



Between --- Friends

2019 VOLUME 2

It is the purpose of the Holy Spirit to cleanse and exercise our moral judgment, to instruct and educate us, as he makes us into men and women fit for eternity.

DAVID GOODING

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Dear friends,

On 30th August 2019, David Gooding was called home to be with the Lord. It is with sadness that we say goodbye to one of God's faithful servants, and yet it is with a profound hope and joy that we know he is now eternally with the Lord.

A public service of remembrance will be held at 7pm on 7th November 2019 at Crescent Church in Belfast. We have received many words of appreciation from those who have enjoyed David's friendship and benefitted from his teaching through the years. If you would like to share a memory, or an instance when his teaching touched your life, please send it in an email to info@myrtlefieldhouse.com.

We look forward to seeing how the Lord will continue to use the fruits of David's labours to reach people all over the world, both Christians and others, through the work of the Myrtlefield Trust.

This month we launched the final two books in *The Quest for Reality and Significance* series by David Gooding and John Lennox. We have also reprinted the four books in the *Myrtlefield Encounters* series.

We continue to make David's teaching available in new formats, adding to the audio and video catalogue, and publishing transcripts of his teaching ministry. If you have any recordings of David's teaching, please let us know so that we can make available as much as possible on our websites.

A Short Biography



David Gooding was born in Ipswich, England on 16th September 1925, the youngest of six children: four brothers and two sisters. His mother died when he was nine, and as a young man he helped with the care of his father.

After the Second World War David studied Classics at Trinity College, Cambridge (1947–54). He was then appointed to a Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship, studying ancient

manuscripts at Durham University from 1954–59.

From 1959–79 he was a lecturer and then reader in Classics at Queen's University, Belfast. He was appointed professor of Old Testament Greek in 1979, and professor of Greek in 1983. He retired in 1986, becoming professor emeritus. He was elected as a member of the Royal Irish Academy in 1977.

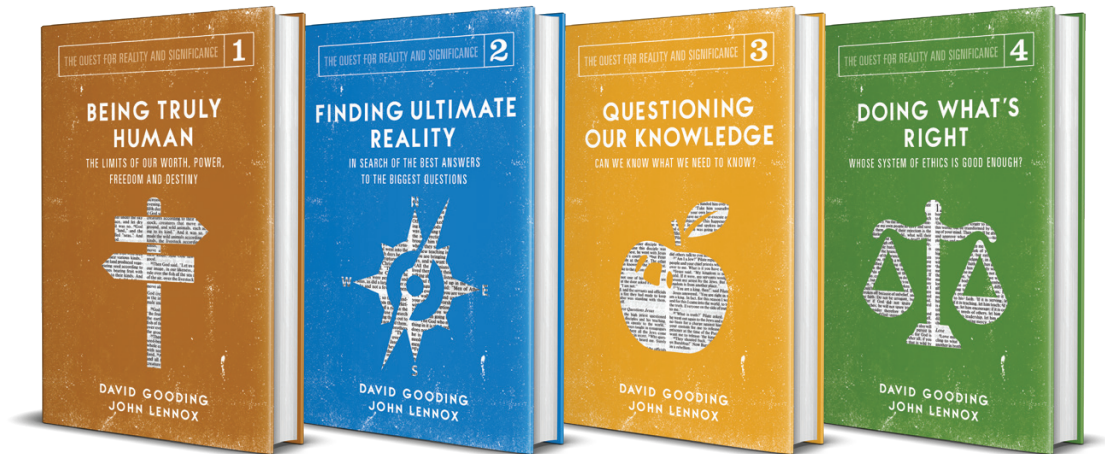
As well as academic monographs and articles relating to the Septuagint, he published many Bible commentaries, apologetic works, and a manual on the New Testament's use of the Old. His books have been translated into over twenty-five languages. In 1989 he and John Lennox began working on books and articles to be published in Russia and Ukraine.

During his time in Northern Ireland, David was an active member of a church in Belfast, meeting in Apsley Hall. He travelled widely, giving Bible talks and lectures to thousands of Christians on a wide variety of books and topics. His insightful approach to Bible study continues to be helpful through his publications, and through the Bible teachers and students he taught over many years.



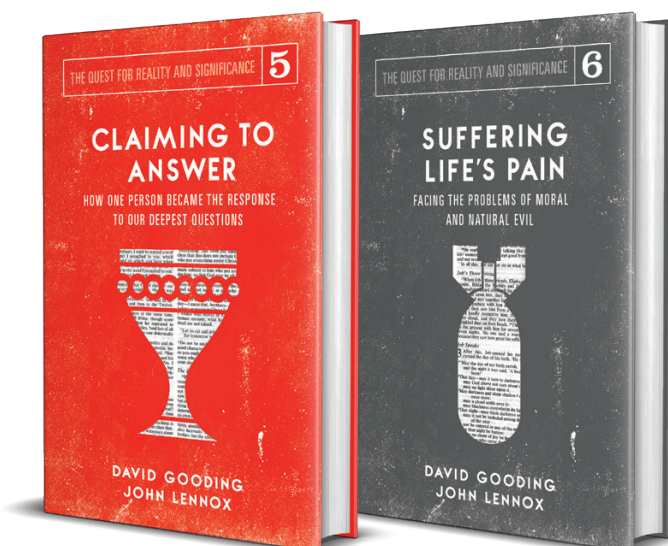
AN UPDATE ON OUR NEW SERIES

The Quest for Reality and Significance



The full set of *The Quest for Reality and Significance* is now available. The first four books (pictured above) have sold steadily since their launch and the feedback we have received has been very encouraging. The distribution of a book grant of 2,000 sets of all six volumes through partner organizations has just begun.

The final two books (pictured below) were released on 13th September. They bring the series to a natural conclusion, explaining how we should argue for our faith in the world, and tackling one of life's most difficult questions: why does God allow so much suffering?



Above all, the books form an invaluable handbook for negotiating the crazy chaos of today's modern world – Dr Os Guinness

NEW RESOURCES FROM MYRTLEFIELD HOUSE

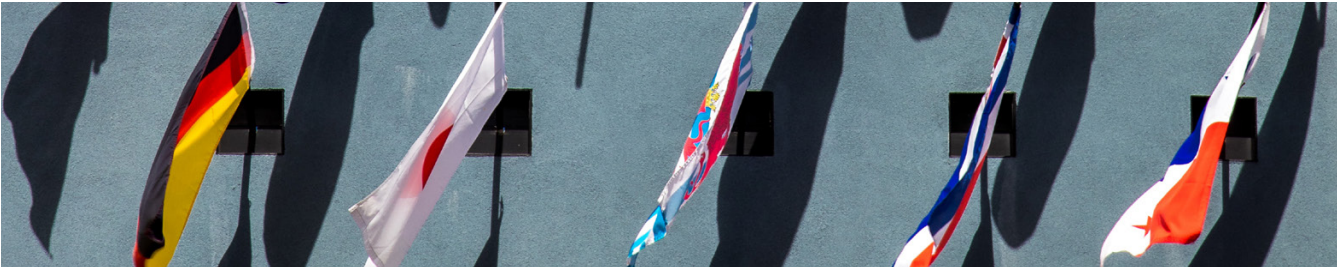
Transcripts

Our editors continue working hard to make David Gooding's teaching available for future generations.

Twenty new series of studies are now available for free download on our website. These are listed in the table below. You can download and read them wherever you go as they are available in multiple formats.

God's Power for Salvation: Seventeen Seminars on Romans	Life in the Family of God: Five Seminars on 1 John
Back to the Gospel: The Reference Point for All True Progress	Confidence in the Bible: The Authentic Word of God
Daniel and Revelation: A Comparative Study	Fellowship and Headship: Two New Testament 'Ships'
The Pattern and Practice of Prayer	God is on the Throne and in Control
Questions About Man: Understanding our Place in the World	Questions About Life: Understanding Why We are Significant
The Church in Relation to our Salvation	Enduring Temptation: Sources, Resources and Purpose
The Heart of the Gospel: The Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ	The Christian's Right Perspective: 'Whoever Loves His Life Loses It'
Is the Bible True?: Reasons for Accepting the Authority of Scripture	Loving His Appearing: Proclaiming the Truth Against the Lie
The Art of Arguing: An Overview of Galatians	Governing for God: Studies in 2 Samuel
The Servant's Justification: Witnessing for the Vindicated Saviour Jesus	Major Themes in 1 Corinthians: Back to the Gospel and the Christian Philosophy of Man

Translations



French

The translation of *Christianity: Opium or Truth?* has been completed since our last update. We have now begun translating *The Definition of Christianity* and hope to see the first books published by the end of this year.

German

The first book in the *Quest* series, *Being Truly Human*, will soon be available in German. This edition is being translated and published by German publisher Christliche Verlagsgesellschaft (CV) and will be available through their website.

Albanian

In our last edition we announced that *The Riches of Divine Wisdom* would be published in Albanian. The translation of this book is in its final stages and will be available through AEM-Misioni Ungjillor by the end of the year.

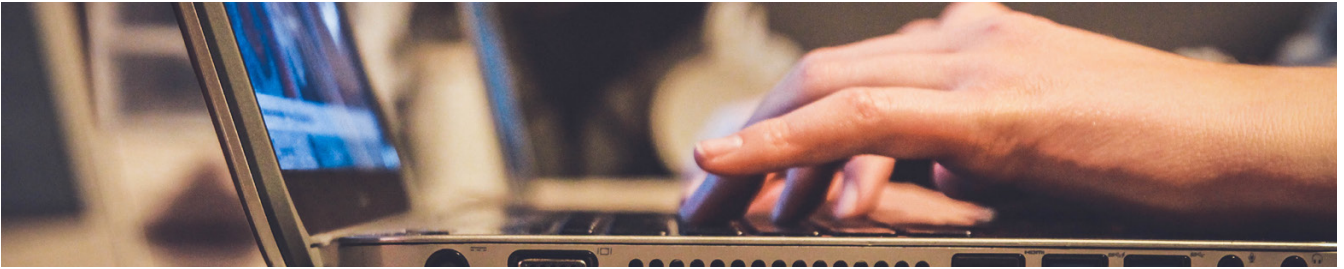
Spanish

We are in the process of updating the Spanish translations of our books. A new edition of *The Riches of Divine Wisdom* is in the final stages of production with *The Definition of Christianity* following shortly after.

Russian

We have had an increase in interest in the Russian editions of our books. Many that are now available in English were first prepared for Russian readers, and so it is encouraging to see these being requested again. Currently, we do not have books available for physical purchase, but they are all made available for free download through our second website, keybibleconcepts.org. We are open to publishing the books again in Russia when the time is right.

Other Projects



Encounters Reprint

The four books in the Encounters series, *Key Bible Concepts*, *Christianity: Opium or Truth*, *The Definition of Christianity* and *The Bible and Ethics*, continue to be popular as entry-level overviews of Bible doctrines, questions about the truth of the gospel, and many other topics relevant to the Christian life.

So, we decided to reprint the series with new cover designs and subtitles to help people find out what the books are about more quickly. We also worked with a printer who was able to produce the books at a much lower cost which, in turn, has allowed us to encourage retailers to sell them at a lower price.

Jonathan Carswell from 10ofThose had the following to say about *Key Bible Concepts*: 'This is a great book. Ideal to give to new Christians and one which I think is key for those wanting to get doctrine straight in their hearts, minds and lives. I'm going to be recommending this to as many people as possible because I think it's brilliant.'

A New Edition of How to Teach the Tabernacle

David Gooding's booklet *How to Teach the Tabernacle* has long been a useful guide for those who want to understand what the tabernacle really means. Although it was originally written to help people to teach children, it also serves as a useful resource for adults seeking an introduction to this life-changing topic.

We have decided to produce a new edition as part of the *Myrtlefield Discoveries* series. It will have large, colourful images of the tabernacle and its various pieces of furniture to act as visual aids for both teacher and student. We are finalizing the design and plan to have it ready in early 2020.

History

THE TRUST'S ACTIVITIES IN 1992



With the recent reprint of the *Encounters* series, authored by David Gooding and John Lennox, it is interesting to reflect on the continuing usefulness of these books almost 30 years after they were written.

Christianity: Opium or Truth? and *The Definition of Christianity* were first published as articles in several Russian newspapers shortly after the Trust began working in that region.

Between 1991–1992, over 100,000 copies of the Russian edition of *Christianity: Opium or Truth?* were printed and distributed in Russia. To see this kind of content reaching into a country that was for so long dominated by Communist ideology amazed everyone involved.

Also during 1992, David Gooding travelled extensively, teaching the Bible in Ireland, England, Germany, Austria, Italy and Australia.

That same year the tabernacle model, designed and constructed by the late Stanley Marshall, was also given to the Trust. Images of this tabernacle (pictured above at a series David Gooding gave in 2010) will be featured in the new edition of *How to Teach the Tabernacle to Children* (see p. 6).

**Everything that
is perishable and
impermanent shall
disappear, and only what
is eternal shall survive.
Oh that we grasped
this! One of these days
there is coming a very
big shaking of heaven
and earth, and all that is
unworthy and perishable
shall disappear.**

DAVID GOODING

Prayer List

SOME ITEMS TO PRAY FOR OVER
THE NEXT FEW MONTHS

- For peace and comfort for the family and friends of David Gooding following his homecall.
- That many more Christians and unbelievers will be made aware of David's work and benefit from his insights.
- For wisdom for the Myrtlefield Trust as we consider the future of the work and plan new projects.
- That the completed *Quest* series will prove to be helpful for many believers and non-believers around the world, helping them to answer the biggest questions of life with confidence.
- For the potential publication of Russian books with the right partners and at the right time.
- That the current translation work to bring the *Encounters* series to the French speaking world will prosper.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

2 Corinthians 13:14