



“Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth” (Matt. 5:5). Our Lord’s promise is earnest, but the strong and powerful act as if the earth is theirs for the taking, like a fumbled football. Some dive into the scrum to claim it for themselves, others anxiously watch the contest. But “the earth is the Lord’s, and the fullness thereof” (Ps. 24:1), and He has not fumbled it away.

“Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?” (Ps. 2:1). Jesus was tempted by Satan to grasp the glory of the nations by bowing before the father of lies. But Jesus despised the belligerent way of the murderer and became obedient to the point of death, offering Himself up on a cross to die a death He did not deserve, to “save his people from their sins” (Matt. 1:21). Jesus the meek—the courageously selfless one—though one with the Father and

the Spirit, did not grasp at equality with God but humbled Himself and became a servant of servants and the Savior of sinners.

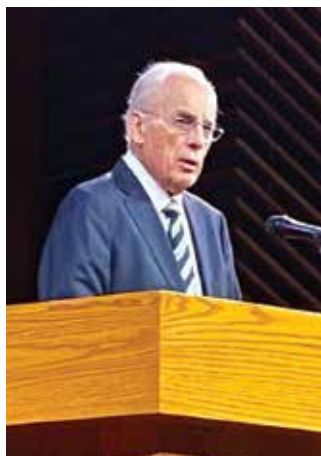
For this reason, Paul explains, God exalted this crucified man to His right hand, “that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow” and “every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord” (Phil. 2:10–11). The earth is His and He will give it to whomever He pleases—and He pleases to give it to the meek, not to the violent oppressor or deceitful schemer but to those who shoulder His cross, forfeit their rights, and lay down their lives as they also become servants of servants. “For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be,” the psalmist writes, “but the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace” (Ps. 37:10–11).

—BRUCE BAUGUS

Please pray for our seminary this year. We ask that you consistently remember our leadership, staff, faculty, board, and students in your prayers. Please pray that God will continue to bless the seminary and bless our plans. May we steward well all that He entrusted to our care in a way that glorifies God.

THE PURITAN CONFERENCE

On Wednesday morning, October 5, the long-awaited “Puritan Conference” began in John MacArthur’s Grace Community Church in Los Angeles, California. The conference was three years in the making (it was canceled two years in a row because of Covid) as a combined effort between John MacArthur and his large staff and me with the help of my CEO at Reformation Heritage Books, David Woollin, in conjunction with Puritan Reformed Seminary. I am deeply grateful to MacArthur and his great staff and 250 volunteers for doing all the on-site preparations for this premier conference on the Puritans. Well over 2,000 attended the Puritan Conference. In addition thousands more live-streamed in on three livestream numbers (the English website: from 106 countries and all 50 states of the U.S.; the Spanish website: from 42 countries, and 38 states; the English Vimeo: from 64 countries).



October 5: The first day of the Puritan Conference went extremely well. John MacArthur opened the conference, after which the following plenary sessions took place: “The Theological and Historical Foundation of the Puritans” (Steve Lawson), “The Puritans on Adoption” (me), “The Puritans on Preaching” (Kevin De Young), and “The Experiential Theology of the Puritans” (Sinclair Ferguson). Breakout sectionals were:

“The Puritans on the Church and Worship” (Stephen Yuille), “The Puritans on the Sinfulness of Sin and the Greatness of Grace” (Mike Riccardi), “The Father of Puritanism” (Sinclair Ferguson), “The Puritans on the Family” (Jeremy Walker), “The Puritans on Handling Depression” (Geoff Thomas), and “The Writings of the Puritans” (me).

The fellowship with fellow speakers was sweet—both at mealtimes and informally. The appreciation of the people was superlative, the conversations with them were of a warm and high quality, and the sale of Puritan books was phenomenal—beyond anything we have ever experienced before.

October 6: Another long, special, God-exalting day at the Puritan Conference. In the morning, Mary and I had a sweet conversation with Joni Eareckson Tada. Dr. Michael Reeves



gave the first General Session address in the morning on “The Big God of the Puritans” which was followed by my General Session address on “The Puritans on Assurance.”

Breakout sessions in the afternoon included “The Puritans on Prayer and Meditation” (Dr. Stephen Yuille); “The Puritans on Evangelism” (Dr. Mike Riccardi); “The History of the Westminster Assembly” (Dr. Kevin DeYoung); “The Scottish Puritans” (Dr. Ian Hamilton); “The Dutch Puritans” (me). The last two General Sessions of the day were given by Rev. Jeremy Walker on “The Perplexities of the Puritans” and Dr. John Piper on “The Joy of the Puritans.”

October 7: Morning sessions of the last conference day included “The Need for the Puritan Mindset Today” (Dr. Ian Hamilton) and “The Puritans and Victory Over Temptation” (Dr. Geoff Thomas). Afternoon and evening sessions included “The Puritans on the Christian Life” (Dr. Ligon Duncan), a Q&A Interview with Dr. John Piper and Dr. John MacArthur, and the final session was Dr. MacArthur’s address on “The Enduring Legacy of the Puritans.” I closed the conference with words of thanks to various people.

In addition to the 23 inspiring and informative addresses, great fellowship transpired throughout the conference. Scores of people told us that this was the most fruitful conference they had ever attended in their lives. God is good! Pray for eternal fruit!

—Joel R. Beeke



CHURCH EMBEDDED MINISTRY EDUCATION MODEL (CEMEM)

With the help of a generous grant from the Lilly Endowment, Puritan Reformed is in the process of developing a Church Embedded Ministry Education Model (CEMEM). The basic idea behind the model is to enable MDiv students to serve in part-time ministry at their home church, another local church, or ministry, while completing the bulk of their academic study remotely. The church will provide a personal mentor (usually the local pastor) for spiritual guidance and assessment of growth and ministerial readiness. The local mentor will stay in close touch with the Puritan Reformed faculty to address any academic matters that may arise. The aim is for students to come out of the program better equipped for the work awaiting them after doing significant service in a congregation or other ministry setting. Another very promising aspect of this program is that students and churches have confirmed to us that such an embedded model will make ministerial training more accessible to many men who might find it very difficult to relocate and study on campus.

An early milestone was achieved for the project on November 9 and 10 in a consultation meeting with other seminaries interested in helping develop the model. The project team from Puritan Reformed met with representatives from Birmingham Theological Seminary, Covenant Baptist Theological Seminary, and Reformed Baptist Theological Seminary. An additional Zoom meeting was held with New Geneva Theological Seminary. These meetings resulted in a draft partnership agreement that we hope to sign in mid-December with those organizations that decide to partner with us. The goal is

to get around 100 students enrolled in an embedded program through Puritan Reformed or one of our partners over the next few years, starting with the fall semester in 2023. We then plan to monitor their development and make modifications to the program and our coursework as necessary to support their success. The ultimate goal is to create an enduring and sustainable embedded MDiv program that will become part of Puritan Reformed's standard program offerings.

Experiences with remote education and mentorship depend on a variety of factors and can vary widely. One of the unique aspects of this project is the development of an application that will run on a laptop or mobile phone to provide the students and their mentors with a readily accessible platform to guide and document their interactions. This will introduce a higher level of consistency and discipline to the student/mentor relationship. The data gathered will enable us to study the overall effectiveness of the embedded learning experience and make improvements as necessary.

We are planning to run a test of the mentorship process and the app with a small number of Puritan Reformed students in the spring semester starting January 2023. This will allow us to make any changes necessary to have the app and the entire program ready for rollout to a larger number of students by fall 2023. Please pray for these students and their mentors, our project team, and for the overall success of this program to deliver more and better equipped men for ministry to churches throughout North America.

—Bill Thies

FACULTY ITINERARIES AND RECENT PUBLICATIONS

DR. MICHAEL BARRETT | *Itinerary*

March 19: Columbus, OH: Calvary Bible Church

March 26: British Columbia: Chilliwack HRC

April 2: Lakeland, FL: Covenant Presbyterian Church:

Recent Publications in Puritan Reformed Journal

Thoughts for a Sermon: Lessons from Two Fires (Lev. 9, 10)

The Old Testament's Theology of Life after Death

DR. JOEL R. BEEKE | *Itinerary*

January 5–10: Los Angeles: Teach course on Reformed Experiential

Preaching for John MacArthur's DMin students, and preach for MacArthur on Jan. 8 at Grace Community Church

January 19–21: Fort Myers, FL: Founders conference (3 addresses)

January 23–27: Charlotte, NC: Teach course on Puritan Theology at Reformed Theological Seminary, and speak on evening of Jan. 24 on "Puritans on Soul Care"

January 29: Los Angeles: Grace Community churches and Bethany Bible Church in Thousand Oaks (preaching 3x)

January 30–Feb 1: Los Angeles: chapel-speaker for 3 days at The Master's Seminary, Grace Community Church

February 10–11: Wakeforest, NC: Church and Family Life Marriage Seminar for Scott Brown (3 addresses)

February 19: Cape Coral, FL: Grace Baptist Church (preaching 2x)

March 3–4: Sanford, FL: Saint Andrew's Chapel, Annual Missions festival (2 addresses)

March 5: Sanford, FL: Saint Andrew's Chapel (preaching)

March 14–16: Greenville, SC: Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary annual conference (2 addresses)

March 18: Greenville, SC: Family Conference for Faith Free Presbyterian Church (3 addresses)

March 19: Greenville, SC: Faith Free Presbyterian Church and Greenville Presbyterian Church (preach 3x)

March 31–April 2: Puxico, MO: First Baptist Church, "For His Glory" Conference (preach 4x)

April 21–22: Calgary, AB: Calgary Reformed Conference (4 addresses)

April 23: Monarch, AB: Bethel Free Reformed Church and Picture Butte, AB: Shiloh Free Reformed Church

April 28–29: Morgan Hill, CA: Solus Christus Conference (3 addresses)

April 30: Chilliwack, BC: Chilliwack HRC (preach 2x)

May 4: Ridgecrest, NC: Annual conference of Church and Family Life

May 8–20: Israel and Jordan: Lead tour group for 95 people

Recent Publications

Faith Working Through Love: The Theology of William Perkins, edited with Matthew Payne and J. Stephen Yuille (RHB)

"Perseverance and Assurance," *Expositor*, no. 40 (fall 2022):24–30

Kilise Tarihi, edited with Sinclair Ferguson and Michael Haykin (*Church History 101*, in Turkish) (Reform Mirasi Kitapları)

Kutsal Bir Evlilik Nasil Kurulur?, with Mary Beeke (*How Can We Build a Godly Marriage*, in Turkish) (Reform Mirasi Kitapları)

DR. DANIEL TIMMER | *Itinerary*

February 27–March 3: Egypt: Teach "Amos and Jonah" at Alexandria School of Theology

NEW PASTORS: GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

"Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it" (1 Thess. 5:24). These words of Scripture came to mind when considering five Free Reformed (FRC) and Heritage Reformed (HRC) graduates (May 2022) of Puritan Reformed who were recently ordained into congregations of their federations: Rev. John Byl (HRC Grand Rapids, Michigan), Rev. Darryl Dedert (HRC Grand Rapids, Michigan), Rev. Isaac Epp (FRC Picture Butte, Alberta), Rev. Chris Mourik (FRC Calgary, Alberta), and Rev. Jeff Overduin (FRC Monarch, Alberta). Called by the Lord, admitted to and sustained throughout years of study at Puritan Reformed for pastoral ministry (MDiv), examined by the church, each of these men have now been ordained for for a lifetime of sacred ministry on behalf of the bride of Christ, His church.

The Lord's faithfulness is clearly evident in the lives of these new pastors and the congregations that called them. Through their preaching and pastorate, the Lord builds His church, calling sinners to Himself and equipping the saints. Please remember, therefore, in your prayers, these new pastors and all our alumni who faithfully serve the Lord throughout the world. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest" (Matt. 9:38), and that He will continue to send us divinely converted and called men who desire to be trained to preach a Christ-centered gospel and to serve with a Christ-like pastoral heart.

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PRAYER AND MONTHLY SUPPORT: BLESSING AND ENCOURAGEMENT

As we start a new year, we want to ask if you would consider committing to pray for Puritan Reformed each week—pray for our students, faculty, and staff. Know that your prayers are truly a blessing to our whole seminary community and are like incense to God.

If you are able, sending a monthly gift to support the seminary would be a real encouragement to us. The support we receive monthly helps us to train students and equip them with a biblical, Reformed, experiential, and practical education—and is both an expression of your commitment and a real inspiration for us. You can give online (prts.edu) or use the donation form found below. For Canadian donors, please email: Development-Canada@prts.edu, and a form can be emailed to you.

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—Karla Soule

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