

**Spanish Bible commentary receives book award;
LAM missionary Merv Breneman honored**

By Kenneth D. MacHarg

LAM News Service

San Jose, Costa Rica (LAMNS)—Merv Breneman, a missionary with the Miami-based Latin America Mission, has been presented with a Gold Seal copy of the Psalms volume of the Hispanic World Biblical Commentary. The presentation was made in recognition of his participation in writing the commentary that was awarded the 1999 Gold Medallion Book Award by the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association.

Breneman wrote the expository portion of the Spanish-language commentary on Psalms that was published by the Baptist Spanish Publishing House.

“This series of commentaries is unique in that it seeks to maintain a high academic level but endeavors to be a practical help to pastors and church leaders,” Breneman said. “The greatest joy was digging in to the content of the Psalms, a treasure for worship and theology,” he commented. “God can use the commentary to bless many people.”

Breneman is a graduate of the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, and Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois. He earned a doctorate degree at Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts. He has taught at the Latin American Biblical Seminary in Costa Rica, The Baptist International Theological Seminary in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and is currently professor of Old Testament at ESEPA Seminary in San Jose, Costa Rica. He was an adjunct faculty member of Columbia Biblical Seminary in Columbia, South Carolina in 1997. He was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

Gold Medallion Book Awards, established in 1978, recognize the absolute highest quality in Christian books. Based on excellence in content, literary quality, design, and significance of contribution, the Gold Medallion Book Awards are among the most prestigious in the industry.

The award winners, selected from a field of entries submitted by publishers, are scrupulously studied by a panel of distinguished judges consisting primarily of Christian retailers.

The commentary series, titled “Comentario Biblico Mundo Hispano”, received the Spanish language award for this year. The authors of this volume in addition to Professor Breneman were, Dr. Edward G. Nelson, former Director of the Baptist Spanish Publishing House Music and Worship Department, who wrote on music and worship in the Bible and Rev. Ricardo Souto Copeiro, Pastor of Primera Iglesia Bautista of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain who supplied the homiletical helps. The editors responsible for this volume were: Daniel Carro, Joe T. Poe, Ruben O. Zorzoli, with the help of Jorge E. Diaz, Antonio Estrada, James Giles, Exequiel San Martin, and Dionisio Ortiz.

The Baptist Spanish Publishing House, located in El Paso, Texas, publishes Sunday School curriculum, music, Bibles, books and other materials in Spanish. It is part of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Latin America Mission currently has approximately 240 missionaries in 15 countries and is seeking to place 300 new missionaries in Latin America in the next three years. The U.S. headquarters can be reached at Latin America Mission, Box 52-7900, Miami Springs, FL 33152, by e-mail at info@lam.org, or by calling 1-800-275-8410. The mission's web site may be found at <http://www.lam.org>. LAM's Canadian office is at 3075 Ridgeway Drive, Unit 14, Mississauga, ON L5L 5M6.

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