

# The **Berean Searchlight**

Studying God's Word, Rightly Divided

May 2009



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The **Purpose** of the *Berean Bible Society* is to help you understand and enjoy the Bible. The **Mission** of BBS is to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ by proclaiming the whole counsel of God according to the revelation of the Mystery. Our **Goals** are to *evangelize* the lost, to *educate* the saved in “rightly dividing the Word of truth” (II Tim. 2:15), to *energize* their Christian lives, and to *encourage* the local church.

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*Editor:* Ricky L. Kurth

*Composition and Layout:* Kevin J. Sadler

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Questions, comments, orders? You can reach us at:

*Berean Bible Society*  
 N112 W17761 Mequon Road  
 PO Box 756  
 Germantown, WI 53022

Main Office: (262) 255-4750  
 Fax Number: (262) 255-4195

Internet: [www.bereanbiblesociety.org](http://www.bereanbiblesociety.org)

**NEW** E-mail: [berean@bereanbiblesociety.org](mailto:berean@bereanbiblesociety.org)

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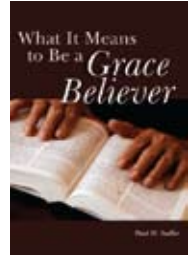
## *From the President's Desk*

Dearly Beloved,

Like the Apostle Paul, we are more than willing to “spend and be spent” to make known the exceeding riches of His grace. Years ago I was invited to hold a mini Bible Conference in the twin cities of Minneapolis/St. Paul. As I was setting up to bring a series on *Paul's Apostleship and Message*, the brethren who had graciously arranged the meetings asked if they could video record the sessions. Of course, it was fine with me, although I warned them that the cameraman would have to be on his toes because I tend to move around quite a bit when I'm speaking.

Well, as it turned out, the videos were marginal at best due to poor lighting in the room and no back lighting. And sure enough I caught the cameraman off guard a few times when he lost me in the frame. Amazingly, these video messages, in spite of their lackluster appearance, were so well received that we had difficulty keeping up with the duplication process. The brethren were more interested in the content of the messages than the quality of the taping. Those were the good old days, as they say!

A short time ago we set up a small recording studio here at BBS to begin producing sets of DVDs on the gospel of the grace of God. Good news! I have completed the first series entitled, *What It Means to Be a Grace Believer!* These messages were recorded in Pastor Stam's library, on high-level cameras, so the picture is razor sharp and we are happy to report that the audio is crystal clear.



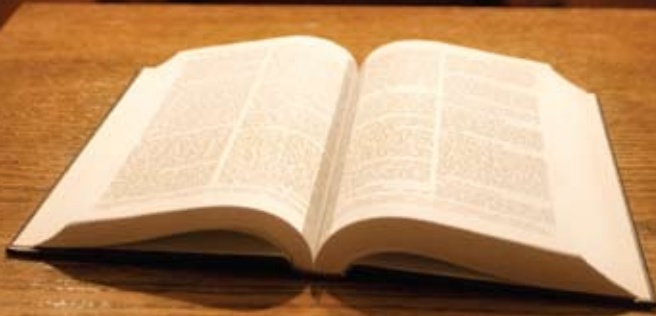
This particular series will take you through the Grace Message step by step, in a simple format which includes visual aids. We will be traveling down some “old paths” that are well known and loved by all Grace believers. With the Lord's help, we hope to challenge the viewer to see the importance of the preaching of Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the Mystery.

We plan to release this new DVD series on June 1st. The set includes seven messages on two DVDs in an attractive album, for \$15.00, plus postage and handling (see page 25) In addition to renewing your love for Paul's gospel, this is a great way to introduce someone new to the Grace Message. It is our sincere prayer that God will use these messages to His honor and glory in Christ Jesus.

Amazed at His grace,

Paul M. Sadler, President

# 41st Annual Berean Bible Fellowship Conference



**Theme:** *The Riches of God's Grace* (Ephesians 1-3)

**Location:** *Cedar Lake Bible Conference Center*  
Cedar Lake, Indiana

**Dates:** June 20-25, 2009

**Bible Hour Teacher:** Pastor Kevin Sadler

***Guest Speakers from around the country will be present to proclaim the riches of God's grace!***

**Music Directors:** Mr. & Mrs. Jim Wade

**At the Piano:** Mrs. Virginia Shriver

**Accommodations:** BBF recommends that reservations be made early, although accommodations are often available for latecomers. For reservations, write or phone: *Cedar Lake Conference Center*, Reservations Manager, PO Box 665, Cedar Lake, IN 46303, or phone: 219-374-5941.



Facilities for travel trailers, motor homes, and tent camping include electric/water hook-ups, dump station, showers, etc.

For additional information or to receive a brochure, please contact Pastor Dick Ware at 870-941-6110 or [rnrware@aol.com](mailto:rnrware@aol.com). You can also call BBS at 262-255-4750.



# God's Warnings

By Paul M. Sadler

Cont'd

A railroad crossing can be a dangerous place, especially when a motorist thinks he can disregard the *warning* signals with impunity. A few years ago a 76-year old woman from southern California thought she could beat an oncoming commuter train by crossing the tracks, with tragic results. Witnesses said she ignored the flashing red lights and swerved around the gates that had just descended into their horizontal position. The train hit the side of the woman's car at a high rate of speed killing her instantly.

The distance and speed of a train approaching an intersection are extremely difficult to judge, simply because the engine of the train and the car crossing the tracks are perpendicular to one another. The train is actually closer than it appears. Depending upon the speed of the train you have approximately 12 seconds from the time the warning lights begin to flash and the train enters the intersection.

I've spoken to a number of engineers over the years who have shared with me that people just don't understand the danger they place themselves and their families in when they try to beat a train—"People seem to think we can stop on a dime, which is certainly not the case." For example, an eight car commuter train traveling 79 mph takes approximately 5,280 feet or 1 mile to stop. A 150 car freight train traveling 30 mph takes 3,500 feet or 2/3 of a mile to stop.

Whether it's an unclear warning, as we saw in our last lesson, or failing to heed the warning lights at a railroad crossing, the results can be catastrophic. The same is true regarding the spiritual things of God. If the watchman of the Lord's people fails to adequately warn them of danger, will the Lord hold him blameless? On the other hand, if the Lord's people fail to heed the warnings of God, when warned, do not they bear the greater responsibility at

the *Bema Seat*? Paul took his role as a watchman very seriously. He was faithful to *warn* the believers at Corinth, Ephesus, Colosse, and Thessalonica not to take the warnings of God lightly (I Cor. 10:1-12; Acts 20:26-32; Col. 1:28; I Thes. 5:14).

### LEARNING FROM THE MISTAKES OF OTHERS

**“Now all these things happened unto them for examples; and they are written for our admonition [warning], upon whom the ends of the world are come.”**

—I Corinthians 10:11

My grandfather was a wonderful man who always had a few words of wisdom to share with this young greenhorn grandson. He told me one time that if I had enough common sense to learn from the mistakes of others I would spare myself a lot of pain and heartache in life. Essentially this is what the apostle was telling the Corinthians, whom he hoped would have enough spiritual common sense to yield themselves to the instruction of the Holy Spirit.

The “lustful things” the Holy Spirit selected from Israel’s past that the members of the Body of Christ should avoid are: idolatry, fornication, ingratitude, and murmuring. Just as Israel was identified with the ministry of Moses in the wilderness, we Gentiles are identified with the apostleship of Paul, who is God’s spokesman today. To ignore his apostleship and instructions to the Church is to reject the counsel of God against ourselves, which has dire consequences.

Paul had an enviable grasp of the prophetic Scriptures that he

effectively uses here to draw a parallel between the conduct of Israel and the Body of Christ.

### Idolatry

**“Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play” (I Cor. 10:7).**

This particular passage has never ceased to amaze me. It shows the rebellious nature of the human heart. Come back with me for a moment to the shores of the Red Sea. The Lord’s people saw with their own eyes how God *miraculously* parted the waters of the Red Sea, as the walls of water stood as a heap on the right and on the left. Over one million Israelites crossed through the midst of the sea on dry ground. When they arrived safely on the other side they watched in absolute amazement as the waters came crashing over the Egyptians, who were in hot pursuit, sending them to a watery grave.

These same Israelites ate of the manna *supernaturally* provided by God in the wilderness, and witnessed and drank of the water that flowed like a river in the desert when Moses struck the rock. Now encamped at the base of Mt. Sinai, when Moses failed to return from the mount, they demanded that Aaron make them a molten calf—an **idol**. Interestingly, the Scriptures never refer to the calf as a golden calf, even though it was crafted out of this precious metal. Gold in the Scriptures represents deity, consequently the Spirit of God simply refers to the idol as a “molten calf” because it was made

with man's hands. This shows the degree of the world's influence on the Lord's people, seeing that the Egyptians believed the calf represented strength and vitality. "These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt" (Ex. 32:4). Essentially they violated the second commandment, which states:

**"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath...Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them" (Ex. 20:4,5).**

This commandment *strictly prohibited* making a graven image of God, who is a Spirit that no man has ever seen (John 1:18; 4:24). Nor were they permitted to make a graven image or likeness of anything in heaven or earth or under the earth. They were forbidden to fall down and worship any type of idol or image.

God was not restricting the use of images, but the worship of them. Man is created in the image of God, but he is not to be worshipped (Gen. 1:26,27). As we know, God instructed Moses to place the image of the Cherubims on the curtains of the tabernacle. Their images were also placed on both sides of the mercy seat in the presence of God (Ex. 36:8; 37:6-9). The images of these angelic beings, however, were not to be worshipped—only the true and living God is to be worshipped.

When the Israelites rose up to eat and drink and play it is to be understood that they did so in worship of the molten calf that supposedly brought them out of Egypt in a mighty demonstration

of strength. They rebelliously gave honor and devotion to an idol, which rightfully belonged to God alone. In so doing, the desire of their heart took precedence over the will of God that had been plainly made known to them. As a result of their disobedience three thousand souls perished at the edge of the sword (Ex. 32:28).

Turning to the Body of Christ, Paul warns the Corinthians that they were not to dabble in idolatry, fearing they would provoke the Lord to jealousy. Most of them were saved out of idol worship, but apparently there were some among them who drifted back to this insidious practice. Old habits die hard! Paul reminds them that those who offer sacrifices to idols are sacrificing to devils (I Cor. 10:20). The warning to the Corinthians here is clear, God wanted their full devotion. They were to offer themselves as a living sacrifice to God (Rom. 12:1).



While idol worship among the Gentiles is still practiced in distant regions of the world,<sup>1</sup> it is relatively unknown in civilized countries such as America—or is it? Idol worship is more than merely falling before an image, it is the *object* of one's affection. It has to do with what consumes

your time and attention, whether it be wealth, materialism, esteem, sensuality, love of leisure, etc. According to the Scriptures, *covetousness* is idolatry (Col. 3:5). Man's devotion is either to God or what he thinks gives meaning to life.

The following account about the journeys of Lewis and Clark reveals what was really important to them:

As the Lewis and Clark expedition paddled up the Missouri, their main boat got turned sideways in a squall and began to take on water. So much that articles began to float off and the boat was in danger of sinking. Lewis was on the bank and watched in agony. Suddenly he resolved to swim toward the boat. Throwing down his rifle and coat, he was ready to dive in. Then he paused: the boat was 300 yards away. He would have to overcome high waves, icy water and a strong current. He would probably die. He nearly forfeited his life for the sake of plant and soil samples, and his diaries. Why? He said, "Had the boat been lost, I should have valued my life but little." Lewis' discoveries were his idol.

The story teaches us to examine ourselves. You have an idol if you think, "I must have this or I will die. Life is meaningless if I do not have it. I can never be happy unless I have it. I will do anything to get it...." Lewis was willing to risk his life. What are you willing to risk for your idols?<sup>2</sup>

The warning is unmistakable, we are not to allow the idols of this world's system to draw our attention away from our relationship with the Lord. We are to set

our affection solely on Christ who is the only one that can bring true meaning to our life. God wants our undivided attention in prayer and service that it might be to the praise of *His* glory.

### Fornication

**"Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand" (I Cor. 10:8).**

In prophecy, Israel was to be a peculiar people unto the Lord. Peculiar, not in the sense of odd, but *special*. God took her from among the nations and gave her a position of preeminence over the nations. He made her distinct from the other nations of the world by giving her strict dietary laws. She also dressed differently, which included the wearing of phylacteries.

God demanded *separation!* Therefore, she was not permitted to intermarry with the Gentile nations around her. You see, God foreknew that if she did intermarry it would only be a matter of time before Israel began to worship the false gods of the heathen. And this is exactly what took place at Moab.

**"And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab. And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods. And Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel" (Num. 25:1-3).**

While we tend to think of *fornication* in terms of premarital relations, it is far more encompassing.



It covers every type of sexual perversion known to man, which in this case also included committing whoredom with the heathen. Those who committed such sins in time past experienced the wrath of God firsthand. By raining down judgment on these perversions, God was teaching His people the importance of *fidelity* and the need to keep themselves *pure*. Essentially, He was protecting them from sexually transmitted diseases that ran rampant among the heathen.

Paul states that 23,000 died in the plague that ensued, while Moses says 24,000 perished. The imagined discrepancy in the body count is easily cleared up if we remember that Paul is stating how many perished in “one day” whereas Moses is giving the total number of souls who died.



Paul was painfully aware of the past history of His countrymen and the last thing he wanted to see was the Corinthians follow in their footsteps, which He knew would be displeasing to God. As we know, one of their number was already engaging in this type of ungodly behavior, having involved himself in an *incestuous* relationship with his father’s wife (I Cor.

5:1-3). It was bad enough the man was committing fornication, but Paul was dumbfounded that the church condoned his sinful behavior. The church’s failure to discipline this brother in Christ actually encouraged this type of conduct, especially among the younger, impressionable members of the assembly who might conclude that this was acceptable behavior.

The world today has no inhibitions whatsoever when it comes to fornication. It has thrown caution to the wind and anything goes, as the staggering figures at the *Centers for Disease Control* (CDC) reflect. Couples often live together for years outside of marriage, with little or no shame. This sort of immorality should never be true of the believer in Christ under any circumstances, “that the Word of God be not blasphemed” (Titus 2:5).

**“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?” (II Cor. 6:14).**

Believers should not be unequally yoked in marriage with the unsaved. God is as adamant about *separation* today as He was in the Old Testament. Once again, He only wants what’s best for those who have placed their faith in Him. The believer is *light* in the Lord, but the unbeliever is living in *darkness*.<sup>3</sup> If the two are united together, it is only a matter of time before there will be *conflict*. What communion can there possibly be between the believer who is the temple of the Holy Spirit and the unsaved who lives in a temple of

doom? One desires to worship the Lord, while the other one is under the influence of Satan. This type of marriage relationship is a recipe for disaster!

Furthermore I personally believe that our young people who are in the Lord should never even date the unsaved. Probably some are reading this thinking that Pastor Sadler is sure narrow-minded. Actually, I am simply being consistent with what is being taught here by the Spirit. If the believer is not to be unequally yoked in marriage, how does this differ in a dating relationship? “What fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?” applies to both. Why begin a dating relationship that cannot consummate in marriage? This can only end in one of two ways: you are either left with two broken hearts or an unequally yoked marriage, of which the latter is usually the case.

The warning Paul would have the Corinthians, and us, lay hold of here is this: “For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication” (I Thes. 4:3).

### **Ingratitude**

**“Neither let us tempt [test] Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents” (I Cor. 10:9).**

The Lord is gracious and slow to anger, but there is a limitation to His longsuffering. During the wilderness wanderings Israel *tested* the patience of God. He had set a table in the wilderness for them upon which He graciously provided manna from heaven to sustain them. Instead of being grateful for this blessing of God

they resented it. They *lusted* after the delicacies of Egypt—onions, leeks, and garlic. They chided Moses, saying:

**“Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread. And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died” (Num. 21:5,6).**

“...idol worship...is relatively unknown in civilized countries such as America—or is it?”

God despises ingratitude; consequently, He sent fiery serpents among them. God has interesting ways of getting our undivided attention; this is why it's always best to be in the center of His will. He sent fiery serpents throughout the camp of Israel and thousands perished after being bitten by these venomous reptiles. The affliction was so great that the people begged Moses for deliverance, crying, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee.”

The Lord instructed Moses to make a brass serpent and place it on a pole. Those who had been bitten were to *look* on the serpent and in doing so, they lived. Since brass speaks of judgment, when the people looked on the serpent it represented “sin judged,” the imagery finding its fulfillment at

Calvary, where all are to *look* unto Jesus, “the author and finisher of our faith.”

The following account illustrates what should *never* be said of a believer in Christ:

Many years ago, a ship was wrecked in a storm on Lake Michigan at Evanston, Illinois. Students from *Northwestern University* formed themselves into rescue teams. One student, Edward Spencer, saved seventeen people from the sinking ship. When he was carried exhausted to his room, he asked, “Did I do my best? Do you think I did my best?”

Years later, [Evangelist] R. A. Torrey was talking about the incident at a meeting in Los Angeles, and a man in the audience called out that Edward Spencer was present. Dr. Torrey invited Mr. Spencer to the platform. An old man with white hair slowly climbed the steps as the applause rang. Dr. Torrey asked him if anything in particular stood out in his memory. “Only this sir,” he replied, “of the seventeen people I saved, not one of them thanked me.”<sup>4</sup>

As members of the Body of Christ we must never take the blessings of God for granted, as Israel of old did. But have we? Oftentimes we get so caught up with life that we forget to thank the Lord for all His blessings. We should be truly, sincerely grateful for what He has done for us in Christ. When was the last time you got down on your knees and thanked God for your salvation? How long has it been since you offered a prayer of thanksgiving that you are blessed with all spiritual blessings in the heavenlies? When was the last time you went

before the throne of Grace to offer thanks for the forgiveness of all of your sins; past, present and future?

Perhaps we all need to be more mindful of these things. It has been said that thankfulness is the memory of the heart. Have we remembered God? Paul’s warning here echoes down the halls of time; Israel was ungrateful, may this never be said of us.

### **Murmuring**

**“Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer” (I Cor. 10:10).**

There were many such occasions that Israel was guilty of the sin of murmuring or complaining. With the exception of Joshua and Caleb, the end result was that one entire generation died in the wilderness, never to see the Promised Land (Num. 14:2,29 cf. 26:65). There is one time, however, that stands out more than any other of how serious a sin this really was during those years of wanderings. It was the day Korah, Dathan, and Abiram *murmured* against Moses, calling into question his calling as the Deliverer of Israel.

**“And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, Ye take too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the LORD?” (Num. 16:3).**

Essentially the *complaint* was this: Moses, who do you think you are? We have 250 princes here who are more than capable to

lead us. Why then have you taken it upon yourself to place yourself over us? You know, they were probably right. These princes were far more eloquent than Moses would ever be because he had a speech impediment. And they were undoubtedly just as capable, perhaps even more so, to lead the children of Israel. But there was one *major* problem: God had not called them to be the Deliverer, He called Moses. Remember, Moses was God's spokesman; to call this into question was to speak against God.


In order to resolve the matter, Moses proposed, if these men die a common death of men such as a heart attack or stroke then you will know the Lord has not sent me. But if something new happens, like the earth opening up to swallow them, you will know they have provoked the Lord (Num. 16:25-30). All I can say is, **STAND BACK!** Moses no sooner spoke the words and the earth opened up and Korah, Dathan and Abiram went down alive into the pit! Simultaneously fire came out of heaven and consumed the 250 princes who offered incense! Case closed! Moses was the Deliverer/Lawgiver of Israel.

Do you ever complain? I didn't think so, but there are some believers who really have a problem with this particular sin. In time past, it was "Moses, Moses, Moses, if I hear that name one more time I am going to perish," and they oftentimes did, as we have seen. Today, we often hear "Paul, Paul, Paul, all you people talk about is Paul." Those who speak disparagingly about Paul

can be thankful we are living in the administration of grace. Like Paul, we are simply magnifying his God-given office.

Let's be clear, we are not exalting Paul, he was merely a man of like passion as we. Paul was a very humble man who had this to say about himself: "Unto me, **who am less than the least of all saints**, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ." We are to understand that he is God's *spokesman* through whom we have received the commands of Christ for the Church, which is His Body (I Cor. 14:37). To reject, ignore or to take lightly Paul's apostleship and message is to reject the revelation of God!

The warning here is plain and simple—be it far from us to murmur against God! We are not to make the same mistake Israel made when she called into question God's sovereignty. Today *He* has chosen Paul to make known the riches of His grace. Case closed! Paul is the Apostle of Grace! May God give a special measure of grace to those who have yet to see this wonderful truth.

With this we close, "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (I Cor. 10:12). 

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## Endnotes

1. ©iStockphoto.com/Steven Allan.
2. As told by Dr. Dan Doriani in a sermon entitled: *No Idols!*
3. ©iStockphoto.com/Felix Moeckel.
4. *1500 Illustrations for Biblical Preaching* by Michael P. Green, Baker Books, Grand Rapids, MI, pgs. 203,204.

# Water Baptism

Is It Included in God's  
Program for This Age?

By Cornelius R. Stam



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**W**e are well aware that some of our Christian brethren do not agree with the teachings set forth in this article. We trust they will believe us when we say that we respect any genuine convictions they may hold. Our disagreement as to the question of water baptism should not hinder our fellowship together, for earnest believers have differed on this doctrine for many centuries.

We trust that all who read this article will do so in the spirit of the noble Bereans who “received the Word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”

Some have asked whether it befits a few people of this generation to say that the whole Church has been wrong about water baptism down through the years. In answer let us say first that it is questionable whether **the whole Church** has practiced water baptism. It is true that **the Church as a whole** has practiced it, but that is not strange. Look at the

history of the children of Israel and see how they erred again and again in regard to some very important matters. Are God's people today any less human? Is it not just as possible for the Church to err? “Are we better than they? No, in no wise!”

But there is a second fact that must not be forgotten. While the Church as a whole has practiced water baptism for long centuries, it has not at all been in agreement as to the reasons for practicing it, nor as to the mode of applying it. So wide have been the disagreements as to the doctrine and practice of this ritual that though some may consider us heretics, we are really no farther away from them all, than they are from each other.

If, for example, our Baptist brethren are Scripturally correct as to water baptism, then our Presbyterian brethren are wrong, and in God's sight have never been baptized at all. If the Presbyterians are right the Baptists

are wrong, and from a Scriptural point of view, do not really teach and practice water baptism.<sup>1</sup>



It is our earnest prayer that before long this question which has caused so much confusion among believers everywhere, may be settled by the Word of God, at least for true, fundamental, evangelical believers. It would be a great step toward breaking down the walls of denominationalism which have so long divided the Church of Christ.

There has already been a noticeable trend toward greater unity among true believers from all denominations, but that trend will certainly be halted if so many continue to hold to their unscriptural theories about water baptism.

To the few who are angry with us for stating our convictions, let us say that we cannot, even for them, keep silence. It would be folly to cast aside the eternal Word of God for a few earthly friendships. We wish they would remain our friends, but if they see fit to substitute water baptism for salvation through the Cross as a basis of Christian fellowship, we can only pray that God will open

their eyes and soften their hearts. We cannot change our stand for them, for "If I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ."

We do not object to those who honestly differ with us and seek to answer us by the Word of God, but we must and do object to all suppression, and stand for our right and responsibility to preach what we believe to be the truth.

This article, of course, only deals with the subject in a very general way, but may our heavenly Father use it to drive many of His children to more diligent and prayerful study of His holy Word.

### A STATEMENT OF THE ARGUMENT

The question we seek to answer in this article is **not** whether water baptism is **found** in the Scripture. We all agree it is. It cannot be denied that even the Lord Jesus commanded His disciples to baptize. We do not question that.

Our question is simply this: **Is water baptism in God's program for this age?** Is it His will that we should practice it **now?** Is it an ordinance of the Body of Christ or was it connected with the proclamation of the Kingdom of Messiah in the Gospels and the Acts? **This is the question which those who teach water baptism have failed to answer satisfactorily.**

We know that John the Baptist's great message was "Repent ye: for **the kingdom of heaven** is at hand" (Matt. 3:2). Now, John the Baptist, the herald of Messiah's kingdom, definitely connected

water baptism with the Messiahship of our Lord when he said, "And I knew Him not: but that He should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water" (John 1:31). Next, the Lord Himself, and His twelve apostles went about preaching the same message about the kingdom. See Matthew 9:35, 10:7. When after His resurrection He commissioned the eleven remaining apostles He did not tell them to change their message. Even when they asked Him, "Lord, wilt Thou **at this time** restore again the kingdom to Israel?" He did not tell them His kingdom reign would be delayed for many centuries. He only told them **it was not for them to know when** the kingdom would be restored (Acts 1:7,8), and He bade them go as His witnesses without in any way hinting that the kingdom was not yet to be.

So, during the period covered by the Book of Acts God still pleads with the nation Israel to repent of her sins and especially of that great national sin, the crucifixion of Christ. In this program water baptism is included as it had been before the death of Christ, simply because God was still dealing with Israel as a nation.

When we come to Acts 28:25-28 we find Paul passing a sentence of judicial blindness upon the nation and telling them that "the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles." **There water baptism ends**—perhaps not in Church histories, but certainly in God's program as outlined in the Bible. As the Jews refused God's message to them, and Gentiles were being saved in increasing numbers, water baptism slowly but

steadily lost its prominence, as the Book of Acts proves. When we come to the later Epistles of Paul it is **not even mentioned**. This is natural, for Christ is not now being made manifest to Israel (John 1:31). Israel refused her Messiah, and is now, as a nation, groping about in darkness (Rom. 11:25). In the meantime, until Messiah returns, the Church, the Body of Christ is being formed, in which water baptism has **no Scriptural place**.

### PAUL'S SILENCE

Most fundamental Christians agree that the Apostle Paul was the vessel chosen of God to set forth the truth concerning the Body of Christ. They realize that while the whole Bible is **for** us, the teaching directly addressed **to** us is to be found in Paul's Epistles. Let us examine a few Scriptures briefly, lest any of our readers should have any questions as to this. To save space we will quote only parts of some verses, without however, changing the sense.

**Rom. 11:13, "I am the apostle of the Gentiles."**

**Rom. 16:25, "My gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began."**

**Gal. 1:9-12, "If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed...but I certify you brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man, for I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ."**

**Gal. 2:2, "That gospel which I preach among the Gentiles."**

Gal. 2:7, “The gospel of the uncircumcision was committed unto me.”

Eph. 3:1-8, “I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles... by revelation He made known unto me the mystery...Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men as it is now revealed unto His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; that the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ by the gospel: Whereof I was made a minister...Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ.”

Col. 1:24-26, “The Church, whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you...Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but is now made manifest to His saints.”

With these Scriptures before us it should be plain that St. Paul’s letters are more directly addressed to us than any other Books of the Bible. It was Paul too, who wrote to Timothy, the young pastor, “that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church....”

Is it not remarkable that this Paul, the apostle of the Gentiles, the teacher of the Church, never once **commands** us to be baptized with water? I have spoken with some intelligent Christians who believe in water baptism. Frequently I have asked them this question: “If water baptism were to be practiced by believers today, where would you expect

“...though some may consider us heretics, we are really no farther away from them all, than they are from each other.”

to find it in your Bible?” Almost invariably they have answered “In the Epistles of Paul.” Then I have asked them to show me **one command** or **even an exhortation** from Paul’s Epistles, to be baptized with water. I have never yet been shown one. This, I think, ought to be a convincing argument, especially to those who believe in dispensational truth. If it is not commanded in Paul’s Epistles, where shall we go to find it? Shall we go to the Gospels or the Acts? If we go to the Gospels or the Acts to find it, is it fair to choose baptism to observe and leave out tongues, signs, anointings, etc.?

It is true that Paul himself was baptized and baptized others, but that does not affect the question. He was circumcised and even while an apostle he circumcised others. Should we therefore practice circumcision? Paul spoke with tongues and worked miracles too—should we? The interesting thing about the circumcision, baptisms and miraculous demonstrations of Paul’s ministry is that they took place before Acts 28 when Israel was set aside as a nation.

His writings bear this out, for it is in his earlier letters that he mentions water baptism (though



he never commands it). His earlier epistles also have a great deal to say about tongues, miraculous signs and circumcision, yet those who rightly divide the Word of Truth do not practice these things. Very apparently they belonged to a vanishing dispensation. These things only cause confusion when they, or any imitation of them, enter the Church today. Some put forward the feeble argument that lack of faith explains the absence of miraculous demonstrations today. But is it not strange that the most spiritual men of God we know today, and those whom God has most signally used, whether missionaries, evangelists, pastors

or Bible teachers, have not possessed these gifts and have frequently preached against seeking them?

So, the fact that Paul's writings refer to water baptism proves little. After the setting aside of Israel in Acts 28 he does not even mention it. Yet many preachers who could show from Scripture why miraculous demonstrations are not in God's program for the Church today still hold strongly to water baptism. **No wonder there has been such a Babel of confusion on this matter!**

*To Be Continued!*



1. ©iStockphoto.com/Liz Van Steenburgh

## Question Box

*“Were Satan to ask God for forgiveness, would He grant it?”*

We feel God would *not*, but not because He is unkind. He *would* not because He *could* not. It must be remembered, there are things God cannot do. For instance, because of His holy nature, He cannot lie (Titus 1:2). Similarly, His holiness and sense of infinite justice demand that He cannot forgive sin that has not been justly paid for by His Son (Rom. 3:24-26).

Our Lord paid for the sins of *men* when He was “made a little lower than the angels *for the suffering of death...that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man*” (Heb. 2:9). However, Universalists who teach that even Satan will be saved should consider that the same provision *could not* be made for the devil, because he is a fallen angel. Since angels *cannot die* (Luke 20:36), the Lord could not become an angel to die for angels (Heb. 2:14-17).

Lest the reader feel sorry for Satan, it should be pointed out that he would never *ask* forgiveness. If a thousand years in the pit of hell (Rev. 20:3 cf. Isa. 14:15) does not cause him to ask it (Rev. 20:7-9), nothing will. —Pastor Kurth

# Midwest Grace Fellowship Bible Conference



## *The Christ-Centered Home*

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**Guest Speaker:**

Paul M. Sadler  
President, *Berean Bible Society*

For questions or additional information, please contact:  
Dan Heyle (660) 425-6853 or Pastor Ken Lawson (217) 498-6958

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### Grace Bible Church—Homer, AK

**Dates:** June 14-17, 2009

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Homer, Alaska

**Speaker:** Pastor Jeff Seekins

**Theme:**

*Celebrating Completeness in Christ*

For more information about these meetings, please contact:  
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The following article by Steve Shober (GUIG Director and ND) is a sample lesson from our *Growing Up in Grace* Sunday School curriculum. GUIG is now preparing lessons for the Middle School (7-9th grade) age bracket, the first year of which will be entitled *The Grace Life*, and is scheduled to be completed by this summer. You may want to share this lesson with teens as you await the Middle School books, which will be priced at an attractive rate.

This lesson is from the Teacher's Manual, and is written at a level that helps the teacher know how to communicate with teens. There are several discussion questions or activities in each lesson, to keep teens involved and participating in class, with less chance for their thoughts to wander. The Take Home Sheet (not included here) will include humor, activities, and a devotional aspect that encourages spending personal time with the Lord. You may order Sunday School lessons by phone (262) 255-4750 or at [www.growingupingrace.com](http://www.growingupingrace.com).



Key Verse: Ephesians 4:26

"Be ye angry and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:"

## LESSON 6

# OUR MINDS

## OUR HEALTH

Lesson Theme: As we think in our heart so we become.

### ENGAGE

God is concerned about your life; He gives clear instructions on how to best live it.

### Introduction

The Middle School lessons are designed to provide a wide variety of interesting biblical topics that are essential for the Christian life. The lessons now shift to the topic of how our mind affects our overall health. Scientists have found that our mind plays a huge role in our overall health, whether mental or physical, whether Christian or not.

The Middle School years are critical years for learning what the Bible has to say about this topic. Younger students cannot grasp this subject, and many adults are afraid to consider it. If Middle School students can grasp these deeper things of Scripture and apply them to their life, they will find that life is much more rewarding and less filled with sickness and feelings of failure. This teaching applies equally to males and females. The teaching helps with physical and mental health, it also helps with relationships with others: family, friends, co-workers, and especially with God.

# ENLIGHTEN

## Designed by God

We were designed by God to glorify Him and to be led by His Spirit (I Cor. 10:31; Rom. 8:14). A very important part of glorifying Him and being led by Him has to do with our minds; that is where our battle with Satan generally lies. For these lessons the term “mind” means our thoughts (what we think about) and our emotions (how we feel about something, like love, fear, happy, sad...). Many Christians think they have to go through life like they are on a roller-coaster ride, that is, they have no choice but to sit there and just let things happen to them. However, life was not designed by God to be that way; He wants to guide us and have us make good choices. We can decide to follow God’s clear directions or choose to be “taken on life’s ride with no control.” If we choose to allow Him to direct our life, we will be more and more led by the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:5); as a result, life will be much more enjoyable.

The mind and the body are strongly linked. The Bible says this, “For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he” (Prov. 23:7). How we think in our heart (actually, deeply in the mind) has a lot to do with who we are as a person. In addition, how we think and feel in our mind about things will have a direct effect on how we feel physically (in our body). If we harbor harmful emotions and use non-biblical ways of thinking, we will likely experience poor health. This is because certain thoughts and emotions release hormones (strong chemicals that in even tiny amounts exert a powerful influence on your body). These hormones are designed to protect and help us. However, if they are overused and constantly in our body they can trigger diseases.



We were wonderfully designed by the Creator (Psa. 139:14), but we must remember to respect that design. We are designed so these hormones can help us during times of danger. If a person were confronted by an angry pit bull, God has designed the body to marvelously respond in a split-second, with what is called the “fight or flight” response. At the sight of the pit bull the body instantly releases a hormone (adrenaline) that prepares your body to fight it or run away as fast as possible.

It is this hormone that has enabled people to do extraordinary things, like lift a car off a child trapped beneath it. This hormone is designed to be used very rarely and for only a very short time. If it is constantly present it is very stressful to our bodies. A simple analogy is water: in moderate amounts it is very healthy, but way too much and we can drown in it. Many Christians are suffering bad health and constant problems because they are “drowning” in their own hormones.

The hormones released in the flight or fight response are called stress hormones. Stress hormones cause mental pressure and tension, they cause us to be “uptight.” Stress itself is not always bad, but what happens if your body keeps releasing adrenaline long after the danger is past? Constant stress! These hormones can harm us if they are “out of balance” with our design. It is this constant stress that causes many diseases. There is evidence that some 75-90% of visits to a doctor are the result of stress related problems. Stress wears down our immune system, results in hyperactivity, leads toward diabetes, reduces muscle mass and strength, causes weight gain, results in early aging (like wrinkled skin), and causes heart disease and cancer. The perpetual release of stress hormones wears the body down like hard work with no food or sleep. Following God’s Word brings, “...health to all their flesh” (Prov. 4:22).

Other things besides our thinking and emotions can cause stress-related health issues. Food and drink choices, school, exams, people, chemicals in our environment, etc., also stress our bodies, but they are not the subject of these lessons.



**Discussion Question:** Did God intentionally design us so that our own hormones would harm us?

**Teacher tips:** He designed our bodies to follow His natural laws. If we break those laws we suffer the consequences; if we drop a brick over our toes, God’s natural law of gravity will cause it to fall on them. Stress hormones are designed to help us in times of trouble, but their misuse can harm us; whether we know about it or not the natural laws are in action. He provides teaching that prevents that misuse, resulting in Christ-like thoughts and emotions that help prevent stress related illness (Prov. 4:23; 16:24).

## Emotions and Thoughts That Harm or Heal

Beside real danger, other thoughts and emotions also release stress hormones. It is the negative emotions (anger, bitterness, envy, hatred, guilt, shame...) (Eph. 4:31) and the negative thinking (I’m stupid, everyone hates me, everyone treats me wrong...) that also release stress hormones. The positive emotions (love, joy, peace, satisfaction...) (Gal. 5:22-23) and the positive thinking (things are good, God loves me, I have a heavenly home...) do not cause harm, in fact they tend to be healing. When we get our thinking and emotions in line with God’s desire, then the harmful stress hormones are not released (this will be covered in future lessons). This explains why God instructs us in Philippians 4:8 to think about positive things that are: true, honest, just, pure, good, virtuous, and praise worthy.

Even negative thinking about past failures or wrongs releases these hormones. Our mind does not distinguish a present painful situation from one that happened years ago. Just thinking about a previous deep emotional hurt can cause the body to respond as if that hurt were happening at that moment. The longer we let our mind dwell on old hurts and wounds the more we develop a habit of negative thinking which quickly releases stress hormones. This habit of negative thinking is why a person often develops a disease months, or even years, after a severe life crisis (such as being raped, death of a relative or friend, or divorce of parents).

The Lord Jesus Christ (while on earth) taught the need to express emotions in an honest manner, and the Apostle Paul deals extensively with harmful emotions and thoughts. In Ecclesiastes 3:4, the Lord makes it clear there is a time to cry, a time to laugh, a time to mourn.... In all dispensations there has been a need to handle our emotions correctly.



**Activity:** Show a visual of two things, Jesus in the Temple overturning the money tables and a volcano. Then discuss how these two things relate to our topic.

**Teacher tips:** Christ had a passion for the temple (we do not know if He was angry). We do know He acted appropriately, at the right time, in the right way, and He got over this negative event and moved on to teach correct behavior. The volcano represents a person boiling inside with anger about something or someone; the person will not let the anger go and is waiting to explode.

## Anger and Hostility

The first example of negative thoughts and emotions (and God's instructions concerning them) will be about anger and hostility. Ephesians 4:26 reads, "Be ye angry, and sin not." It may be that some anger is not a sin in itself, but if we lose control or commit another wrong as a result, then it is sin. Being slow to anger is called "patience or long-suffering" in the Bible (I Tim. 3:3; Eph. 4:31; Gal. 5:22). Being slow to anger is something good that comes to us from God as we obey Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work in our lives. Being slow to anger is what the Lord expects because it prevents committing a sin by saying something wrong or striking back. The phrase, "Be ye angry, and sin not..." means, if you do get angry, then do not commit a sin by doing something wrong.

If we practice being slow to anger and pray about situations before we do anything, then we can often walk away in calmness. This is responding with a soft word that turns others from their anger (Prov.

15:1). The terms rage and hostility describe conditions where anger has gotten totally out of control; they are sins.

Even thinking about what gets us angry causes us harm. If we allow our minds to think about what upsets us, the whole negative thought cycle occurs. Thus, God's remedy is to get over it and to put it away (Eph. 4:31). That is why Ephesians 4:26 says, "Let not the sun go down upon your wrath;" which means, we are to quickly let go of our anger. This is reconfirmed in Philippians 3:13, which says, "...forgetting those things which are behind." We are instructed to forget the things of the past and put them behind us; this is His remedy to protect us from harm and to help us move ahead in life. Putting away our "hurts" means we can express our hurts, but we should then move ahead and not constantly think about them or the events that caused them. **Many Christians do not realize how harmful negative thoughts are; they destroy health and relationships.**

If we are to forget the past and move ahead in our life, someone may ask, "You mean God will take away the memory of the bad event?" No, the memory will remain, but if we do things God's way the memory will eventually fade. He also takes the pain away, so while it will always be a memory, it will not hurt us as before. Another way we can get over anger, or its memory, is through forgiveness; more on this next week.



**Interactive Application:** Brittany, a Christian, came to you and said she was not speaking to Joe because she was angry about what he said two years ago. What advice would you give her?

**Teacher tips:** Brittany has not let go of her anger, she has sinned by acting in this manner. She has to forgive Joe, put this negative event behind her, and not think about it all the time. When she does, she will be able to talk to Joe, and her life will be rewarded.

## ENERGIZE

### Summary and Application

Learning what the Bible says about how to think properly and how to express emotions will prevent the release of stress hormones. This will improve a person's overall health and outlook on life. It will also help assure better relations with others as we grow older, and this will make life more rewarding. These are matters of the mind, and it is important to learn them at this age so that each one can avoid the pits into which many adults have fallen. Life is not easy, there will always be trials and stress, but living life Christ's way will make the bad times tolerable (Phil. 4:13).

## Contact Us:

Growing Up In Grace  
PO Box 756  
Germantown, WI 53022  
Phone: (262) 255-4750  
[www.growingupinrace.com](http://www.growingupinrace.com)



## Gospel

The Bible has a lot of good news. The Good News concerning our relationship with God is we can be saved by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. This gives us peace with God and the assurance of eternal life. This salvation will never be taken away from us; He is always there to help us, He will always love us, and we are assured a home in Heaven. There is more good news: He cares about our mental and physical health. Understanding this will enable us to enjoy life more and to serve Him longer.

## Encouragement

Middle School students are the perfect age to understand how their mind affects their health. The Lord must rejoice in the young person who takes to heart His Word. Thank you for believing the Word of God and applying it to your life; doing so will begin to change your life. As you obey Christ, He will produce His fruit in you. His fruit is: love, joy, peace, etc., the very things that help you avoid the stress-producing hormones. As you continue to follow His Word, you will promote better health and be blessed with true joy and accomplishment. "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine..." (Prov. 17:22).

## Additional Resources:

Deadly Emotions, by Don Colbert, Thomas Nelson press, 2003.

A Sound Mind, Biblical Transformation, Berean Searchlight, by Steve Shober, Sept. & Oct. 2005.



## *Don't Forget!*

**Our New E-mail Address is:**

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Our old address of [berean@execpc.com](mailto:berean@execpc.com) is paid up through the end of the year, so we will receive mail at both addresses until then.



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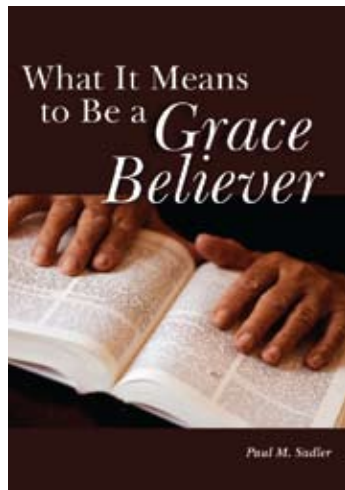
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## BBS Letter Excerpts

### **From Indiana:**

“Thank you for the wonderful *Berean Searchlight*. You’ll never know in this life how much you added to my faith, yes, even at the age of 89.”

### **From Illinois:**

“I received your book *Things That Differ* as a Christmas gift. There has not been a day since that I haven’t read a page or two (or chapters). I don’t understand why these issues are not taught or explained in our churches.”

### **From California:**

“After teaching in our church for 14 years, it was decided the church needed to follow its constitution, and that a person needed to be a member to teach. Because I am not water baptized, I could not join the church... It tore our hearts to shreds...but out of it has come some good; this home Bible study for one. The other good thing is that my boys saw religion for what it is. Thank you for helping me understand God’s Word better. You can’t imagine how important it is to me.”

### **From Colorado:**

“We pray you are able to continue to proclaim the gospel, rightly divided. What beautiful truths He has for us in His Word.”

### **From Brazil:**

“The Bereans were good examples of Bible students. I want to be like them. Thank you for your help.”

### **From Wisconsin:**

“I recently had a birthday and couldn’t think of a better way to spend my birthday money than to promote the Lord’s work. Please use wherever it is needed.”

### **From Alabama:**

“Can you give me a link to the article from last month’s *Searchlight* titled *The Charismatic Movement* by Pastor Stam? I’d like to email it around—it is so good!” (It is on our web site.—Ed).

### **From Missouri:**

“Thank you for faithfully sending the *Berean Searchlight* each month. *Mysteries of the Kingdom* and the studies on the different dispensations have been especially helpful. Also it was encouraging to read the article, *What About Global Warming?* by John Willson, which presented a much-needed spiritual view of global warming. Thank you so much for your unwavering stand in upholding and preaching His Word, rightly divided. There is no other message that compares with God’s Word, rightly divided. Enclosed is a monetary gift, which I hope will help in some small way in the furtherance of your ministry.”

### **From our Inbox:**

“Glad to see you putting forth the truth of God for this, the dispensation of the grace of God. I appreciate your hard work on God-tube to show people the words of reconciliation in place today.”

**From Indiana:**

“Your appointment of Pastor Kurth to Editor has borne much fruit over the last two months as he has thoroughly explained the passages of Romans 7 about the Law of Moses, and Paul’s wrestling with it as an apostle. For Pastor Kurth’s appointment, I thank Pastor Sadler for his foresight and wisdom and discernment.”

**From Michigan:**

“I just finished reading the March issue and was very much blessed by the precious Word of God. Thank you so much for your labor of love in making it easy for even me to grasp the rich eternal truths our Lord has for us. I have been especially helped by the articles by Pastor Kurth on *A Guide To Godliness*.”

**From Idaho:**

“*A Guide to Godliness* is one of the finest works in which I’ve been instructed, truly a timely piece in my life. Are these articles available in a single cover?” (We are compiling these articles in booklet form.—Ed).

**From Canada:**

“I’ve enjoyed the articles of Pastor C. R. Stam; *The Dimensions of the Mystery* and *Seven Times a Failure*. Keep up the good work of rightly dividing the Word of truth.”

**From our Inbox:**

“Thank you very much for the explanations. It really helps me. I still have a lot to learn. Thanks for the article, I will read and study it.”

**From Idaho:**

“God has so blessed my studies with the *Searchlight* and your books. Thank you and God bless you.”

**From Florida:**

“We are stranded Grace believers and really enjoy receiving the *Searchlight* and attending an occasional conference and hearing Pastor Sadler speak. We are going to try to send \$... per month to help out during these troubling economic times.”

**From Montana:**

“The Lord continue to bless your labor of love; preaching the gospel of the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

**From Iowa:**

“Please accept this small gift and thank you for your ministry. I anticipate the arrival of the *Searchlight* every month and read it, re-read it, share it, and save it for reference. Such clarity of teaching...what a blessing...what an expression of love to share these gifts.” (Paul’s epistles are love letters from God!—Ed).

**From Michigan:**

“Thank you for your faithfulness in getting out the *Berean Searchlight* each month. I can’t imagine the time and energy which goes into that as it is so well done. Also the ongoing books and booklets, tracts, and other helps are such an encouragement in the Word, rightly divided. With appreciation we have gotten this money ready to send to help support your efforts.”

**From Indiana:**

“The Grace message is needed more than ever in these trying times. Thank you for keeping it alive and well. We came into the truth under Pastor Otis Wasson in *Evansville Berean Church*. Praise God for him and for all of you.”

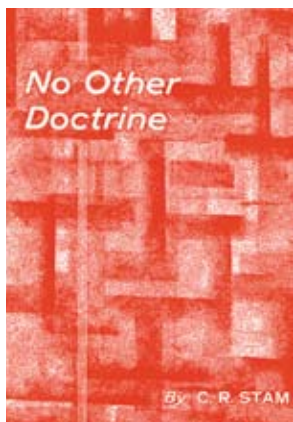


“These [Bereans] were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the Word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so.” —Acts 17:11

# No Other Than What?



Most of Fundamentalism would agree that when Paul says to “*teach no other doctrine*” (I Tim. 1:3) that he had our Lord’s earthly teachings and the Great Commission in mind. But we would not agree with most of Fundamentalism, as Pastor Stam explains in these two volumes.



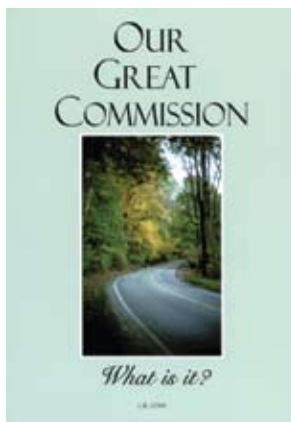
## No Other Doctrine

By C. R. Stam

In this work, Pastor Stam explains that when Paul talks about teaching “otherwise,” and consenting not to “wholesome words, even the words of our Lord” (I Tim. 6:3), he means the words of our Lord *through him!*

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## Our Great Commission

By C. R. Stam

Our Lord’s commission to the eleven was indeed a great commission, but it should never be called “*the* great commission,” for the ascended Lord later committed a far greater message and ministry to the Apostle Paul.

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## Paul Beseches the Church (Part 6)

### 1 Cor. 16:15-16; 1 Thes. 5:12-13

By W. Edward Bedore, Th.D.

Executive Director, *Berean Bible Institute*

Achaia was a Roman province that was made up of central and southern Greece. Corinth, where Paul ministered for a year and a half (Acts 18:1,11), was its capital. Among the first to trust in Christ in response to Paul's preaching in Corinth were members of Stephanas' family. Seeing the need, they "addicted" (devoted) themselves to the care of the church. They became Paul's helpers in the work of ministry while he was in Corinth and continued as leaders after he left.

Paul besought the Corinthians to "submit" themselves to those who were serving them. They were not to allow themselves to be domineered by them, but were to subject themselves to their ministry that they might benefit from their leadership.

In similar fashion, in his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul beseeched the Church there to recognize those who were laboring among them in the Lord in order to give them instruction. He called

upon them to esteem these servants of Christ "very highly in love for their work's sake." They were not to exalt them as individuals but were to respect them for the work they were doing within the Church. The term "in the Lord" indicates that the leadership in view was spiritual in nature. That they were to be esteemed "highly in love" for the sake of the work they were doing indicates that the Church should show appreciation for their labor of love.

Spiritual leadership is both a great responsibility and a demanding undertaking. It can be very difficult and emotionally draining. It is not easy to serve as a pastor, an elder, or in other areas of spiritual leadership. The Church family is not to take those who minister to them for granted but is to recognize their work as service to the Lord on their behalf. They are to pray for them, work with them, and encourage them. And all the glory is to be given to God.

**Fall Semester begins August 24, 2009!**

For more information about **BBI**, please contact Dr. W. Edward Bedore at: **Berean Bible Institute**, 116 S. Kettle Moraine Drive, P.O. Box 587, Slinger, WI 53086-0587, phone: (262) 644-5504, fax: (262) 644-5507, e-mail: [bbi@bereanbibleinstitute.org](mailto:bbi@bereanbibleinstitute.org), web address: [www.bereanbibleinstitute.org](http://www.bereanbibleinstitute.org).



# News and Announcements

**Celebrate Grace Camp** is the can't-miss grace event of the summer! Hosts Jerry and Judy Worthley would like to invite you to join them July 26-30 at this year's select location in Montrose, Colorado, where Pastor Ricky Kurth will be bringing most of the inspiring messages. For more information about this year's summer treat, contact the Worthleys at (719) 276-2469, and begin making your plans *today* to join us for this year's celebration of grace!

**This Year's Mid-Atlantic Grace Bible Conference** is scheduled for September 11-13th at White Sulphur Springs, Manns Choice, Pennsylvania. With Pastor Dennis Kiszonas bringing the messages, the 19th presentation of this annual event is sure to be a blessing. For reservations or further information, contact Suzanne Potter at 208 S. Alabama Avenue, Martinsburg, WV 25401. Phone: (304) 263-2411.

**New Web Site:** You can now visit *Kettle Moraine Bible Church* of West Bend, Wisconsin online at [www.kettlemorainebiblechurch.org](http://www.kettlemorainebiblechurch.org). Thanks to the web design of KMBC's own Jesse Schmucker, you can now hear audio messages from the church's pastor, Dr. Ed Bedore of *Berean Bible Institute*, as well as messages by Associate Pastor Kevin Sadler. Of course, online visits aren't as good as the real thing, so be sure to visit KMBC if you live in the area, or plan to be passing through.

**Ministry Update:** The saints of *Grace Bible Study* now have a new place to meet: 710 Philadelphia Street in Memphis, Tennessee. Why not join them in prayer for their new radio broadcast, and join them in person if you live in the area, or plan to be passing through. For more information, visit their new web site at [www.thegracebiblestudy.org](http://www.thegracebiblestudy.org) or call Ed Mautz at (901) 361-0956.

**Our cover this month** features a photo taken by Ken and Barb Wardius, a couple who travel extensively in search of unique photo opportunities. You can view some of their impressive gallery of photographs and e-mail them with any questions at their website: [www.crestwoodcreek.com](http://www.crestwoodcreek.com).



The *Two Rivers Lighthouse* in Two Rivers, Wisconsin, witnessed the wreck of the *Rouse Simmons* in a storm on November 13, 1912, as she brought a load of Michigan Christmas trees to Chicago. A note in a bottle found later near Sheboygan contained the captain's last words.

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*“And the devil said...It is written”* (Luke 4:3, 10).  
“Frightening thought that should put us all on guard  
against his wiles.”  
—C. R. Stam

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