



CANADA

Langham™ PARTNERSHIP

Spring 2015

What Canada Needs to Know About the *South Asia Bible Commentary*

An Interview With Dr. Brian Wintle

The *South Asia Bible Commentary* (SABC) is on its way. This Langham Literature project is of special interest to Canadian donors who caught the vision early on for a commentary written by and for South Asian Christians.

- Five of the six theological editors are Langham Scholars.
- A Canadian editor – Isobel Stevenson and her team of editors and proofreaders (including other Canadians) have helped make this project a reality.
- By the middle of 2015, Gordon Conwell's Centre for Global Christianity estimates there will be 375,905,000 Christians in Asia (four regions).

To get the “behind the scenes” picture and understand the full potential impact of this Langham endeavor that you have helped make possible, we interviewed Dr. Brian Wintle of the Asia Theological Association. Dr. Wintle is general editor of the SABC.

LN: Dr. Wintle, why did you get involved in this project as

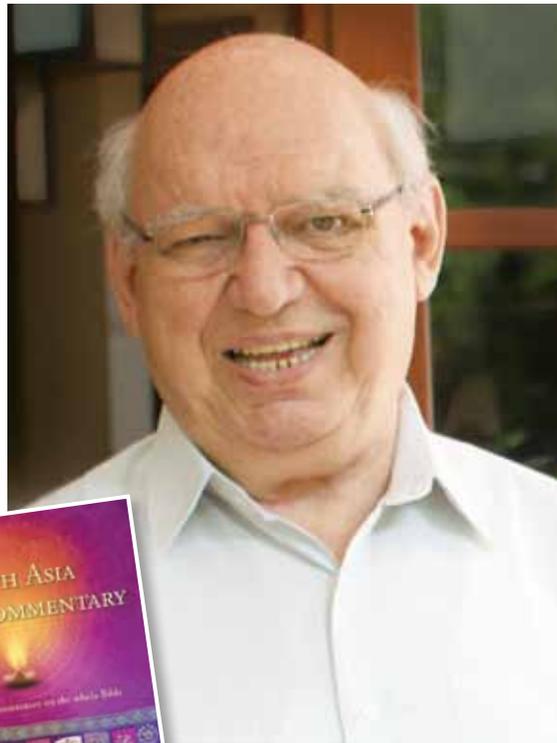
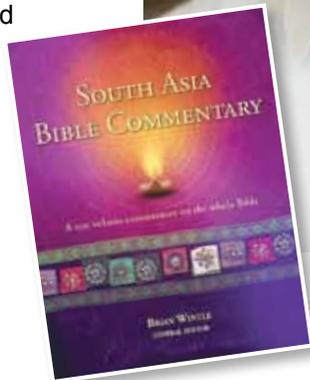


PHOTO: PIETER KWANT / LANGHAM PARTNERSHIP



general editor?

Since I am interested in writing myself, and know most of those who belong to LP-South Asia, I regarded it an honour to be invited to be the General Editor and gladly accepted it. It has been a most rewarding experience.

LN: Why is the *South Asia Bible Commentary* so important?

BW: I would say it is important for the following reasons: One, it is an application commentary and will be, we trust, a good model of both sound exegesis and helpful contextualisation and application. Two, since it is a one-volume commentary, it will be a basic resource that is comprehensive and reasonably priced. Three, this in turn will help raise the level of un-

derstanding of readers of the issues facing the Church in South Asia today and raise, we hope, the level of informed prayer support for the Church in this part of the world.

LN: What can readers expect to gain from this book?

BW: One, good sound exegesis and sensitivity to the context. Two, there is a lot in the commentary that will give readers good information on the South Asian context and what it means to be the Church in these countries.



Save These Dates

Langham friends are invited to meet Dr. Chris Wright, the International Director of Langham Partnership, on Friday, May 8, at 7:30 pm at Granville Chapel, 5901 Granville St., Vancouver. He

will provide an update about the three components of Langham's work: Langham Scholars, Langham Preaching, and Langham Literature. The Vancouver Chinese Christian Business and Professional Association will also host an evening with Chris Wright on May 9. For more information contact Jeffrey Greenman at jeffrey.greenman@sbcglobal.net and Thena Ayres thenaayres@gmail.com

LN: *What do you think distinguishes theology from South Asia from theology from the West?*

BW: There are essential differences between the worldview espoused in South Asia and that of the West, and these in turn impact the theology in this part of the world. The Christian faith is monotheistic, whereas, apart from Islam, the other major religious faiths in South Asia assume that all roads lead to God. This in turn impacts almost all thinking that can be called theological.

LN: *What would you most like Canadian donors to this project to know about the book?*

BW: That this commentary is a sound investment in the mission of the Church in South Asia, for it will prove to be invaluable to all South Asia Christians and others who

desire to live as thinking Christians who stand under the authority of Scripture. To do that, we need to understand the Biblical text and its relevance in today's world. This commentary provides pointers for just that task.

LN: *If there is one chapter or section in particular that you are very excited/pleased about, could you tell us what it is and why?*

BW: I would say that I am most pleased about the 90+ articles interspersed throughout the book, on various topics and issues that are contextual in nature and give a good overview of the context in which the Church is called to be salt and light. ■

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Here is some of what you need to know to consider making a legacy gift to Langham Canada.

- Anyone with a will can make such a gift. Sometimes the gift is a percentage of the estate (which means it will grow as your estate grows), others choose to designate a specific dollar amount to their charity of choice.
- You can speak to a planned giving advisor (there are groups out there to help) for more information, or consult your lawyer directly to designate a gift in your will to a charity.
- Note the correct spelling of the charity's name, in Langham's case the correct legal name is Langham Partner-

“I believe in the work of Langham because....”

We asked board members to finish this sentence. This is what Rev. Canon Dr. Barry Parker of St. Paul's Bloor Street Toronto had to say:

“I believe in the work of Langham because it is on the ground, in a local or indigenous context – and meets the needs of the resident and developing church in three integral areas:

1. The formation of theological leaders through doctoral education and support,
2. The gifts of reasonably priced and accessible theologi-

cal resources that are directly applicable to ministry,

3. The practical and fundamental formation of nations and generations of Gospel preachers – who are and will impact the world with the love, power and presence of the Lord Jesus Christ.” ■



A Thank you Note to you from David Tarus and Chandra Wim



"I THANK YOU SO MUCH for your generous support to me. Your support enables me to study at McMaster Divinity College, an excellent school that I wouldn't have been able to afford without your help. Because of your generous support, the Church in Africa will benefit from my training. Asante sana (Thank you very much)."

—*David Kirwa Tarus, Langham Scholar, McMaster Divinity College*



"I LOVE THEOLOGY. I enjoy studying it and teaching it to my students. The best resources to study theology – both in terms of faculty, books, and academic atmosphere – are still located in the Global North. Thus, I count myself as fortunate to be academically trained in one of the best theological schools in North America. Without the generous support of the donors of Langham Scholarship, I wouldn't be able to experience all this. Thus, I would like to say: "Thanks a million for supporting Langham Scholars!"

—*Chandra Wim, Langham Scholar, Wycliffe College*

ship of Canada for Global Christian Education, Inc. (BN 119241537RR0001).

- Let us know if you make this decision so that we can thank you now!

Legacy giving is a wonderful way to model generosity to your family, make sure your priorities carry on even after you are gone, and, in Langham's case, ensure that

the Church of the Majority World growing so quickly in numbers will grow deeply in maturity at the same time. ■

Meet Jocabed Solano, Panama's Preaching Coordinator

"God opened the door, and I was selected to preach. God gave me the responsibility and privilege to help open the way for the women of my nation."



Jocabed Solano leads Langham's preaching initiatives in Panama.

thing, but I want to tell you how God opens doors. "The preacher for this opening service was to be selected at a meeting of church representatives. The presiding pastor asked who might be a good candidate. Many hands rose up to propose names. It was all fine until someone suggested my name. The audience began to murmur, 'She is a woman

and never has a woman preached.'

"A theological debate followed. Some argued. [page 4](#) ▶▶

Jocabed Solano is the National Coordinator and a facilitator of Langham Preaching in Panama. Jennifer Cuthbertson, Coordinator for Trainer Development for Langham Preaching, met Jocabed in Bolivia at a Preaching training event:

"I am from the Guna people, one of seven original ethnic groups in Panama. My parents minister in a rural community named Guna Nega. When I was 5 years old, I began to collaborate in the ministry with them and my sisters. They taught me God's word, and I shared the stories with my friends, who came to listen. That is how my Bible exposition journey began."

Jocabed has made a unique contribution to how women are perceived in ministry in the Guna community:

"I want to tell you about a surprising invitation recently to preach at the opening of the National Association of the Guna Baptist Churches. Perhaps for you it is not a big

How to Involve Your Local Church in the Global Church-Changing Work of Langham Partnership

- Email us at Canada@langham.org to request brochures and other information we can send to your church on your behalf.
- Find us on Facebook, like us, and share posts with your mission and outreach committee.
- If we have someone nearby, we'd love to come and present the work of Langham to your outreach and mission committee.
- Visit the website at www.langhampartnership.org for regular updates. ■

But the pastor leading the meeting, who is much respected in the Guna Church, said: 'What stops a woman preaching? Furthermore, we've never had the opportunity to hear a Guna woman preach!'

"As a result, my name was included in the list of names put forward. Then voting started.

"What happened? A miracle!"

God opened the door, and I was selected to preach. God gave me the responsibility and privilege to help open the way for the women of my nation.

God wants to be heard through Guna women, too.

More than eight hundred people from the Guna communities gathered for the opening meeting where Jocabed preached:

"I prayed as a child asking God that one day I would be

a light to my people (the Guna), to my nation (Panama) and to the world. God never forgot that prayer."

Jocabed continues to minister with her parents. As a member of the leadership team of their church she has a new prayer today:

"My prayer now is that God will be heard through the voices of many who have not been allowed opportunities to preach.

"My request is that the church will be humble and listen to God's word (as it comes) through the most diverse voices."

Jocabed is studying Psychology as part of a Masters Degree in Interdisciplinary Theology. ■

–Jennifer Cuthbertson is the Coordinator for Trainer Development for Langham Preaching



"...This in turn will help raise the level of understanding of the issues facing the Church in South Asia today and raise, we hope, the level of informed prayer support for the Church in this part of the world."

–Dr. Brian Wintle, general editor of the South Asia Bible Commentary

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