

The BEREAN SEARCHLIGHT

Studying God's Word, Rightly Divided

June 2013



Feature Article

The Manifold Wisdom of God, *by Paul M. Sadler*5

Articles

The Great Divide and The Great Dedication, *by Ricky Kurth*.....13
Are You Sure You’re Secure?, *by Ricky Kurth*.....19
Growing Spiritually, *by John Fredericksen*.....25

Departments

A True Catholic4
Dinosaurs18
Question Box.....23
News and Announcements30

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* the Christian life, and to *encourage* the local church.

The *Berean Searchlight* is the official organ of the *Berean Bible Society*,
and is sent free of charge to any who request it.

Editor: Ricky L. Kurth — Graphic Design: Kevin J. Sadler

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The Berean Searchlight (ISSN 0005-8890), June 2013. Vol. 74, Number 4.

The *Berean Searchlight* is published monthly (except July) at no subscription price, by *Berean Bible Society*, N112 W17761 Mequon Rd., PO Box 756, Germantown, WI 53022-0756. Periodical postage paid at Germantown, WI. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Berean Searchlight*, N112 W17761 Mequon Rd., PO Box 756, Germantown, WI 53022-0756 and additional mailing offices.



From the Editor to You

Dear Friends in Christ,

A few days before my recent trip to a speaking engagement in Nashville, I received word that my wife's Aunt Imogene had been diagnosed with terminal cancer, and had been given only weeks to live. When a quick check revealed that it was only a two hour drive from Nashville to her home in Fort Payne, Alabama, my plan to golf with some of the men after the conference was promptly replaced with the conviction that I needed to go visit this dear Christian woman who had been my gracious host during so many family visits in years gone by. Like Tabitha, "this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did" (Acts 9:36).

Her husband, Raymon Potter, had been the adult Sunday school teacher in his church for nearly forty years by the time my marriage to my wife Barb introduced me to this godly couple. I well remember the late night discussions that we had in the Scriptures that often kept him up later than his 80 mile commute to work in the morning should have allowed, but such was his love for the Word. He eagerly received the BBS literature that we shared with him, and soon he was receiving the *Searchlight*, and had enrolled in our *Tape Lending Library*. Once he learned the distinctive truths of Paul's gospel, it seemed he couldn't get enough of God's rightly divided Word. He reveled in the cassette recordings of messages from my church that I sent him, and was positively delighted when I joined the staff here at BBS in 2001.

As his health began to decline in recent years, most of the family began to believe that this World War II veteran would go home to be with the Lord before his faithful wife. But as of this writing, just a few weeks after celebrating their 68th wedding anniversary, they are treasuring each day together that the Lord gives them. And if I never see either one of them again on this side of the Lord's coming for us, I will always cherish the memory of my last visit with them, and the time I got to spend holding my aunt's hand, and the warm conversations with the family that I enjoyed with my arm around my uncle.

I share this experience with you, not just to salute a couple who were faithful to God's Word all their lives, but also to encourage you never to hesitate to share Paul's gospel with even pastors and teachers, for there are still Christian leaders who yearn for solutions to the discrepancies that the Scriptures present when they are not rightly divided. In many cases, all that they lack is someone to share it with them.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Ricky Kurth




A True Catholic

By Paul M. Sadler, D.D.

In the *Catholic Encyclopedia*, the entry for the term “Catholic” begins, “The word *Catholic* (*katholikos* from *katholou*—throughout the whole, i.e., universal) occurs in the Greek classics....” We agree that the term *catholic* simply means “universal.” In the early church, the terminology *catholic Church* was used by Christians to distinguish the true Church from those who held to the heretical teachings of Gnosticism and pantheism. The true Church is comprised of all those, regardless of their race, gender, denomination, or other religious affiliation, who place their *faith* in the finished work of Christ (Eph. 1:12,13), that He died for their sins, was buried, and rose again the third day (I Cor. 15:1-4). According to the Word of God, the *true Church* is called the Body of Christ (Eph. 1:22,23; Col. 1:18).

The *Roman Catholic Church*, as we know it, technically did not come into existence until 325 A.D., during the reign of Constantine, the ruler of the Roman Empire at the time. He adopted Christianity as the *state religion* of the empire and adopted all the trappings that eventually came with it. While Rome has always touted itself as being the “true Church,” which is universal, the very title, *Roman Catholic Church* is a contradiction of terms. *Roman* is a “specific term,” referring to those who align themselves with her unsound teachings and her pope, while the term *catholic* means universal. In reality, it is the *Protestants* who believe that the Church, the Body of Christ is catholic or universal. This universal Church would include our Roman Catholic brethren who have placed their *faith* solely in the finished work of Christ, and not in works or the organized church.

Rome has often pointed out that the *beliefs* of Protestantism are something relatively new. It claims they are merely the fruits of the Reformation, which is far from the case. We certainly agree that the Reformers were used of the Lord to confront the indiscretions and outright errors of the organized church of their day and to encourage believers to return to the Scriptures as their final authority. The Reformers, to their credit, were simply returning to biblical Christianity. Essentially, the beliefs of the Reformers were the same as the early Christians during the first three centuries of Christianity. Some of those teachings include the sole authority of the Scriptures, justification by grace alone through faith alone in Christ’s finished work alone, that there is only “one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,” etc. Most evangelicals today, ourselves included, hold these doctrines to be among the fundamentals of the faith. 



The Manifold Wisdom of God

By Paul M. Sadler, D.D.

“To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the Church the manifold wisdom of God.” —Eph. 3:10

It is nearly impossible to walk into a store these days without seeing *angels*. These heavenly creatures are *everywhere*. Go ahead, admit it, you’ve seen them too, haven’t you? Of course, we are referring to all the trinkets and figurines that bear the image of these unseen beings.

For some unknown reason, it seems to be common knowledge that there are both male and female angels who have large wings and exhibit halos most of the time. Some appear to be chubby and childlike, while others are depicted as adults watching over little ones. Moreover, they are always pictured in *serene* settings, never lifting a hand to judge mankind. It is sad to say that they are often revered more than

God Himself. The current interest in angels has been aptly called “angelmania.” However, anytime the world seeks to understand or describe the things of God, we can be sure they will be *distorted*.

Tradition plays a large role in the contemporary portrayal of the angelic host. For the most part, it is based upon Greek mythology and medieval art. But here again, the Word of God must serve as our final authority; all else is mere speculation. Before we can fully appreciate the significance of Paul’s reference to the angelic realm in the above text, we must first understand more about these heavenly emissaries. Actually, the Bible has a great deal to say about them.

As we have seen, confusion is predominant when it comes to the subject of angels. Surprisingly, this is even true within the household of faith. So, with God’s help, we shall search the Scriptures to

determine the origin, number, appearance, nature, and purpose of angels. More importantly, what is their *role* today, if any, during the Dispensation of Grace? This fascinating tour will take us through the two main programs of God.

IN THE PRESENCE OF ANGELS

a. Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Angels but Were Afraid to Ask!

Origin: The angelic host is a product of God's creative genius. Paul states, "For by Him [Christ] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him" (Col. 1:16). Bearing in mind that Christ created all things, angels are supernatural spirits who reside in heaven; very rarely have they been visible to humans. Inasmuch as God relishes diversity, we can safely assume that angels are individuals who are unique as snowflakes. Like man, they are *finite* in wisdom, knowledge, authority, and power. Although incomparably inferior to God, the angels of heaven are superior to mankind at this point in time.

We believe the angelic host was very high on the list of God's agenda of creation. When the LORD spoke to Job out of a whirlwind, He inquired of the patriarch, "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth?...When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" (Job 38:4a,7). "Morning stars" and "sons of God" are

unequivocal references to angels. This is substantiated by their very presence at the dawn of creation, when God spoke worlds into existence. In other words, they were *eyewitnesses* of almost all His creative acts. It is interesting to



note that, since the *fall*, there is no mention of their singing again until the redemption of all things (Rev. 5:8,9).

Number: We do not have a number in our numerical system which would allow us to enumerate the angelic host; they are *countless*. The writer of Hebrews says, "But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an *innumerable company* of angels" (Heb. 12:22). According to W. E. Vine's *Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words*, the Greek word the writer uses here denotes an infinite, numberless myriad. One-third of this multitude rebelled against God and defected with Satan shortly after creation (Rev. 12:3-9). Probably even this number is beyond our numerical system. Thus, the angelic host has been divided into two major classifications: *elect* and *fallen*. Contrary to popular

opinion, your Uncle Clarence did not become an angel when he died. This is merely the fabrication of Hollywood. The number of angels is *fixed*, and therefore never increases or decreases.

Appearance: Angels were created ministering spirits (Heb. 1:7,14) and are always referred to in the *masculine* gender. As far as we can ascertain, there are only two orders of angelic beings who are said to have wings—the Cherubim and the Seraphim (Ezek. 10:18-21; Isa. 6:1-4). This means that the vast majority of angels *do not* have wings, which is confirmed by the numerous appearances they made to the patriarchs, prophets, and apostles.



Although they are spirits, angels have the uncanny ability to transform themselves into human form. If one were to appear at your door, selling Bibles, you would be completely unaware that an angel was at hand. In

fact, Paul writes, “Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares” (Heb. 13:2).

In the days of Sodom and Gomorrah, Lot had no idea that the two *men* who met him at the gate of Sodom were angels. He carried on a normal conversation with them and begged his visitors to enter his house so they could wash their *feet* and accept a meal. That evening Lot made a *feast* for his guests but, as they were preparing to *retire* for the evening, the men of Sodom called to “Lot, and said unto him, Where are the *men* which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.” The record states that the angels pulled Lot into the house and struck the men at the door with blindness. These weren’t ordinary visitors; they were on a search and destroy mission. The next morning, the Lord rained fire and brimstone upon the cities of the plain, wiping them from the face of the earth (Gen. 19:1-26).

Nature: While angels are normally invisible, they occasionally appeared in physical form during biblical times to execute God’s will. Consequently, we are to understand that, like man, they possess *personality*—intellect, emotions, and will.

The intellect gives them the ability to know and reason. On Resurrection morning, the angel that appeared at the tomb freely conversed with Mary. Thus, he instructed the women to go tell the disciples that the Lord had risen. Furthermore, he imparted a *revelation* to them that the Lord

would await their arrival at Galilee (Matt. 28:7).

It has been said that music is the language of the soul; it's an expression of our feelings. Angels, then, also have *emotions*. As they beheld the handiwork of God at the creation, they sang together and shouted for *joy*. Like us (or at least as we should be), they are caring, sensitive, compassionate beings who are deeply moved at times. Our Lord said of them, "There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth" (Luke 15:10). Furthermore, these heavenly beings seem to have a *curious* side (I Pet. 1:12).



The fact that angels worship God and execute His commands clearly shows a consensus of *will*. Surely the words of Lucifer are a chilling reminder of the time there was a rebellion in the ranks of the angelic host: "For thou hast said in thine heart, I *will* ascend into heaven, I *will* exalt my throne above the stars of God [elect angelic host]: I *will* sit *also* upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north [Satan's desire to reign in the Millennial Kingdom on earth—see Psa. 48:1-3]: I *will* ascend above the heights

of the clouds [he desires all the glory]; I *will* be like the most High" (Isa. 14:13,14).

Purpose: In addition to worshipping God day and night, elect angels are "all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation" (Heb. 1:14). They held a high profile in past prophetic events and will play an even more prominent role in the coming day of the Lord. For example, an angel of God led Israel out of the land of Egypt (Ex. 14:19); angels were present at the giving of the law at Mt. Sinai and ordained it in the hand of a mediator (Psa. 68:17; Gal. 3:19); they assisted Israel in the conquest of the Land (Ex. 23:20); when Daniel the prophet stood face to face with a group of man-eating lions, God sent His angel to protect him by shutting the lions' mouths (Dan. 6:22).

An angel appeared to Zacharias at the altar of incense to inform him that his wife Elisabeth would bear a child in her old age (Luke 1:11-14). Of course, this child was none other than John the Baptist who would one day be the forerunner of Christ. In regard to the young, our Lord instructed His disciples, "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 18:10).

Although angels are often viewed as serene caretakers, they are also the mighty warriors of God who administer His judgments. In the Book of Revelation, in John's vision of the coming Tribulation period, the record states that "an

angel took the censer [canister for burning incense], and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.” This is followed



by seven angels blowing seven trumpets. As the scene closes, these agents of *wrath* will have *destroyed* one-third of the natural resources of the earth, one-third of the heavenly bodies (sun, moon, and stars), and killed one-third of the earth’s population (Rev. 8,9). Well, so much for serenity!

b. Angels Who Attend Church

“To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the Church the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of Him” (Eph. 3:10-12).

The Apostle Paul makes approximately *fifty* references to the angelic host in his epistles. Here we must pause to say, however, that the ministry of angels during the administration of grace is in accordance with the Mystery program. Today, there are few, if

any, manifestations of angels. Insofar as the heavens are silent, the angelic host is silent for the most part as well. Any variation from this would be an *exception* of God, as those living at the Rapture will be an exception to Hebrews 9:27.

We would not be too quick to say, however, that they are inactive in this dispensation. In fact, there seems to be a strong case that both the elect and fallen angels are extremely *active* behind the scenes. Remember, we are engaged in a spiritual warfare. “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places” (Eph. 6:12). When armies fight, there is a flurry of activity on both sides of the battlefield.

As God’s *secret service* agents, there are at least three areas where angels play an essential role in the Church, the Body of Christ.

Witnesses: Although the angelic host was well aware of the wisdom of God as it related to creation and the Prophetic program they assisted in revealing, Paul writes to the saints at Ephesus, “To the intent that *now* unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the Church the manifold wisdom of God” (Eph. 3:10). The term *manifold* here means “varied, manifesting in different ways at different times.” Hence, the wisdom of God is many-sided; it appeared mightily in one way through the prophesied, Kingdom program and, in another way, even more mightily, through

the Mystery. In this context, we believe that “the manifold wisdom of God” refers specifically to the revelation of the Mystery. In other words, Paul’s revelation unveils the *hidden* wisdom of God for the Church that was kept *secret* from past generations. Not even the elect angels knew anything about God’s eternal purpose for the Body of Christ.

The apostle uses the term “now” dispensationally, to show that a change has taken place. Today, then, the principalities and powers in the heavenly realm are *learning* about the Mystery *through us*. If angels shed tears, they probably wept when Paul wrote to Timothy that “all they which are in Asia be turned away from me” (II Tim. 1:15). To turn from Paul was to abandon his apostleship and message! Because of making the same mistake as was made in Asia in the First Century A.D., the Church wandered aimlessly through the Dark Ages until the light finally dawned again in the Reformation.

Undoubtedly, with the recovery of grace truth today, the angels are again rejoicing as they gather up every morsel of the manifold wisdom of God. If you have tasted of the riches of His grace, you understand that there is a simple side to Paul’s gospel, and yet it can also be very *complex*. Like us, the angels are adding word upon word and line upon line to their knowledge of His eternal purpose. It is astonishing to ponder, though, that we are their *examples*.

Conduct: The apostle seems to liken the spiritual realm to an arena where we are fighting

the good fight of the faith in the presence of angels. There is good reason to believe that our conduct is constantly being observed by unseen eyes. Therefore, we should walk worthy of our calling “with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love” (Eph. 4:2). Paul was always mindful that he was being watched and lived accordingly:

“For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a *spectacle* unto the world, and to angels, and to men” (I Cor. 4:9).



Well stricken in years, the apostle admonishes young Timothy, “I charge thee before God [or in the sight of God], and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality” (I Tim. 5:21). May we remind the reader, that it is very possible that the angels could be summoned at the Judgment Seat of Christ as eyewitnesses of our conduct—a humbling thought indeed! While God is omniscient, He often works *through* His creation to accomplish His purposes.

Deliverance: Those who are numbered with the household of

faith agree that we are engaged in spiritual warfare with the forces of evil. We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but with the rulers of darkness. With this type of activity going on behind the scenes, surely the angels of God *assist* us in the battle at times, because they are specifically sent to help us (Heb. 1:14). Only the Lord knows how many times these celestial beings have come to our aid.

Some suppose that, with the coming of the Holy Spirit, the ministry of angels is unnecessary and would be incompatible with His works. We know, however, that an angel of the Lord told Philip, who was full of the Spirit, to go to where he would meet the Ethiopian eunuch, and then the Spirit told Philip to approach him. Upon water baptizing the eunuch, the Spirit caught Philip away to Azotus. Here the angel of the Lord and the Holy Spirit worked in tandem without any incompatibility or redundancy (Acts 6:3-5 cf. 8:26-40).

You will recall that, after Herod killed James, he planned to execute Peter. But the night preceding Peter's execution, an angel appeared to him in prison and struck him on the side. Before Peter knew fully what was happening, the angel led him past two guards, and through an iron gate that opened unattended before them, and the angel vanished into the night. Surely Peter was under the *control* of the Holy Spirit, yet an angel of the Lord delivered him from Herod's deadly plan (Acts 12:1-11).

I doubt that there is anyone reading these lines who would

question for a moment that Paul was *indwelt* by the Holy Spirit, but here again, an angel of God appeared to him. In the midst of a storm at sea, when all hope seemed to be lost, an angel consoled the apostle, saying, "Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee" (Acts 27:21-26). While the Holy Spirit, as God, holds a position of supremacy over the angelic host, we believe their ministries to be entirely *compatible*.

Perhaps a word of caution should be added here. As we have seen, angels are intelligent, powerful, supernatural agents who render the highest service to God. But we must never lose sight of the fact that the angels of heaven were created by Christ, and for Him. Therefore, they are *never* to be worshiped, nor should we esteem them too highly. The Apostle John was so overwhelmed by the apocalyptic visions he had seen that he fell at the feet of the angel who showed him these events. The angel's response is unforgettable: "See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant" (Rev. 22:8,9).



If you enjoyed this exposition of Ephesians 3:10, then you may want to order a copy of Pastor Sadler's commentary entitled:



Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians

See page 28!

Bitely Bible Conference

Location: *Bitely Community Church*
10781 N. Bingham Avenue, Bitely, Michigan

Dates: August 2-4, 2013

Theme: *The High Calling of God in Christ Jesus*

Guest Speakers:

Dr. W. Edward Bedore, Pastor Kevin Sadler,
Pastor Don Webb, Pastor Dwight Reed,
Brother David Gross

For more information, please contact:
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St. Louis, Missouri Meetings

Location: *St. Louis Bible Fellowship*
6234 Victoria Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri

Dates: August 23-25, 2013

Guest Speaker:

Pastor John Fredericksen
Berean Bible Society

For additional information, please contact:
Pastor Richard Owsley at (314) 781-0472
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***Your gateway to the truth of
God's rightly divided Word!***



The Great Divide and The Great Dedication

By Pastor Ricky Kurth



If you've ever wondered why the Rocky Mountains are sometimes called the Great Divide, it is because all of the rain that falls west of this mountain range drains into the Pacific Ocean, while all of the rain that falls east of these peaks drains into the Atlantic or the Gulf of Mexico. I'd call that a great divide! But the Bible speaks of an even greater divide, a division of *men*.

The Great Divide

"There was a division therefore again among the Jews for these sayings" (John 10:19).

If it bothers you that people were divided over the Lord's words, it shouldn't. The truth *always* divides people. It divides them into two categories: those who believe the truth, and those who don't. I know that God's people sometimes get discouraged about this, but the Lord didn't. He not only expected it, it was the very reason He came

(Luke 12:51-53). And while grace believers are often accused of dividing people with the message we preach, I always say that if even the Lord Jesus couldn't figure out a way to preach the truth without dividing people, we're probably not going to either.

That word "again" here shows that this wasn't the first time the Lord's words divided people. "There was a division among the people because of Him" back in John 7:43 also, when people refused to believe the truth because of where the Lord was from (vv. 41,42). Similarly, people will sometimes refuse to believe the truth that you share with them if you are not from some institution of higher learning, but such people need to consider that one can learn a great deal "out of the mouth of babes" (Matt. 21:15,16).

The next time the Lord's words divided people it was because He healed a man on the sabbath (John

9:14-16). That is, they rejected the truth because they thought He had committed a sin. He hadn't, of course (Matt. 12:10-13), but there is something we can learn from this. People are not going to believe the truth you share with them if they think you are living in sin, so why not determine to "adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things" (Titus 2:10) by walking "worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing" (Col. 1:10)?

Sometimes people are "divided" when the minds of some are "evil affected" by others (Acts 14:2-4). While there is nothing you can do about this, you might find it encouraging to know that sometimes this backfires. We here at BBS received a letter recently from some folks who found the truth when their pastor warned his congregation about the teachings of *Berean Bible Society*. Rather than blindly accepting his warning, these good Bereans searched the Scriptures and found that what we were saying was so!

How to Respond to Our Own Divisions

Now if you've been around the grace movement any length of time, you know that there are even some divisions in our grace fellowship. If you are wondering how to feel about the brethren in the groups other than yours, we would invite you to consider taking the stance that Paul took when he sided with the Pharisees against the Sadducees over the issue of the resurrection (Acts 23:6-8). While he had broken fellowship with the Pharisees, he was willing to overlook the *major* differences he had with them to stand with

them against those who opposed the truth of the resurrection. Similarly, while grace believers in our different camps may not fellowship with one another, we are willing to overlook the comparatively minor differences between us to stand united against those who oppose Paul's gospel.

The important thing is never to let our differences degenerate into name-calling, as it did among the unbelievers here:

"And many of them said, he hath a devil, and is mad; why hear ye Him?" (John 10:20).

Did you ever have anyone tell you that what you believe is *devilish*? Did you ever hear anyone say that a person would have to be *mad* to believe what you believe? If so, you're in good company, for this is what they said of the Lord as well! But isn't that just like the religious world? If you don't believe what they believe, there are only two possible explanations: you are either crazy or demon-possessed—or perhaps both!

If you are wondering what the Lord said that made them think this of Him, He had just finished talking about laying down His life and taking it again (v. 18). Why, a man would have to be crazy or possessed to talk like that—or He would have to be God in the flesh! Those are the only possibilities!

This is a well-known apologetic argument for the deity of Christ. Reason and logic demand that in claiming to be God, Jesus Christ was either a *liar*, a *lunatic*, or He was indeed *the Lord*. That is, He could have been a possessed man who knew he wasn't God but lied and said he was. He could have been a lunatic who thought

he was God and wasn't—or He could have been the Lord! Those are the only logical possibilities. Some say, "He was a good man, but He wasn't God," but a good man wouldn't claim to be God if He wasn't! Others say, "He was a good teacher, but He wasn't God," but a lunatic doesn't make for a very good teacher!



Of course, the people who rejected His sayings here had an ulterior motive in saying these things about Him, a motive that we see in their words, "why hear ye Him?" They said He was mad or possessed to get people to stop listening to Him! Why would you want to listen to a man who is demon possessed? And if a mad-man starts making sense to you, what does that make you? Now you know why people call *you* names like this!

The Other Side of the Divide

So far we've only heard from those who didn't believe the Lord's words. Now let's see what they were saying on the other side of the great divide:

"Others said, These are not the words of him that hath a devil. Can a devil open the eyes of the blind?" (John 10:21).

Those who believed the Lord's sayings were not as "many" (v. 20) as those who didn't, but they offered two proofs that He was who He claimed to be: His words and His works. Let's consider His words first.

Those who believed His sayings argued that His words were not the words of a devil. Were they right? Would a devil not claim to be God? Actually, he might—but He wouldn't speak about laying down his life for others, as the Lord had been saying (v. 15). So His words proved He wasn't a devil.

But His *works* also proved it, or so these believers thought, for it didn't seem reasonable to them that a devil would open the eyes of the blind. Of course, we know that a devil *can* heal the blind, for when Antichrist appears, his coming will be "after the working of Satan *with all power and signs and lying wonders*" (II Thes. 2:9). If you are wondering if these lying wonders will include the ability to heal the blind, remember that Satan has the power to heal the "deadly wound" of the Antichrist (Rev. 13:1-3). If he can raise the dead, he can heal the blind.

But they didn't know this here in John 10. Up until this point in history, devils hadn't *healed* people, they had only *tormented* them (e.g., Mark 9:17-22). As far as these believers knew, only God could heal the blind (Psa. 146:8). These folks were probably remembering that *their Messiah* was the God who Isaiah said would come and heal the blind (Isa. 35:4-6 cf. Matt. 11:3-5). They weren't thinking He had a devil; they were thinking He was their Christ!

How might they have arrived at this conclusion? They employed the test of Deuteronomy 13:1-3, where Moses instructed the people of Israel to examine a man's works *and* his words before believing he was a prophet of God. They saw the Lord open the eyes of the blind, but they also heard Him speak words of truth that could not have come from a devil. Too many people are convinced that a man is of God when they see what they believe to be a miracle, regardless of the words that are coming out of his mouth. This kind of thinking will leave them ripe for Antichrist's picking when he shows up with his lying wonders.

Once the Lord surveyed the great divide that His words had caused, He knew it was time for...

The Great Dedication

“And it was at Jerusalem the feast of the dedication, and it was winter” (John 10:22).

It is not certain what the Jews observed in the feast of the dedication, since it took place in winter. It could be a remembrance of the dedication of Solomon's temple, but that temple was dedicated in the fall (I Kings 8:2), and Ezra's temple was dedicated in the spring (Ezra 6:15,16). This feast might be a memorial of the rededication of the temple by Judas Maccabeus that is said to have taken place after Antiochus Epiphanes sacrificed a pig on the altar of the temple. This is the feast of Hanukkah, which the Jews observe to this day *in winter*.

While the purpose of the feast of the dedication is not certain, it *is* certain that the Jews were

keeping a feast that God never commanded them to observe, but a feast that the Lord was attending here without censure, and one that John had no problem referencing in Scripture, also without any hint of disapproval.



All of this is interesting in light of the discussion about the observance of Christmas and Easter, observances that—like the feast of the dedication—God never commanded, but holidays that He has used mightily over the years to minister to those that visit our churches on these occasions. While we wouldn't suggest that this is definitive proof that God recognizes these days, we would think that it has some bearing on the discussion, and we would hope that, with this in mind, God's people would allow a brother to “be fully persuaded in his own mind” about these days (Rom. 14:5), and not judge or despise those who hold convictions that differ from their own (vv. 6-13 cf. vv. 3,4).

A Symbolic Season

This is the only place in God's Word where attention is called to the season in which an event took place, and I believe there is a symbolic reason that John mentions this. By winter, all the crops

that were going to be gathered into the barn in Israel were already harvested and stored, and by now it had become apparent that the religious leaders in Israel were refusing to be gathered into the “barn” of His kingdom (Matt. 13:30 cf. 38-43). It could be said of them, “the harvest is past, *the summer is ended*, and we are not saved” (Jer. 8:20). And so the Lord had reached a turning point in His ministry. How did He react to this rejection by Israel’s leaders?

“From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto His disciples, how that He must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day” (Matt. 16:21).

Those words, “from that time forth,” indicate that *before* that time the Lord had *not* told them that He was going to have to die. This verse is hard to explain if you believe that there is only one gospel in the Bible, as many dear Christians do. The Twelve had been preaching the gospel for some time now (Luke 9:6), yet when the Lord broke the news about His death, they didn’t know what He was talking about (Luke 18:31-34). This means they couldn’t have been preaching the gospel of “Christ died for our sins” and rose again (I Cor. 15:1-4) that saves men’s souls today. The gospel of the kingdom that they preached at that time (Luke 9:6) was that “the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (Matt. 3:2; 4:17), and that Jesus was Christ the King (John 20:31). And so while men have always been saved by the

blood of Christ, the way to *appropriate* the salvation that His blood provides has varied in accord with the terms of the different gospels found in Scripture.

The Lord’s Reaction

Now, if you are thinking that, after seeing how the leaders were rejecting Him, the Lord just sighed and resigned Himself to His fate, think again. He *dedicated Himself* to it, symbolized here by this feast of the dedication. As Luke put it, “when the time was come that He should be received up, *He stedfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem*” (9:51). In so doing, He was fulfilling Isaiah’s prophecy of His passion (50:6), where the prophet went on to quote the Lord as saying, “therefore have I set My face like a flint” (v. 7). A flint is a *stone*, and this verse just may be the origin of the expression *stone-faced*, which means a face utterly devoid of any emotion. I daresay if you or I knew we were going to be brutally murdered in the prime of life, we would betray a great many emotions, *fear* being first and foremost. *Not the Lord Jesus!* He *dedicated Himself* to go and die for our sins, symbolized here by this feast of the dedication, the Lord’s response to this winter turning point in His ministry.

Remember, Solomon’s temple was dedicated with blood (I Kings 8:63), as was Ezra’s temple (Ezra 6:16,17), so it should come as no surprise that the temple of the Lord’s body (John 2:19-21) should also be so dedicated. The great *spiritual* temple that the Lord came to build (Eph. 2:20-22) must likewise be dedicated with His blood. Of course, while the Old

Testament was dedicated with blood (Heb. 9:18), the New Testament had to be dedicated with better blood than that of bulls and goats. And at this turning point in His ministry, at this winter feast of the dedication, the Lord had now dedicated Himself to accomplishing these dedications.

Your Reaction

Now the question is, are you as dedicated to Him as He was to you? He dedicated Himself to die for you; are you as dedicated to live for Him (II Cor. 5:15)? God is not

asking for your *blood*, He is asking for your *life* (Rom. 12:1,2). He is asking you to respond to the divisions that you see all around you, in the world and in the church, and to the rejection of men, by doing what the Lord did in response to the divisions all around Him, and to the rejection that He experienced. He is calling upon you to dedicate yourself to Him as never before, to set your face like a flint, and exhibit the same stone-faced determination to live for Him that He showed in dying for you.

Will you answer the call?



Dinosaurs



Many years ago, I worked at the *Carnegie Museum of Natural History* in Pittsburgh. When I entered the building, I had to pass by the dinosaur exhibit, which never ceased to amaze me. One of the largest ones on display at the time was a *brontosaurus*. This particular dinosaur made the *Tyrannosaurus rex* beside it look small and insignificant. After the lights were dimmed in the evening, the exhibit was unnerving

to consider crossing paths with one of these monsters, back when they roamed the earth. If you have ever wondered if men and dinosaurs coexisted, the answer is a definite yes!

“Behold now behemoth, which I made with thee; he eateth grass as an ox. Lo now, his strength is in his loins, and his force is in the navel of his belly. He moveth his tail like a cedar: the sinews of his stones are wrapped together. His bones are as strong pieces of brass; his bones are like bars of iron” (Job 40:15-24).

The behemoth in these passages is the Hebrew word for “great beast.” Notice that this beast has all the same characteristics of a *brontosaurus*, which we know to have been a vegetarian. Its strength is said to be in its loins—large and powerful! The tail was like the mighty cedars of Lebanon. Huge! And the bones of the behemoth were like bars of iron, crushing everything in its path. It also had an insatiable thirst and it could not be snared. He was the chief of God’s ways!

—Pastor Sadler



Are You Sure You're Secure?

By Pastor Ricky Kurth

“For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God” (Eph. 5:5).

Most grace believers know that our Apostle Paul says that nothing can separate us from the love of God (Rom. 8:38,39). But we frequently hear from grace believers who are troubled by the verse above, and some other Pauline passages that we will consider later in this article. With that in mind, let's consider these Scriptures that have been a needless cause of concern for so many.

Conscience Salve

Believers are often able to salve their consciences in regard to this verse by reasoning that, while they may have fallen into fornication at some time or other in their lives, they would hardly describe themselves using the word *whoremonger*, or even the words *unclean person*. And while a Christian man might, on rare occasion, find himself coveting his neighbor's wife or possessions, it would be difficult to find one who would consider himself to be a “covetous man.”

In a further attempt to salve the conscience in regard to this verse, appeal is often made to this similar-sounding passage:

“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

“Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

“Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God” (Gal. 5:19-21).

Here it is suggested that the word “do” means *to practice*, and so it is argued that, while a Christian may occasionally fall into one or more—or even all—of these transgressions, a real Christian does not *live* in these sins. However, the Greek word for “do” here is never translated *practice* in the Authorized Version, and this isn’t the meaning of the English word either. We believe a better approach to this verse is just to let it mean what it says, and try to understand what it says, rather than trying to change what it says.

The Better Approach

Do you remember what Paul said when he found himself engaging in such sins? “Now if I do that I would not, *it is no more I that do it*, but sin that dwelleth in me” (Rom. 7:20). It *used to be* Paul who did those things, before he was saved, but later when he did those things as a believer, it was “no more” he that did them, it was sin that lay in him. Now that he was saved, he might sin, but he was someone “to whom the Lord will not *impute* sin” (Rom. 4:8).

All of this might sound like word games, but it is actually just learning to look at things in the way that God sees them. We see more of this way of looking at things in yet another problem passage:

“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

“Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God” (I Cor. 6:9,10).

Paul begins this passage by asserting that “*the unrighteous* shall not inherit the kingdom of God,” and the unrighteous are *unbelievers*. Believers have been “made righteous” (Rom. 5:19), “made the righteousness of God in Him” (II Cor. 5:21). “The law is not made for a righteous man” (I Tim. 1:9), and neither is the condemnation of this passage.

This understanding assures us that, when Paul then goes on here to speak of fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, and others who will not inherit the kingdom of God, he is speaking of unbelievers who indulge in such sins, not believers. As we compare Scripture with Scripture, this alone is enough to interpret the passage in Galatians 5 that similarly speaks of people who won’t inherit the kingdom of God.

But we see more evidence that this is the proper understanding of this passage in what we read in the next verse. After enumerating that long list of sinners, Paul goes on to say,

“And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God” (I Cor. 6:11).

Did you ever wonder how Paul could say, “and such *were* some of you,” to these Corinthians? Is he forgetting that these carnal Christians were *still* involved in these kinds of sins?

We know from the fifth chapter of this epistle that at least one of them had fallen into fornication. The stern warnings that Paul issued about this sin to the rest of them (6:15-18) would suggest that others in their assembly might also be guilty of this sin. They must also have had a problem with idolatry, or else Paul would not have had to say, “neither be ye idolaters” (10:7 cf. v. 14). We know that they were also coveting one another’s spiritual gifts, for Paul concludes his discussion of this problem (12:15-30) by telling them to “covet earnestly the best gifts” (v. 31). To top it all off, their problem with drunkenness was even affecting their observance of the Lord’s Supper (11:21).



In light of all this, how could Paul say, “and such *were* some of you,” to believers who were *still* engaged in these sins? Well, as the apostle goes on to say, they were now washed, sanctified, and justified—in other words, they were now *saved*, and salvation gives a believer a brand new identity in Christ. In writing to these Corinthians, Paul did not address this letter “to the drunks and fornicators at

Corinth”; he addressed this epistle to the “saints” (1:2). They still fell into these sins, but that was no longer their identity in the eyes of God. He didn’t see them as fornicators, etc.; He saw them as saints.

No Excuses

This means that none of us ever have an excuse for indulging in sin. You cannot say, “I can’t quit drinking; I’m a drunk,” because God says you *were* a drunk, but now you’re a saint! You cannot say, “I can’t stop stealing; I’m a thief!,” because God says you *were* a thief, but now you are a saint! Your new identity in Christ is not just a matter of semantics; it is a spiritual reality.

It is of course possible that you, as a believer, can fall into these and any other sins, but when you do, you are not acting like who God has made you in Christ. Sometimes we say of a friend or loved one, “He’s not acting himself today,” meaning that he is not conducting himself in a way that is consistent with the person that he really is. The same is true in the spiritual realm. When a believer falls into sin, he becomes one of those who “oppose themselves,” and must be brought to “repentance to the acknowledging of the truth” (II Tim. 2:25). That is, we must acknowledge the truth of who we really are in Christ, and repent by bringing our conduct in line with our identity.

In our nation’s witness protection program, people are given an entirely new identity so that nothing in their past can surface and endanger their lives in any way. Our new identity in Christ does that and more, for it provides us with immunity for any future infractions

of God's law that we may commit that might otherwise threaten to do us eternal harm.

Because of this, you need never worry about inheriting the kingdom of God, especially since Paul told the saints at Colosse (Col. 1:2) that God has *already* "translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son" (v. 13). Notice that this verse is in the past tense. We don't have to worry about inheriting God's kingdom, for we are already a part of His kingdom.

Additional Assurance

If these words have not brought peace to your soul regarding these passages, we offer one further word about inheriting God's kingdom. Paul uses this phrase again in the following passage:

"Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.


"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed" (I Cor. 15:50,51).

Here Paul explains that our physical bodies cannot inherit the kingdom of God because they are made of flesh and blood. As you may know, the kingdom of God in heaven is not another dimension into which we step when we die; heaven is a place, it has a geographical location somewhere in the north (Psa. 75:6; Isa. 14:13). To get to this place that the Bible elsewhere identifies as "paradise" and "the third heaven" (II Cor. 12:2,4), we must travel through the second heaven, the realm of planets and stars (Gen. 22:17; 26:4, etc.). As any astronaut can tell you, our physical bodies are not equipped to travel in space. That's why, at the Rapture, "we shall all be changed," as our bodies are "fashioned like unto His glorious body" (Phil. 3:20,21). That is, our physical bodies will be fashioned like unto the Lord's resurrection body, a body that *can* inherit the kingdom of God in heaven.

And so, while our bodies cannot inherit the kingdom of God as they stand today, a physical change will take place at the Rapture that will enable us to be gathered unto our inheritance. Similarly, if you are worried that as a thief or a drunkard you cannot inherit the kingdom of God, rest assured that at the Rapture you will likewise undergo a spiritual change that will render you incapable of ever sinning again, and thus enable you to inherit the kingdom of God by anyone's standard.

How Should We Then Live?

If you have trusted the blood of Christ as the only payment for your sins, you are "sealed with that holy Spirit of promise" (Eph. 1:13). This guarantee of reaching the kingdom of God is extended, not only to spiritual believers like the Ephesians, but also to carnal believers like the Corinthians (II Cor. 1:22).¹ What then should our reaction be to this blessed guarantee? Paul recommends that we "grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption" (Eph. 4:30).

We recently heard of a pastor who tells his congregation that they can live in sin “since all is forgiven.” The Apostle Paul responded to men who said such things in his day by saying, “Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. *Be not ye therefore partakers with them*” (Eph. 5:6,7). Someday the wrath of God is going to come upon unbelievers for the sins that Paul enumerates in this passage. No believer should ever want to engage in the sins for which God will punish men in the lake of fire for all eternity just because we are sealed with God’s Spirit and guaranteed an inheritance in His kingdom. Every believer should instead aspire to “walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing” (Col. 1:10), and never presume upon the grace that saved us. 

Endnote

1. See the writer’s article, *The Security of the Seal*, in the May, 2002 issue of the *Berean Searchlight*.

Question Box

“Was the Lord nailed to the cross through His hands or through His wrists?”



The word *wrist* doesn’t appear in our Authorized Version, and so sometimes the word “hands” means wrists. For example, when we read of Peter, that “his chains fell off from his *hands*” (Acts 12:7), this must refer to his *wrists*, for chains fastened around a man’s *palms* would simply slip off. Similarly, Agabus “bound his own hands and feet” (Acts 21:11).

We know that the Bible word “hands” cannot always refer to the *palms* of the hands, since it was said of the Lord that “the servants did strike Him *with the palms of their hands*” (Mark 14:65). If the word “hands” always refers to the *palms*, there would be no reason for Mark to specify “*the palms of their hands*.”

When we add the historical evidence that men were crucified through their wrists, and the anatomical evidence that nails in the palms would never support the weight of a man, it seems clear that the Lord was nailed through His wrists.

—Pastor Kurth



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Growing Spiritually

By Pastor John Fredericksen

It is kind of exciting to watch our children go through periods of growth. Parents can usually detect it. When growing, children's appetites can easily double or triple. Without being told, they often take much more time for rest or sleep. Physically, you'll soon notice your child's limbs have grown longer (making it obvious it's time to buy

them new clothes—again), and their whole appearance begins to change. What is even more thrilling is when you witness a real growth in their maturity too.

When the Apostle Paul wrote to believers in Thessalonica, he could praise them by saying, **“your faith groweth exceedingly”** (II Thes. 1:3). Now, how did he know they were growing spiritually? It was easy, because three things were evident in them. First, he told them *their “charity [or love] of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth”* (II Thes. 1:3). No growth in this area equals little or no growth at all. Second and third, *they exhibited “patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations”* (II Thes. 1:4). It takes spiritual life and growth to react positively toward negative circumstances. But these believers were growing enough spiritually that they endured wrongs, not for doing wrong, but for the cause of Christ, and they did so without losing their cool or faith in God's care.

The spiritual growth of these believers should come as no surprise. *They had “received the Word of God...not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the Word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe”* (I Thes. 2:13). It seems they had a real appetite for the Scriptures, regularly took time for it, and allowed the truths they were learning to transform the way they lived.

This passage should cause each of us to ask ourselves, **“Am I growing spiritually?”** I ought to be and need to be growing in Christ. I'll know for sure if I'm growing in the Lord by the presence of these three qualities exhibited in the saints at Thessalonica. Am I growing spiritually?”





BBS Letter Excerpts

From Arizona:

"To understand how to rightly divide the Word and Paul's gospel is like having a new Bible. Things that didn't make sense before do now."

From Pennsylvania:

"My relationship with the Lord and my Bible studies have been far more enjoyable by rightly dividing the Word. This method of keeping things in their proper place has brought clarity and understanding to God's program of truth through the ages."

From our Inbox:

"Thank you for today's heart-searching *Two Minutes*."

From Pennsylvania:

"Thank you. Your words and teaching, and the fact that you took time to help today, have helped and will continue to help me be a better ambassador for Christ. My faith is strengthened."

From our Inbox:

"I want to thank you very much, Pastor Sadler, for your response to my question regarding Matthew 13. The information you provided was, as always, a great help to me! I am very appreciative for your taking time to respond as I am certain you receive many similar emails and letters. I completely agree with your statement that most of the misinterpretations are due to people failing to acknowledge Paul's distinct apostleship and message."

From Arizona:

"I have been a Christian for a long time, but the insight that I got from *Now That I Believe* was much needed and timeless and profitable for my walk."

From Michigan:

"Pastor Sadler's book, *The Unsearchable Riches of Christ* is exceptional, and I keep finding friends who need to know the Word of God rightly divided. Thanks so very much!"

From South Africa:

"Your article on *Mansion Myths & Misunderstandings* was very well received, and you are to be commended for the succinct explanation of the passage. Your other article on *Traitor or Trustee* is an ideal counterargument to liberal and modern Gnostics who seek to twist the truth about the life of Jesus. Kevin Sadler is also to be commended for his outstanding and appropriate designs which illustrate the topics so graphically and contain a visual message of the subject.... You can be assured that your messages are getting through to people far and wide, particularly in South Africa." (From our good friend Dr. Bruce Woolard, pastor of St. Mark's Congregational Church in Port Elizabeth.—Ed).

From California:

"You brought confirmation to me on John 14, *Mansion Myths and Misunderstandings*. Now I have something to show those that would disagree with the Word of God."

From Oregon:

"Thank you, dear brothers in Christ, for your reply to my question! It was wonderfully instructive."

From Indiana:

"One of the men from...church is studying via the internet for the ministry. He approached me with a question and God has graciously given me the opportunity to have several sessions with him. I can see a hunger for the truth in him as he comes over for more study sessions. He is studying Pastor Sadler's *Exploring the Unsearchable Riches of Christ*, now about halfway through, and becoming very interested, telling me that this is the first time he has heard of dispensational teaching. What a spiritual high it is to be able to share God's message for today with another Christian, especially one who is hungry to learn."

From Florida:

"As of late I've found a brother in Christ who is sincerely desiring a closer relationship with Christ Jesus. I've discussed extensively the revelation of the mystery, the dispensations, the different gospels and he seemed very open, so I loaned him C. R. Stam's commentary on *Galatians* and *Things That Differ*...he's requested his own *Searchlight*, praise God!"

From Facebook:

"Convicting article on afflictions! So good I printed it for future reference."

From our Inbox:

"Keep the Word coming just as it is! You bring forth everything that the Lord needs me to read. I enjoy your devotionals!"

From our Inbox:

"I love *Two Minutes*...several times a week I post it as my 'status' on Facebook, always recognizing the author...Over the past year or so I have had several positive comments and people often subscribe to the *Searchlight* after reading these. It has given me many opportunities to share the uniqueness of Paul's ministry and God's amazing grace with many."

From Georgia:

"After reading this week's *Two Minutes with the Bible*, being touched by the message of God's grace, I decided to write. Why, I don't know, beyond letting you know that, as a fellow believer in Christ, I enjoy and appreciate your ministry. Finding your piece in the local paper is a blessing." (*Two Minutes* appears in hundreds of newspapers across the country.—Ed).

From Ghana:

"I chanced upon your website and found your Bible articles very helpful and also simple to understand, which has helped me to explain the gospel very well to friends and family."

From our Inbox:

"Wow, what a great article! The Bible is clear what it says regarding what happens after death....I had some misunderstandings about paradise and Abraham's bosom until I read your article. I always thought those places were still in the belly of the earth. Thanks for clearing that up."

From New York:

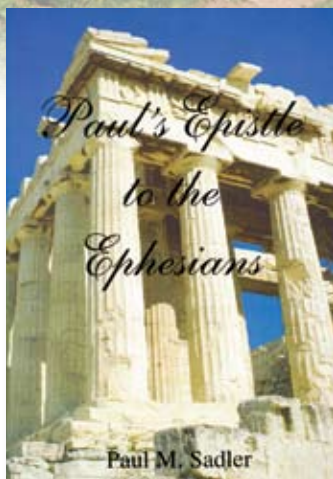
"The Lord let me live so long (100+) because I am a slow learner... I owe you a lot more than the gift I am enclosing."



"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

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By Paul M. Sadler



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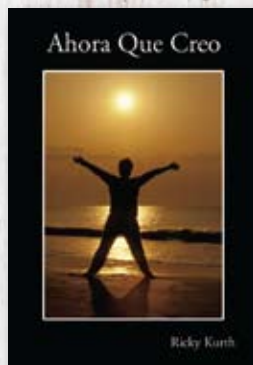
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News and Announcements

Northern Grace Youth Camp: NGYC Director David Green has asked your editor to speak to the young people during Senior High Camp (Grades 10-12), the week of July 28-August 3. If you or someone you know falls into that age bracket, be sure to visit www.northerngraceyouthcamp.org for further information about how you can experience the blessings of a week spent at a Christian camp where God's Word is always rightly divided, and the lives of young people are constantly being conformed to the image of Christ.

The Book of Ezra was the unlikely text for a series of eight messages we brought to the warm-hearted saints in the grace fellowship in Nashville back in April, and this study of all ten of the book's chapters is now posted on our BBS website in the MP3 section. We hope you'll delight in the types of Israel's future and the many practical transdispensational truths that this often-overlooked book has to offer. While you are there, be sure to check out the many other book studies and themes addressed in our MP3 section.

"How I Met My Grace-Believing Spouse" is the title of a brief essay that we'd like you to write and share with us. Your editor will be speaking at the singles meetings at the annual *Berean Bible Fellowship* Bible conference in Cedar Lake, Indiana, and we'd like to share your experience with the singles. Just don't delay, as the June 15-20 conference is almost upon us!

Dr. Robert Nix, director of our *Berean Bible Institute*, will be addressing the theme of "Paul, Our Apostle" at the 23rd annual Bible conference in White Sulphur Springs, Pennsylvania, September 6-8. Perennial conference organizer Suzanne Potter would like to welcome you back to this annual fall classic, or meet and greet you if this will be your first time enjoying their fellowship. Just give her a call at (304) 263-2411 to book your stay at their new, thirteen million dollar facility, or for further information.



Our cover photo was taken by Alan Neubauer, one of BBS's proofreaders. The *Wind Point Lighthouse* is located in Wind Point, WI. Standing at 108 feet, it is one of the oldest and tallest active lighthouses on the Great Lakes. Wind Point uses the old keeper's quarters as a village hall and police headquarters.

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A Father's Day Reminder

“Hearken unto thy father that
begat thee...” (Proverbs 23:22).