

◀ MINISTRY MATTERS ▶

▶ Committee

God is slowly forming a ministry and we thank God for His guidance and grace. Do pray that God will bring in more people as the ministry expands and for His leading in the future direction of the ministry. If your church is interested in adopting our ministry or would like to partner with us, do get in touch with Jeffrey at jeffrey@2tim2-2.com.

Chairman: Jeffrey Loh
Advisor: Cecilia Perh
Administrators: Lim Wei Teck
Jeffrey Loh
Secretary: Suzanna Lim
Audio: Soon Soo Guan
Hans Cheong
Teaching: Cecilia Perh
Jeffrey Loh
Suzanna Lim
Kelly Nandar
End Times: Esther Goh
Publications: Jeffrey Loh
Cecilia Perh
Lim Wei Teck
David A. Kriner
May Tan
Logistics: Irene Goh
Ann Teo
Joshua Chua
Serene Soh

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▶ Donations & Love Offerings

Please make cheques payable to
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**Please include your name, church,
contact numbers & e-mail address.**

Mail to:

2Tim2-2.com

*c/o Bukit Panjang Gospel Chapel;
12 Galistan Ave, Singapore 669686*

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▶ Administration

Our ministry is looking for volunteers to help with regards to burning audio CDs, DVD/VCDs, MP3s, teaching, website matters, designing, administration etc.

If God has endowed you with a special talent or gift that is tailor-made for our type of ministry, kindly liaise with **Soo Guan** at audio@2tim2-2.com (audio matters) or **Wei Teck** at administration@2tim2-2.com.

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▶ Newsletter

The newsletter for July-Sept 2004 is available. Write to **Wei Teck** at administration@2tim2-2.com for a PDF copy.

If you wish to contribute articles for the newsletter, kindly write in for more details. The deadline for submission of articles for next issue will be middle February 2005.

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▶ Prayer Request

The ministry is planning for a trip to Israel in October 2005. We hope that you will join us in prayer as we plan and commit this trip to the Lord.

We also like to invite those who had been to Israel to come forward and help us with the planning, programme and logistics.

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Entrusting the
Word to the
Faithful

MITA (P) No.: 211/08/2004
Issue: 0204 (Oct - Dec 2004)

TIMOTHIAN
TIMES

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HOW 2TIM2-2.COM CAME ABOUT

BY CECILIA PERH

DEAR BRETHREN,

More than 10 years ago, at the HQ of Precept Ministries, USA, on the platform sharing about Precept Singapore, God spoke through me prophetically when I said that "*I was the bottleneck for Precept and as soon as I'm removed, Precept can grow*". As events developed, and as I grew spiritually and my gifting developed more on lines of teaching rather than leading or facilitating a discussion on the Word, the differences in the ministry of Precept and myself became manifest.

The reason that it has taken 17 years before God fully brought about the birth of a new ministry, is partly because our God cares for ALL who are involved in the matter and He always brings proper closure to everything in its proper time. But the fact that He is leading and guiding all the way is very evident to me and I hope, as I explain, it will be to you as well.

"My thanks to God for their input in this beginning stage of my ministry which lasted about 10 years."

God had to grow me first and He did that as I learnt the skills of Inductive Bible Study under two wonderful godly women, Kay Arthur and Betsy Bird. My thanks to God for their input in this beginning stage of my ministry which lasted about 10 years. Then He brought more godly people (too numerous to name) to help me grow in the faith and in the knowledge of His Word.

I have always known that I was a "caretaker" of Precept Singapore and even from the start, we have been praying for an administrator to take over the ministry of Precept Singapore. It was not until God brought Stephen Lim a few years ago that He could safely transfer the ministry to him, something that was accomplished in January 2003 when I officially resigned from Precept.

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CECILIA'S INDIA TRIP ▶ DAVID ROYLE TEACHING CONFERENCE ▶
NOVEMBER TEACHING WORKSHOP ▶ GRANVILLE SHARP RULE ▶
THE JOHANNINE COMMA ▶ TEACHING SCHEDULE FOR 2005 ▶

◀ EDITOR'S NOTE ▶



DEAR TIMOTHY,

Greetings in the name of our Messiah, Yeshua! As the year 2004 comes to an end, it gives me great delight to remember the faithfulness of the Lord to our ministry.

Thanks be to God for giving us the wisdom and grace to write five new workbooks this year and produce new workshop materials to equip & train believers in IBS skills.

Many have commented that the workbooks are too difficult for the average believer and this we admit with no apologies because we believe that God's people are capable of more if they will only allow themselves to be stretched by the Lord.

Our motto also means that we are aiming for disciplined and dedicated lovers of the Word of God who are the best people to study and work with.

Concerning the difficulty of our books, we have found one extraordinary thing that if students would only persevere in attending the classes and not give up too early, they grow by leaps and bounds in faith, knowledge, and wisdom, as well as in godly virtues like discipline and perseverance.

Our ministry seeks to establish God's people in the Word through teaching and discipleship which always implies vigorous & rigorous training! We do realize that our targeted group is a small one, but we know that this is the only way to train leaders, leaders who have been tested & tried with respect to their

relationship to the Word, and leaders who will then be used by God to teach others.

We thank God for the teaching conferences of Jacob Prasch and David Royle. We hope to organize more of such conferences to join with others in their effort to raise the standard of preaching in Singapore. Other ideas and partnerships are welcome as long as they met the necessary criteria of our ministry.

In the past six months, God had raised up a committee of godly and capable people who were willing to be involved and stretched despite their busy lives. We are indebted to our God for these who looked to God for His enabling and gave their "five loaves and two fish" to Him and let Him multiply as He sees fit. We hope that many more would join us as the Lord leads.

We also thank God for the many people who have given sacrificially to the ministry. Your many love-offerings constitute two-thirds of our finances while the rest come from the workshops & the sales of workbooks & CDs.

Do pray for us as we plan for next year's activities so as to better serve God's people.

His bondservant,

Jeffrey Loh

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◀ TEACHING MATERIALS ▶



MP3 CDs FOR SALE

- Jacob Prasch's Teaching Conference 2004 \$15
- 1 Thessalonians \$10
- 2 Thessalonians \$10
- Hebrew (Pt 1) \$10
- Hebrew (Pt 2) \$10
- Revelation (Pt 1) \$10
- Romans (Pt 1) \$10
- Romans (Pt 2) \$10
- Jude \$10
- Haggai \$10
- Joel \$10
- Daniel (Pt 1) \$10
- Daniel (Pt 2) \$10
- Obadiah \$10
- Marriage without Regrets (Pt 1) \$10



All prices for MP3 CDs are in Singapore dollars and without postage.

In Singapore, add **S\$1.50 for CD postage**. Please provide us with your full name, address and e-mail.

WORKBOOKS FOR SALE

You can also purchase the following workbooks which accompany the MP3 CDs:

- Plumbing the Depths of the Book of Revelation, Part 1
- Plumbing the Depths of the Book of Revelation, Part 2
- Plumbing the Depths of the Book of Romans, Part 4
- Dipping into the Book of Haggai
- Dipping into the Book of Joel
- Dipping into the Book of Obadiah
- Dipping into the Book of Zephaniah



Workbooks are available only in Cecilia's class.

If you have the ability to writing or love to do research, and have a burden in assisting the ministry in the area of compiling or writing the workbooks, do drop Cecilia a note at cecilia@2tim2-2.com



Drop Jeffrey a note at jeffrey@2tim2-2.com if you want to subscribe to our monthly e-mailer.

◀ TEACHING SCHEDULE ▶



Cecilia's Schedule for 2005

Classes will commence on
10 Jan 2005

MONDAY EVENINGS:

7.45pm-9.45pm at Bethesda Bedok-Tampines Church -

- Dipping into the book of Haggai
- > Commencing: 10 Jan 2005
- What does the Bible Say About the Coming of Our Lord and the Gathering Together of the Saints?
- > Commencing: 14 Feb 2005

TUESDAY EVENINGS:

8-10pm at Hakka Methodist Church

- Last 4 lessons of Romans Pt 4 (L09-L12)
- > Commencing: 11 Jan 2005
- Plumbing the Depths of Colossians
- > Commencing: 15 Feb 2005

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS:

9.15am-12.15pm at Hakka Methodist Church

- Last 4 lessons of Romans Pt 4 (L09-L12)
- > Commencing: 12 Jan 2005
- Plumbing the Depths of Colossians
- > Commencing: 16 Feb 2005

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS:

7.45pm-9.45pm at Church of the Good Shepherd

- Dipping into the Book of Habakkuk, then Jonah...
- > Commencing: 12 Jan 2005

THURSDAY EVENINGS:

8-10pm at Bethesda (Frankel Estate) Church

- Plumbing the Depths of Hebrews Part II
- > Commencing: 13 Jan 2005

FRIDAY MORNINGS:

9.30am-12.30pm at Bukit Panjang Gospel Chapel

- Dipping into the Book of Haggai
- > Commencing: 14 Jan 2005
- What does the Bible Say About the Coming of Our Lord and the Gathering Together of the Saints?
- > Commencing: 18 Feb 2005

FRIDAY EVENINGS:

7.45pm-9.45pm at Joy Fellowship

- Foundational Truths in Genesis II (chap 12-50) - an 8-week course
- > Commencing: 14 Jan 2005

NOTE:

There will be no classes between 7-11 Feb 2005 as it is the Chinese New Year week.

Classes will resume on 14 Feb 2005.

Jeffrey's Schedule for 2005

Jeffrey will be speaking at Glory Presbyterian Church ladies' meeting on the following dates:

- Time: 3.30 pm -5.30pm
- 8 Jan 2005 - Matthew 6:24-34 (Inductive Bible Study) >> 1 hr (*How To Deal With Anxiety*)
- 5 Feb 2005 - Overview of Haggai (Inductive Bible Study) >> 1 hr (*What is Your Priority in Life?*)

SATURDAY EVENINGS:

7:30 pm to 9:30 pm at Bedok Lutheran Church

- Dipping into the Book of Haggai (4-week course)
- > Commencing: 5 Feb 2005

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Cecilia and Jeffrey are always open to speaking wherever God opens a door and enables, so do e-mail or call them as to how they can serve you in this area!

Continued from cover page

I only discovered that I enjoyed writing workbooks on the Bible because God ordained circumstances to bring this about. Since then, I've "authored" (some with the help of my students), more than 10 workbooks over this year and a half, and am still in the process of writing 2-3 more workbooks. This can only be possible with the help of the Lord and the help of various people He brings to my aid. Here again is evidence of God confirming what it was that He has for me to do.

Once books were written, they were sold through 2Tim2-2.com which was registered on November 28, 2002. "*Entrusting the Word to the Faithful*" became our motto.

To achieve this purpose, we conduct teaching classes based on Bible books with an emphasis on the original languages and has worked into them the inductive study principles of letting the Word of God speak for itself.

Training Seminars and Trainers' Seminars are organized from time to time to train people to dig into the Word for themselves and to train others to do likewise. An upcoming training workshop is planned for November with Dr Jeffrey Loh and I as trainers. We also held a Trainers' Seminar on the book of Obadiah on August 9th with 29 attendees. May God raise up more teachers and trainers to teach the Word of God!



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"We believe in equipping the saints and so it is immaterial whether they use 2Tim2-2.com materials or other Bible Study materials, as long as God's Word is taught in such a way that people will reverence the Lord."

☪
We believe in equipping the saints and so it is immaterial whether they use 2Tim2-2.com materials or other Bible Study materials, as long as God's Word is taught in such a way that people will reverence the Lord.

God has also brought to me a core group of young professionals who have the same heart for Him and His Word but with different gifts to help in this ministry, and thus the Timothian Times was birthed in August 2004 with the first edition of our newsletter which came out in September this year.

Another aim is to help, in whatever ways possible, other ministries who uphold and submit to the authority of Scripture and the Lord Jesus Christ. As such, on Moriel's request, the Jacob Prasch teaching conference was organized in July 2004 and another teaching conference by Rev. David Royle from 30th - 31st October 2004.

Continued on next page



“...the ministry is varied and help from any willing believer is sought. The only criterion is that you love the Lord and you submit to and obey His Word.”



From the Scriptures we know that there are prophecies that the church has to fulfill in these last days.

Which ones?

The ones that predict a great end-time harvest for example (see Matthew 24:14; Mark 13:10; Revelation 7:9-17). Thus preparation for the people of God in respect to this area is part of our ministry. Spiritually, we offer classes that meet this need of preaching the gospel as well as training people how to follow up new believers. Practically, in the light of the recent disasters that have plagued our world, we want to dialogue concerning this area and come up with practical plans as well.

As you can see, the ministry is varied and help from any willing believer is sought. The only criterion is that you love the Lord and you submit to and obey His Word. ■



CECILIA'S INDIA TRIP

4 – 11 OCTOBER 2004



INDIA IS A VERY SPIRITUAL LAND with people who are more used to dealing with the spiritual than in many parts of the world. That is easily verifiable by the many millions who faithfully do their prayers every day in millions of worship houses to their gods. That they pray to “gods made with hands” which Paul says, “are no gods at all” (Acts 19:26; Galatians 4:8) is the greatest tragedy of all because there are so many real needs in India that only the one true Creator-God is able to handle.

To perceive a little of the problem, just multiply the needs we have in our fair country of Singapore of 4 million people by the needs of the more than 1 billion people in India! Everything is on a massive scale in India - great poverty, great wealth, intelligent people, greatly despised people, slums and great despair, and beautiful houses and great comfort, oh, and not forgetting the massive traffic jams as well!



“When the constructions in the New Testament that truly follow Granville Sharp's rule are examined, a very unusual thing happens: it is found to be entirely exceptionless!”



The “Granville Sharp” constructions in these passages are identical to that found in 2 Peter 1:1, with only one different word, i.e. *kuriou* (Lord). Most would not question the translation of “our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ” at 2 Peter 1:11 or the other passages, as both referring to the same Person, Jesus Christ. However they would question the translation of “our God and Savior, Jesus Christ” at 2 Peter 1:1! We wonder why, since all these passages are identical constructions which should be interpreted similarly as saying that Jesus Christ is both God *and* Savior or both Lord *and* Savior.

EXCEPTIONS TO THE RULE

There are some examples of plural nouns, which expressed in the “Granville Sharp” construction, are agreeable to this rule. The best-known example is that of the “pastor-teacher” in Ephesians 4:11.

Ephesians 4:11

touj	de.	poimenaj	kai.	didaskalouj
tous	de	poimenas	kai	didaskalous
the		pastors	and	teachers

The question is raised as to whether it refers to a single office of “pastor-teacher” or whether it refers to two offices: that of pastor and that of teacher. As has already been noted, Sharp's rule does not strictly apply to plural nouns. Yet this most probably refers to one single office because if Paul had wanted to distinguish both offices, he would have inserted the definite article before both “pastors” and “teachers”. This constitutes Granville's 6th rule which states that when both nouns have the definite article, they refer to different things. Thus, Ephesians 4:11 refers to one office, that of pastor-teacher. The implication of this is that while pastors must be able to teach (at least in the basic sense of *didasko*); not all teachers are pastors.

CONCLUSION

Arguments and controversies concerning certain details in the Word of God are various, but some controversies can be easily settled if one but knew more of the intricacies hidden in the Greek text of the New Testament, one of which is Granville Sharp's First Rule. ■

Continued from previous page

The Unitarians of Granville Sharp's day rejected the deity of Jesus Christ, so God raised a Granville Sharp to deal with this controversy. His careful analysis of the Greek New Testament, which led him to propose his rule, is vindicated many years later by a modern Greek scholar, A.T. Robertson who said, "But, though Sharp's principle was attacked, he held to it and affirms that though he had examined several thousand examples of this type, 'the apostle and high priest of our confession Jesus' (Hebrews. 3:1), he had never found an exception."

The rule, *in its pure form*, is exceptionless.

The pure form of the rule means that Sharp's rule is valid *only for singular nouns, not plural*. It is not intended to be applied to proper names nor things. As you can see, Sharp's rule is much more limited in its scope than the more modern definitions reveal. When the constructions in the New Testament that truly follow Granville Sharp's rule are examined, it is found to be entirely exceptionless!

In Greek, when two nouns of the same case are connected by kai ("and"), and the definite article appears before the first noun but not before the second, both nouns refer to the same person if the nouns are (1) personal, (2) singular, and (3) non-proper nouns.

THE RULE AS APPLIED TO BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION

One of the applications of this rule is to settle the controversy between Sharp and the Unitarians who say that 2 Peter 1:1 refer to two separate Persons, God and Jesus.

2 Peter 1:1 tou/ qeou/ himwh kai. swthroj Vhsou/ Cristou
 tou theou hemon kai soteris Iesou Christou
 the God our and Savior Jesus Christ

The meaning of 2 Peter 1:1 can be easily settled once we examine four other "Granville sharp" constructions which appear in the *same* book. Following our IBS principle of letting Scripture interpret Scripture and using clear Scriptures to shed more light on the obscure passage(s), we have the following:

2 Peter 1:11 tou/ kuriou himwh kai. swthroj Vhsou/ Cristou
 tou kuriou hemon kai soteris Iesou Christou
 the Lord our and Savior Jesus Christ

2 Peter 2:20 tou/ kuriou [hemon] kai. swthroj Vhsou/ Cristou
 tou kuriou [hemon] kai soteris Iesou Christou
 the Lord our and Savior Jesus Christ

2 Peter 3:2 tou/ kuriou kai. swthroj
 tou kuriou kai soteris
 the Lord and Savior

2 Peter 3:18 tou/ kuriou himwh kai. swthroj Vhsou/ Cristou
 tou kuriou hemon kai soteris Iesou Christou
 the Lord our and Savior Jesus Christ

Continued on next page

For those who have their physical comforts met, there is still the problem of anger, abuse in the family, and corruption among many other evils. For those who are physically needy... that is another story which our God will write if only more of those special ones who are called to reach out to the poor will heed the Spirit's call and arise, the church helping and standing in the gap for them.

In the light of such massive gargantuan needs, both physical and spiritual, one might well despair and give up were it not for the Lord God, the Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent, All-Wise, Loving, Merciful and Kind God whom we serve. *He* alone is sufficient for such things and all things and we know His ways.

.... He usually begins with a small seed ... comprising of repentant people who will obey the Lord and His Word...

Dance based on the theme of Jars of Clay- truly, a dance unto the Lord!



He loves to use the small, the nothings, the weak, the despised (see 1 Corinthians 1:26-31), so that when things are turned around, all in heaven and on earth will bow and acknowledge the greatness of our glorious God, to whom be all the glory. Amen!

And He usually begins with a small seed.

A small seed comprising of repentant people who will obey the Lord and His Word, who will then advance on their knees, as they daily seek the Lord for His will and His way in dealing with their daily problems and then following Him wherever He leads.

India is filled with people who know how to fast and pray. This sleeping spiritual giant needs to be awakened to the purpose of God for their existence. They need to hear the gospel and be saved first. Then they need to live more than triumphantly over their own problems so that they develop true righteousness which God says "can accomplish much" (James 5:16b), especially when they fast and pray in accordance with His will (1 John 5:14-15).

Who are called to this work?

Those little seeds who have this "treasure in jars of clay", the treasure being the ability to make Christ Jesus known to others, so that Christ lives in those who hear and believe.

My trip to India this time was different from all previous other trips. I went to the slums with an Aussie group in 1987 and 1988 for 3 months in total, then during various years to speak and conduct workshops at different places, and churches in Delhi, Lucknow, Nagpur and Davangere. It was different because of the times we live in today as well as the sense of the move of the Holy Spirit in Asia. I spoke with a pastor who said that many pastors have been preaching on holiness because that was what they sensed the Spirit of God telling them to do.

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At the festival, God brought together about 400 women leaders in the Methodist Church plus believers from other denominations to hear and participate in the messages and workshops which revolved around the theme of "Treasure in Jars of Clay" (2 Corinthians 4:7). There were 8 other wonderful women who conducted the various workshops.

☪
God will network us together again and this time I hope that more of you will come with me so that more ministries can take place...

☪
 God spoke to many women of the need of purity in the heart, of handling anger, of their pride, of needing to trust in Him, etc. Others spoke of how they were at a crossroads, very dry, needing further direction and how God refreshed their souls and spoke to them concerning the next step of their faith-walk in the Lord.



From left: Helen Yip, Shondale (*Music Workshop*) and Ivory Bostick (*Intercessory Prayer Workshop*), from the USA.

Still others needed praying with, counseling, or someone to confess their sin to, for which Helen Yip who providentially came with me, was greatly used in this area and in others. Many left with a renewed desire to study and obey God's Word and to this end, we covet your prayers that they will hold fast to their commitment.

Two bishops mentioned how some words that I spoke at the first meeting encouraged their hearts and gave them added insight into dealing with an upcoming problem in a biblical way.

At the campfire on the last night, many stood up to testify how both the messages and the workshops

blessed them. Others who were too shy to testify publicly, spoke privately to various leaders. We truly had a blessed and memorable time in India.

There are many little seeds that are now back home in various parts of India and they need much watering (prayers) and encouragement (Word). In the future, I'm sure that God will network us together again and this time I hope that more of you will come with me so that more ministries can take place and more Singaporean hearts can be bound together with the hearts of our brethren in India.

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▲
IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME!
 ▼
GRANVILLE SHARP'S RULE

By Jeffrey Loh



The Granville Sharp grammatical construction precept is taught in Evangelical seminaries and Bible colleges, but not heavily emphasized.

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☪ **GRANVILLE SHARP** (1735-1813) was an English philanthropist, born at Durham (England) and the ninth of fourteen children of an Anglican clergyman, Thomas Sharp. Though he studied Law, he never completed it, preferring to work at the government ordnance office instead. However, this earlier acquaintance with Law proved invaluable in his efforts to abolish slavery in England. He also studied Hebrew and Greek during his spare time and was a prolific writer, publishing many treatises on Bible criticism.

One of his famous tracts, "Remarks on the uses of the definitive article in the Greek text of the New Testament", published in 1798, proposed a rule (Rule I) now known as Sharp's rule. This rule applies to eight passages in the New Testament which were wrongly translated in the Common English Version, but have a direct bearing on the deity of Christ, a celebrated controversy among the Unitarians of his time, who rejected the concept of the Trinity.



However, it was not one rule that Sharp wrote but six. The subsequent five rules support or clarify the first rule and although exceptions can be argued for, these are only technical ones. We will look only into the Granville Sharp's first Rule and how this affects Bible interpretation.

This first rule, sometimes called the Granville Sharp grammatical construction precept, is taught in Evangelical seminaries and Bible colleges, but is not heavily emphasized. Focus is more on comparing New Testament Koine (common [Greek]) grammar to the grammatical constructions in classical Attic or other extra-biblical literature.

The Granville Sharp's Rule is not peculiar to the New Testament alone. It is a good general rule broadly recognized by Evangelical translators (although they may not necessarily attribute it to Granville Sharp).

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Personally, after spending three days hosting Rev David Royle, bringing him to local places and chatting over a good brew of coffee, I could sense that he is a man of God, but most of all, a true pastor and follower of the Word.



Our ministry was indeed blessed to have such a great speaker, with an even greater heart for missions, in our midst! ■

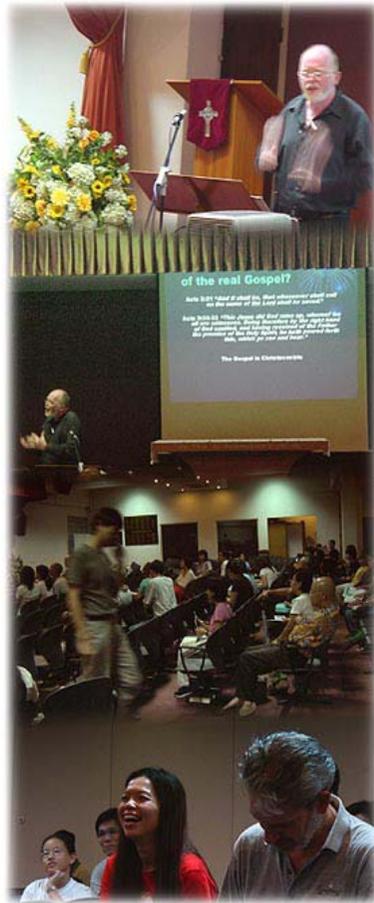
David spoke powerfully from the Scriptures and also shared from his heart concerning the orphans and the HIV conditions in South Africa.



Clockwise from top right:

- 1) Jeffrey gives an introduction to Rev David Royle;
- 2) Attendees on a Saturday evening @ Glory Presbyterian;
- 3) Book table was abuzz with activities;
- 4) David introduces the Mission Work in South Africa;

For more information on Moriel Missions Southern Africa, browse to the web site at www.morielmissions.org.za



▲
**DAVID ROYLE'S
 MESSAGES WILL BE
 MADE AVAILABLE
 IN MP3 CDs!
 WATCH OUT FOR THE
 ANNOUNCEMENTS.**
 ▼

Let me conclude with the story of one little seed that God has given me personal care of.

Esther, 27, and twins, Irene and Michelle, 24, are 3 orphaned girls who have a desire for and devotion to our Lord above the normal. Esther came to faith in Singapore and wrote back to urge her sisters to receive the Lord then. When she returned to India, their family disowned them and told them to get out because they would not give up Christ. As Esther testified, they stepped out of the house, crying and not knowing what to do, and right at their feet was a page from a newspaper advertising a house which Esther bought with the help of the gratuity she obtained from her work as a dental assistant in Singapore. They moved into it that very same day! That was the house I met them in when I visited them in 2001. The twins were in university then. Currently Irene is the only one working on a pay that doesn't cover the rental of their present home. It is very hard for young girls to rent places without a male figure.

In the five years that I have known them, consistently, whenever God gives them a place to call home, they have started a house church in their small living room, a space less than half the size of our HDB bedrooms. Three times this has already happened. Not only that they steward their finances very carefully.



From left, Michelle, Irene and Esther.

We are now praying that the twins will get good paying jobs in Bangalore (jobs are more scarce there than here), so that Esther can be freed to go back to her home town to work with students. Those two sweet girls immediately told me that once they secured good jobs, they would take loans to help Esther purchase a plot of land so that they can build a house with a larger living room to seat more people (cheaper this way and more able to ensure that good building materials are used).

**...this is a need that I know the
 Singapore church can help in
 and this is my appeal to you....
 please join with me in the
 ensuring that this little seed
 survives and flourishes**



From left, Pastor Rev. James Sunderraj and wife, Pastor of Jaynagar Methodist Church & Helen Yip.

Continued on next page

God overruled to ensure that whatever I preached was what He wanted His people to hear. I was unable to preach the message that I prepared for the final night...

Cecilia teaches on James 1:1-4; how to handle trials like anger, wife beating & corruption.



Delegates marching from the Baldwin Girl's School to the Church for the inaugural ceremony.



Because of the urgency of the hour, this is a need that I know the Singapore church can help in and this is my appeal to you. If, and only if the Lord lays it on your heart to do so, please join with me in the ensuring that this little seed survives and flourishes. According to Esther, the land can cost between 4-8 lakhs (1 lakh=S\$4K) while the house would probably cost half as much. We will aim for \$20K for the land and another \$10K for the house.

My personal prayer when I went was for me to be changed, to learn more from the Lord concerning the areas that I was lacking in, and what I came back with was a greater understanding of and the need for prayer and intercession.

And I so appreciate your prayers because asking is the rule of the Kingdom and God delights in answering the prayers of His people. Many could sense the anointing of the Spirit in the plenary sessions. God overruled to ensure that whatever I preached was what He wanted His people to hear. I was unable to preach the message that I prepared for the final night, the rally, due to lack of time but God gave me an impromptu one. Tom Chandler who arranged this for me through Dorothy Kumar, the bishop's wife, said that he "sensed real spiritual warfare" at this time. We can only know the results of what happened in eternity, but for now, it's back to stewarding our time and resources for the kingdom of God. May God grant us more opportunities of co-labouring together! ■

Blessings and thanks!

Cecilia Perh



Rev David Royle from Moriel Missions Southern Africa was in town for a short 2-day teaching stint from 30th to 31st Oct 2004.

This teaching conference was David's first to Singapore and was a stop-over before flying down under to Australia for further speaking engagements.

Despite David's short stop-over, he delivered five solid messages across the two evenings at Glory Presbyterian Church.

This Manchester native is now serving the Lord in South Africa where he founded Moriel Mission Kwazulu and Moriel Missions College and pastors Aletheia Community Church. Through his involvement in different areas of the ministry, David was able to share with the participants real life challenges the South African church faces.

During the teaching sessions, David would spend some time sharing with the participants one of his key concerns - the Ebyown Children's Village. This village aims to provide orphaned children with medical attention and a healthy lifestyle through an extended family. Drawing inspiration from Psalm 68:5-6 which states:

A father of the fatherless and a judge and protector of the widows is God in His holy habitation.

God places the solitary in families and gives the desolate a home in which to dwell.

Because God places the solitary in families, and having seen the dire conditions these children were under, David has himself adopted four orphans to take care.

TEACH ME THY WAYS

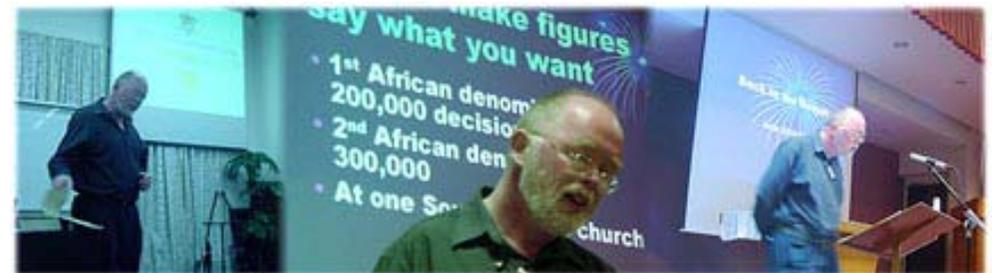
REV. DAVID ROYLE

TEACHING CONFERENCE 30TH - 31ST OCT 2004

By Lim Wei Teck



Below: David preaches and gives an account of the health of the church in Africa.



Continued on next page



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Alexandria - City in Egypt where both Judaism and Christianity flourished from the time of its founding by Alexander the Great until its destruction in an earthquake.

Arian Controversy - The Arian controversy erupted in the early 4th century and is named after the loser in the controversy, Arius. This controversy threatened to tear the church apart around the time that Constantine adopted Christianity as the state religion of the Roman Empire. In broad terms, it can be called a controversy between the Eastern and Western churches, although this is a simplification of the facts. This controversy revolved around the nature of the trinity and revolved around the question of whether the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit were of the same substance or a form of hierarchy of different types of beings.

Carthage - A city in North Africa, in modern day Tunisia. Carthage rivaled the power of Rome until conquered by the Romans in 396 BC. It declined after conquest by the Arabs in 637 AD.

Cyprian - A bishop of Carthage who converted to Christianity in mid-life. (about 248 AD) and a prolific writer in defense of the Church against various heresies circulating during his time. It is quoted verbatim in his treatise 1 On the Unity of the Church published around 251 AD.

Tertullian - A Roman lawyer (about 160 AD in Carthage, North Africa) who converted to Christianity in middle life. He became a prolific writer in both Latin and Greek, first defending Christianity against the Marcionite heresies before joining the Montanist sect.

Jerome - Jerome was born about 340 AD and died in 420 AD. Among his many writings and translations, he is best known for his re-translation of the Old Testament from Hebrew into Latin.

Waldensian - An area of Switzerland (Canton Vaud) where the tradition of safeguarding the bible texts started in the year 157 AD. The oldest known Latin Bibles come from here.

Vandals - A Germanic tribe converted to Arianism around 370 AD. They conquered parts of North Africa in 429 AD and made Carthage their base after plundering the city. Their rise contributed to the demise of the Western Roman Empire.



The desire of 2Tim2-2.com is to provide training for individuals who are serious about the study of God's Word and who desire to grow as a result of that study. Hence forth, Cecilia and Jeffrey conducted two Inductive Bible Study (IBS) Workshops at Glory Presbyterian Church from 14th to 15th of November to impart skills to aid God's people in the study of His Word.

Both workshops aim not just to impart standard IBS skills to individuals but also to ensure that the participants are able to mine the truth for themselves after the workshops. Cecilia's intermediate IBS session covered inductive skills (structural analysis) using the Epistle of Colossians while Jeffrey's basic IBS session (book overview) used the Epistle of Jude and the Book of Obadiah.

Although the two workshops ran concurrently and commenced on Sunday and ending over the Hari Raya holiday, the committee was encouraged to see many people turning up.

The ministry is especially grateful to Glory Presbyterian Church for supporting our work and vision in equipping believers with skills in the study of God's Word. ■



Making a list of key words in the Epistle to the Colossians



Jeffrey taking the class through Jude and Obadiah.

TEACH ME
THY WAYS

INDUCTIVE
BIBLE
STUDY
WORKSHOP

14- 15
NOVEMBER 2004

By Lim Wei Teck



◀ Watch out for more teaching workshops & conferences in 2005! ▶

By David A.
Kriener

“Should
you throw
away your
Bible,
because it
has or does
not have the
Johannine
comma?”

03

IF YOU TURN TO 1 JOHN 5:7-8 of your Bible you will be a witness to one of the longest-running controversies in the Christian church. Even though it returns only about 600 results in Google, it is still an emotive subject. It even has its own name, the Johannine comma.

KJV

7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

8 And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

Other Versions

7 For there are three that testify:

8 the Spirit, the water, and the blood-- and these three are in agreement.

The Johannine comma is seen as the clearest definition of the Christian trinity concept, yet it is missing in many modern and ancient Bible versions and even today it elicits discussion (much of it uninformed) about whether it belongs in the Bible or not. How did this come about? To find out, we need to look into the earliest history of how the Bible was passed down to modern times.

The New Testament was passed down to us from documents originally in the Greek language. The New Testament was also translated within the first two centuries into a number of other languages of the day, including Latin, Aramaic, Coptic and probably others. Manuscripts were copied by hand until the time that automated printing came into widespread use about 1400 years later.

By the 7th and 8th centuries the phrase had disappeared from almost all of the Greek manuscripts of the New Testament, but not from all. Yet, most Latin manuscripts and those in other languages, from the earliest ones, include the extra phrase.

Jerome, while translating the Bible for inclusion in the Latin Vulgate in the 4th century commented that irresponsible translators had left out this testimony in the Greek codices' but did not include the rest of the verse in his Latin translation published around 384 AD. It is assumed that his comment in the preface is based on the fact that he had multiple sources available, including those with and without the phrase in it. The remaining phrase was not included in the Latin Vulgate until around 800, based on the evidence of older manuscripts.

In 1516, Desiderius Erasmus published his annotated New Testament (the Textus Receptus), one of the first attempts to compile the complete Greek New Testament and to make it available on a wider basis. His works had a profound impact on the Reformation.

The Greek sources from which he was working did not include the phrase and the first two editions (1516, 1519) of his Greek Bible did not include it either. Based on challenges and overwhelming evidence from earlier quotations, Latin and Syriac versions and others, it was added back into his 3rd Edition of 1522.

It was this edition that was used by the translators of the KJV Bible. He has been and still is accused of fabricating the phrase to make his point. The addition caused more controversy and it was subsequently removed

As our modern Bible translations rely on his work, the outcome seems to depend on which of his editions is used.

What then, is the truth behind the omission or addition of the phrase?

The oldest Latin translations, dating to about 157 AD and carefully guarded by the Waldensians, included the phrase. Quotations made by Tertullian (about 200 AD) and Cyprian who died in the year 265 AD, quoted the full verse in their works. Evidence by quotation continues through the 6th century in Greek and Latin and other extant writings.

The council of Carthage (415 AD) endorses the text as fundamental doctrine when settling the Arian controversy. It is perhaps in the Arian controversy which lasted most of the 4th century that we can find the root of its disappearance from Greek manuscripts. The Arians did not subscribe to the Trinitarian concept and were in control of the Eastern Church for a period in the 4th century.

The doctrine of the Trinity was defended by a number of African writers in discussions with Vandals between the years 450 AD and 530 AD. These churches, the Alexandrian and Carthaginian, were quite independent of the Roman and Constantinople churches and relied on their own sources.

Translations of the Bible in many of the oldest languages did not rely on the works done in the West in Greek or Latin, and most of these independent versions retained the Johannine comma.

The Greek grammatical context also seems to support the view that it belongs there. The gender of verse 8 would not fit with Greek usage if the phrase is omitted but fits if the phrase included. The inconsistency was first noticed by Gregory of Nazianus in the year 390 AD who was one of the first to point out the resulting incorrect grammar.

Is this a conspiracy?
An oversight?
A transcription error?

I do not believe that the controversy can be settled conclusively without new discoveries of manuscripts. If this were the only source for the concept of the Trinity, then the Trinity would be a problematic concept. To me, its presence adds confirmation and its absence does not refute the concept.

Should you throw away your Bible, because it has or does not have the Johannine comma? I do not think so. What it does prove is that man is not infallible. ■



One of the oldest known fragments of the New Testament, known as P64 or the Magdalene Papyrus containing parts of Matthew 26. It is dated between 70 AD and 125 AD.

See next page for a list of terms >>