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THIRD MILLENNIUM MINISTRIES QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

First Quarter 2016



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#### GOSPEL FOR ETHIOPIA



LEAD TRANSLATOR ESHETE BELETE

Gospel for Ethiopia (GFE) is a ministry organization that strives to equip indigenous Ethiopian pastors with the foundational biblical and educational resources they need for pastoral ministry and evangelism. For the past few years, GFE has been committed to translating Third Millennium Ministries' curriculum into one of the most widely spoken languages in Ethiopia, Amharic, and distributing it to pastors

around the world. Because of their ministry and the servant's heart of founder Dr. John Udall, countless Ethiopians and individuals around the world have the opportunity to study the word of God in their native language.

A physician from South Carolina, Dr. John Udall first travelled to Ethiopia to provide indigenous communities with desperately needed medical care. The organization he travelled with held conferences for pastors during each of his trips and John witnessed just how deeply the people of Ethiopia desired to learn more about God. "I have seen how these men are the foundation on which Ethiopia can be transformed by God's Holy Spirit," John says. "They desire to be taught! They desire to study! They desire to be more effective hands and feet for Christ in Ethiopia."

Unfortunately, Christians in Ethiopia who want to learn more about Christian theology and doctrine, whether it is for personal growth or pastoral ministry, have very few biblical resources available to them. Like many people around the world, traditional seminary is not a viable option due to financial limitations or obligations to their home church and family. In addition, the resources that are available to them are often in English and have not been translated into their native language. Seeing this need for biblical education in Ethiopia, John formed Gospel for Ethiopia.

As John began to determine how to best minister to the Ethiopians, a group of local pastors asked him if he could prepare a seminary curriculum in Amharic. Dr. David Sinclair, the senior pastor at Clemson Presbyterian Church and a GFE board member, suggested that they consider using Third Millennium Ministries' curriculum.

After looking into the materials, John, GFE, and several native Ethiopians decided they would endeavor to translate Third Millennium's curriculum into Amharic. To date, they have completed *The Book of Hebrews, The Apostles' Creed, We Believe in Jesus, The Primeval History, The Gospels, Father Abraham*, and *The Book of Acts* in video, audio, and manuscript formats.

"I had the pleasure of meeting with a group of pastors that have gone through five modules of the material," John said after his most recent trip to Ethiopia. "They love [the curriculum] and see the real need for wide use of the material in training. It was a blessing to hear one pastor say that studying the material has been life changing."

Through a partnership with Great Commission Ethiopia Ministries, GFE and participating Ethiopian churches are working to offer seminary training to 80,000 Ethiopian pastors, church leaders, and ministry workers by 2020. They are also working on implementing a phone app and training more people to help lead small groups in the Ethiopian community. You can find out more about Gospel for Ethiopia by visiting **gospelforethiopia.org**.

# HOW YOU CAN PRAY FOR GOSPEL FOR ETHIOPIA

- For church denominations in Ethiopia to realize
  the powerful tools they have available to them
- For the multiplication of trainers to help teach these materials to other Ethiopians.
- For Great Commission Ethiopia Ministries as they put these materials to use in their ministry.
- For peace in Ethiopia from tribal and religious strife and for the unreached to come to know our Savior.
- For continued funding of Gospel for Ethiopia.

# A STUDY OF THIRD MILL'S MATERIALS

At the end of 2015, our partners at The Grace Institute and The Caribbean Initiative surveyed 134 individuals going through our Spanish curriculum in Cuba. Students participated in exploratory interviews and were administered a fully structured survey with questions regarding the content of the lessons,

the format, and the impact the curriculum had on their lives.

The results were overwhelmingly positive – on a six-tiered scale from terrible to excellent, 88.1% of respondents rated the usefulness and applicability of the content as excellent, 89.6% rated the depth of content as excellent, and 78.4% rated the clarity of the materials as excellent. Most students reported that they had a better understanding of the Bible after going through the study, and some noted that the curriculum had improved their lives for the better. We hope this news encourages you and helps you see that your investment in Third Millennium Ministries is having a tremendous impact on the lives of Christians all around the world.

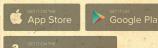
# THIRD MILL ON APPLE TV AND ITUNES PODCAST

Already available on Kindle, Android devices, the App Store, and Windows phones, the Third Millennium Ministries' app has just been released on Apple TV. If you have access to the latest Apple TV console, you can download our free app and attend a seminary class without ever leaving your couch.

In addition, we are pleased to announce that we have released an official podcast on iTunes. All you need to do is search "Third Millennium" on iTunes and you will have access to the audio versions of our latest lessons for free.



# Third Millennium Ministries Now Available On



# THE BOOK OF HEBREWS IN RUSSIAN



Thanks to the support of our generous church partners, we are excited to announce that our series, *The Book of Hebrews*, is now available in Russian.

When studying Hebrews, it is helpful to recognize that the original audience was facing persecution and that they were tempted to turn away from Christ. That is why the author of Hebrews placed his emphasis on standing strong in the faith, and it

is why this book is one of the most encouraging to Christians in every age – especially those in a country teeming with civil unrest and violence.

Our series looks at the background, audience, author, and purpose of Hebrews and discusses the rhetorical structure of the book by noting how the author wove recurring themes together to address challenges against the Christian faith.

Although the completed series has only been available for a few months, we have already begun to receive great feedback from our partners in Russian-speaking regions. "Hebrews is one of my favorite subjects to teach," says Professor Igor Sergeyevich Kapustin. "[Third Mill's curriculum] is a deep teaching, which helps to develop a clear theological perspective. It can be very useful to counter vague and formless teachings that are widespread among contemporary Christians."

We pray that this series will not only educate our viewers, but will also encourage our brothers and sisters throughout the Russian-speaking world to face the difficulties of life with faith and perseverance.

# FROM THE FIELD

Third Millennium's classes have been an amazing resource as we begi teach pastors and church leaders in La Ceiba, Honduras. By providin readily available content and study resources, we have been freed to the delivery and practical application of the teaching. Without This courses we would likely still be in the planning stages of offering co for these leaders who have previously received little to no formal tra Instead, we are in the midst of our second course and will be startin third shortly. On behalf of the twenty students who have thus far ta a course and the many more who will be starting soon, thank you f your ministry and please keep generating Spanish content.

Seth McLaughlin - La Ceiba, Honduras

## MAKING BIBLICAL DECISIONS

The following is an encouraging note we received from Andrei Murzin, the assistant director of the Masters in Biblical Counseling program at Kiev Theological Seminary:

"On behalf of faculty and students of Kiev Theological Seminary, we want to thank you for your wonderful teaching resources on video. In teaching our standard Christian Ethics course (required for 4th year students of all our programs) this spring semester, we are able to integrate the Making Biblical Decisions video course from Third Millennium. The students will have to watch the videos and write response papers. May God continue to bless your ministry!"



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## WILL YOU JOIN US?

At Third Millennium Ministries, we are developing a multimedia curriculum to be used in the theological education of church leaders everywhere in the world.

Third Millennium's ability to produce and distribute our curriculum is directly tied to the support we receive from our loyal donors. Will you consider joining with us today in the exciting work God is doing through Third Mill?

Thank you.

### SAN PABLO THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Because the mission of providing every Christian with a free, biblical education is so great, Third Millennium relies heavily on the partnerships of many like-minded ministries, seminaries, and individuals. That is why we are pleased to announce that San Pablo Theological Seminary has begun using our materials for their distance education program.

People interested in pursuing a seminary degree or simply learning more about the Bible can register online at **stpsanpablo.org.mx** and begin studying our Spanish curriculum. If students would like to receive an accredited degree at the end of their study, the school charges a \$200 fee\* upon graduation to cover the cost of accreditation and certification.

"Your multimedia materials have added a new dimension to my classes at San Pablo," Old Testament professor David Correa tells us. "It is so much easier to teach now, and I have more time to go deeper into some issues. It is fantastic to have solid teaching available to the Latin-American Church."

This new partnership will bring more awareness to our mission of easily accessible biblical education and give more Christians the opportunity to study God's Word.

\*Some schools that use our materials and offer an accredited degree charge a fee to cover the cost of accreditation and certification. As a reminder, we freely distribute our multimedia curriculum around the world. Our videos, study guides, and other resources are available free of charge at thirdmill.org.