

Harding University Scholar Works at Harding

The Bridge

Harding School of Theology

Winter 2013

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Harding School of Theology

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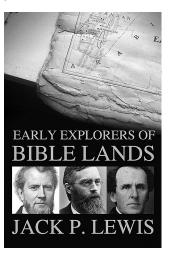
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THE Bridgee VOLUME 53, NO. 3, WINTER 2013

The Christian as Scholar

Editor's note: *With the recent publication of his autobiography, this issue of* The Bridge *highlights Dr. Jack Lewis' continuing work in God's kingdom. Here are some key excerpts from* As I Remember It.

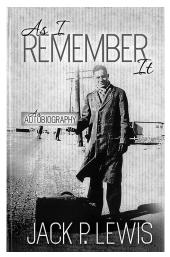
I never had my IQ tested so that I would know whether it is 30, 40 or 60, but I want to take Ezra as my model. Ezra set his heart to study the law of the Lord, to do it and to teach his ordinances in Israel (Ezra 7:10). I want to spend my energy in further studying the word the Lord gave us, in trying to apply it to life, and in teaching



people that word. No longer despising study as I did when a freshman, I am quite satisfied to be a student until the Lord shall see fit to call me home (p. 212).

Scholarship is the servant of the church, and the church the servant of scholarship. To strive to produce one article in the Journal of Biblical Literature, or one of the other scholarly journals, in one's career challenges all of us. At the most, a few hundred people will read it. We still have the gap to bridge between the scholar and the person in the pew . . . The whole operation of scholarship is about people and for people. One must not forget about the people who have not had the opportunities

Lewis' new book, Early Explorers of Bible Lands, is now available.



he has enjoyed. He should make himself available and hone his skills of answering the questions people are asking (pp. 225-6).

A Christian life is composed of the insignificant things one does as opportunity comes (p. 237).

Dr. Jack P. Lewis

DEAN'S NOTE



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Bridge

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McCaleb's Tree

ission efforts of the churches of Christ in Zambia began in 1926 in Sinde, then to Kabanga and Namwianga. This region drew the attention of more than half of Earl West's chapter on Africa in his volume on missions. I went with hopes of visiting these villages while I was in Africa last semester. Namwianga provided the base for our Harding in Zambia group. In October, Roy Merritt graciously took me to Sinde and Kabanga. These were not easy trips in 2012, so I could only imagine the endurance and patience in travel the pioneer missionaries must have developed. As we slowly made our way along the rough roads, Merritt shared stories of the families who planted churches among the Tonga.



Merritt, the son of Dow and Helen Merritt, was born in Kabanga and lived there until he went to Harding in 1964. After graduating, he returned to Namwianga where he has lived ever since.

We worshipped with the church at Kabanga on a Sunday morning; Merritt spoke at the Lord's Supper, and I preached. Afterward we grabbed our hats and water bottles for a long walk around the village in the blazing heat of the noon sun. He showed me where Ray Lawyer fell on a spear and died in 1927. He shared stories of his youth — standing on the foundation of the house where he grew up. One passing reference caught my attention. As a boy, he remembered his mother telling him to "go water the McCaleb tree." Well, he did. It stands as a healthy tree today within sight of the water well outside their back porch (See photo on p. 1).

J.M. McCaleb moved to Japan in 1892 after studying under J.W. McGarvey and served there for 38 years. On Jan. 29, 1929, he sailed from Japan to visit all the missionaries of the churches of Christ. He documented his travels in On the Trail of the Missionaries. Merritt's reference to the McCaleb tree sent me back to McCaleb's book to discover the record of his visit with the Scotts, Merritts, Reeses and Browns in Sinde and Kabanga. In preparation for his arrival, they built a special hut for him in Kabanga (which he describes as "the brethren had thought it all out," p. 123) and planted a tree. The Merritt house is gone, but the tree Merritt watered still stands. My thoughts went to Paul's view of his mission as planting, someone else watering, but God giving the increase. Here is a local tree planted in its own soil that needed special watering in its earlier years — but now God keeps it growing. That thought is an easy bridge to church planting and mission methods!

McCaleb actually included his thoughts on mission methods in his Kabanga journal entries — right by



Huffard

that tree. For example, he recognized the tension between evangelism and development — a tension between neglecting human suffering and creating dependency. He proposed creating "industry" to provide a means for people to work (p. 119). He proposed a mission team of four to six families involved in diverse ministries like raising chickens, farming, blacksmithing, teaching, marketing and evangelizing because it would prevent missionaries from burnout and premature departure from the field. He believed this "community of Christians" could provide the "greatest of all sermons." He pleaded for missionaries to work together and cooperate as brothers because "our independent missionaries have carried independence to an extreme" (p. 121).

We could sit under the McCaleb tree today and talk about the impact of mission teams in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Mozambique, and other places in Africa where many of our graduates have gone. McCaleb would be amazed to see development ministries today, working through churches to transform communities to the honor of God who gives the increase. That tree cast a long shadow; let's plant some more.

> Dr. Evertt W. Huffard (dean@hst.edu)

Stories of Investment

here are many blessings I receive each day and have during my 15 years as Director of Advancement for Harding School of Theology. A blessing is a blessing, and it would be very difficult to say one was greater than the other. The blessing I enjoy daily is the interaction I have with so many people involved in the life of the School. These people include coworkers, students, faculty members, administrators, donors and our graduates.

This week I was blessed to meet a prospective student who is considering HST for graduate work. I met with a student who plans to graduate in May, and we talked about what God has planned for him after graduation. The advancement office is in a central location, which gives me the opportunity to see almost every faculty and staff member each day. What a joy it is to work with individuals who share the same faith and who as a team support the mission of the School.

A highlight of the week was my conversation with Finis Caldwell. Caldwell was in the first graduating class in 1959. He has just released his second book, What the Bible

Says About the Heavenly Messengers: The Angels. He sent me a draft of the book a few months ago to read and evaluate. It was a blessing to receive my copy of the book signed by the author. It is always interesting and encouraging to hear stories from our graduates, their ministry, and how HST prepared them for their lifetime of ministry. We want to share these stories with you. We want you to feel that the investment you are making in the preparation of leaders for ministry is a worthwhile investment.

> Larry Arick (larick@hst.edu)

Footprints of a Scholar

Lives of great men all remind us We can make our lives sublime, And, departing, leave behind us Footprints on the sands of time.

"A Psalm of Life," Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

very man is characterized by two life records: an explicit and an implicit. Jack Lewis' explicit biography has been chronicled (see Kearley's Biblical Interpretation: Principles and Practices and As I Remember It). It takes 26 pages of bibliography to catalog the books and articles he has written. He holds two Ph.D.s. He has served for 28 years as elder of the Church of Christ at White Station. He has been associated with Harding University for almost 60 years. At age 93, he is still called on annually to make lecture presentations at three Christian universities. Hundreds of his students serve as ministers, missionaries and professors.

As obvious as is the greatness of the man depicted by these explicit facts, I think the implicit life is yet more significant. Raised in poverty

on a Texas cotton farm, Lewis learned lessons taught by backbreaking labor. Imagine

the difficulty and frustration of putting oneself through college by selling books to people struggling to escape the Depression. How desperately Lewis must have desired an education! What courage would have been demanded of one leaving the fields of Texas to attend the nation's most prestigious yet demanding university? Unmentioned in Lewis' memoirs are the experiences of sorrow that colored his personal life as well as the loneliness necessitated by thousands of hours of isolated research required to become one of the church's foremost Biblical scholars.

The result of such a life? A man marked by total humility even though it was his research on a place called Jamnia that proved false an assumption held by the world's biggest-name Biblical scholars. A dogged determination to keep the church true to its purest Restoration ideals. A commitment to light the fires of intellectual curiosity in two generations of students like myself.

Thank you, Jack. We owe you an unparalleled debt. Jim Howard

BRIEFS

In Sympathy

HST offers its condolences to the family of alumnus **Edward Pennington** (M.A., 1970) who passed away Dec. 24, 2012. Over the years he had served as a full- and part-time preacher, campus minister at University of Houston, and chaplain in hospitals and hospice. Pennington and his wife, Brenda, fostered 20 children through the Christian Child Help foundation.

Save the Date

HST will host its annual Advancement Council luncheon April 18.



Dr. Jack Lewis, HST professor emeritus, presented guest lectures to Faulkner University students via Skype on Jan. 18 and 25.



ALUMNI

BRIEFS

Using the Site

How to Use LifeandLeadership.com (detailed instructions): http://www.lifeandleadership.com/how-to-use-the-site

Videos on Using Lifeand Leadership.com (including mobile use): http://www.lifeandleadership.com/how-to-usethe-site-video

Oster Commentary



Dr. Rick Oster checks the proofs of his commentary on Revelation to be published by Wipf & Stock later this year.



Student Kevin Burr stands with all the books referenced in Dr. Oster's commentary, which were collected to check the footnotes and bibliography.

Order on Amazon

Place all your Amazon orders through hst.edu/books. Every time you order through our link, HST receives a small percentage of the profit at no extra cost to you.

Living and Leading

n May 2012, I launched a new website, Lifeand Leadership.com, with one mission in mind: to provide substantive resources that help church leaders live and lead more effectively.

Church leaders need help finding the best resources as quickly and inexpensively as possible. Ministers build libraries not as a hobby but to have the right tools in hand when needed. Elders, deacons and ministry leaders may not acquire big collections but still often need help finding the best titles on various subjects.

Often, however, it is difficult to find the right tool. With so many books in print, how do you choose the best one? How does this one compare to that one? Is there a guide? Also, time is at a premium. It may take hours to read through the online reviews, and Amazon's recommendations may be unrelated to your needs. What about expense? If you find the right text, where is the best deal?

That is why I prepared LifeandLeadership.com.

WHAT IS LIFEAND LEADERSHIP.COM?

LifeandLeadership.com is an annotated, interactive guide to church leadership resources. More than 100 ministry resource guides are organized by topic. Each guide contains a categorized menu of books and resources, often in recommended order, with thumbnail descriptions and links to separate book pages for each title. Each book



Gupton

page features a summary and comparison to similar resources, followed by the publisher's information and author biography. It displays a picture of the book and direct links to several online bookstores for comparison shopping. The book pages are also cross-referenced to related resources.

LifeandLeadership.com is not a blog on the latest and greatest titles. It is current and, in most cases, will list the newer books. The purpose is not so much to feature new books as to categorize them for honest comparison with others on the same subjects. Also, the site does not review in the technical sense. It briefly summarizes and reflects on the practical benefit of each title. Finally, the site is not the final answer to every church leadership need. I do not have all the answers, but I am good at knowing where to go for what. The site puts this information into a usable format. If it helps leaders to be more effective and confident, it serves its purpose.

WHO IS IT FOR?

LifeandLeadership.com

is targeted to three groups. First and foremost are church leaders. The subjects and resources listed in the guides are of interest to those in the trenches. The second target group is those in ministry preparation. The site not only directs students to good tools but also provides some level of education about the topics. The third group is ministry professors, mentors, consultants and coaches. It is my hope that academics and others who train ministers will adopt this as a major tool and supplement as needed.

HOW CAN I USE THE SITE?

Here is a simple threestep process for site use. You need a resource on a topic:

- From the home page, go to the top menu bar under "Ministry Resources" and choose either the "Resource Quick List" or the "Resource Complete Index" to find your topic.
- Browse the resource guides and click through to book pages until you find the best resource(s) for your needs. The goal is to help you make an informed selection in a timely manner.
- From the book page of the resource you selected, compare bookstores and find the best deal.

EXAMPLE

Let's consider a common ministry situation:

A minister is leaving. The congregation is in transition and needs help on how to facilitate good leave-taking, use the interim period, conduct a minister search, and help the new minister begin a productive relationship with the congregation.

- Go to the ministry resource guide complete index. There you'll find in the third column, "Preacher Search and Selection;" click the link.
- 2. A resource guide appears. Browse the entire guide or choose from the resources for specific aspects list and click on your area of interest.
- 3. Browse through the list of books using the brief thumbnail descriptions.
- 4. Choose a book that interests you and click through to that book page. For our example, select the first book by Anthony and Boersma. Click the link and read the brief book summary (in some cases the link will take you directly to Amazon but most often to a separate book



page on my site).

 Go back and forth between the resource guide and book summaries until you find what you need. If it helps, click one of the bookstore links to get the best price. That's the process.

MORE EXAMPLES

You can follow the same process with each of the popular topics listed below. I have referenced topics as listed in the ministry resources complete index (top menu bar: Ministry Resources > Resource Complete Index).

Core values: Go to "Core Values."

Dealing with criticism or

Courageous Leadership

difficult people: Go to "Difficult People."

Evaluate ministry staff: Go to "Evaluation."

Increase church giving: Go to "Giving and Financial Stewardship."

Reach the millennial generation and generational issues in general: Go to "Millennial Generation."

CONCLUSION

LifeandLeadership.com is designed to help church leaders live and lead more effectively. This guide is a brief walk-through of site use. As the site progresses, it will include a host of other writers, blog pieces, interviews and other helpful tools. For more information, go to the "About" and "How to Use" sections.

> Carlus Gupton (cgupton@johnsonu.edu)

BRIEFS

Redd Takes Kopio Award

Congratulations to Harding University board member and Memphis minister Dr. Harold Redd, recipient of the 2012 Kopio Award for tireless service in ministry presented by Lipscomb University.

Network Goals

The Shepherds Network seeks:

- To provide encouragement for elders and their wives
- To assist elders in networking with other elders
- To provide resources and case studies to help elders address a variety of needs
- To provide a network of relationships with elders in other congregations
- To develop new and prospective elders
- To provide renewal for experienced elders

Harding School of Theology challenges Christian leaders to develop deeper faith in God and higher standards of ministry and scholarship.

Toe Barnett will be the featured speaker at the next Shepherds Network to be held April 12-14 on the HST campus. Serving well as congregational elders is vital to the life of the local church, so each Shepherds Network is a unique blend of encouragement and enrichment for church shepherds, potential shepherds and their wives.

An important aspect continually emphasized at each Shepherds Network is the development of future leaders. Churches often struggle to find people willing to accept the responsibility to serve congregations. To counter that, churches are encouraged to plant the seeds now by helping couples see the importance of shepherding and helping them prepare for those roles. Stronger, betterprepared leaders grow stronger and enduring churches. Why not encourage your entire eldership, their wives, and any potential shepherds from your congregation to be a part of this encouraging weekend in Memphis, Tenn.

We continue to look for opportunities to help regional Shepherds Networks develop. For information on the



Barnett

Shepherds Network at HST or developing one in your region, please contact Dr. Eddie Randolph at erandolph@ hst.edu or 901-432-7724.

CAMPUS

BRIEFS

Faculty Notes

Professor **Eddie Randolph** and Adjunct Professor **Carlus Gupton** conducted the "Shepherding Resources" track at the Envision Church Growth Conference in Parkersburg, W.Va., Nov. 9-11, 2012. This conference was sponsored by the Belpre, Grand Central, Lynn Street, Morgantown, and White Hall churches of Christ.

Professors Allen Black, Dave Bland, Phil McMillion and Mark Powell attended the annual American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature meeting in Chicago in November.

Bland also delivered a series of lectures at Southwind Church of Christ on the Psalms in February on Sunday evenings.

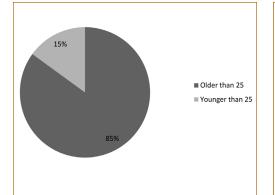
Vice President/Dean **Evertt Huffard** spent October and November in Africa. During that time he spoke in chapel twice for the George Benson Christian College of Education in Namwianga, Zambia; taught Missions for Harding in Zambia (HIZ); and visited missionaries in Zambia, Tanzania and Uganda. For reflections on his time in Africa, visit HST.edu.

Huffard also presented the keynote lecture and a class on archaeology of the book of Acts at Winter Rendezvous held in West Yellowstone, Mont., in December and attended the National Conference on Youth Ministry in Colorado Springs, Colo., in January.

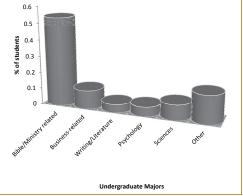
Professor **Ed Gray** conducted marriage mentor training and marriage enrichment at the Pearl Harbor Church of Christ, Jan. 11-13, and at Oxford, Miss., Feb. 8-10. For more information see http:// www.12conversations.com/ dr-grays-schedule/

HST Snapshots

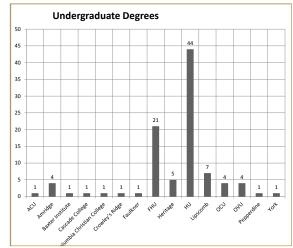
During the fall 2012 semester ...



Most HST students have been out of college a while.

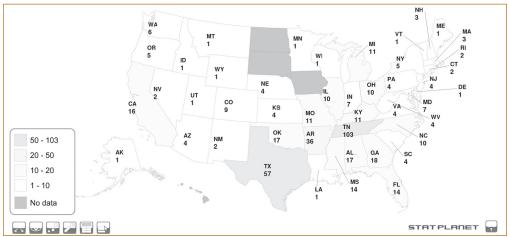


More than half of our students came to us with undergraduate degrees in Bible, Ministry or related majors.



60 different undergraduate institutions were represented in our student body, including 15 affiliated with the churches of Christ.

HST graduates minister in 46 of the 50 states:



Any graduates out there in Hawaii, North Dakota, South Dakota or Iowa? We especially want to hear from you! Outside the U.S., HST graduates currently serve in Angola, Australia, Cameroon, Canada, China, Ecuador, France, Ghana, Honduras, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Mozambique, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Romania, Scotland, Singapore, South Korea, Switzerland and Tanzania, among others.

STUDENTS

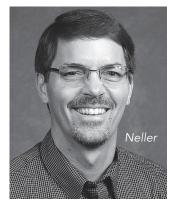
Someday

Editor's note: *Harding University professor and HST alumnus Ken Neller (M.A., 1979) died unexpectedly Jan. 10, 2013. The HST community grieves in the loss of this man of God and rejoices in the promise of a future reunion.*

Tragedy has a way of stopping us and reminding us of our own mortality. I was once again reminded of how fragile human life is when I heard that Ken Neller passed away suddenly.

I met Dr. Neller the first day of my junior year at Harding. I had Greek 3 and 4 with him. To be honest, I did not really like him at first. His tough attitude and tenacity was a rude awakening. But by the end of the year I came to respect Dr. Neller so much. It took me a while to realize this, but he was not tough on his Greek students just to be tough. He intentionally challenged and provoked us to study hard, to wrestle with the text, to purse truth ruthlessly, and to study harder! He showed us that being a minister for God's kingdom, regardless of what our careers would be, was serious business, and he refused to let any of his students think they could skate by as a mediocre servant for God's kingdom.

Dr. Neller's influence was significant because his love for God and his family were significant. Looking at Facebook the night he passed away showed me how many students God touched through him — doubtless many more were influenced but expressed their grief with



silence. I used to sing the song "Someday" at church camp. The bass line is reminiscent of a verse in 1 Corinthians (the last class I had with Dr. Neller):

Oh the trumpets will sound And the dead will rise, We'll walk the streets of gold; Someday.

For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

(1 Corinthians 15:52b) Kevin Burr Student Association president

HST Librarian Bob Turner sent out a request asking Dr. Neller's students and colleagues to describe him in one word.

"Congruent." — Jonathan Teel *"Consistent."* — Monte Cox "Dedicated." — Dave Bland "Disciplined." — Megan McKinzie and Ross Cochran "Faithful." — Dan Stockstill, Greg McKinzie, Paul Pollard and Bill Richardson *"Genuine."* — Taylor Payne "Humility." - Jonathan Colvin "Integrity." — Nick Faris, Harrison Dell and Vann Rackley "Magnanimous." - Gary and Danita Jackson *"Mentor."* — Charles Kiser and Ed Gray "Meticulous." — Zach Loudon "Pastor." - Rex Butts "Pastoral." - Rob O'Lynn "Solid." — Steve McLeod *"Thorough."* — Bob Turner "Wisdom." — Mark Powell "Worshipful." - Scott Adair

BRIEFS

Students Attend Chicago Meeting

HST students Kevin Burr, James Calhoun, Matthew Crowe, Nathan Myers, Andrew Sowers and Andrew Taylor attended the annual American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature meeting in Chicago in November.

HST Goes Mobile

If you have visited our website from your mobile device recently, you probably noticed our new mobile site. Key features of the mobile version of our website include buttons to call the School office, get directions to campus, and send an email from the mobile site. The academic catalog is also now in a mobile format from the mobile page or by visiting mcatalog.hst.edu.

Feedback is welcome. Just visit the mobile site and click "email us."



Return Service Requested



FINAL WORD

Learn More

he list of Jack Lewis' published writings fill 26 pages at the end of his autobiography. Here are just his books from the last 25 years:

Lewis, Jack P. As I Remember It. Nashville, TN: Gospel Advocate, 2012.

-----. Early Explorers of Bible Lands. Abilene, TX: ACU Press, 2013.

-----. The Encouragement of the Scriptures: a Collection of Lectures. Henderson, TN: Hester Publications, 2011.

-----. The English Bible from KJV to NIV. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1991.

-----. Ethics of the Prophets. Henderson, TN: Hester Publications, 2001.

-----. Exegesis of Difficult Passages. Searcy, AR: Resource Publications, 1988.

-----. Hebrew Wisdom and Poetry. Henderson, TN: Hester Publications, 2004.

------. Historical Backgrounds to Bible People. Henderson, TN: Hester Publications, 1998.

-----. The Major Prophets: Lessons to Study and Teach From the Old Testament Books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel. Henderson, TN: Hester Publications, 1999. -----. The Question of Instrumental Music in Worship. Searcy, AR: Truth for Today World Mission School, 2008.

-----. Questions You've Asked About Bible Translations. Searcy, AR: Resource Publications, 1991.

-----. Studies in the Non-Literary Prophets of the Bible. Henderson, TN: Hester Publications, 2006.

Want to learn more about a topic mentioned in *The Bridge*? Check out the following resources:

Barnett, Joe. *He Will Never Give up on* You! Never? Never! Glendale, AZ: Covenant Publishing, 2001.

Brewer, C.R., Ed. *Missionary Pictorial*. Nashville: World Vision, 1968. Brief sketches of George and Ottis Scott (p. 188); Dow and Helen Pearl Merritt (pp. 135-6); William and Addie Brown (p. 39); J. M. McCaleb (pp. 145-147).

Caldwell, Finis. What the Bible Says About the Heavenly Messengers: The Angels. Belleville, Ontario, Canada: Guardian Books, 2012.

Kearley, F. Furman, Edward P. Myers, and Timothy D. Hadley, Eds. *Biblical Interpretation: Principles and Practices: Studies in* Honor of Jack Pearl Lewis. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1986.

Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth. "A Psalm of Life," in *100 Essential American Poems*, edited by Leslie Pockell. New York: St. Martin's Griffin, 2009.

McCaleb, J. M. On the Trail of the Missionaries. Nashville: Gospel Advocate, 1930.

Neller, Kenneth V. "A Model for Those Who Seek to Win Souls: 1 Corinthians 9:19-23," *Restoration Quarterly* 29, no. 3 [1987]: 129-142.

-----. "Diversity in the Gospel of Thomas: Clues for a New Direction?" Second Century: A Journal of Early Christian Studies 7, no. 1 [Spr 1989-1990]: 1-18.

West, Earl Irvin. *The Search for the Ancient Order*, Vol. IV. Germantown: Religious Book Service, 1987. See chapter 10 "The Dark Continent" (pp. 257-282) for more stories on the missionaries at Sinde, Kabanga and Namwianga.

For help in borrowing, purchasing, or using any of these resources, feel free to contact us at the HST Library.