

The Graham McLennan 2016 Worldview Scholarship



Initially offered on 16 July, 2015
on the occasion of
**Dr Graham McLennan's
70th birthday**

Sponsored by the
Canberra Declaration
in partnership with
Unity College in Canberra



- The **purpose** of this scholarship is to honour **Dr Graham McLennan** as a visionary and pioneer of many Christian initiatives in Australia.
- The **scope** of this scholarship is a single enrolment each academic year in the '**Christian World View Introduction**' course at **Unity College in Canberra**. The accreditation application cost is not included in the scholarship. It is hoped the Graham McLennan World View Scholarship will be offered in subsequent years as funds from donors continue to become available.

It is fitting that this course has been selected as it was Graham who first broached the idea of such a course with Jamie Pryor, the current Principal of Unity College. This was in February 2013 at a traditional evening meal near the South Korea / North Korea border.

This scholarship is announced on Graham's 70th birthday on 16 July, 2015 to coincide with the 5th anniversary of the Canberra Declaration. It was 23 July 2010 that Graham, as its main visionary, first read out the Canberra Declaration on the lawns of Parliament House in Canberra.

Graham was born in Dubbo, New South Wales in 1945. He attended Hurlstone Agricultural High School and finished his Dental degree at Sydney University where he became a Christian.

Graham married Pam in 1969 and they now have 3 children and 3 grandchildren. Dr Graham McLennan is a practising

dental surgeon in Orange, New South Wales and tutors at the nearby University Dental School. From time to time he leads dental care teams to third world countries on short-term mission.



Graham is a passionate advocate for the outworking of the love of Christ in the community. He and Pam attend **Mountain Hope Church** in Orange and have close ties with the **Orange House of Prayer**. He was founding Chairman of **Rhema FM 103.5** in Orange and helped set up other Christian radio stations in Australia and overseas. Graham is a founding director of **United Christian Broadcaster's Vision FM** and continues today on its board. Graham was also the founding Chairman of the **Orange Christian School** and also helped to establish several other Christian schools in the 1980s. He has served on many other national and international Christian boards and charities over the years.

Graham was a **Captain in the Australian Army** and received the Defence Medal and the National Serviceman's Medal for service during the Vietnam conflict. In 2006 he received the **Presidential Medal** from the President of Vanuatu for services to the nation.

In 1974 Graham and Pam studied with **Francis Schaeffer** in L'Abri, Switzerland. This is especially significant to this scholarship as one of Francis Schaeffer's most significant contributions was bringing the concept of Christian worldview out of academic circles to popular Christian thought. Since that time Graham has continued as a strong proponent of Christian worldview thinking. In 2005 Graham was part of the inaugural Summit Ministries Worldview Conference conducted in Toowoomba, Queensland.

In 1986 Graham and Pam founded **Australian Christian History Research** and are still its directors. The **Christian History Research** website contains a large collection of information and resources about Australia's Christian heritage. Of the thousands of visitors to the website each week, many are school children who are in the process of formulating a Christian worldview. To that end Graham has written many books and articles.

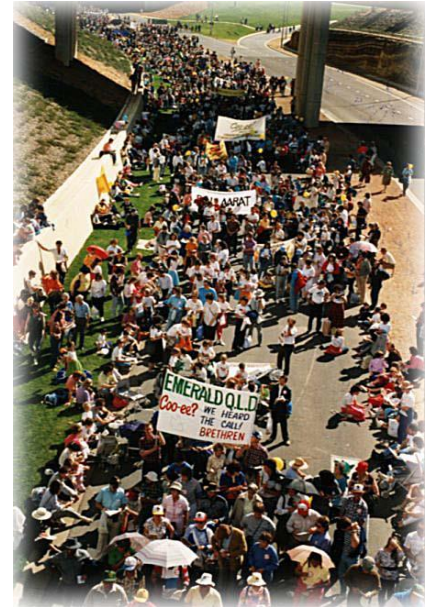
In 2012 Graham initiated the **National Christian Heritage Sunday** celebrations. These take place on the first Sunday in February to commemorate the first preaching of the Gospel on Australian soil. When the First Fleet anchored at Sydney Cove, the Reverend Richard Johnson preached on the first Sunday in February – the 3rd of February 1788.

In March 1985 Graham and Pam founded the **National Alliance of Christian Leaders** and Graham has continued as its Chairman. This national body was formed to provide Christians with leadership training and skills to serve the Christian community and the nation at every level. Like salt, NACL was to act as a preservative for Christian values and ideals in national life and culture. It now networks with many Christian ministries.

A defining experience for Graham was his serving on the executive of the **National Gathering** during Australia's Bicentenary year. At this landmark historic event, on the 7th and 8th of May 1988, an estimated 50,000 Christians from all across Australia opened New Parliament House in prayer. This was largely in response to the leaked information that there would be no prayer at the official opening on the 9th of May.

The **National Gathering** was a wonderful fulfilment of a dream that Graham had since he visited the USA in 1980. While in Washington DC on a five month assignment with Youth With a Mission he helped organise and participated in a **Washington for Jesus Rally**. At this unprecedented historic gathering, based on 2 Chronicles 7:14, over a quarter of a million Christians gathered in the National Mall between the Capitol and the Washington Monument.

Moved by this experience he returned to Australia with a dream for Australia to have its own **National Day of Prayer**. In the years that followed he actively shared his dream with many ministry leaders across Australia. In the sovereignty of God his dream converged with the dreams of others. In 1988 the **National Gathering** took place in the Federation Mall between Old and New Parliament House. It is still by far Australia's largest prayer gathering. When Graham took to the platform on the Sunday morning of the **National Gathering**, he sensed that *"God was birthing a New Day in this nation of Australia."*



The first **National Prayer Breakfast** to be held in New Parliament House took place in the Great Hall in October 1988. To mark this occasion, the above photo of the National Gathering was presented to Federal Members and Senators by Dr Graham McLennan on behalf of the executive of the National Gathering.

Graham has been involved in politics helping elect several Christian parliamentarians and standing for the Senate himself in 1984 and 1998. He is now a team member of the **Australian Christian Values Institute** and encourages Christians in all parties to make a stand for truth. He was one of the founding board members of what is now the **Australian Christian Lobby**. In 2011 Graham became a founding member of the organising team of the **National Day of Prayer and Fasting**. To date there have been five National Days of Prayer and Fasting in the Great Hall of Parliament House in Canberra and across Australia on the basis of 2 Chronicles 7:14.

The **Canberra Declaration** is grateful for the wonderful cooperation of **Unity College** in this first year offer of **The Graham McLennan 2016 Worldview Scholarship**.

- Our prayer is that God will use this scholarship to inspire and equip **upcoming generations** to engage Australian culture and society.
- Our hope is to encourage **young men and women** to understand the times in which we live and be agents of transformation for Christ.

**"We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.
We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding,
so that we may know Him who is true."
(1 John 5:19,20)**