

The BEREAN SEARCHLIGHT

Studying God's Word, Rightly Divided

March 2016



Feature Article

Dispensationalism (Cont.), by Paul M. Sadler5

Articles

Trash Talking, by Ricky Kurth13
Animal Sacrifices in the Millennial Kingdom, by Ricky Kurth15
More Than Competent to Counsel, by Ricky Kurth19

Departments

A New Body4
Sprinkled or Dunked?18
Question Box.....25
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

Reader’s Rights & Responsibilities: BBS respects a reader’s right to hold views that differ from those of our writers. If a reader has a serious concern with a specific article, it is his or her responsibility to act in a manner that endeavors to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. This can best be accomplished by contacting the editor, who will then forward your concerns to the author of the article in question. We promise to address all concerns in a timely manner.



You can reach us at:

BEREAN BIBLE SOCIETY
N112 W17761 Mequon Road
PO Box 756
Germantown, WI 53022

Main Office: (262) 255-4750 — Monday-Friday, 9 am to 5 pm, CT

Internet: www.bereanbiblesociety.org

E-mail: berean@bereanbiblesociety.org

The Berean Searchlight (ISSN 0005-8890), March 2016. Vol. 77, Number 1.

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,

As you may remember, several years ago *Berean Bible Society* president Pastor Paul M. Sadler had a bout with cancer that was treated with chemotherapy, a treatment which further weakened his previous weakened-heart condition. Eventually the Boss (as I call him) was able to resume a full workload, albeit at a more measured and guarded pace, thanks to the pacemaker they installed at that time.

A recent period of weakness, however, sent Pastor Sadler back to the doctors, who determined that the installation of an updated pacemaker was in order. On January 12th, his old pacemaker was replaced with a new ICD three-lead pacemaker/defibrillator, with electrical leads in both his right and left ventricle, with one lead attached to the outside artery of his left ventricle. For those of us who find this medical jargon mystifying, the Boss called on his usual good humor to describe this new device as “a pacemaker on steroids”! The goal of this new state-of-the-art pacemaker, together with a new heart medication regimen, is to keep the heart muscle from getting any weaker, or at the very least slow down the weakening process.

Pastor Sadler has asked me to express his profound thanks for the outpouring of love and support that he has already received from your cards and calls, and he hopes that you will continue to pray for his continued recovery. In addition, he knows that you will want to join him in prayer for all of the doctors and nurses with whom he was able to share the gospel during his ten days in the Intensive Care Unit. The calm assurance with which he faced this very serious challenge to his health is bound to have had a profound effect on these medical technicians who through fear of death have all their lifetime been subject to bondage.

Finally, the board of directors of *Berean Bible Society* has instructed the office staff here to limit our demands on the Boss’s attention to the absolute minimum, to allow him to devote the bulk of his time and attention to completing his commentary series on *Revelation*. To find out how you can help with this, see the first item in our *News and Announcements* on Page 30. Meanwhile, with this goal in view, the Boss has already returned to the office on a limited basis, where he hopes to finalize Volume 3 of this four volume set as soon as possible, “ye also helping together by prayer” (II Cor. 1:11).

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Ricky Kurth



A New Body

By Pastor
John Fredericksen

The older we get, the more our bodies wear out and are filled with aches and pains. It reminds us of our heavenly home, and helps prepare us for the time when we step into eternity. In the fall of 2013, a dear saint in our assembly was having increasingly severe health problems. One day he stood and said to us all: "Enjoy your aches and pains now because one day soon we will be with the Savior in heaven. There we will be given new heavenly bodies. We will have no pain, no sorrow and no death. A glorious future awaits us. Rejoice in this."

The above expectation is right on target. When John the Apostle explained the physical eternal state, he wrote, "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is" (I John 3:2). Gospel accounts of our resurrected Savior describe Him with a body similar in appearance to His previous state. We would surely expect that as God Himself, the Savior no longer experienced any pain. Revelation 21:4 confirms this when it refers to the eternal state of the kingdom saints. John wrote, "And God shall wipe away all tears...there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away." The Apostle Paul explains there will be vast differences in our new eternal body. It will be a "celestial" body (I Cor. 15:38-40), meaning it will fitted by God to thrive in the atmosphere of the heavens. In contrast to our physical bodies that are weak, degenerating and eventually corrupt, our new bodies will be "raised in incorruption...glory...power...[and as] a spiritual body" (I Cor. 15:42-44). Paul continues his explanation by saying: "...flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God...behold I show you a mystery...we shall all be changed" (I Cor. 15:50-51). To summarize our change he says, "...as we have born the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly" (I Cor. 15:49).

Whenever you get weighed down with physical pain, remember, one day our Lord is going to give us new bodies without weakness or pain. Believe it, rejoice in it and look forward to it with thanksgiving. Keep looking up for His return in expectation and faithfulness until He comes.

DISPENSATIONALISM (Cont.)

By Paul M. Sadler, D.D.



An understanding of the dispensations of God is essential to properly interpret the Word of God. Like the multiplication tables, once we learn the dispensations they are easily accessed from memory on a moment's notice. When I took *Dispensational Theology* in Bible school, it proved to be an eye-opening class. In fact, I still remember four important points the instructor made about dispensationalism that I have never forgotten, and still apply to my study of the Scriptures to this day. He stated that a knowledge of the dispensations:

- Saves from thinking the Scriptures contradict themselves.
- Guards against doctrinal errors—errors regarding signs, tongues, healing, etc.
- Shows where we are in the history of the world.
- Guards against fears and false hope.

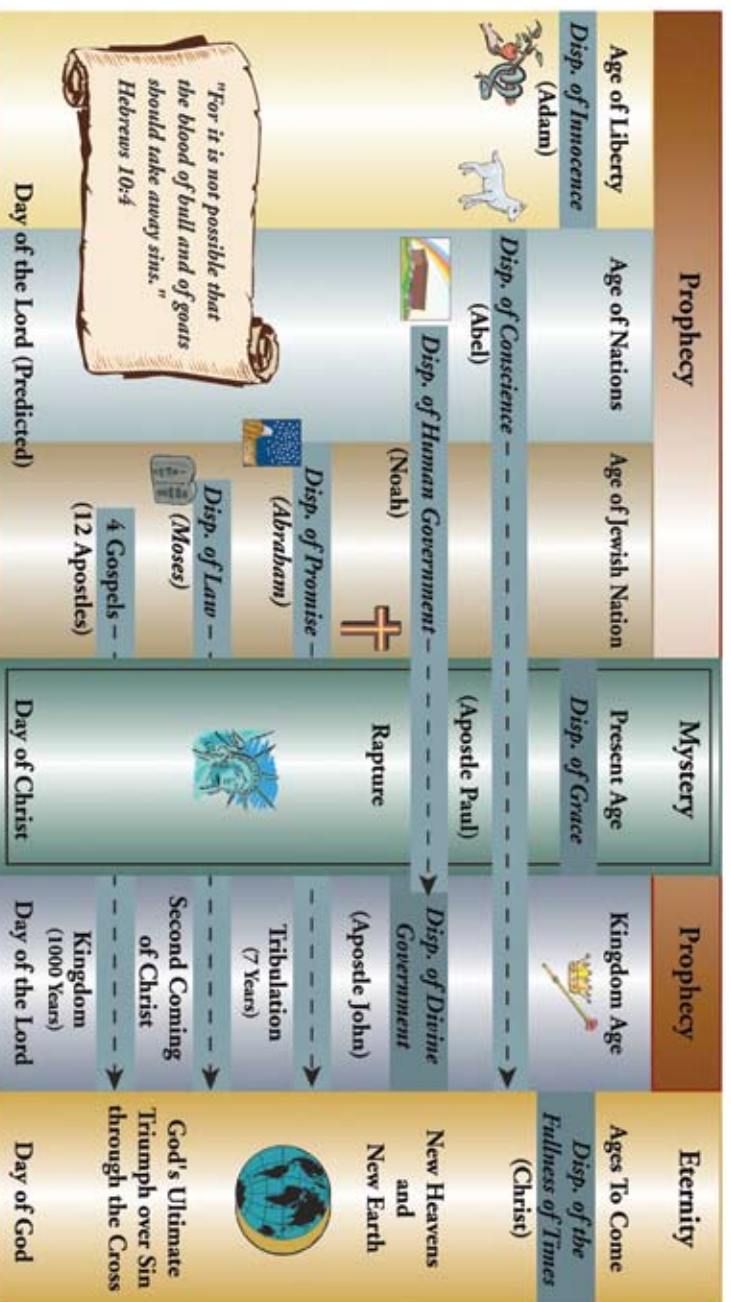
Having completed our analysis of the present evil age in which Paul dispensed the gospel of the grace of God for today, we now want to move on to the *continuation* of the Jewish Age after the Rapture. Essentially, God is going to pick up where He left off at the stoning of Stephen in Acts chapter seven.

V. The Kingdom Age (*Dispensation of Divine Government*)

A. *God's Will*: God dispenses wrath and justice to this Christ-rejecting world (Psa. 2:1-12).

1. The prophetic program will resume. Once again, the Jewish nation will be in view (Rev. 7:1-8).

The Ages and Dispensations



2. The seven-year *Tribulation Period* will precede the coming Millennial Kingdom. The chief goal of the coming Tribulation is to overthrow the kingdoms of this world and establish the kingdom of His dear Son (Rev. 11:15). This will be accomplished by the chastening of Israel, the pouring out of God's wrath on those who receive the mark of the beast, and bringing the time of Jacob's Trouble to a close with the Second Coming of Christ (Jer. 30:7; Isa. 24:1; Ezek. 38:14-23; Matt. 24:29,30).
3. The Kingdom reign of the Messiah—the duration is 1000 years (Rev. 20:4,5,7).
 - a. The curse on creation will be *partially* lifted allowing the desert to blossom like a rose and the lion to lie down with the lamb (Isa. 11:6; 35:1; 65:25).
 - b. The Throne of David will be established (II Sam. 7:16; Matt. 19:28; Acts 2:30).
 - c. Justice will fill the earth (Jer. 23:5,6).
 - d. Peace will prevail (Isa. 9:6,7) when the Prince of Peace returns in glory.
 - e. The Abrahamic and Davidic Covenants, including the New Covenant, will all be fulfilled.
- B. *Man's Responsibility*: Israel will be required to declare that Christ is indeed the *Messiah* of Israel (John 20:31; I John 5:1).
 1. Repentance and water baptism will again be preached (Mark 16:15,16; Acts 2:38 cf. Rev. 9:21).
 2. Certain aspects of the Law must again be observed during the Tribulation and Kingdom, such as the Sabbaths, Levitical feasts, and the sacrificial system (Matt. 24:20; Zech. 14:16-21).
- C. *Man's Failure*: In the face of almost unbelievable judgment, men will choose rather to blaspheme God, Who has the power to deliver them (Rev. 16:11,21).
 1. While the redeemed will no longer sin during the Millennium (Ezek. 36), sin will rear its ugly head among the unsaved during the thousand year reign of Christ (Isa. 65:20).
 2. Amazingly, after our Lord Jesus Christ rules in righteousness for a period of 1000 years there will be multitudes who brazenly rise up in rebellion against Him at the close of the Millennium to challenge His authority (Rev. 20:7-9).
- D. *God's Judgment*: Seeing that the Millennial Kingdom is the consummation of the age, and time as we know it, there are a number of judgments that will precede its establishment:
 1. Israel will be judged (Matt. 25:14-30).

2. The nations will be judged at this time as well (Matt. 25:31-46).
3. *After the Millennium*, all the unsaved of all ages are summoned to the *Great White Throne* to be judged according to their sinful works (Rom. 2:4,5; Col. 3:5,6). They will then be condemned to the eternal flame (Rev. 20:11-15).
4. The *Day of the Lord* closes with the heavens and earth consumed in fire as God prepares to execute His eternal purpose (II Pet. 3:10).

VI. The Ages to Come (*Dispensation of the Fullness of Times*)

A. *God's Will*: God's ultimate purpose for His creation is to sum up all things in Christ (Eph. 1:10).

1. The renovation of the heavens and the earth will return them to their original state and beauty (Psa. 104:5; Isa. 65:17; 66:22; II Pet. 3:11,12; Rev. 21:1).
2. The Body of Christ will reign with Christ throughout eternity in the heavenlies (Eph. 2:6,7).
3. Israel and all the redeemed of the Prophetic program will reign with Christ from the New Jerusalem on the new earth (Rev. 21:9-27).

B. *Human Responsibility*: All saints will live in harmony with one another, and in all probability heaven and earth will be open to each other, since all things have been summed up in Christ.

1. In eternity we will continue to labor and serve the Lord with gladness (II Cor. 5:9).
2. God will be all in all (I Cor. 15:27,28).

C. *Failure*: There will be **no more failure, sin, pain, death, or tears**—Hallelujah!!

D. *Judgment*: There will be **no more judgment**: "And God shall wipe away all tears...and there shall be no more death...for the former things are passed away" (Rev. 21:4).

FURTHER CLARIFICATION ON THE ETERNAL STATE

"That in the dispensation of the fullness of times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in Him" (Eph. 1:10).

There are essentially two positions concerning *when* the *dispensation of the fullness of times* actually will take place. Some have laid claim to the idea that the phrase refers to the *Rapture*, while others say it points to a future day beyond this glorious event, as the foregoing outline advocates. It never ceases to amaze us how two believers can study the exact same passage and come up with completely different

conclusions. This is why it is important to be Bereans, lest we find ourselves caught between two conflicting viewpoints.

Remember that while a pastor's obligation is to teach the Word, it is the responsibility of all believers to search the Scriptures daily, whether those things are so. At the Judgment Seat of Christ, please don't say, "But Pastor Sadler said!" If you come to the same conclusion I have on the *Dispensation of the Fullness of Times*, it should be because you are convinced in your own mind that this indeed is what the Scriptures teach.

AN APPOINTMENT WITH DESTINY

"In Whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will" (Eph. 1:11).

It is our conviction that the phrase *Dispensation of the Fullness of Times* is a direct reference to the *eternal state*. According to the above passage, God has *predestined* the Body of Christ to partake in His eternal purpose for the heavens. Sadly, many view the teaching of *predestination* as a harsh doctrine, which should be avoided at all costs because of the controversy it engenders. One very significant observation we need to make about this term is that every time it is used in the Scriptures, it is always associated with the believer and *never* with the unbeliever.

If we break the term *predestination* apart, we are to understand that the prefix "pre" simply means beforehand. I am sure most are familiar with what is known as the "pre-game" show before a big game. Before the game begins, the announcers usually evaluate the teams and interview key players. This is why it is called the "pre-game" show—it goes *before* the sporting event.



"Destination" basically means, where you are going to end up. For example, when I was a senior in high school, I worked at the *Carnegie Museum* in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Every day after school I would board a streetcar. Since there were so many streetcars that travelled to town, I had to be very careful to catch the correct one. I was looking for the one which had the sign overhead "Oakland-Carnegie Museum," which was my *destination*.

Before the foundation of the world, God had *predetermined* that the members of the Body of Christ would have a heavenly hope and calling, and inherit

the heavens for eternity. While the Rapture of the Church will be an essential part in bringing the plans and purposes of God to completion, it cannot (in and of itself) be said to be the culmination of them. Surely the heavenly program of God could not be summed up in Christ at the Rapture in light of the *Judgment Seat of Christ*, which is yet to follow. This event undoubtedly will cover a period of time which is only known to the Lord (II Cor. 5:10).

Furthermore, we must not forget that long after our home-going, the heavens, as we know them, will still be occupied by the powers of darkness. Subsequently, in the middle of the Tribulation period, evil and rebellion will utterly consume both men and angels. At the appointed time, Michael and his angels will march out of the heavens to make a declaration of war on these forces of evil. The ensuing battle will result in Satan's expulsion from the heavenly realms, which rightfully belong to us.

"And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him" (Rev. 12:7-9).

In addition, as the Tribulation draws to a close, the heavens will be the backdrop for a display of God's wrath such as this world has never known. These events were foretold by the prophets of old and reiterated by Peter on the day of Pentecost.

"And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke: the sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come" (Acts 2:19,20).

As we have seen, even though the curse will be *largely* lifted during the Kingdom age after the Great Tribulation, the effects of sin will *still* be evident in God's universe.

DELIVERANCE

"Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness" (II Pet. 3:12,13).

The *Day of God* will usher in the *Dispensation of the Fullness of Times*, bringing us to the eternal state. The day of divine retribution will close with the heavens and earth being consumed with fire, thus preparing them for the completion of God's plans and purposes. With eternity in view, *all* the children of God will have been removed from the presence of sin and brought into a glorified state. Death, which is

our last enemy, will be abolished and cast into the Lake of Fire, along with those who have defiled themselves in unbelief (Rev. 20:14).

At this point, God is going to renovate the old order, restoring it to its original state, as we have noted. We want to pause here a moment to clarify that in the beginning God *“laid the foundations of the earth, that it should not be removed forever”* (Psa. 104:5). When Peter speaks about “new” heaven and a “new” earth, he uses the Greek word *kainos*, which is not a reference to new in time, but new as to form or quality. Once this renovation of heaven and earth is accomplished, God will sum up all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and on the earth. The day of God then marks the beginning of the eternal state. We find it of interest that according to both Peter and Paul the distinction between heaven and earth will remain throughout the ages.

“At the
Judgment
Seat of Christ,
please don’t
say, ‘But Pastor
Sadler said!’”



For the members of the Body of Christ, this means taking full possession of the new heaven which is our inheritance. Like the Apostle Paul, we will be seated with Christ in all His glory so that throughout eternity the heavenly host may observe the trophies of God’s grace. But there is more, much

more; the Lord is also going to show His kindness to *us* in the ages to come (Eph. 1:3,11; 2:6,7; 3:10,11). To think that we are a glorious part of all of this in Christ! It should cause us to bow our knees in humble adoration to the One who has made all this possible through His finished work.


The prophetic saints, of course, will inherit the earth which also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption. Apparently the New Jerusalem will become the capital of the new earth. Those who enter through the twelve gates of the city will behold the names of the *twelve tribes* of Israel written above. The crystal city will also have twelve foundations with the names of the *twelve apostles* inscribed thereupon. This superstructure will be a stunning fifteen-hundred-mile cube and will not require the light of the sun, for the Lord God Himself will be the sustaining light (Rev. 21:9-21; 22:1-5). Abraham’s search for a city “whose builder and maker is God” will ultimately find fulfilment in the New Jerusalem.

APPLICATION

Throughout the ages and dispensations, God has placed man under different circumstances to demonstrate that even in the most ideal conditions, such as the coming Kingdom, man is basically at enmity with

God and is in need of a Savior. Therefore, God's ultimate purpose in having us view His Word through the lens of dispensationalism is that we might see more clearly His triumph over sin in the universe.

Once we understand that we are currently living in the dispensation of grace, it will deliver us from being hopelessly confused. For example, under the dispensation of the law, forgiveness was based on a like spirit. But under grace, we are forgiven for Christ's sake. Today we are to forgive others because we have been forgiven in Christ (Eph. 4:32). If you are harboring anger and bitterness toward someone who has wronged you, pause for a moment to forgive them, bearing in mind that Christ has forgiven you of *all* of your sins. We can assure you that a great burden will be lifted from your shoulders if you apply this wonderful truth in your Christian life.

A dear pastor friend of mine from years gone by used to always say, "As believers in Christ, we have a future!" With the dawn of eternity, *all* believers will enjoy the glory of God's presence as we worship Him in true holiness. At long last, peace, righteousness and holiness will prevail throughout the ages to the praise of His glory. Amen! 

BBF Summer Conference

Dates: Sunday, June 26–
Thursday, June 30, 2016



Location: *Community Bible Church*
1427 W. Main Street, Tipp City, Ohio

Guest Speakers:

Pastor John Fredericksen, Pastor Ricky Kurth, Pastor Kevin Sadler, Pastor Jeff Seekins, Pastor Ken Lawson, Mr. David Brown, And others!

Plan on visiting the nearby Creation Museum while you are in the area!

For questions or additional information, please contact:
Pastor Kevin Sadler (BBF President) at 262-305-6860,
kevin@bereanbiblesociety.org or Pastor Jeff Seekins
at 937-667-2710, pastorjeffbctipp@gmail.com

New location for the BBF summer conference!



Trash Talking

By Pastor Ricky Kurth

“I’ll beat him so bad he’ll need a shoehorn to put his hat on!” That’s what acclaimed boxer Mohammed Ali said about Floyd Patterson ahead of their championship match back in 1965. Known as “trash talking,” boxers also engage in this form of verbal sparring in the midst of the actual fight itself, taunting and goading their opponents.

In the midst of the greatest fight of all time, the Lord Jesus Christ engaged in a little verbal sparring of His own. In a passage that eavesdrops on the Lord’s thoughts as He hung on Calvary’s cross, He first reflected on the scourging and shameful spitting to which He’d been subjected (Isa. 50:6), and then the prophet heard Him call out His foe:

“He is near that justifieth Me; *who will contend with Me?* let us stand together: *who is Mine adversary?* let him come near to Me” (Isa. 50:8).

Just picture the scene! Outwardly, the Lord was the sacrificial Lamb of God, meekly submitting to the will of His Father. Inwardly, He was *the defiant contender* to the throne of the world, *thundering forth a challenge* toward His unseen adversary, the reigning champion who had wrested the throne away from Adam. The god of this world thought he had your Savior on the ropes that dark day, but inwardly the Lord was *roaring*, as it were, “*Bring it on!* Is that the best you’ve got? A little scourging? A little shame and spitting? *A little crucifixion*” (v. 6)? By all outward appearances, your Savior looked like a helpless victim that day, but inwardly He was *the vanquishing Victor!*


How could someone in such an impossibly hopeless situation feel *so overwhelmingly triumphant*? It was simple, really. *He trusted in God*, as the next verse shows:

“Behold, the Lord GOD will help Me; *who is he that shall condemn Me?...*” (Isa. 50:9).

If those words sound familiar, it is because those are the words that the Apostle Paul chose to encourage *you* in whatever impossibly hopeless situation you may find yourself:

“Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God’s elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us” (Rom. 8:33,34).

With all of the “tribulation” in your life (v. 35), outwardly it might look as if you are “accounted as sheep for the slaughter” (v. 36), living in the impossibly hopeless situation of a lamb about to be butchered. But knowing that “it is God that justifieth” *you*, you can say, as it were, *“Bring it on! Is that the best you got? A little unemployment? A little cancer? A little grief when the dearest on earth is ripped from my side?”*

As with the Lord Himself, God does not promise that we will be able to conquer whatever harsh trial we are going through, but He *does* promise that in every trial we are “more than conquerors through Him that loved us” (v. 37), for none of these things “shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (v. 39). The key is to remember that “our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory” (II Cor. 4:17), and to remember that we are only more than conquerors when “we look not at the things which are seen, *but at the things which are not seen*: for the things which are seen are temporal; *but the things which are not seen are eternal*” (v. 18). 

Kentucky Bible Conference

Dates: Friday through Sunday, April 1-3, 2016

Location: *Old Bethel Bible Church*
352 Old Bethel Church Road, Alpha, Kentucky

Theme: *Transformed by Grace*

Guest Speakers:

Dr. Robert Nix, Pastor Dan Wolgast, Pastor Andy Kern

For questions or additional information, please contact:
Pastor Jeff Bertram at 606-307-4396 or 606-348-3071



Animal Sacrifices in the MILLENNIAL KINGDOM

By Pastor Ricky Kurth

One of the things that most puzzles students of God's Word is the Bible's prediction that animal sacrifices will again be offered in the millennial kingdom (Isa. 56:6-8; Jer. 33:15-18; Ezek. 43:18-46:24). While the Law of Moses required such offerings in time past, the offering up of such sacrifices in the ages to come baffles all who know that these offerings were mere *types* of the sacrifice of Christ (I Cor. 5:7; I Pet. 1:18,19, etc.). Since the types of these sacrifices were fulfilled when our Savior sacrificed His life for us, it does seem strange that the bodies of these animals would continue to be offered after the Lord offered *His* body "once for all" at Calvary (Heb. 10:10), "one sacrifice for sins for ever" (v. 12).

The most common explanation offered by Bible teachers in regard to this puzzling question is that while these sacrifices were

types of Christ's sacrifice in time past, they will be *memorials* of His sacrifice in the ages to come, in the same way that the Lord's Supper is observed as a memorial "in remembrance" of His sacrifice in our own day (I Cor. 11:24,25). This explanation falls short, however, when we read that animals will be sacrificed in the millennial kingdom "for a sin offering" (Ezek. 43:19), "to make reconciliation" for men (Ezek. 45:17), and not just as a memorial. Since reconciliation is the product of atonement,¹ it cannot be denied that these sacrifices will be offered in the millennial kingdom to atone for men's sins, just as they were in time past.

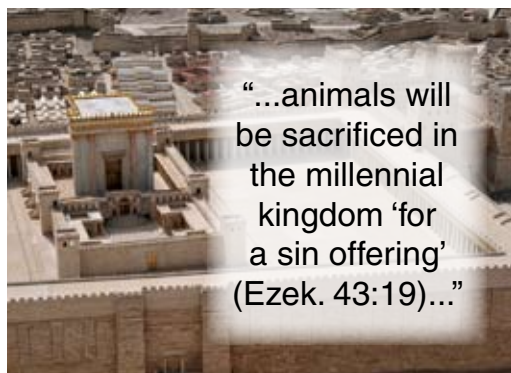
But why would people in the millennial kingdom *need* to be reconciled to God? Isn't it true that only saved people will enter the kingdom that the Lord will return to establish on earth for

Israel? Yes, that's true, but these believers will then bear children, children who will have to believe on their own behalf in order to be saved. We know that the majority of these children will *not* believe, since we are told the Lord will rule in the kingdom in the midst of His enemies (Psa. 110:1,2), and the kingdom will conclude with the amassing of an army of unbelievers to fight against God, "the number of whom is as the sand of the sea" (Rev. 20:7,8).

But this means that there will have to be some method of obtaining salvation in place in that day for those who *do* choose to believe, and all who know God's rightly divided Word know what method that will be. We know that the present dispensation of grace is an interruption in God's prophetic program, and that when the Rapture brings an end to this interruption, God will pick up right where He left off with Israel in Acts 7. This means that animal sacrifices will again be required for salvation, just as they were under the Law. That's why those animals will again need to be sacrificed "for a sin offering" (Ezek. 43:19), "to make reconciliation for them" (Ezek. 45:15,17), just as they were under the Law in Acts 7.²

But in what sense will animal sacrifices have the power to *effect* that reconciliation? To understand this, we have to remember how these offerings were able to atone for sin and effect reconciliation in time past (Lev. 4:20,26,31,35, etc.). We now know that "it is not possible that the blood of bulls

and goats should take away sins" (Heb. 10:4), for the blood of these animals "can never take away sins" (Heb. 10:11). Their power to atone for the sins of the penitents who brought them lie only in the fact that they constituted what the Bible calls "the obedience of faith" (Rom. 16:26).



In any dispensation, whatever God says to do in order to be saved, that's what the faith of men must believe and obey. When God said that men needed to "repent and be baptized...for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38), that's the message that men had to believe and obey to be saved. When a few chapters later we read that "a great company of the priests were *obedient to the faith*" (Acts 6:7), this means they believed and submitted to "the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins" (Mark 1:4). That was how men accessed the atonement that Christ made for their sins under the kingdom program, and how they were reconciled to God.


Today, of course, Paul's gospel of salvation by grace through faith, apart from works like water baptism, is preached "for obedience to

the faith” (Rom. 1:5), and we who have believed it have “obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered” to us (Rom. 6:17). This is how *we* accessed the atonement that Christ made for our sins, and how “we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son” (Rom. 5:10). But as Ezekiel makes clear, in the millennial kingdom, animal sacrifices will once again constitute the obedience of faith, and the offering of these animals in that day is once again how believers will access the atonement that Christ made for their sins, and how they will be reconciled to God.

Frankly, it is probably the *blood* part of animal sacrifices that causes the biggest stumblingblock to our understanding when it comes to this issue. Since the blood of Christ has been shed for the atonement of our sins to reconcile us to God, it is natural to wonder why the blood of animals would need to be shed in the kingdom for the atonement of men’s sins to reconcile them to God.

The solution to this stumblingblock is found in a comparison of animal sacrifices and water baptism. As we have already noted, water baptism (like the sacrifice of an animal) was also required to atone for one’s sins and be reconciled to God (Mark 1:4; 16:16; Acts 2:38; I Pet. 3:21). But it wasn’t the *water* of water baptism that atoned for men’s sins and reconciled them. We know that oceans of water can’t wash away a single sin. No, water baptism reconciled men to God because it constituted “the obedience of faith.”

Now compare this to how animal sacrifices saved and reconciled men to God in time past. Just as it wasn’t the water of water baptism that saved people, so it wasn’t the blood of animal sacrifices that saved people. In both cases *it was the blood of Christ that saved them*. The blood of animal sacrifices, and the water of water baptism, were just the means by which men accessed the blood of Christ. And so it will be again in the millennial kingdom, when water baptism will also again be required to wash away men’s sins (Isa. 4:4; 52:15; Ezek. 36:25).

Today, of course, we are washed from our sins “by the washing of regeneration,” and not by the washing of water baptism (Titus 3:5). And while God sees even the most carnal Corinthian-type believer as “washed” (I Cor. 6:11), we should determine to live as God sees us and “cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God” (II Cor. 7:1). After all, it’s still true that “to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams” (I Sam. 15:22). 

Endnotes

1. See Leviticus 16:16-20, where the Hebrew words for “atonement” and “reconciliation” are the same, and the “reconciling” of verse 20 is the obvious product of the “atonement” that is made in verses 16-19.
2. Here it is important to remember that the Law was abolished “by the cross” (Eph. 2:14-16), but not *at* the cross, and that the Law and animal sacrifices continued to be in effect *historically* through at least Acts 21:20.



Sprinkled or Dunked?

Just as some people believe that doughnuts should be *sprinkled* with sprinkles, and others believe they should be *dunked* in coffee, so some Christians believe they should be *baptized* by sprinkling, and others believe they should be dunked, or *immersed*. I personally believe the only mode of water baptism in Scripture is *by sprinkling*.

First, while it is popular to say that water baptism is a testimony that has nothing to do with salvation, the Bible is very clear that the purpose of water baptism is to *cleanse* men by *washing* away their sins (Acts 22:16 cf. Mark 1:4; 16:16; Acts 2:38). In Scripture, cleansing is often accomplished by *sprinkling* (Num. 8:6,7; 19:13,18-22), but *never* by immersion. In fact, God promised the Jews that after He gathers them back into their land for the kingdom,

“Then will I *sprinkle* clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness...will I *cleanse* you” (Ezek. 36:24,25).

We know it is commonly taught that the Greek word *baptismos* that is translated “baptism” in our Bibles *means* to “dip” or to *dunk*, but that’s not so. It’s true that *bapto*, the verb form of *baptismos*, means to dip, for that’s how it’s translated in Luke 16:24. However, dipping is only *the beginning* of water baptism, as we see in Numbers 19:18:

“And a clean person shall take *hyssop*, and dip it in the water, and *sprinkle* it upon...the persons that were there.”

“Hyssop” was a flowery bush that, when *dipped* in water, was capable of absorbing enough liquid to then *sprinkle* it on people (Heb. 9:19). So in water baptism, *the hyssop* was immersed, *the people* were sprinkled.

We know that those Old Testament sprinklings were baptisms, for *baptismos* is the word used to describe those “*divers washings*” (Heb. 9:10). Even the priests were washed (Ex. 29:4) with water from the laver (Ex. 40:11,12) that was not used for immersion (Ex. 30:18-21). We know John the Baptist washed people in the same way, for the Jews didn’t ask “what” he was doing, as they would if he were doing something new, they asked “why” he was doing it (John 1:25). He stood in the Jordan so he could easily dip the hyssop and sprinkle people. *Baptismos* is also translated “washing” in Mark 7:4, and few (if any) households in Israel had a receptacle large enough to *immerse* “tables.”

Of course, today our hearts are washed “by...*regeneration*” (Titus 3:5). But while your *heart* was cleansed in this manner, to cleanse your “way” (Psa. 119:9), you can only do so “by taking heed thereto according to thy Word.”
Let’s take heed!

—Pastor Ricky Kurth



More Than Competent to Counsel

By Pastor Ricky Kurth

When I became a pastor in 1979, I had never been to Bible school, and frankly I was intimidated by the thought that as a minister I would have to be involved in personal counseling. As every pastor knows, grief counseling, depression counseling, marriage counseling, and the advising of God's people in a host of other areas just comes with the territory when you enter the ministry. And there I was, 23 years old, single, still wet behind the proverbial ears in countless areas of life, yet suddenly expected to be an adviser of God's people. What did I know about life? How was I going to counsel the members of my congregation when most of them were older and more experienced than I was?

Thankfully, a few years earlier, a Christian book entitled *Competent to Counsel* had been published, and was greatly used of God to encourage pastors to feel

more confident in the area of personal counseling, many of whom felt as inadequate as I felt when it came to this important aspect of the ministry. The book was based on the words of the Apostle Paul in his epistle to the Romans:

“And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another” (Rom. 15:14).

Based on Paul's words here, *Competent to Counsel* advanced the position that if a pastor was filled with a knowledge of God's Word, he was in a position to guide others through any and all of the challenges of life they were likely to face. In fact, it was the author's conviction that this was true of laymen as well as pastors, since Paul directed these words “to all that be in Rome” (Rom. 1:7), not just to the pastors in Rome. After reading the book, I had to admit

I felt better about the prospect of directing the people in my congregation through all the various trials of life.

Incompetent to Counsel

While I still believe that a knowledge of God's Word is an essential foundation for anyone who longs to serve as an adviser of God's people, I believe it is important to add that only a knowledge of God's Word *rightly divided* can properly equip a believer to give trustworthy counsel. If you are wondering how a knowledge of the distinctive apostleship of Paul can aid in providing personal direction to the saints, let's consider some very practical areas where a *lack* of knowledge of Paul's gospel will cause a counselor to give advice that can be *tragically* deficient.

First, if a friend opens up to you about a problem with his children, his job, or other such personal difficulties, as a grace believer you're not going to advise your friend to pray about it and then rely on the words of Matthew 21:22, where the Lord promised:

"And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."

Who knows how much heartache, disillusionment, and shattered faith has ravaged God's people when they leaned on this promise in troublous times, a promise that God specifically designed for the kingdom of heaven on earth. While it strains the limits of credulity to think that any counselor would offer such false hope to Christians today, rest assured that this advice is often given by well-meaning believers in

and out of the ministry. And why wouldn't it be? It's in the Bible! It's just not in the Bible *rightly divided*.

Of course, after prayer promises such as this wind up disappointing those who trust in them, non-grace counselors often scurry to attach *conditions* to these unconditional promises. Their favorite qualification is to suggest to disappointed believers that God is not hearing their prayers because they harbor sin in their hearts (Psa. 66:18). As a grace believer, you know that the anguish this kind of counsel is sure to cause sincere saints can easily be avoided by reminding them that God gave unconditional prayer promises such as Isaiah 65:24 with the kingdom of heaven on earth in mind (v. 25). Of course! That's what will *make* the kingdom heaven on earth!

Incompetent Health Counsel

Next, if someone looks to you for counsel when a friend or loved one is diagnosed with Stage 5 cancer, or some other terminal disease, a grace believer is not going to give the counsel that the Apostle James gave:

"Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders...and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil...and the prayer of faith *shall* save the sick, and the Lord *shall* raise him up" (James 5:14,15).

As a grace believer, you wouldn't dream of proffering this advice that God directed only in the direction of "the twelve tribes" of Israel (James 1:1), but many Christians would, with apologies and reservations, of course, along with a

great deal of backpedaling and spin doctoring when the terminal disease ends up taking the life of the loved one.

Those who know Paul's gospel are also more than competent to give health counsel in the area of *nutrition*. While our Seventh-Day Adventist brethren demand that their adherents comply with the stringent dietary laws prescribed in Leviticus 11, we know that "we are not under law, but under grace" (Rom. 6:15). In addition, some Christian leaders who *know* we are not under the law still recommend the Leviticus 11 diet, believing God prescribed it for Israel when His people left Egypt because it is a healthier way to eat, and so would better enable them to survive the rigors of the wilderness. As a grace believer, you know that the only reason God pronounced certain *foods* to be unclean was to teach the Jews that *the Gentiles* were unclean (Lev. 20:24,25 cf. Acts 10:9-15,28), and that today "every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving" (I Tim. 4:4).

Incompetent Financial Counsel

In recent years Christian *financial* counseling has become popular, and while we have no idea what kind of advice is being given, it would be quite Scriptural to tell God's people that if they obey God's laws and precepts, they can count on Him to make them "plenteous in goods" (Deut. 28:1-12). Who knows how many earnest believers have fallen into frustration and despair when counsel

such as this failed to prosper them as it prospered the Jews to whom that promise was given.

As a grace believer, you'd never promise anyone this kind of guaranteed return on their investment, and you'd never advise Christians to tithe to obtain the prosperity that God promised the Jews (Mal. 3:10). But sad to say, those who don't rightly divide the Word commonly give sorry financial counsel such as this to poor saints who sometimes go broke paying a tithe they cannot afford while claiming a promise they have no right to claim.



Everyone knows that an important aspect of sound financial counseling involves planning for retirement. You probably wouldn't believe me if I told you that there are those who don't give their golden years a passing thought, based on the Lord's advice in Matthew 6:34:

"Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself..."

The Lord's advice here, given in the context of His counsel to "take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? Or, What shall we drink? Or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?"

(vv. 31-33), was sound Biblical advice to give to Jews who would have to trust the Lord for such things in the Tribulation they would have entered had the dispensation of grace not interrupted God's prophetic program, but it is dispensationally incorrect advice to give today. I've met Christians who didn't believe in any kind of insurance based on these verses. If your Christian financial counselor is giving advice like this, your retirement years are going to be anything but golden!

Incompetent Marriage Counsel

Perhaps the most frequent request for counseling that pastors receive is for marriage counseling.



Ask just about any pastor about Biblical grounds for divorce and to a man they will quote the words the Lord spoke to Israel (Rom. 15:8) under the Law (Gal. 4:4) that allow a believer to divorce a spouse who has committed adultery (Matt. 5:32; 19:8,9). Under grace, God calls upon husbands and wives to *forgive* unfaithful spouses *as God has forgiven them* (Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:13), and when God forgives, He forgives even sins of adultery and fornication.

This is high spiritual ground, a level of spirituality that puts to silence all who claim that the standards of the Law are higher than the standards set forth by Paul, the apostle of grace.

Speaking of forgiveness, one of the most heart-wrenching requests for counsel you'll ever hear will be voiced by believers who have been wronged in any number of areas, and just can't find it in their heart to forgive the one who wronged them. I can't even begin to imagine the devastating effect it would have on such people should a counselor press upon them the ominous words that fell from the mouth of the One whose very *name* is "Counsellor" (Isa. 9:6):

"...if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Matt. 6:15).

There are enough Christians struggling to believe that they are eternally secure, we certainly don't want to add to their numbers by making people believe that the terms of salvation the Lord gave the Jews back then is binding on people today. Yet, as much as it hurts our hearts to think about it, this unsound counsel is probably being given to someone somewhere even as you read these words.

Incompetent to Comfort

Finally, when a child of God needs comfort because of *overwhelming adversity* and seeks counsel from a pastor who is unaware that things are different under grace than they were under Law, such a pastor might well suggest that the overwhelmed saint

is being *chastened* with adversity because of his disobedience to God (Lev. 26:14-26). He might point out that Saul lost his kingdom when he disobeyed God (I Sam. 13:8-14) and David lost his son (II Sam. 11:1-12:14).



“...a grace believer is not going to give the counsel that the Apostle James gave...”

But while these examples prove that corporal chastening is *Biblical*, we must ask if it is *dispensationally* Biblical. When you lose your child, are *you* being chastened of God? Questions like this can literally *haunt* a believer and *must* be answered according to a knowledge of God’s *rightly divided* Word.

This writer believes that physical chastening is inconsistent with the dispensation of grace. Most grace believers recognize that God is not blessing us when we are good, for we are already blessed with “*all*” spiritual blessings in Christ (Eph. 1:3). But if God is not blessing us when we are good, we must also conclude that He is not cursing us when we are bad if we are to be consistent. If you fall into sin today, you needn’t fear that God will give you a disease tomorrow.

Some object from I Corinthians 11:30 that corporal chastening

is Pauline, but this reference is from one of Paul’s *early* epistles, written before the withdrawal of many other transitional things, such as the spiritual gifts mentioned in the very next chapters of this epistle (I Cor. 12-14). If it is significant that there is no mention of these gifts in Paul’s later epistles, and we believe that it *is* significant, then it must *also* be significant that there is no mention of physical chastening in Paul’s later epistles.

Any corporal chastening God might engage in today would be completely ineffectual for the following reason. When Saul sinned, a prophet of God like Samuel was there to make the connection between his sin and the loss of his kingdom. When David sinned, a prophet named Nathan was there to connect his sin to the loss of his child. Without a spirit-filled man to make this connection, David may well have concluded that his child died of natural causes. Even the Corinthians had the Apostle Paul to tell them that there was a reason they were weak and sickly. However, today *there are no inspired prophets* who can link the hardships in your life to specific sins in your life, and you will drive yourself crazy speculating on such things.


Some might rightly ask, “What son is he whom the father chasteneth not?” (Heb. 12:7), but there is an answer to this question. Fathers do not physically chasten *adult* sons. If the reader is still spanking his adult son, there is something seriously wrong with your relationship with him! Adult sons are not chastened with the

rod of correction, they are chastened with *words* of correction, and we who have received “the adoption of sons” (Gal. 4:5) are considered full-grown sons in God’s sight.

And so while “the children of Israel” were often chastened physically, today “all *Scripture* is given...*for correction*” for adult sons such as us (II Tim. 3:16). When we fall into sin, we open the Word and it chastens us, or a mature Christian friend reminds us of what God has to say about what we have done. *That’s* the kind of counsel that Christian counselors should give today, not the kind that has God’s people second-guessing their spirituality to explain their adversities.

Now That You Know You Are Competent

If you wouldn’t give dispensational counsel the likes of

which we have discussed in this article, you are already *eminently* more competent to counsel than the most experienced pastor who doesn’t know the Word, rightly divided. Paul says that God has given us His Word “that the man of God may be...*thoroughly furnished unto all good works*” (II Tim. 3:16,17), and giving sound, Biblical, *dispensational* counsel is one of the best good works in which you could ever be involved. Now that you know that counseling God’s people is something that God never meant to be left solely to pastors, and now that you know that as a grace believer you are “able also to admonish one another” (Rom. 15:14), it is our prayer that you will not shy away from this most intimate aspect of ministering to the hearts of other members of the family of God. As a grace believer, *you are more than competent to counsel!* 

GOD’S DELIGHT

We delight in the embrace of a child, the gathering of family, even in things and hobbies. But what delights the heart of God?

In Proverbs 15:8 we learn, “The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD: *but the prayer of the upright is His delight.*” When the lost seek to worship or give to the Lord apart from saving faith in Christ, in effect on their own terms, it cannot please the Lord. Oh, but when God’s redeemed children come to Him in the praise and dependence of prayer, it is His delight! He created us for fellowship with Him. He longs for your relationship with Him to be vibrant and consistent. Each of us can delight the heart of God by daily making time to be with Him in prayer and study of His Word.

—Pastor John Fredericksen



Question Box

“In light of the issue at Wheaton College, is the god of Islam the God of the Bible?”

There are countless ways to show that the god of Islam is *not* the God of the Bible, but since there are two faiths that have come from the Bible, Judaism and Christianity, let's just consider two verses that show that the god of Islam differs from the God of *both* of these Bible faiths.

First, remember that the Lord told the Samaritan woman, “Ye worship ye know not what” (John 4:22). There was no creed on the planet at that time that was more similar to Judaism than the religion practiced by the Samaritans. There were countless similarities between the two faiths, and yet it was the Lord's assertion that the Samaritans didn't know what they were worshipping, any more than the pagans who worshipped “THE UNKNOWN GOD” at Athens (Acts 17:23). This indicated that, in His opinion, they did not worship the same God. So in view of the countless *differences* between Islam and Judaism, it is difficult to see how it can be said that Muslims worship the God of Judaism.

To this must be added the testimony of the Apostle Paul, who declared that “the things that the Gentiles sacrifice *they sacrifice unto devils, and not to God*” (I Cor. 10:20). From these words it seems clear that the gods of the different religions of the Gentiles were *not* the God of the Christian faith that God used him to establish here on earth (I Cor. 3:10). This is especially so when we consider that Paul was quoting Deuteronomy 32:16,17, where Moses called the gods of the heathen nations “*strange gods...and devils...new gods* that came newly up.”

In light of these two verses that show that the god of Islam is not the God of either of the two *faiths* of the Bible, it is certain that the god of Islam is not the God *of the Bible*. It is still true that “he that honoureth not the Son *honoureth not the Father*” (John 5:23), and “whosoever *denieth* the Son, *the same hath not the Father*” (I John 2:23). No faith that denies that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Son of God who died to pay for the sins of all men can be said to worship the God of the Bible.

—Pastor Kurth



BBS Letter Excerpts

From Illinois:

"Wow! Thanks for answering my question about Lordship Salvation so fast. It brought tears to my eyes; and you told it so simply. It has renewed my heart to serve and grow in the Lord instead of working out of my own strength...I can't wait to share this, it is much needed."

From Texas:

"Many thanks for opening my mind and my heart to Paul—truly a comfort in these perilous times."

From Michigan:

"I will be getting released from prison soon. I can finally look into getting one of your MP3 players so I can listen to, as well as read, the things you offer...I can't wait to be able to sit down with my family and show them the things I've learned these last few years since I started reading your books."

From California:

"How our lives changed when we started hearing...what it means to rightly divide the truth. Things began to make sense in a way never before... The first step was while RV camping, someone told us about Les Feldick, then we were handed a *Searchlight*."

From our Inbox:

"Great input! This is very helpful! I appreciate you being so thorough. Much here to study and with which to help tie up any loose ends in my understanding."

From Illinois:

"After many years of receiving the *Searchlight*, I don't want to sound corny or weird, but after all the studies I have read in the magazine, I really do feel different. The difference is that while anyone can *read* the Word, now when I read the Word, I *understand* the Word very well. I've come to know that I am saved, and it is all because of you."

From our Inbox:

"You are truly in denial. If you want to continue going on printing things that are false, then so be it. I know the Word very well and I am an ordained minister and a deliverance minister, but I've learned one thing. People that deny the power will make all kinds of excuses to say that the gifts are extinguished when in fact that is what Satan is hoping for."

From Tennessee:

"I was a Baptist Minister for 20 years. I attended a Baptist College, then Seminary, completing with a Doctorate in Theology. With all of that, I still never had my questions answered until a member of our church introduced me to Brother Stam and his writings. By Rightly Dividing, I came to the peace in the understanding I had sought."

From our Inbox:

"Thanks again for your patience with me. You are truly a gift of God to me. You do not give me pat answers, and I appreciate it."

From Louisiana:

"I loved 'The Miracles of Calvary' DVD! I recommend it to everyone and plan to watch it multiple times. This would be perfect for a Bible Study Group."

From Pennsylvania:

"Thank you so much for your ministry in getting the word out so people such as myself could finally see the truth about the truth. It was Pastor Stam's book *Things That Differ* that opened my eyes and showed me that I was following the wrong program for today. It was wonderful to finally gain a better understanding of the Bible and what God is doing, and not doing, in the world today."

From Florida:

"I'm 66 years old, and read the Bible for the first time in my life at age 61; couldn't put it down. I'm new to grace...I was in the Bahai faith for over forty years. What a mistake! And what a waste! I first heard about BBS and what you are teaching a little over a year ago; I can't go back! What I've learned so far cannot be disputed!...I am very much alone now...my family being in the Bahai faith...I am to be dealt with as one who is dead." (You are welcome in the family of God!—Ed).

From our Inbox:

"I loved the latest *Searchlight* article, 'A New Item on the Menu.' I wish I could help people understand the importance of Paul's message, like this fellow from my church. He thinks Paul was just another preacher. That's pretty much what my whole church thinks. I wonder if Paul got frustrated with people not accepting his message also."

From our Inbox:

"I have been depressed for about 15 years and, honestly, not so sure what is reality. How do I really know that I am saved? The article on overcoming depression biblically and naturally gave me a new perspective on ways to break free from it. God bless you."

From Virginia:

"I've read the second volume of *Revelation*, and thought it was very good...The *Searchlight* has been a real eye-opener for me...I've been astounded by some of the articles...."

From Ohio:

"We are so blessed by your first two volumes of *Revelation*, but we have a question about Revelation 16:3...We're avidly awaiting your third installment of the series. I have longed promised my 12-year-old daughter we'd study *Revelation*." (This dear brother got a sneak peek of Volume 3 of the commentary, when I emailed him an excerpt on the Second Bowl Judgment in answer to his question.—PS).

From our Inbox:

"I'm keepin' this Two Minutes! A reminder about God's patience with me is just what I needed today. Don't even need to say why, now do I?"

From Indiana:

"This morning we read with interest your Online Devotional in which you asked the question, 'may I call upon you to unite together with us in prayer that there might be one last great awakening of our denominational brethren to Paul's gospel before we are called into glory?' Just wanted you to know that your message was a blessing, that we remain united with you and all other Grace Believers."

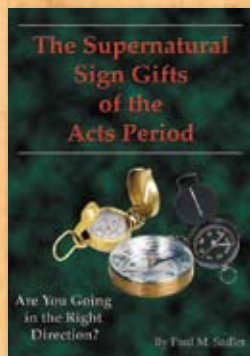


"These [Bereans] were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the Word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so."
—Acts 17:11

March

“If...all speak with tongues...will they not say that ye are mad?” (I Cor. 14:23).

To combat the error of Pentecostalism, our March special includes works that will equip you to battle this madness.



The Supernatural Sign Gifts of the Acts Period

By Paul M. Sadler

BOOKLET 65 PAGES

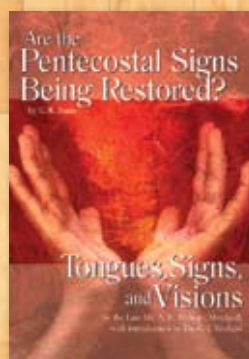
Special Price: \$3.00 (Reg. \$4.00)

Are the Pentecostal Signs Being Restored?

By C. R. Stam

BOOKLET 24 PAGES

Special Price: \$1.50 (Reg. \$2.00)



I CORINTHIANS



I Corinthians

By C. R. Stam

Scripture Index and Study Questions!

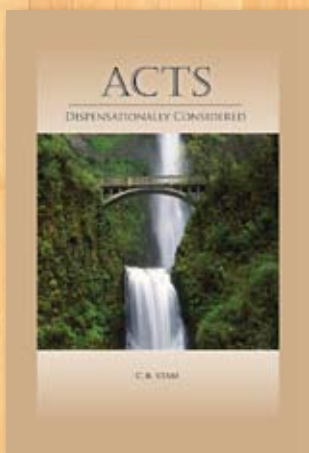
HARDCOVER 336 PAGES

Special Price: \$10.00

(Reg. \$12.50)

Madness

Acts, Dispensationally Considered will trace Paul's career from "being exceedingly mad" at God's people (Acts 26:11) to being "not mad," but used of God to "speak forth the words of truth and soberness" (Acts 26:25).



Acts, Dispensationally Considered—Volume 1

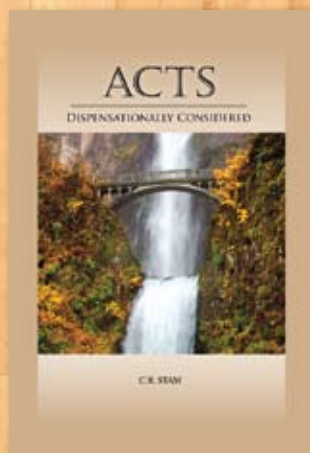
By C. R. Stam

Covers Acts 1:1-15:35

HARDCOVER 560 PAGES

Special Price: \$18.00

(Reg. \$21.50)



Acts, Dispensationally Considered—Volume 2

By C. R. Stam

Covers Acts 15:36-28:31

HARDCOVER 472 PAGES

Special Price: \$18.00

(Reg. \$21.50)

THESE OFFERS END MARCH 31, 2016

For international orders please ask for special pricing

Orders up to \$30.00, please add **\$4.00** for postage and handling.

Orders over \$30.00, please add **15%** for postage and handling.

Wisconsin residents please add 5.6% for sales tax!

To order: Call 262-255-4750 or visit www.bereanbiblesociety.org



News and Announcements

Pastor Sadler Needs Your Help: In light of Pastor Sadler's recent serious health concern (see page 3) we are calling on all who love him in the Lord to limit their encouragement and support for him to get-well cards at this time. While it is natural to think that phone calls and personal visits of "just a few minutes" in length won't overload him, those minutes add up quickly for our beloved brother in his weakened condition, and keep him from directing all of his attention to completing Volume 3 of his commentary on *Revelation*. In addition, his kind heart will naturally want to reply to letters that are sent to him in anticipation of a reply, so we ask that you put a hold on such correspondence as well. The single most effective way you can be a blessing to him during this time of his recovery is to allow him to give himself wholly to the work that God has given him to do.

Pastor Sadler's Conference Schedule: Pastor Sadler was scheduled to speak this spring at the *Grace Bible Fellowship* in Nokomis, Florida, but BBS board member Pastor Ken Lawson agreed to step up and fill his shoes for this March 5,6 speaking engagement. In addition, Pastor Kevin Sadler volunteered to minister the Word in his father's place at the *West Valley Grace Fellowship* in Sun City West, Arizona, so the conference in this Phoenix suburb will unfold on March 18-20 as planned. The rock-solid ministry of both of these men of God will delight the heart of all who love God's rightly divided Word, so be sure to check out the "Bible Conferences" link on our website for further information.

Your Editor's Conference Plans: Last month I announced that a herniated disc in my lower back forced me to work from home for two months, during which time I missed eleven Sundays at my home church. In light of their kind patience during their pastor's absence, Pastor Sadler has allowed me to make it up to them by not accepting BBS speaking engagements in 2016 that would take me away from them for additional Sundays, other than the BBF conference in Tipp City, Ohio, where I had already promised to speak. God willing, I'll be back in the saddle next year, and I look forward to seeing you then!



The *Seacow Head Lighthouse* is located on Prince Edward Island, Canada. The name "Seacow Head" was given in reference to the walrus which were formerly abundant in nearby waters. Built in 1864, the light was moved back from an eroding bank in 1979.

PRICE LIST

BIBLE STUDY BOOKS BY C. R. STAM—FOUNDER

(Hardcovers)

Acts, Dispensationally Considered, Volume 1	\$21.50
Acts, Dispensationally Considered, Volume 2	21.50
Colossians (Commentary)	14.50
I Corinthians (Commentary)	12.50
II Corinthians (Commentary)	12.50
Divine Election and Human Responsibility	10.50
Galatians (Commentary)	14.50
Hebrews, Who Wrote It and Why?	10.50
Holding Fast the Faithful Word <i>Out of print</i>	14.50
Man, His Nature and Destiny	12.50
Pastoral Epistles (Commentary)	12.50
Paul, His Apostleship and Message	11.50
Romans (Commentary)	16.50
Sermon on the Mount, The	10.50
Thessalonians (Commentary)	12.50
Things That Differ	13.50
True Spirituality	11.50

Paperbacks

Baptism and the Bible	\$9.00
Lord's Supper and the Bible, The	7.00
Moses and Paul	7.00
No Other Doctrine	9.00
Our Great Commission	9.00
Things That Differ, English or Spanish	10.00
Two Minutes with the Bible	11.00
Twofold Purpose of God, The	7.00

WORKS BY PAUL M. SADLER—PRESIDENT

Exploring the Unsearchable Riches of Christ (Hardcover)	\$12.50
Life and Letters of the Apostle Peter, The (Hardcover)	13.50
Oneness of Marriage, The (Paperback)	8.00
Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians (Hardcover)	16.50
Paul's Epistle to the Philippians (Hardcover)	12.00
Revelation, Volume 1 (Hardcover)	12.50
Revelation, Volume 2 (Hardcover)	14.00
Studies in James (Paperback)	10.00
Triumph of His Grace, The (Hardcover)	13.50
According to the Scriptures (Booklet)	2.00
Are You Secure? (Booklet)	2.00
Historical Beginning of the Church, The (Booklet)	3.00
Key to Understanding the Scriptures, The (Chart)	0.50
Supernatural Sign Gifts of the Acts Period, The (Booklet)	4.00
Trials and Temptations (Booklet)	2.00
Uncertain Trumpet of Water Baptism, The (Booklet)	2.00
Miracles of Calvary, The (DVD)	15.00
What It Means to Be a Grace Believer (DVD)	15.00

Orders up to \$30.00, please add **\$4.00** for Postage and Handling

Orders over \$30.00, please add **15%** for Postage and Handling

Foreign orders must be remitted in U. S. currency

THE BEREAN SEARCHLIGHT
N112 W17761 MEQUON ROAD
PO Box 756
GERMANTOWN, WI 53022-0756

PERIODICALS
PAID AT GERMANTOWN, WI
AND ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES

“Nothing will prove so helpful to a Christian in overcoming sin as an appreciation of Christ’s death for sin at Calvary.” —C. R. Stam