

# Dan & Peggy Lewis

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Dear Friends and Supporters,

We completed three more mission trips this spring, and Peggy was able to accompany me on all of them! The first was to Cape Town, South Africa. It has been many years since Peggy and I were in South Africa (I taught in South African Bible Institute in Pretoria, 1973-74, when James, our oldest son, was just a toddler). How things have changed since then! As a young, freshly-graduated-from-college couple with very little cross-cultural experience, we were shocked at the system of apartheid then in place. Everything is different now, of course, and South Africans have walked what Nelson Mandela called the “long road to freedom”. Indeed, we were able to visit the Robben Island detention facility where Mr. Mandela was incarcerated for 18 years as a political prisoner.



I and Nick Muriro, a Zimbabwean and head of the department in which I taught, have a brief chat.

I had a great group of students at the University of the Nations campus in Cape Town (technically in Muisenberg, a suburb of Cape Town). They came from Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Tunisia, United Emirates and South Africa, not to mention several students from the Ukraine, Germany, Canada, and the USA. Here, I covered the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age I, especially focusing on Israel’s tribal league and the early monarchy under David. In addition to my lectures, every day I had lunch at a "speakers table", which means students sit

and eat with me while posing and discussing pertinent biblical and theological questions. I also spoke in chapel at the campus service on Thursday, which was a little intimidating, since the speaker that many of them heard the previous Sunday was Ravi Zacharias. He's a hard act to follow!

What a beautiful place is False Bay, Table Mountain, the Lion's Head and



The Cape Town Campus of the University of the Nations conducts their chapel services in this community building, which is where I preached on one of the Thursday evenings while there.



Zoe, a young woman from Zambia, was one of my students. Believe it or not, she at one time considered becoming a boxer—but now is a missionary for Christ!



Cape Town Students, May 2018

Signal Hill in Cape Town! It more than made up for the water shortage (the drought is at level 6B, which means water is rationed— one-minute showers every second day, all excess water is captured for used in toilets, everyone is limited to a few liters of water per day, etc.).

In addition to courses in biblical studies, such as I teach, this campus of U. of N. also has some very fascinating courses in subjects like Children at Risk. Human trafficking is a world-wide problem, and in addition to sex trafficking, there also is the child slavery trade for menial labor. It is truly heart-breaking to hear some of the stories.

After four short days at home, we left for England. It is almost hard to believe, but I've had the privilege of lecturing in England every year since 1991. It has nearly become for us like a second home. Here, I taught in

two departments, a week in each, with students from England, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Germany, Holland, USA, China, Korea, Brazil, Philippines, Korea, Ukraine, Switzerland, Australia and Canada. In the one school, I covered the Text and Message of Jeremiah and the acrostic poems in Lamentations. In the other, I covered an introduction to the 8<sup>th</sup> century prophets of Israel.

One of the more invigorating events in which I usually participate is the evening Q&A, and I had one in Cape Town, another in England, and later, one in Richmond, Virginia, with students firing non-stop questions to me about everything from capital punishment to marriage & divorce to the State of Israel to same-sex relationships. As is apparent, this a “no-holds-barred” discussion, and university students certainly were eager to explore the topics! (I had to smile at one British student who asked me directly, “Do you own a gun?” I suppose this betrays a certain perception of Americans!)



This is the evening Q&A in England, where students sit around a large room and pepper me with fascinating questions of all sorts! God helping me, I’m hoping I offered at least some wisdom.

While at the U of N in England, I had the opportunity to chat with a Filipino translator, who is currently working on a translation of my video lectures in canon, texts and Bible translation, which will be available in the multi-lingual section of the on-line university. One of the very fun events while in the Midlands was to join the faculty and staff in an evening dinner at the “The Cock” (built *circa*

AD 1250), billed as the second oldest pub in England. It ostensibly was the hiding place for the horses of the infamous highwayman Dick Turpin!

Another enjoyable feature is visiting churches in the various places where we travel. In Cape Town, Peggy and I attended the All Saints Anglican Church in Muizenberg on one weekend, and the next we accompanied one of the faculty members and his wife to King of Kings Baptist, their church in Fish Hoek. In England, we attended the Lake Windemere Anglican Church, a beautiful and outgoing congregation of believers (and the sermon was excellent)!



Here I am with April Harper, formerly of the University of Georgia, who has set up three diagnostic labs, two in PNG and one on a hospital ship.

Another fascinating aspect of teaching at the various U of N campuses is the opportunity to meet others who also are serving the kingdom of God in significant ways. Here, I'm thinking especially of April Harper who, after a dozen years at the University of Georgia, stepped out to do missions in Papua, New Guinea by setting up medical labs, two on land and one on a hospital ship. Her medical labs diagnose tropical diseases, some of which are rarely even known in the

west, and some, like tuberculosis, which are well known but often left untreated. April shared the hospitality flat for guest lecturers with Peggy and me while in England, and we learned about her incredible work. Statistically, someone in PNG dies every two hours from TB, and the sad part is that this is generally a treatable disease. So, she takes her scientific expertise to one of the most remote areas of the South Seas, working with Youth with a Mission, U of N, and Doctors without Borders, as well as other groups, to minister the love of Christ through medicine to those who need it most.

Our final trip this spring was to a U. of N. campus in Richmond, Virginia for two weeks. Since this was much closer, we drove rather than flew. Again, the student body was international with the expected American students, but also one from

Australia, two from Brazil, and one from England. Here, I lectured on the structure, theology, and logical argument of Paul's thirteen letters and the NT literature of John. A highlight of the school was accompanying the students to



Here, I am explaining a cuneiform text in the Museum of the Bible.

Washington D.C. to tour the new Museum of the Bible, which just opened in November. (If you get a chance to go to Washington, I highly recommend it!)

This summer, I've only scheduled one mission trip to Toronto, where I'll cover Paul's Roman Letter and the anonymous Letter to the Hebrews. Then, I'm taking August and

September "off" in order to stay home and catch up a bit before more lectures in the Fall. In the meantime, one of my Hebrew students, who works with Wycliffe Bible Translators, has finished his Biblical Hebrew grammar course, and two of my Greek students are nearly done with their New Testament Greek course.



Here is my group of Virginia students just at the entrance to the Museum of the Bible. (Peggy and I are barely visible in the back row in the upper left.)

Our deep thanks to those of you who have assisted us in this ministry—and to all who continue to uphold us in your prayers!

In the grace and cause of the kingdom of Christ,

Dan and Peggy Lewis