

Dear Friends,

I write with the latest news from the John Owen Centre.

Doctrine Study Day – on the road soon in Guildford, Sheffield, Bradford on Avon, and Belfast

The third Study Day on the doctrine of Scripture (as ever self-contained so you can come if you haven't before) is now on the road. Here is some feedback from someone who attended when it ran at LTS last term:

"This was a superb day which provided comprehensive and wide-ranging evidence for scripture's self-understanding as covenant treaty. This robust treatment, which worked through the biblical data as well as the historical and systematic underpinnings, laid the foundation for a number of very useful discussions about the impact of this thesis upon our ministry of the gospel. We talked together about how this understanding of scripture re-shapes our bible hearing and reading, our preaching, our gatherings, our church life, our apologetics and our systematic conclusions. For me, the day has led to a renewed gratitude and submission to our speaking, covenant Lord."

The day will be running in Guildford on 23rd February, in Sheffield on 8th March, in Bradford on Avon on 14th March, and in Belfast on 29th March. These are all open meetings so if you would like to attend please contact us (johnowen@ltslondon.org or 020 8346 7587) and we can put you in touch with the organisers to book a space.

I plan to keep this day running into the Autumn as well, so if you would like to arrange a group in your area for later this year do get in touch.

Hebrew Study Days – in London and Halifax

The next day with David Green will be on Isaiah 6 and 53. It will run at LTS on 6th March and in Halifax on 15th March. The day after that will be on eschatological passages in Isaiah and will run at LTS on 8 May and in Halifax on 17th May. Do book early for the day at LTS since the last one was full. As ever, no one's Hebrew will be exposed and the day consists of exegesis with a view to preaching.

2012 Conference

Our Conference this year will be on:

‘ADAM: in the Bible, the Church, and the World’

It is always tempting to put on a conference on something trendy and to invite someone really famous to speak to pull in the crowds, but we're resisting the temptation! Adam is under increasing fire from some scientists and moral critics of the Bible's doctrine of original sin,

but also from voices within the church. This poses unique challenges for pastors and preachers: how do we teach and preach Adam today? So the conference will look at Adam from a number of angles: Adam in the OT (David Green), Adam in the NT and systematic theology (Lane Tipton), Adam in covenant theology (Garry Williams), Adam and original sin (Steve Jeffery), and preaching Adam to Adam's race (Michael McClenahan). These men will seek to bring us faithful, theologically stretching, and applied material on this important topic. The conference will be at LTS on 10th-11th September and you can book now by emailing johnowen@ltslondon.org.

Study breaks

We continue to offer tailor-made study breaks for pastors, but we are also now offering more fixed 'Planned Study Breaks'. If you are planning a sabbatical for study you might be interested in one of these. Also, they work particularly well for pastors from overseas who are involved in training others, so please do pass on the information if you have connections. Details are attached.

Every blessing,

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