

## Company Profile

Age of Grace® is a subsidiary of Fair Havens Publications, a limited liability company in Texas. The name comes from Acts 27:8. Fair Havens is a port city on the southern coast of the island of Crete in the Mediterranean Sea. When the Apostle Paul was under arrest and being transported to Rome to stand trial before Caesar, the merchant ship on which he was sailing came to Fair Havens. Winter was approaching and the season for sailing was nearly over. Paul advised them to remain in Fair Havens, but the captain, the pilot, and the ship's owner decided to sail further down the coast to a better harbor for riding out winter storms. Shortly after they set sail, a hurricane force wind blew them out to sea. After several days of struggle and terror, the crew lost hope of ever being rescued. Then Paul told them that an angel from God had appeared to him and revealed that the ship would wreck, but the lives of the crew and passengers would be spared.

There is a spiritual lesson to be learned from Paul's experience. The angel also revealed to Paul that his life would be preserved until he fulfilled his purpose in God's plan. Men often ignore the counsel of godly men like Paul, and they end up being blown about by the storms of life. On the other hand, faithful servants of God like Paul end up in storms through no fault of their own. Yet, there is hope in God's grace. Paul's word to men in the midst of a storm was, "Keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me." (Acts 27:25 NIV) God has revealed much in His Word about His plans for the future. He did not reveal them to satisfy our curiosity, but to give us hope when for all outward appearances we feel certain that we are doomed to destruction. No matter what happens, God is still in control. He has a plan for those who have faith in His Son, Jesus Christ. He will guide and preserve them through even the stormiest circumstances until that plan is accomplished. In the meantime, we can spare ourselves needless pain and loss by heeding godly counsel and being obedient to the Word of God, the Bible.

In the book of Acts, Fair Havens was a sanctuary, a place where a man of God gave wise counsel. The purpose of Fair Havens Publications is to point people to a place of safety in stormy times where they can receive wise counsel. That place is the Word of God and faith in Christ. Fair Havens Publications is dedicated to producing quality books, booklets, teaching literature, videos, audiotapes, and electronic documents that inform and inspire people to faith and courage. Its primary focus at this time is in the areas of Bible prophecy, Christian apologetics and evangelism. It is a for-profit company, organized by Christians, dedicated to biblical moral and ethical standards, and committed to serving and honoring Jesus Christ in all of its operations. Fair Havens does not solicit or accept donations. Its continued operation depends on its ability to market useful materials.

The founder and President of Fair Havens Publications is J. Ray Smith. He is a graduate of Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama (Bachelor of Arts), New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (Master of Theology), and Dallas Theological Seminary (Sacred Theology Master). For over 20 years, he served as pastor of churches in Alabama and Texas. In addition, he was an instructor and Chairman of the Pastoral Studies Department at Dallas Bible College. Before starting Fair Havens, he helped to establish and operate a Christian bookstore in the Dallas area.