

The BEREAN SEARCHLIGHT™

Studying God's Word, Rightly Divided

August 2019



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

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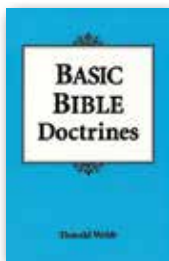
A Note From the President

Dear Friends in Christ,

Earlier this year, I spoke on the phone with Pastor Don Webb. Pastor Webb's faith in the face of the adversity of his terminal cancer diagnosis was inspirational. He said that he expected rough days ahead, but he knew that God's grace would be sufficient and that the Lord would see him through it. For his remaining days, his desire was only for the Lord to use him to be a blessing to others, and to help others who may be going through a similar circumstance. Pastor Don Webb went home to be with his Savior on April 23rd.

During my phone call with Pastor Webb he expressed his concern over the work he authored, *Basic Bible Doctrines*. His prayer was that the Lord would continue to use his book after his home-going. He wanted it to be in good hands and for it to remain in print. He asked me if *Berean Bible Society* would take over the rights to the book. Pastor Webb stated that he had long respected BBS and our faithful stand for the truth, and that if we took it over, it would mean a lot to him.

A couple years earlier, Pastor Don had asked me to consider this possibility, so I discussed it with our board of directors at that time. Thus, when Pastor Webb asked earlier this year, I was able to respond immediately that we would happily take over the rights to the book and keep it in print. This assurance comforted and encouraged him.



Basic Bible Doctrines has been greatly used by the Lord to help people understand God's message revealed to the Apostle Paul concerning the present dispensation of the grace of God. This book takes a close look at doctrines regarding the Church, gifts, eternal security, the Holy Spirit, baptism, the state of the dead, etc. Since it was founded in 1996, *Berean Bible Institute* has used this book as a textbook for a course called "Basic Bible Doctrines." Brothers Don Weffald and David Brown were my instructors for this class years ago. After reading it, summarizing each chapter, and taking tests pertaining to its content, I learned then what a quality work this book is. As a result, during my pastorate, I used this book for a home Bible study. And I saw firsthand the help it was to others in their faith and understanding of God's Word rightly divided.

This work has always been part of the library of grace materials that we sell, but BBS is now the publisher and primary source for this book. If you would like to order a copy, please visit our website or call us at 262-255-4750.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Kevin Sadler, President



The Winds and Sea *Obey Him*

PASTOR DON WEBB
Guest Writer

(This article first appeared in *Amazing Grace*, and we share it with you by permission from our friends at *Grace Gospel Publishers*, Denver, Colorado.)

“But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him!” (Matt. 8:27).

The winds and the sea obeyed Him, but did His people? Having finished the Sermon on the Mount, the Lord began a series of miracles such as had not been seen in Israel for hundreds of years. As we begin Matthew 8, it must be kept in mind that not since Elisha had there been a miracle-working prophet in Israel! Did that make the Lord’s miracles special?

Absolutely! These things did not just happen routinely. The Man was different! He claimed to be none other than Israel’s Christ (or Messiah) and the Son (or personification) of God. This is precisely why the Lord did these miraculous signs—to demonstrate His deity! John bears witness of this fact later in John 20:20,31. Jesus was God, and He was Israel’s King!

With so many infallible proofs, we see the remarkable words of Matthew 11:20: “Then began He to upbraid the cities wherein most of His mighty works were done, because they repented not.” Think of it! The Creator God, He who has control over the very elements of the physical creation, stands rejected by His people! Alas!

But God knew from the beginning what would happen. He knew of their continued rejection of the kingdom offer through the risen Christ at Pentecost. He knew that they would stone Stephen and thus conclude themselves in unbelief along with the Gentiles. But the most glorious truth of all; He knew that then He would reveal the mystery of His will—His sacred secret given to the world through Paul—to display the riches of His grace in building from two, one NEW man, the Body of Christ!

The Christ who once wrought miracles in Israel is now Head of a new Church—His Body! And what of the favored nation and her kingdom? Read Romans 11, and see!

Best of Israel Tour 2019

PASTOR KEVIN **SADLER**

BBS President



This past May, *Berean Bible Society* and *Berean Bible Institute* co-hosted a tour of Israel. Dr. Robert Nix and I led this tour, which consisted of 44 people plus our tour guide, all fitting perfectly on one bus! Our group came from all over: Arizona, New Mexico, Tennessee, Florida, Washington, Idaho, Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio, Oregon, Montana, Illinois, Colorado, Indiana, North Carolina, the Netherlands, and the Philippines.

In the August through September 2018 issues of the *Berean Searchlight*, I wrote about my experiences in Israel on our 2018 exploratory tour. I experienced different things on the tour this year, and in this article I would like to share some of these new experiences.

For me personally, what was most different from last year is that I got to take three of my children. They worked hard to save up the money to come with me, and we made memories together that will last all our lives. I thanked the Lord repeatedly during the trip for this special time with my children.



LEADING A GROUP

Another thing that was new was being a leader of a tour group. On the initial days of the tour, Dr. Nix and I led morning devotions using the bus's PA system. We shared a portion of Scripture, prayed, and led the group in singing choruses. Then we asked pastors and ministry leaders on the tour to share their thoughts during these devotion times, men such as Pastor Mark Dilley, Pastor Floyd Baker, Jr., Pastor Harry Viernes, and Benedict Kresnye.

Dr. Nix and I also shared from the Word at various stops on the tour. Based on our 2018 tour, we chose locations ahead of time that were quieter and mostly free from distractions, where there were

places for the group to sit. I found that it is very powerful to teach in the actual site where a Bible event took place. This is a picture of me teaching at the Pool of Bethesda. Just over my shoulder is where the Lord healed the man who had been lame 38 years. It was incredible to turn around and point at the ruins of the pool as I taught about this account.

Here Dr. Nix is teaching at En Gedi, where David hid from King Saul and cut off a portion of Saul's garment while he took a nap in a cave. As we sat there, we could see caves all over the mountainside as Dr. Nix taught about this portion of Scripture.



Together, Dr. Nix and I also led a communion service at the Garden Tomb, the Protestant location of Golgotha, possibly where Christ was crucified and rose again. Just being in Jerusalem, knowing that you are near the place where the Lord died for our sins and rose again, made this time of remembrance very moving.

Near the end of the tour, we had a testimony time, and I asked our group to share their favorite moments of the tour. The prevalent response was that the morning devotions and the times of sharing from the Word at the different locations were very meaningful to our group. The communion service at the Garden Tomb also was a highlight for many.



THE BEAUTIFUL GATE

We had a fantastic tour guide. She was very knowledgeable. Most importantly, she was a believer and loved the Lord and the Word of God. She pointed out some things that I didn't hear the year prior. We visited the Southern Wall excavations again. At the steps which led into the temple mount in the time of Christ, she pointed to the corner at the top of the steps and identified it as the Beautiful Gate. You can see a little bit of what's left of it. Over the centuries, the gate was closed and a wall was built into it. It was called the Beautiful Gate for a reason: it was an ornate gate leading into the temple.

Following the in-filling of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, Peter healed a lame man in the power of the Spirit "at the gate of the

temple which is called Beautiful” (Acts 3:2). As Peter and John were going into the temple, the lame man asked an alms of them (v. 3). Peter responded, “Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk” (v. 6). Instantly, the lame man was made completely whole, and he proceeded to enter “into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God” (v. 8). Peter healed the lame man “in the name of Jesus Christ.” Performing this miracle in Christ’s name and authority gave witness to the Lord’s power, life, and resurrection, and it confirmed His identity as the Messiah of Israel, which the gospel of the kingdom required of people to believe at that time to be saved (John 20:31).



CITY OF DAVID AND HEZEKIAH’S TUNNEL

The previous year in Jerusalem, I saw signs for the City of David, but I didn’t know what it was. After visiting the Southern Wall excavations, we walked down to the City of David. Today the City of David is an archaeological site where they are excavating the city of Jerusalem from the time of King David.

I found this fascinating. They showed us a short movie of how the city would have looked in David’s day, which gave us a better understanding of what we were looking at as we walked down through the excavations.

After reigning over Judah from Hebron for 7½ years, David took Jerusalem from the Jebusites and made it his capital. The Jebusites taunted David that he could never capture Jerusalem (2 Sam. 5:6), “Nevertheless David took the strong hold of Zion: the same is the city of David” (v. 7). King David’s palace was near the top of the mount, and the city sloped down below it. Later, on the very top of the mount above David’s palace is where the temple was built by King Solomon. When we went to the top of the Mount of Olives the next day and I looked at the temple mount and the city, I had a whole new perspective of what Jerusalem looked like in ancient times.



At the bottom of the City of David is the Gihon Spring and Hezekiah's Tunnel. King Hezekiah ordered a tunnel to be dug to prepare Jerusalem for an impending siege by the Assyrians, led by King Sennacherib. Hezekiah diverted water from the Gihon Spring into the city of David, carving a water channel in the rock beneath the city. 2 Kings 20:20 reads, "And the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his might, and how he made a pool, and a conduit, and brought water into the city, are they not written in the book of the chronicles...?"

Our group walked through Hezekiah's Tunnel. There is a wet tunnel and a dry tunnel. You get to choose which tunnel you would like to walk through. A portion of our group went through the dry one and the other part braved the wet tunnel. The tunnels are very narrow. For most of the wet tunnel, the water is around your ankles, but at first the depth of the water is thigh-high. I was only told this, because I chose to walk through the dry tunnel. And of course, I was teased for this choice. I responded that there were *puddles* I had to walk through in the dry tunnel.

POOL OF SILOAM

Hezekiah's tunnel leads from the Gihon Spring to the Pool of Siloam. This was my first time visiting the Pool of Siloam. Only part of the pool is available for viewing. They unearthed the steps leading into the pool, but the pool was much larger. Structures of the modern-day city prevent them from digging out the entire pool. I sat for a while on the steps leading down into the pool because this account means a lot to me.

In John 9, the Lord healed a man blind from birth (9:1). This blind man is a picture of all mankind. Everyone born into this world is born blind, spiritually blind. The Lord Jesus Christ giving sight to this blind man is a picture of the Savior, the Light of the world (v. 5), bringing the light of life into a person's soul when he trusts Him.

The Lord spat on the ground, put the mud on this man's eyes, and then told him to walk to the Pool of Siloam to wash it off (vv. 6,7). I like to think about this man walking through the streets of Jerusalem to get to the pool—feeling his way, going as fast as he could, hearing



the pool when he got closer, getting excited at the possibility of what might happen, wondering what the Lord's words meant when He said, "that the works of God should be made manifest in him" (v. 3). When the man arrived at this public pool, he stepped down into it, splashed the water on his face, wiped his eyes and, for the first time in his life, he was able to *see*.

He could see everything he'd wondered about all his life. Everything was new. Everything was amazing. He saw the pool and the water. He could see the city, its walls, buildings, and streets. He could see birds, trees, flowers, and the sky. He saw people. He saw everything clearly.

The once-blind man then went back home to see his family and neighbors. However, they didn't recognize him! They didn't know who he was. They argued about whether it really was him (John 9:7-9). Some thought for sure that it was him; others said he's a lot like him, but it couldn't be him. The man himself insisted and settled the dispute, "It's really me. I'm the same guy, the one you knew when I was a blind beggar." That can be our testimony after we trust Christ as our Savior, some people not recognizing us anymore because there's such a change in our hearts and lives as a result of Christ.

Later, when the man stood before the Pharisees, they demanded that he admit that Jesus was a Sabbath-breaking sinner who had nothing to do with the man's healing (v. 24). He responded, "Whether He be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see" (v. 25). That's what we sing in "Amazing Grace": "Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, / that saved a wretch like me! / I once was lost, but now am found, / *was blind, but now I see.*" We were all blind beggars before Christ but, having trusted Christ, now we see (2 Cor. 4:3-6). Now we are not in darkness, we're in the light (Eph. 5:8). All things have become new (2 Cor. 5:17). It was a blessing to sit on those steps and to thank the Lord for my spiritual sight and life in Christ.

JORDAN RIVER

Last year, we visited the Jordan River baptismal site in the north near the Sea of Galilee. This year, we visited the Jordan River across from Jericho. The river was much wider, deeper, and cleaner in Bible times.

Three events in Scripture came to mind that took place around this area. First, the Israelites crossed the Jordan here to enter the promised land after wandering in the wilderness for forty years. As soon as the priests carrying the ark of the covenant stepped into the water, the river parted and stood, the water from the upstream stood as a heap as the Israelites crossed on dry ground (Josh. 3:15-17).



Second, this is the area where Elijah and Elisha crossed over the Jordan (2 Kings 2:4-14). Elijah smote the river with his mantle, the waters split, and both Elijah and Elisha crossed over on dry ground. When Elijah was taken in the whirlwind, his mantle fell from him. On the return trip, Elisha stood on the river bank, and smote the river with Elijah's mantle, and the waters split and Elisha passed over. This confirmed God's calling on Elisha's life as the prophetic successor to Elijah, and that God would demonstrate His power through Elisha as He had done with Elijah.

Third, this is the area where Christ was water baptized by John the Baptist. The entire Godhead was involved in Christ's baptism. When Christ, *God the Son*, was baptized, He saw *God the Holy Spirit* descending like a dove, and *God the Father* spoke "from heaven, saying, This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased" (Matt. 3:17). Christ was sinless and perfect, but our Lord was to be "numbered with the transgressors" (Isa. 53:12), and so He submitted Himself to a baptism for sinners and was identified with sinful man through John's baptism.



Our tour guide told us that the water in this area of the Jordan is heavily polluted and not safe to get in your mouth. I was therefore somewhat surprised to find many people dunking themselves in the Jordan here. All I kept thinking was, "This is not safe." Then I realized that this is not safe spiritually either! These people, who were speaking different languages and were from different parts of the world, were relying on and placing

their faith in a religious experience to save them, being water baptized where Christ was baptized. It was sad to watch.

While I was sitting by the edge of the Jordan River pondering the different passages of Scripture pertaining to it, Pastor Mark Dilley from Arizona came behind me and whispered, "There's an uprising in the group. Some are talking about pushing you in, snapping a picture, and ruining your ministry." We had a good-natured group of people who enjoyed joking around with each other. Pastor Floyd Baker Jr. jokingly said that he put his foot in the Jordan River, and he saved his sole. That's my kind of humor!

I learned on this trip that *Jordan* means coming down from Dan. Dan is a city in the extreme north of Israel. The Jordan River starts near Dan, and it flows down from Dan. After graduating from Bible school and studying my Bible for so long, I wanted to act like I knew that, but I had no idea!

SHEPHERD'S FIELDS

Christmas came early for those of us on the tour. We visited Bethlehem, but unlike the year before, we visited the shepherds' fields. As you enter the grounds, there is a large sign that reads, *Gloria in Excelsis Deo*. This Latin phrase means "Glory to God in the highest." Of course, this is what the angels said to the shepherds the night Christ was born (Luke 2:14).

This location in Bethlehem is thought to be where the sheep for the temple sacrifices were raised and pastured. Luke 2:8 teaches that the shepherds were abiding in the field with these sheep and closely guarding them by night. As the shepherds were protecting the sheep an angel appeared to them to tell them that "a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (v. 11) was born that night in Bethlehem. The amazing thing about this is that these men were keeping careful watch over the lambs for the temple sacrifices, which pointed in every way toward to the One Who had been born in the city of David—the One Who was *the* Lamb of God (John 1:29).



KORAZIM AND MOUNT OF BEATITUDES

Korazim was a pleasant surprise. We added it to our itinerary while we were in Israel based on the recommendation of our tour guide. Korazim is near Capernaum and the Sea of Galilee. There were many ruins to see in this ancient city. We know the Lord ministered here, teaching in its synagogue and performing undeniable miracles. The people of Korazim in the time of Christ, however, did not respond in faith to Him. As a result, our Lord pronounced judgment on Korazim: "Woe unto thee, Chorazin!... for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you" (Matt. 11:21-22).

From there we went to the Mount of Beatitudes, where tradition holds that the Lord gave the Sermon on the Mount. I have trouble



accepting things based solely on tradition. Therefore, I always take these *traditional* locations with a grain of salt. Just knowing that I'm near the places where these things took place is exciting enough for me. The Mount of Beatitudes is a beautiful spot overlooking the Sea of Galilee. In the Sermon

on the Mount, the Lord taught Israel about her hope and the system of laws and principles by which the millennial kingdom will operate. In this sermon, the Lord taught Israel, "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth" (Matt. 5:5). The earthly kingdom, however, is not our hope. And this sermon does not apply to us, the Body of Christ. Through His revelation given to Paul, the exalted Lord Jesus Christ teaches us, *Blessed is the Body, for we shall inherit the heavenlies* (see Eph. 1:3-23).

SALVATION OF A SOUL

As I mentioned earlier, we gathered for a time of sharing near the end of the tour. We were sitting in the dark by the Sea of Galilee, being bitten up by mosquitoes at first. I asked everyone to share their favorite moment or moments. The second person that spoke said, "I got saved on the boat ride on the Sea of Galilee." My jaw dropped and I said, "Well, I guess we should just dismiss the meeting because there's no better moment than that!"

The man was from Tennessee. He and his wife found our tour by doing a Google search for Israel tours. Early on in the tour, he had struck up a relationship with Pastor Mark Dilley. The boat ride on the Sea of Galilee is a stirring experience, and on the boat, he asked Pastor Dilley if he would lead him to the Lord.

After the testimony time was over, I probed further about his conversion. He said he had gone forward many times during altar calls at church, but he said it was all mechanical, just going through the motions, and it wasn't real. But on the boat ride and after all he had experienced in Israel, it brought him to a place where he was ready to trust Christ. And he said, "That was real." This was the icing on the cake to a very special tour.



Make plans now to join us in September of 2020! BBS will be leading an "In the Footsteps of Paul" tour, including stops in Athens, Corinth, Berea, Philippi, Neapolis and more!





Christ the Power and Wisdom of God

DAVE STEWART
Contributing Writer

“But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God” (1 Cor. 1:23,24).

The Jews sought a hero whose power would excite their senses. The Greeks sought a philosopher whose wisdom would excite their minds. God responded with a man so apparently weak as to be led to the slaughter, and a message so seemingly foolish as to require the wise man to deny his wisdom.

But why would God work this way? Why would He give men the exact opposite of what they were looking for? Does God want them to reject the Savior? No. In fact, He not only desires for ALL men to be saved (1 Tim. 2:4), but God wants us to be wiser and more powerful than we could ever imagine. The trouble is that the wisdom of men is not wisdom at all, and the power of men is utter

weakness. Power belongs to God. Wisdom belongs to God. And until a man acknowledges these eternal truths, both wisdom and power will be, for his part, nothing more than an illusion.

But the passage says more. It is not merely that power and wisdom belong to God, but that the power of God and the wisdom of God is embodied in the person of Jesus Christ.

Christ the Power of God

The heavens declare the glory of God (Psa.19:1). The creation itself shows His eternal power and Godhead (Rom. 1:20). But the creation merely shows the power of God. Our passage declares that Christ IS the power of God. And not simply Christ, but Christ crucified.

So now we need to ask, how does the power of God reside in Christ crucified? By all appearances the cross demonstrates the weakness of God, not His power. Throughout history men have

employed all their wisdom and all of their power against the great enemy that is death, only to be defeated in the end. But Jesus Christ was not just any man. He was the Divine man, yes, but more relevant to our question, He was the sinless man. And therein lies the secret to the power of God. Jesus Christ was the sinless man, who died. We'll say that again. The power of God is manifest in Christ, in this: He was the sinless man, who died.

The Final Enemy

From the beginning, God has made it clear that death is the direct result of sin. He warned our father, Adam, to beware of this great enemy from the very start.

“But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die” (Gen. 2:17).

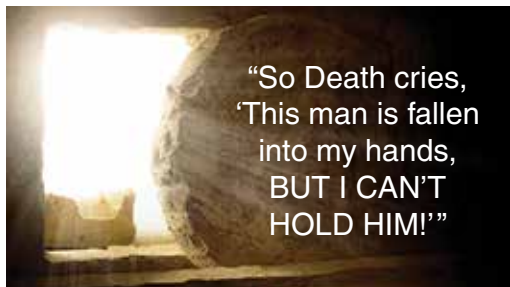
And then the whole body of Scripture testifies to this simple, tragic truth: the soul that sinneth, it shall die (Eze.18:20; Deut. 30:15; Rom. 5:12; Rom. 6:23; Rev. 21:8). But the Lord Jesus Christ was a soul without sin. Yet the Jews, Gentiles, and the angels themselves watched as He gave Himself over to death (John 10:17,18).

So now Death had a problem, a HUGE problem. Death is the wages of sin. But here we have a Man who died, yet without sin. So what is Death to do with this Man? It has no claim over Him, yet here He is. So Death cries, **“This man is fallen into my hands, BUT I CAN'T HOLD HIM!”** (Acts 2:24).

So when the women went to the tomb expecting to care for

the lifeless body of a man, they encountered angels instead.

“They said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen” (Luke 24:5-6).



He is risen! The Lord Jesus Christ has beaten Death! God's final adversary (1 Cor. 15:26) has been defeated by this weak and lowly Galilean. And it is here that the crucified Christ is shown to be the very power of God.

Christ the Wisdom of God

As the power of God lives in the Man who died without sin, even so, the wisdom of God resides in the glorious truth that the very same Man died WITH sin. Just as Samson died with the Philistines, our Lord delivered Himself into the Reaper's hand, but He would not go alone.

“But now...hath He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself” (Heb. 9:26).

In allowing Himself to be crucified, Christ “put away sin.” In the very throes of death, even the death of the cross, the Lord Jesus Christ grabbed hold of sin and pulled it down into death itself. And so in the crucified Christ sin was vanquished by death, its very own creation, once and forever more.

Satan, the Less

Sin and death, the two great enemies of God, are now beaten by God's own seemingly weak and foolish Christ. So now the lesser foe, Satan himself, is fully stripped of his power (Heb. 2:14; Col. 2:15). By sheer wisdom, God charmed the subtle serpent into stinging his own tail. By crucifying Christ, Satan brought the final end of sin and death imploding in upon himself.


Christ, the Great

Christ crucified; so weak as to die without even having sinned; so foolish as to die with sin that wasn't His own. Christ crucified; so wise as to lure Satan, Sin, and Death into a triangle from which they could not escape. And then so powerful as to seize each one by the scruff, and to pummel them against each other until not a breath was left between them, beating Satan with his own sin, beating sin with His own death, and beating death by dying, having withstood Satan's temptations to sin.

"O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out!" (Rom. 11:33).

We Which Are Called

And now, by the wisdom and power of the same crucified, resurrected Christ, we too are enabled to withstand Satan, to overcome sin, and to transcend death. As we embrace what is, to the world, weakness and foolishness, we find wisdom and power the world cannot comprehend (1 Cor. 2:14). In Christ we embrace the weakness of the cross, forgiving those who wrong us (Col. 3:13), giving place unto wrath (Rom. 12:19), and extending mercy to those who deserve it least (1 Tim. 1:16). In the crucified One, we proclaim the foolish message of God's grace, that salvation is a gift, without effort, reformation, or promise on our part (Eph. 2:8,9). And that the same free gift enables us to conquer sin day by day without fear of punishment or separation from God when we fall (Rom. 8:31-39).

To the secular world, foolishness; to the religious world, weakness; but unto us which are called, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Lord, grant us this foolishness, bless us with this weakness, against which no earthly wisdom or power can stand. 



To be found in Him...this is the Christian's *standing*. Nothing less, nothing lower, nothing different. Not *partly* in Christ and *partly* in a church, but "found in Him." It is in Christ that we must be found, in His righteousness....If we are not found in Him, it matters little where else we are. If we are found in Him, it matters little where we are *not* found. Oh, to be found "in Him," in our own experiences. This then is the proper Christian *standing* (Gal. 2:15-24).

—E.W. Bulliger

MONTANA BBS REGIONAL CONFERENCE

September 20-22, 2019

Location: Red Lion Hotel, 20 S. Main Street, Kalispell, MT

Speaker: Pastor Kevin Sadler, BBS President

Theme: “*Living By Grace*”

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You Can Make a Difference

One person can always make a difference. By one vote America voted to make English our official language over German, Texas was added to the union, Andrew Johnson was saved from impeachment, and Adolf Hitler gained power over the Nazi party. In the spiritual realm, one person has frequently made an enormous difference. Only Jehosheba hid young Joash from being killed, enabling him to become a godly king (2 Kings 11). Elijah stood alone against hundreds of false prophets, and a wicked king and queen (1 Kings 18). Jonathan alone protected David from the murderous plots of Saul (1 Sam. 19). Nathan stood alone to rebuke David, influencing him to get right with the Lord (2 Sam. 12). God used one man, Paul, to reveal our new dispensation of grace, and Onesiphorus to encourage Paul in a time of great trial (2 Tim. 1:16-18). God can also use you to make an important difference in your sphere of influence. “Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might” (Eph. 6:10), seeking to make a difference through ministry to others.

—Pastor John Fredericksen



“This Moses whom they refused, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge? the same did God send to be a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush.

“He brought them out, after that he had shewed wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red sea, and in the wilderness forty years.

“This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear.

“This is he, that was in THE CHURCH IN THE WILDERNESS with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us” (Acts 7:35-38).

Much confusion exists today about the biblical use of the word *church*. Without understanding the term in light of Scripture, many people conclude this word refers to a building that is used for worship.

The Bible teaches that the church is not a building, but that believers themselves are the church. Others assume that any time they find the word *church* in Scripture, it refers to them or truth about them; this is not true either, this assumption can lead to many practical and doctrinal errors.

First, we must establish the definition of the word *church* in the Bible. The word *church*, does not always mean the same thing, every time we find it, and it doesn't always refer to the same group of people. As it is with many biblical words, it is critical to look at the context in which they are used to understand their meaning.

The Bible refers to several different churches. First, in Acts 7, we find a reference to a church, but it is **not** the Church, the Body of Christ. It is a different church. Acts 7 refers to “the church in the wilderness,” referring back to the days of the books of Exodus and Numbers in your Bible. We see here that God had a “church” long before Christ said, “upon this rock I will build My church” in Matthew 16:16-18. Who is this church in Acts 7?

The Church Under Grace

Three Churches in Scripture



PASTOR KEVIN J. **SADLER**
BBS President

Stephen, in his discourse before the religious leaders in Israel explained how the people of Israel initially “refused” the leadership of Moses (Acts 7:35) but later accepted him and followed him out of Egypt “after that he shewed wonders and signs” (v. 36). Then, God gave the “lively oracles” to Moses on Mount Sinai “to give unto us” (v. 38). The “us” is Israel.



**EVERY TIME WE FIND THE WORD “CHURCH,”
IT DOES NOT ALWAYS MEAN THE
SAME THING; AND IT DOESN’T ALWAYS
REFER TO THE SAME GROUP OF PEOPLE.**


Here the word *church* is referring to the people of Israel in the wilderness after their deliverance from Egypt. Thus, we learn that there was a “church” in the past. This church in the wilderness had laws, requirements, and instructions specifically for them. They had a place to worship at the tabernacle. They had Moses as their leader. This church was Israel.



When we read about this *church* in the Old Testament, it does not refer to us. It is not the church of this dispensation of grace. It was a different church, a different group of people who lived under the law.

The word *church* is translating the Greek word *ekklesia*, and it simply means a called-out group or a called-out assembly. It is a general term and can be used to describe any group of people, from an angry mob (Acts 19:32,41) to a group of saints gathered for worship....

The context will always make clear which *church* is in view. Israel was a church, a called-out group. They were called out of Egypt and out of the world to be a special people unto God. Today, we are a called-out, special group of people. We are called out, not as a chosen nation as Israel was but, instead, we’re called out to be members of the Church, the Body of Christ.

We, too, are a church, but we are not Israel. Israel was a church, but they were not the Body of Christ. These must be kept separate. In doing this, it clarifies many misunderstandings about God’s instructions for Israel under the law as well as God’s instructions for the Body of Christ under grace. When we rightly divide between these two, we understand the Bible much more clearly. 

An excerpt from Pastor Kevin Sadler’s new booklet, based on episode 70 of *Transformed by Grace*. To order this booklet, see page 28.

Question Box

“Which name of the Lord do we have to call on to be saved?”

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Rom. 10:13).

The Lord had many names, but Paul is quoting Joel 2:32 here, where the name “LORD” means *Jehovah*. In Romans 10:13, the name we “call” on today (1 Cor. 1:2) is “Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Calling on the Lord’s name means different things in Scripture. After God stopped speaking to men directly, as He did with Adam and Cain, “then began men to call upon the name of the LORD” (Gen. 4:26). That means calling on His name can mean to *pray* (Zech. 13:9) and ask God for things (1 Kings 18:24,36,37; Psa. 116:4). Or it can just mean to know Him (Psa. 79:6; Jer. 10:25).

But in Joel 2:32, we know that it means to *believe the gospel*, for Joel predicted that whoever called on the LORD *would be saved*. But when Peter *quoted* Joel (Acts 2:21), he went on to say that whoever would repent and be baptized would be saved (Acts 2:38). Paul likewise makes clear that calling on the Lord’s name (Rom. 10:13) means to believe the gospel (v. 11), only *today* the gospel is “the word of faith” that Paul preached (10:8):

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved” (Rom. 10:9).

—Pastor Kurth

Western Wisconsin Special Meetings

September 6-7, 2019

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Speaker: Pastor Kevin Sadler, BBS President

For directions or more information contact:
Jack Trumm (608) 794-2410 or Mel Flogel (608) 348-7574

FISHBOWL THEOLOGY

A Lesson from our *Growing Up In Grace* Sunday School Material



KATHLEEN **BAKER**
GUIG Writer

Sore throats, earaches, and fevers—we’ve all had them, and they’re no fun! Sometimes our illness requires a visit to the family physician. After an examination, the doctor usually scribbles a few words on a prescription pad and confidently says, “Have this filled at the pharmacy; take according to directions; and in a few days, you’ll be as good as new!”

Let’s suppose when you go to the pharmacy and give the prescription to the pharmacist, he promptly places it in a large fishbowl with the rest of the prescriptions he has received that day! Much to your surprise, he then mixes them up and randomly picks one! He studies it carefully, reaches for a container of pills, counts out a specified amount, puts them in a bottle, and hands them to you! WHAT’S wrong with this picture? After all, the pharmacist carefully filled and dispensed a prescription that had been ordered by a doctor. “But,” you say, “he probably gave me medicine intended for someone else—THAT’S not only dangerous, it could be deadly!” Good thinking! It’s important the patient takes medicine prescribed only TO him!

Many people take a “fishbowl” approach when studying the Scriptures. They flip the pages of their Bible, point their finger at a verse, and then foolishly suppose the selected passage is God’s “prescription” TO them. They take no thought of (1) WHO is speaking, (2) TO WHOM the speaker is speaking, (3) WHAT the speaker is speaking about, or (4) WHEN the passage was spoken. A good rule to remember is that while all the Bible was written FOR us to study, it certainly was not all written TO us, nor was it all written ABOUT us.

WORDS TO ISRAEL

The Old Testament writers, including Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, SPOKE TO the nation of Israel and SPOKE ABOUT God’s prophecy program centered in Christ as KING on the earth. But Israel stumbled in unbelief! They crucified their King and shouted, “We will not have this man to reign over us!” (Luke 19:14). After the Lord Jesus was buried, arose again, and ascended into heaven, the Apostle Peter pleaded with the Jewish leaders to repent. And he

promised the Lord would return to earth and establish the long promised Kingdom IF they repented. But Israel was blind! God's own Son walked among them, but they received Him not (John 1:11)!

God wasn't surprised by Israel's refusal to accept His Son. In fact, God actually used Israel's rejection of Christ in His plan to offer salvation to the whole world. With Israel's stumbling, with Israel's blindness, God was ready to reveal a secret "hid in God" since before the foundation of the world (Eph. 3:9). Not even the Old Testament prophets knew about God's best kept secret. Something BIG was about to happen!

WORDS TO THE BODY OF CHRIST

And then it began to unfold! The glorified Lord Jesus, like a bolt of lightning, knocked a Christ-hating Jew, Saul of Tarsus, to the ground and miraculously saved him! The Lord made Saul, who was later called Paul, a special apostle to the Gentiles (Rom. 11:13). Listen as the Lord spoke to Saul:

Acts 26:16-18—"But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; Delivering thee from the people [Jews], and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I SEND THEE, to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in Me."

That was a tall order! But Paul obeyed. He told everyone—both Jew and Gentile—that God had concluded them ALL in unbelief, that He might have mercy upon ALL (Rom. 11:32). Gradually, God revealed to Paul the dispensation of the grace of God—truth for TODAY (Eph. 3:2). Paul learned that God had set the nation of Israel aside, and NOW was building something new, the church, which is the Body of Christ. God, in grace, saves all who believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for their sins, was buried, and arose again. God, in grace, baptizes believers into the Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13,27) and gives gifts to each member. Remember, Christ is the Head, and WE are His Body. His hands, feet, eyes, ears, and mouth, energized by GOD'S POWER to be His ambassadors in this sin-sick world (2 Cor. 5:21). Christ lives IN US and THROUGH US to accomplish impossible tasks (Gal. 2:20; Col. 1:27)! What a secret! But that's not all. We have an eternal hope, a heavenly hope, centered in Christ in GLORY. What Christ IS in Glory, one day we shall be.

Colossians 3:4—"When Christ, Who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory."

What Christ HAS in glory, one day we shall have.

Romans 8:17a—"And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ."

WHERE Christ is in glory, one day we shall be.

1 Thessalonians 4:17—"Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

Paul made three journeys through what is now Syria, Turkey, and Greece teaching the gospel of God's grace. Churches popped up everywhere! Not everything went smoothly, however, so Paul wrote letters to the churches explaining the doctrines, duties, and destiny of believers in this present age. He encouraged the believers, answered their questions, and solved problems that were worrying them. He wrote at least thirteen letters, and we have them in our Bibles. They are Romans through Philemon.

Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, wrote TO the believers of seven churches: Rome, Corinth, Galatia, Ephesus, Philippi, Colosse, and Thessalonica. Timothy, Titus, and Philemon received personal letters. Paul's earliest epistles were First and Second Thessalonians, First and Second Corinthians, Galatians, and Romans. It is believed by many Bible teachers that while a prisoner in Rome under "house arrest," the Lord inspired Paul to write four other epistles: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon. We call these books the Prison Epistles. Near the very end of his life he wrote First and Second Timothy and Titus. When you read Paul's epistles, put YOUR name on them. They are written TO you and they are ABOUT you. They are God's "spiritual medicine" TODAY for the Body of Christ.



AN EXAMPLE—PAUL'S LETTER TO PHILEMON

Let's study Paul's letter to Philemon and see how it applies to us today. Although this little letter is only twenty-five verses long, it teaches BIG lessons. Lessons the people in Paul's day needed, and lessons WE need to learn today!

PAUL, THE PRISONER

Paul wrote this letter while a prisoner under "house arrest" in his own house. He'd been arrested for obeying the Lord by preaching God's Word! Paul knew that he was the Lord's prisoner and that God would use this circumstance for His greater glory. Notice verse one:

Philemon 1—"Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy our brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer."

Paul was confident the all-powerful, all-knowing, everywhere-present Lord was in control, even in this difficult situation. Paul knew why he was in prison.

Philippians 1:12—"But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel."

Paul was there to preach to people he couldn't otherwise reach, and many were saved including the guards who were chained to his wrists!

PHILEMON, A CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMAN

Paul wrote this letter to Philemon, a friend he had won to Christ. Philemon loved the Lord. He loved God's people and faithfully encouraged them. In fact, the people regularly gathered in his house to study the Scriptures and worship God. Philemon was also a wealthy businessman and, like many in that day, had a number of slaves. One of his slaves was a young man named Onesimus.

ONESIMUS, AN UNPROFITABLE SLAVE

The name Onesimus means profitable, but Onesimus certainly didn't live up to his name! Instead, he robbed his master and fled to Rome. Perhaps he thought he could blend into the big-city crowds and no one would find him. On-the-run Onesimus probably didn't think about God; but God, who knows and sees all, was watching him as he stole the money, as he fled his master's house, as he hurried to Rome, as he attempted to hide, as he wasted his master's money.



Philemon was upset with his thieving runaway, and rightfully so. Besides taking his money, he had left him short-handed. Onesimus was no longer there to do whatever his master asked. Onesimus owed his master a great debt and needed to be punished! Punishment for a thieving, runaway slave could be severe. Under Roman law, they could be beaten, burned to death, fed to wild animals—even crucified.

ONESIMUS, SAVED FROM SIN

One day, loaded with guilt, Onesimus was brought face to face with the man who had led his master, Philemon, to the Lord! Onesimus, maybe because of lawbreaking or possibly voluntarily visiting the jail, found himself talking to the Apostle Paul! Onesimus would soon learn the all-powerful, all-knowing, everywhere-present Lord was in control of his circumstances, too! How wonderful to know that God can use all things, even overruling the sinful deeds of man, to bring us to Christ!

Paul told Onesimus about God's unconditional love. God had demonstrated that love by sending the Lord Jesus Christ to die for Onesimus's sins: stealing, running away—ALL of his sin. The Lord Jesus had been buried, but He arose the third day, and now was ascended into heaven seated at God's right hand. This was proof that Onesimus's sins had been paid IN FULL and that God would forgive him if he would place his trust in the Lord Jesus Christ!

Colossians 1:14—“In Whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins.”

Right then and there, Onesimus trusted Christ as his Saviour! What joy, what relief flooded Onesimus's heart. Immediately he began serving the Apostle Paul by helping him and easing his suffering. But all was not right with Onesimus. He was troubled about what he had done to Philemon about the money he had stolen. He should make things right with his master, but he knew he risked the death penalty for his crimes.

PAUL'S PLEA FOR ONESIMUS

Onesimus talked to Paul about his problem. Notice what Paul wrote Philemon:

Philemon 10-11—“I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds: which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me.”

Paul told Philemon that the slave who had stolen, betrayed, and run from him had been changed by the power of the gospel. He was now helpful to Paul, doing exactly what Philemon would do if he were there in Onesimus's place. He was now living up to his name which means profitable. Paul wrote:

Philemon 15-16—“For perhaps he therefore departed for a season, that thou shouldest receive him forever; Not now as a servant, but above a servant, a brother beloved, specially to me, but how much more unto thee, both in the flesh, and in the Lord?”

God has a way of turning circumstances around for His glory and for our good! Sometimes things have to get worse before they get better. Now, because Onesimus had trusted the Lord, Philemon should receive him no longer as a slave or a servant. He was now a member of the household of God, a brother in the Lord, a relationship they would enjoy for all eternity. Paul continued:

Philemon 17— “If thou count me therefore a partner, receive him as myself.”

If Paul had shown up at Philemon's house, Philemon would have given him a royal welcome and provided all of his needs. This is exactly what Paul asked Philemon to do when Onesimus appeared at his doorstep. Paul continues:

Philemon 18-19a—“If he hath wronged thee, or oweth thee ought, put that on mine account; I Paul have written it with mine own hand, I will repay it!”

Paul knew Onesimus owed Philemon, and justice demanded this debt be paid. Paul also knew that Onesimus had no way of paying his master back, so Paul told Philemon to put Onesimus's bill on his account. Paul would willingly pay Onesimus's debt.

CROSSING THE FINISH LINE

Do you see yourself in this story? We've robbed God by using the Lord's time, talents, and gifts to please ourselves. We, too, try to hide from God. But He sees our disobedience, complaining, fighting, lying, cheating, stealing—ALL of our sin. When the Lord Jesus Christ hung on the Cross, He knew we had wronged the Father. He knew we owed the Father much and had no way of paying Him back. But our sin was charged to the Lord's account, and He paid our debt. Now God, in grace, receives us just as He receives His own Son

(Eph. 1:6) and promises to supply ALL our needs (Phil. 4:19). NO longer a servant of sin, we've been raised up a son, an heir—a relationship we'll have forever. Are YOU an unprofitable servant? Has YOUR life been turned around by the power of the gospel? Believe the wonderful gospel of God's grace today and have all of your sins forgiven!


SUMMARY

Onesimus was a runaway slave owned by Philemon. He encountered Paul in his travels and became a believer. Paul wrote a letter to Philemon requesting that he forgive Onesimus, and that he treat Onesimus like a brother in the Lord. Paul offered to pay any debt that Onesimus owed to Philemon.

GOSPEL PRESENTATION

We are unprofitable to the Lord when we steal from Him and try to run away from Him. We have no way of paying God back for our sins. But our sin debt has been paid in full by the Lord Jesus Christ. When we place our faith in the Lord Jesus, we are forgiven.

APPLICATION

Could you forgive someone like Onesimus who had stolen from you and had run away? We are to forgive others as God, in Christ, has forgiven us. If we've trusted in the Lord's finished work, God has forgiven us for ALL our sins, so we can forgive others for ALL the wrongs that they have done against us. 

Spotlight on Grace Churches

FAITH BIBLE CHURCH

560 E. Sauk Trail, Steger, Illinois 60475

Pastors:

Ricky Kurth—Senior Pastor

Paul Balbach—Assistant Pastor

Steve Schwieger—Assistant Pastor

Dave Stewart—Adult Sunday School Teacher

At *Faith Bible Church*, we teach the Bible through, verse by verse, book by book, alternating between Paul's epistles and "all the counsel of God" found in all of the rest of God's Word (Acts 20:27).

Contact: Pastorkurth@msn.com

Website: www.FaithBibleChurch.weebly.com



BBS Letter Excerpts

From Arizona:

"I recently became a believer. A brother...is teaching me how to rightly divide the Word. What he has begun teaching...makes sense, and I really want to grow closer to my Savior and continue to learn God's Word. I am respectfully requesting to receive the monthly *Berean Searchlight*."

From Michigan:

"I am sending you this letter due to me being unfamiliar with the preaching of Paul according to the revelation of the mystery. I was introduced to this doctrine by a beloved brother. I'm currently in a leadership position....I would like to ask that my name be added to the *Searchlight* mailing list."

From California:

"Can you please send me information on your *Berean Bible Society*. While fishing the other day, I met a gentleman on the shore, and he gave me information on BBS. I am very interested." (Sounds like somebody was fishing for men! -Ed.).

From Arizona:

"I started reading your book *Rightly Divided Answers* and your first two verses were the two verses that brought me to a screeching halt in 2008 in Moscow, Russia. A pastor was reading from the sermon on the mount, when Jesus said forgive and you will be forgiven...It's been a blessing and a privilege to have Mark Dilley for a pastor."

From Illinois:

"Thank you so much for your very extensive answer to my question about tongues...I struggle to understand so very many things. I believe God is using you now to ease my struggles."

From our Inbox:

"We have been impressed with your television ministry in its simplicity, warmth, and humility. So we were wondering if you could recommend a church for us since we are becoming uncomfortable with the teaching in the church we are now attending."

From Illinois:

"Found Kevin on TV finally. Only watched one episode so far—but really impressed—very down to earth... Give him my kudos."

From New York:

"Please use this money for your *Transformed By Grace* program. We are unable to view it on TV....Is it possible to purchase these DVDs?" (Yes! And thanks for selflessly helping us continue to broadcast a program that you can't watch. -Ed.).

From Indiana:

"Thank you for the article on Haggai, 'A Temple That Paired in Comparison.' It gave me courage and hope. We all have our struggles, but it helped me in my situation. One of the most uplifting articles I've read. I reread it often."

From Indiana:

"I watch BBS on DirecTV and Youtube. At last I found teachers who present Paul and the age of grace... leaving behind trying to follow the man Jesus. It all fits!"

From California:

"I watch the BBS network on Roku streaming TV here. I watch Ken Lawson, and Jeff Seekins...I listen to audio sermons on my iPhone. I think I've listened to every J. C. O'Hair audio on your site. I'm currently on Ephesians #72 by Ricky Kurth... There are no grace churches here in Hollywood, so I'm buying *Moses and Paul* to give out."

From Texas:

"I cannot tell you what your 'Pillar and Ground of the Truth' article meant to me....There are no grace age preachers in this area...so your message on page 25 of the April *Searchlight* just thrilled my heart."

From Pennsylvania:

"A friend...has seen to it for the past few years that we get copies of the *Searchlight*, but I'd rather get it by mail. He always gives it to me at a restaurant and the magazine gets sticky from breakfast syrups and sauces. Thank you!" (We'll be glad to send you a monthly copy, and we promise to hold the mayo and all other condiments. —Ed.).

From our Inbox:

"Pastor Kevin Sadler, just finished reading your *Two Minutes* article this morning ['God's Purpose in Satan's Hindrance'] and I want to thank you for this insight! I often forget how God works out things in our life for His glory. Excellent perspective!"

From Montana:

"Please send Revelation 4...I have many of your books now. They are encouraging and insightful. Keep up the good work!"

From Guam:

"*Rightly Divided Answers* is the best book I have ever read on salvation. It is so timely in our day of such religious confusion."

From our Inbox:

"This *More Minutes With the Bible* article ['The All-sufficient Much More Over-abounding Grace of the God of All Grace,' by J. C. O'Hair] is a great article. Praise God!"

From Michigan:

"Just wanted to thank you again for your part in the recent Israel excursion. To say my wife, Mary, and I enjoyed it would be an understatement. It was everything that we hoped it would be and more. On my first day home, I was reading in 2 Kings chapters 1-3, and I could picture the places and distances between them and it was exciting to do so."

From Kansas:

"I never heard of your ministry until recently...I saw the January *Searchlight*, and was really moved by the story 'Give the Jews Credit.' Could you send me another issue?" (We can do better than that, we can add you to the mailing list to receive all the issues! —Ed.).

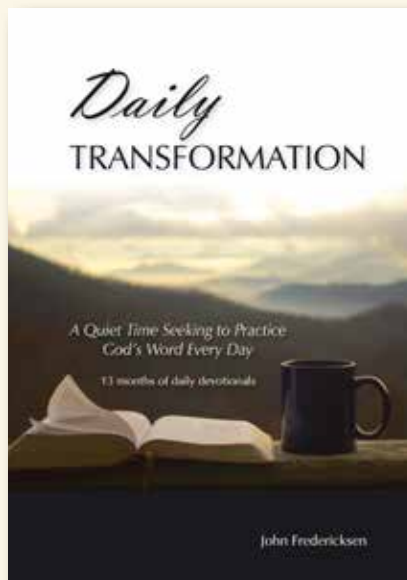
From British Columbia:

"I just received the books I had ordered and would like to thank you. We appreciate being able to get literature that we cannot get anywhere else."

Be a Berean

"These 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

"And be not conformed to this world:
but be ye transformed
by the renewing of your mind, that
ye may prove what is that good, and
acceptable, and perfect, will of God"
(Rom. 12:2).



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- 74 Christmas Episode
- 75 A Servant of God
- 76 Looking for a Few Good Men
- 77 Dealing with the Dangerous
- 78 The Clarence Principle
- 79 Good Looking Christianity

- 80 Sanctifying, Glorifying, Redeeming Grace
- 81 Once Saved, Always Changed
- 82 Work Zone Ahead
- 83 Does God Care About My Life? (Part 1)
- 84 Does God Care About My Life? (Part 2)

Coming soon! 85-88 (Parts 3-6) and 89-96



News and Announcements

Back By Popular Demand! Last year's BBS Regional Conference in Solomons, Maryland, went so well that everyone agreed we should do it again! So if you missed last year's meetings, and you only know BBS president Pastor Kevin Sadler as the face of our *Transformed By Grace* TV program, here's your chance to meet the captain of our ship, and hear him teach God's rightly divided Word in person! Just make room in your schedule for this August 23 & 24 gathering, and contact Bart Dobers to let him know you're coming: (240) 587-8458, or dobersb@hotmail.com.

Round 2 in Alaska! Speaking of things that are back by popular demand, last year's inaugural conference in Kenai was such a blessing, it too bears repeating! Only this year the saints in Homer have clamored to have the conference in their neck of the woods. Having experienced the depth of their hospitality during the time I spent with them after last year's conference, your editor can personally guarantee you'll be glad you attended this year's August 17th meeting. So if you'd like to hear Pastor Ricky Kurth's thoughts on the mysteries of which we are the stewards, contact Josh Dennis at jdennis1201@gmail.com or (907) 953-1079.

Do you read the *Searchlight* online? If so, we've added a new feature that we're sure you're going to like. From now on, when you see a display ad announcing one of our conferences, you can just click on it to learn further information. The same goes for the ads you see featuring our monthly specials. The young people on the staff here at BBS tell me that these are called hyperlinks, but if you're like me, you'll just call them handy!

New Pennsylvania Grace Work: Pastor Richard Everly is holding forth God's rightly divided Word each Saturday evening at 6:30 in Point Marion, not far from the West Virginia border near Morgantown. Your editor was finally able to meet Richard at a conference recently after several years of letters and phone calls, and I know you'll be blessed by his ministry of the Word. So give him a call at (724) 324-2511, and find out how you can grow in grace and be part of what God is doing in western Pennsylvania.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR!

BBS Regional Conference, August 23-24, Solomons, MD

Western Wisconsin Special Meetings, September 6-7, Lancaster, WI

BBS Regional Conference, September 20-22, Kalispell, MT

England Special Meetings, October 12-13, Alcester, UK



MEDIA PRICE LIST

*(This is only a partial price list, for a full price list
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The Miracles of Calvary	\$15.00
What it Means to Be	
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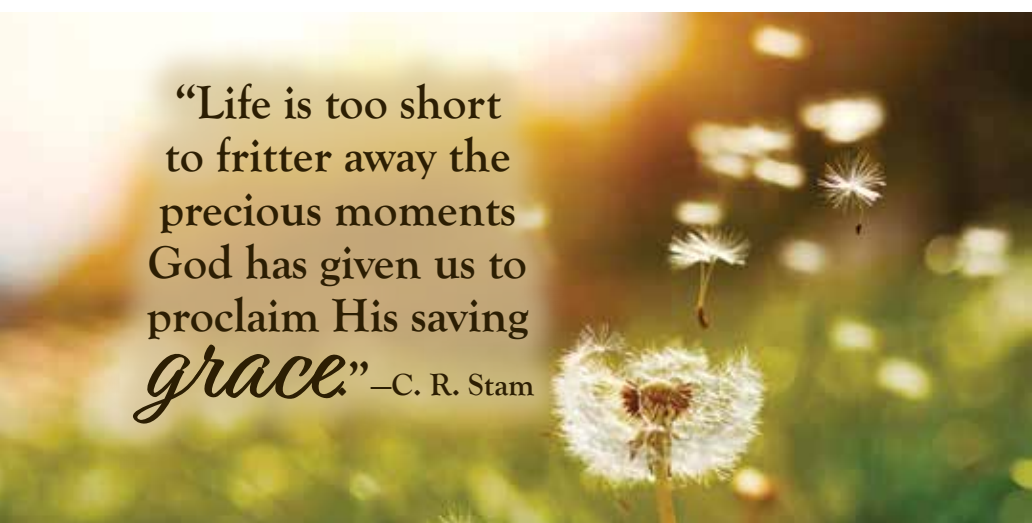
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