Do you or those in your church struggle with seeing how the Old Testament applies to life today? Commonly Christians find themselves frustrated in the effort to see how the Old Testament connects to the New Testament, to understand how it points to Christ, and even to know what it means for everyday living. What does salvation by grace look like in the Old Testament? How do we apply the Old Testament as Christians today? How do the Old and New Testaments fit together? How does the Old Testament point to Christ? These questions and more will be addressed at the Ryan Center’s third bi-annual conference “One Bible, One Gospel: Exploring the Unity of Scripture.”

We are blessed to have an amazing group of Bible teachers with us this year. It will be an excellent opportunity for training pastors, Sunday school teachers, Bible study leaders and anyone who wants to read the Bible well. Our desire is to provide tools that might enhance the reading and studying of the Bible in the churches that we might know more of its life-giving power and see a renewal among us.
The conference will feature breakout sessions focusing on specific issues involved in interpreting and applying the Bible. We will have John Fallahee, a representative from Logos Bible Software with us to discuss software (Logos and others) for Bible Study. Other sample topics include: “The OT in Hebrews,” “Biblical Preaching,” “Engaging Women in Effective Bible Study,” “Bible Interpretation and Ethical Decisions,” “Christ and the OT,” “Bible Material for Children,” “Marriage: The First to Discuss the OT,” “Interpreting the Psalms,” “Paul’s Use of the OT,” “Applying Leviticus Today,” “Interpreting the General Epistles,” and more.

These breakout sessions will be led by an outstanding group of biblical scholars who among them have written commentaries, books and study helps, as well as assisting in the production of several translations including NIV, NLT, ESV, NKJV and HCSB. This group will include:

- Todd Brady, Union University
- Mark Duls, Union University
- Jon Patterson, Union University
- Hal Poe, Union University
- George Guthrie, Union University
- Ray Van Neste, Union University
- Paul Jackson, Union University
- Mary Jane Jones, Explorers’ Bible Study
- Marni McKenzie, Explorers’ Bible Study
- Kelvin Moore, Union University
- Brad Green, Union University
- David Gushee, Union University
- Gary Smith, Union University

The conference will featureDr. Grant Mathews as a special guest. Dr. Mathews will also join us to lead a breakout session. Dr. Mathews was one of the translators of the Holman Christian Standard Bible, the English Standard Version, and the New Living Translation. He has written the much appreciated two volume commentary on Genesis in the NAC series and will soon be publishing a commentary on Leviticus. He co-authored Foundations for Biblical Interpretation together with Union University president David S. Dockery and Robert B. Sloan.

Dr. Ken Mathews
Professor of Divinity at Beeson Divinity School

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