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William M. Green Distinguished Christian Lecture Program

2008

Oct 7th, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

#### Program: Featured Lecture, "Face to Face with Jesus."

Rick Marrs Pepperdine University

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## Pepperdine University Presents

The Twenty Ninth Annual WILLIAM M. GREEN DISTINGUISHED CHRISTIAN SCHOLAR

## LECTURE PROGRAM

Featured Lecturer Dr. Rick Marrs

"Face to Face with Jesus"

October 7, 2008



#### WILLIAM AND RUBY GREEN

William McAllen Green (1897-1979) enjoyed two teaching careers that spanned nearly six decades. He was professor of classics at the University of California, Berkeley, from 1927 to 1962, and he was professor of ancient Christian literature at Pepperdine University from 1962 to 1974.

Dr. Green was born in Southern California and attended high school in Northern California. He was educated at the University of California, Berkeley (B.A., M.A., Ph.D.), where he was awarded his doctorate in 1930 for research on Augustine's City of God.

William Green and Ruby Lanier were married in Berkeley by T. B. Larimore on April 20, 1928. Theirs was the first wedding performed in the new church building at Prince and Fulton. Their home in Berkeley, affectionately known as the "Green Hotel," was always a haven for Christian students, ministers, and missionaries-on-leave. The Greens were blessed with three children and nine grandchildren.

One of Dr. Green's major contributions to the church was his support of Christian education. When Pepperdine launched its M.A. program in religion in 1944, Dr. Green assisted the young college by agreeing to teach on its summer school faculty. On other occasions, he was a visiting professor at Harding University in Arkansas, Abilene Christian University in Texas, and Florence Bible School in Italy. He also served for one year as the dean of Ibaraki Christian College in Japan.

In the midst of his busy career, Dr. Green found the time to fulfill the duties of an elder in the church. He served in this position of responsibility for nearly forty years.

# THE WILLIAM M. GREEN LECTURES

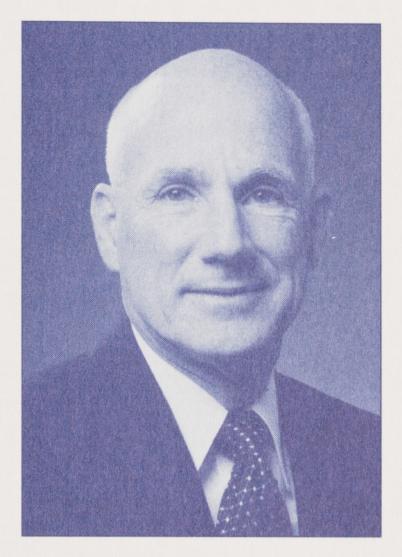
Pepperdine University firmly believes that one of the finest services it can offer students is to bring distinguished Christian scholars to the campus. The University was, therefore, pleased to announce the initiation of the William M. Green Lectures in the 1980-81 school year, a program which brings an outstanding scholar from the Church of Christ to the Malibu campus each year.

Modeled after such excellent lecture programs as the W. B. West Lectures at the Harding Graduate School, the Wilson-Morris Lectures at Lubbock Christian University, and the Staley Lectures at Abilene Christian University, the William M. Green Lectures provide a forum for the advancement of Christian scholarship.

Dr. William M. Green was well known as an authority on Augustine and was selected to edit and translate Augustine's City of God for the Loeb Classical Library. He also edited a number of Augustine's treatises for the Vienna Corpus of the Latin Fathers. Out of his immense background in Greek and Latin literature, he published a wealth of articles in various scholarly publications.

One of Dr. Green's finest contributions to Christian scholarship was his involvement with the Restoration Quarterly. He was one of the founding editors of this journal in 1957, and through the years it carried many of his articles and reviews on ancient church history.

It is most appropriate that this lecture program perpetuates the memory of William M. Green, a true Christian scholar. His impressive academic achievements were always tempered by his own personal humility. As E. W. McMillan has said, "For about forty years I knew Dr. William Green as a family man, a teacher, a preacher, and a scholar. No one made larger tracks than he made. And yet, the most overpowering heritage he left to others was his humility."



## **RICK MARRS**

Dr. Rick R. Marrs is Professor of Religion and Dean of Seaver College. Dr. Marrs has taught at Pepperdine since 1987; his specialties are Old Testament studies and ancient languages. Dr. Marrs' educational background includes a BA in Koine Greek (summa cum laude) and Master of Divinity from Abilene Christian University. He received his PhD in Ancient Near Eastern Studies from The Johns Hopkins University (1982). His academic interests include the Prophetic and Poetic literature of the Old Testament, as well as an interest in the various languages and literatures of the ancient Near East. In addition to his numerous scholarly publications and presentations in these areas, Marrs has published more popular materials for general audiences, including the books *Embracing God's Call* and *Face to Face with Jesus*.

Prior to becoming Dean of the College, Marrs served as Chair of the Religion Division (1996-2003) and then Associate Dean of the College (2003-08). From 2001-2006 he was the Blanche E. Seaver Professor of Religion. Before coming to Pepperdine, he taught at Stevenson University and the Ecumenical Institute of St. Mary's Seminary (1979-84), and the Institute for Christian Studies and the University of Texas (1984-87).

Dr. Marrs has served as a part time pulpit minister for the Baltimore Church of Christ and Ira (Texas) Church of Christ. He has also served as the interim minister for the Conejo Valley Church of Christ, where he has served as an elder for the past 16 years. Each year he leads a group of teenagers to San Felipe, Mexico to build houses for the needy.

He and his wife, Paula, have two children, Staci and Jeremy, and one grandchild, Wyatt Joseph.

## PROGRAM FOR TUESDAY EVENING

Smothers Theatre, 7:30 PM

Welcome	
	Preaching Minister
	University Church of Christ

Featured Lecture

## "Face to Face with Jesus"

**Rick Marrs** Dean of Seaver College Pepperdine University

#### COMING EVENT AT PEPPERDINE

The Fifth Annual Frank Pack Distinguished Christian Scholar Lecture Program

### John Stackhouse

Professor of Theology and Culture Regent College Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Topic: Can God be Trusted? Faith and the Challenge of Evil

January 13, 2009

#### The William M. Green Distinguished Christian Scholar Lectures Pepperdine University

**Dr. J. P. Sanders, October 21, 1980** *"The Challenge of Christian Ethics"* 

**Dr. Frank Pack, October 27, 1981** "One Hundred Years Since Westcott and Hort, 1881-1981"

**Dr. Carl Mitchell, October 21, 1982** *"The Place of Self in Biblical and Psychological Perspective"* 

**Dr. W. B. West, Jr., October 25, 1983** "The Need for Christian Scholarship"

Dr. John F. Wilson, October 23, 1984 "Digging Up Capernaum--Jesus' Own City"

**Dr. Howard White, November 12, 1985** *"The Spiritual Heritage of Pepperdine University"* 

Dr. M. Norvel Young, October 28, 1986 "The Living Word for the Five Billion"

**Dr. Thomas Olbricht, October 27, 1987** "Reflections on the Intellectual Heritage of Pepperdine in the Light of Allan Bloom's The Closing of the American Mind"

Dr. James E. Priest, October 25, 1988 "Resurrection: Faith or Fact?"

Dr. Jerry Rushford, November 6, 1989 "A Road Beaten Hard: The Enduring Legacy of Dr. William McAllen Green, 1897-1979"

**Dr. H. Douglas Dean, October 30, 1990** "Science and Religion: Antagonists or Partners?"

Dr. David Davenport, October 29, 1991 "An Uneasy Relationship: The Church in a Post-Modern World"

Dr. Richard Hughes, November 9, 1992 "Getting It Together: Academic Rigor and Cultural Pluralism in a Christian University" Dr. J. J. M. Roberts, October 25, 1993 "The Divine-Human Contract: Theologies of Covenant in the Old Testament"

Dr. Tony Ash, October 24-25, 1994 "C. S. Lewis: A Plaster Saint?"

Dr. Carl R. Holladay, October 23-24, 1995 "Rediscovering an Ancient Story"

Dr. Jack P. Lewis, October 28-29, 1996 "Windows on the Past"

Dr. Fred Gray, October 20-21, 1997 "Bus Ride to Justice"

Dr. Jim Baird, October 19-20, 1998 "I Believe. Help My Unbelief!"

**Dr. Darryl Tippens, October 25-26, 1999** "Developing a Spiritual Mind in a Secular Age"

**Dr. Harold Shank, October 23-24, 2000** "Up Close and Personal: Embracing the Poor"

Dr. Tim Woodroof, October 23-24, 2001 "Following Jesus: Explorations in the Interior Life"

Dr. Jeff Childers, October 21-22, 2002 "Picturing Your Walk with God: Images of the Spiritual Life"

Dr. Greg Sterling, October 21, 2003 "Can We Hear the Voice of Jesus?"

**Dr. David Fleer, October 12, 2004** "Living in the World Imagined in Scripture"

**Dr. Stephen Weathers, October 10, 2005** "The (Other) Good Confession: 'I Was Wrong'"

**Dr. John O. York, October 10, 2006** "Life on the Vine: Revisiting the Wine and the Wineskins"

Dr. Rubel Shelly, October 8, 2007 "Why Atheists Are So Angry"

Dr. Rick Marrs, October 7, 2008 "Face to Face with Jesus"



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