Do you get it?" as an answer to last night's prayer. Thank you for your raw honesty and for being a vessel of Truth.

Haley

Dr. Utley,

I have recently come across some of your earlier videos on YouTube, and I want to thank you for your life, for your devotion, and for the call of God on your life. You have made me fall in love with scripture even after years of growing up in the church and having missed the vitality of scripture. I thank you for not giving up even when times seemed to merit you to do so.

God bless you greatly...David

My name is Gabriel and I am an Evangelical Seminary Student from Puerto Rico, U. S. Territory (Colony). I am currently a Chaplain Assistant for the U.S. Army National Guard 10 yrs now and Bible School Teacher at Puerto Rico United Methodist Church at Torrimar, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico (with a background from Pentecostal Defenders of the Christian Faith Movement and a Disciples of Christ wife). I wish to express my gratefulness for the ongoing effort you have committed to take on for several years, placing God's gifts

and talent to the service of others. Whenever I have to teach a Class or Preach, I like to listen to different contributors first and then re-focus, re-calibrate and adapt to the Congregation with Study Bibles and Bible Commentaries. Many of your YouTube Videos have been of a great blessing to my life, as well as a great reference. I currently saw the webpage and shared it with some friends who are developing as ministers and Disciples as well. Once again, thanks for your seriousness outside the Pulpit and I guess it does make a difference to notify that what you do matters and the reach of your dedication and motivation is spreading. If you are ever by Puerto Rico, by any chance, you have a friend here. I can even translate or interpret for your errands.

Hugs to you, Gabriel...PUERTO RICO

Hello Pastor Bob. I am Pastor Robert at assemblies church of (name omitted for security reasons). I am still using your bible notes for my teaching series. I want tell you that I pray for your ministry. God bless you. Hope to see you pastor Bob.

Please pray for our situation...Robert

Dear Dr. Utley,

I am writing on behalf of Solid Ground Bible Study Ministries to say thank you for your kind note and generous offer of making your study resources freely available to us. I am one of two teachers with Solid Ground here in Kitchener, Ontario, and have often used your resources at Bible.org. I am consistently blessed by your insight and commitment to the Scriptures. We were grateful to hear from you and to be made aware of your website resources at FreeBibleCommentary.org. It is very encouraging to us as a ministry to be reminded that there are others who are committed to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and are seeking to serve Him faithfully in the careful study and teaching of His Word. May

*I want tell you that I pray for your ministry
God bless you.*

*"He will cover you with his feathers.
He will shelter you with his wings. His faithful promises are your armor and protection. There is absolutely nothing to fear about tomorrow; for God is already there."*

– Psalm 91:4

God continue to bless you with His grace and leading as you serve our Lord Jesus Christ and seek to build His Kingdom. With love in Christ our Saviour,

John...ONTARIO, CANADA

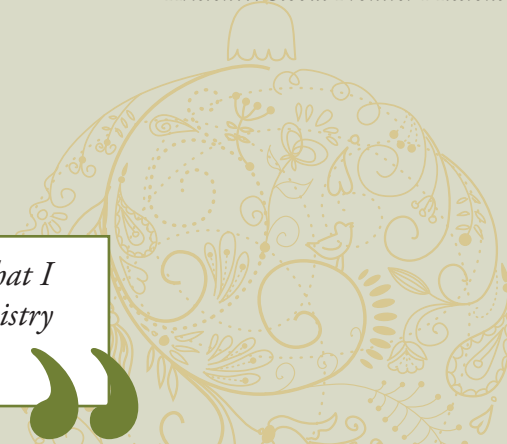
Yes, man of God, your commentaries are very helpful in my ministry. I promised you last time that they are books that I am continuing telling people to read. And they are now the only books that we have online for helping people who speak French. I am now praying so that God can give me the possibility for putting the internet in our discipleship house. As soon it will be possible Bible Institute Students including other church members will have more access to them. Whenever I will be getting the opportunity for ministering to people in churches or in schools. I will continue encouraging hearers to visit this website of yours as they look for helpful insights.

Pastor Mahamba...FRANCE

Hi Bob.

My name is Kristen, a fellow Texan. I am the lead administrator for online MTS. This is quite a resource you have composed. I will certainly pass it on to our staff, especially since many of them work with Christians who have a different native language than English. May the Lord bless your ministry for His glory.

Kristen...Global Frontier Missions





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Christmas 2017

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

– Isaiah 9:6

Clean drinking water was critical for the Nepal

The need for clean drinking water was critical for the people of Nepal. The story of one of the area pastors follows:

Pastor Shankar Nagarkoti started the fellowship from his house with couple of families. As Nepal is a Hindu Nation, most of the people are still Hindus. Before, Christians were not allowed to preach the word of God freely. The Nepalese people usually have negative rumors about Christianity. The pastor’s family used to be dominated by the society. When his wife used to go to take the water in tap, the villagers threw away her vessels. The family just kept praying without losing faith in God. The villagers used to scare them to not sing songs and spread this false news. To spread the word of God to ones who hate was not easy to the Pastor. They were not liked by the peoples to be seen in the public places. The Pastor never reacted negatively with the society. But after few years God worked, it was just a matter of time. God gave the answer of their prayer. The ones who used to hate them became the one to speak the word of God. At present, Pastor Shankar has more than 100 believers in his congregation. 40% of peoples of the area have accepted the word of God.

Bible Lessons International helped this church with a financial gift in order to build a well. This picture shows the completed well.



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“And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

– Luke 2:12

