

# *The* **BEREAN SEARCHLIGHT™**

Studying God's Word, Rightly Divided

March 2020



# 80

● 1940-2020  
Anniversary

**Feature Article**

The Noble Bereans, *by C.R. Stam*.....5

**Articles**

In God We Trust, *by Paul M. Sadler* .....9

The Little Satellite That Could, *by Kevin J. Sadler* .....15

50 Years in the Grace Message, *by Ricky Kurth*.....19

**Departments**

Never Forget .....17

Question Box.....18

WWII Letter Excerpts .....26

News and Announcements .....30

*This month's cover features the Mull of Galloway Lighthouse at Scotland's South Point.*

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.

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 / **Layout and Design:** Jessica Sadler (Book specials: Christine Mulholland)

**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, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, CT

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

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

**The Berean Searchlight (ISSN 0005-8890), March 2020. Vol. 81, 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.



## A Note From the President

Dear Friends in Christ,

This issue marks the 80th anniversary of the *Berean Searchlight*. We are thankful to the Lord for how He has used this magazine for the past 80 years. He deserves the glory for it all. The purpose of *Berean Bible Society* is to help people understand and enjoy their Bibles. God has used this magazine for this purpose for 80 years. To commemorate the anniversary, this issue contains articles and quotes from each of the eight decades of ministry of the *Berean Searchlight*.

The *Searchlight* began as a Bible lesson on the back of a church bulletin during Pastor C. R. Stam's pastorate at *Preakness Bible Church* in Preakness, New Jersey. The people from his congregation widely handed out copies of the bulletin. Pastor Stam wrote, "Soon we had a list of 700 to prepare each week for distribution. This grew to 1600, and when I left Preakness we had a mailing list of more than 7,000 names." As a result of the interest in the bulletin, a committee of six from the church asked Pastor Stam if he would be willing to publish a Bible study magazine if they supplied the funds. Pastor Stam agreed, and in March 1940 the first issue was published with the lead article, "The Noble Bereans." You can read this article beginning on page 5 of this issue.

The striking pictures of lighthouses that grace the front cover each month are reminders of the spiritual purpose of our magazine. Lighthouses have two purposes: to warn of danger and to guide to safety. We publish the *Berean Searchlight* to warn of the spiritual dangers of false teachings and traditions of men, and to guide believers to the safety of a clear understanding of God's Word, rightly divided. In addition, the *Searchlight* exists to warn of the real danger of hell and to guide people to safety in Christ through the gospel of the grace of God.

The *Berean Bible Society* has branched out into different ministries, but the *Berean Searchlight* remains our core ministry and most important function. The *Searchlight* reaches monthly into every state of the union and more than 40 foreign countries. For all 80 years, the *Searchlight* has been sent *free of charge* and, Lord willing, it will continue to be sent free to all who request it. We are thankful for all our supporters over these many years who have partnered with us in making this possible and in enabling us to get the truth out far and wide. As Pastor Stam used to include in past editions, "The *Berean Searchlight* is kept shining through the gifts of Christian friends."

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Kevin J. Sadler, President

# From the Editor to You



Dear Friends in Christ,

Two months after Pastor Stam mailed out the inaugural issue of the *Berean Searchlight* in March of 1940, Winston Churchill became England's prime minister. Pastor Stam must have admired him, for nearly forty years later he gave me a book containing selected quotations from the man who would lead Britain in her finest hour. He had underlined several passages, including the well-known words Churchill delivered to Parliament concerning the ordeal that lay before them in defeating the Nazis.

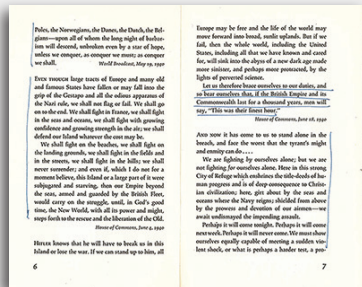
"We have before us an ordeal of the most grievous kind.... You ask, 'What is our policy?' I will say: 'It is to wage war... with all our might, and with all the strength that God can give us; to wage war against a monstrous tyranny.'" I believe those words resonated with Pastor Stam because he considered a failure to rightly divide the Word of truth to be a monstrous *spiritual* tyranny, and he waged war against it with all the strength that God could give him. When the prime minister later said, "We shall defend our island whatever the cost," it reminds me of how Pastor Stam defended Paul's gospel without ever once pausing to count the cost.

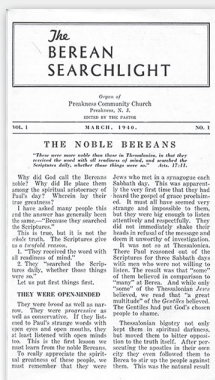
But he would have been the first to tell you that he could not have done it without the support of grace believers like you, the readers of the *Berean Searchlight*. Maybe that's why he also underlined the words that Churchill spoke to England's coal miners concerning their vital and indispensable contribution to the war effort:

"Some day, when children ask, 'What did you do to win this inheritance for us?' ...one will say: 'I was a fighter pilot;' another will say: 'I was in the Submarine Service;' another: 'I marched with the Eighth Army' ...and you in your turn will say, with equal pride and with equal right: 'We cut the coal.'"

As we here at BBS move forth into yet another decade of publication of the *Searchlight*, we do so fully aware of our responsibility to muster all of the strength that God can give *us* to advance "the preaching of Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the mystery" in the face of the unfathomable spiritual darkness that still surrounds us. But we also do so fully aware that we must *fail* in this endeavor without grace men and women like you standing shoulder to shoulder with us in our effort "to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery." So on behalf of our president, our staff, and our board of directors, I thank you for your vital and indispensable support of the *Berean Searchlight*.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Ricky Kurth





Four score years ago this very month, a young pastor in Preakness, New Jersey, set forth on this continent a new magazine, conceived in the spiritual liberty that only the grace message can give, and dedicated to the proposition that all men should be made to see what is the fellowship of the mystery (Eph. 3:9).

Since that time, grace believers have been engaged in a great spiritual war, testing whether that message, or any message so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. By the grace of God, the grace message *has* endured, thanks in large part to the founder of that magazine, Pastor Cornelius R. Stam. And so it is altogether fitting and proper that we observe our 80th anniversary issue by reprinting the very first article that he penned for the inaugural March 1940 issue of the *Berean Searchlight*.

Pastor Ricky Kurth, Editor

# THE NOBLE BEREANS

PASTOR C. R. STAM  
BBS Founder

**“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).**

Why did God call the Bereans noble? Why did He place them among the spiritual aristocracy of Paul's day? Wherein lay their true greatness?

I have asked many people this and the answer has generally been the same, “Because they searched the Scriptures.”

This is true, but it is not the *whole* truth. The Scriptures give us a *twofold* reason.

1. “They received the Word with all readiness of mind.”
2. “They searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”

Let us put first things first.

## THEY WERE OPEN-MINDED

They were *broad* as well as narrow. They were *progressive* as well as conservative. If they listened to Paul's strange words with open eyes and open mouths, they at least listened with open minds too. This is the first lesson we must learn from the noble Bereans.

To really appreciate the spiritual greatness of these people, we must remember that they were Jews who met in a synagogue each Sabbath day. This was apparently the very first time that they had heard the gospel of grace proclaimed. It must all have seemed very strange and impossible to them but they were big enough to listen attentively and respectfully. They did not immediately shake their heads in refusal of the message and deem it unworthy of investigation.

It was not so at Thessalonica. There Paul reasoned out of the Scriptures for three Sabbath days with men who were not willing to listen. The result was that “some” of them believed in comparison to “many” at Berea. And while only “some” of the Thessalonian *Jews* believed, we read that “a great multitude” of the *Gentiles* believed. The Gentiles had put God’s chosen people to shame.

Thessalonian bigotry not only kept them in spiritual darkness, but moved them to bitter opposition to the truth itself. After persecuting the apostles in their own city they even followed them to Berea to stir up the people against them. This was the natural result of their blind refusal of the apostle’s message. And why should they have acted so? Could they not have given Paul a hearing? Did they not have Bibles too?

Perhaps *we* need this lesson. Bigotry among God’s people today will have the same effect as it had

in that day. Let us never close our minds, to keep error out, for in doing so we will shut out new light as well, and close old errors in. Rather let us receive the words of men and subject them immediately to the Word of God.

And this brings us to the second element of Berean greatness.

### THEY BELIEVED GOD’S WORD ALONE

They were not gullible or credulous. They did not just believe whatever they were told. They “received” Paul’s word, but they did not immediately *believe* it. They listened to him; they gave him an interested hearing, but did not immediately agree with him. First they had to search the Scriptures to see “whether those things were so.” Paul’s word was subjected to God’s Word. The word of man was tested by the Word of God.<sup>1</sup> How God must have rejoiced over this Bible-loving, Bible-honoring group! They, and not the popular leaders of the day, were the truly great ones in Israel.

Picture the scene: A husband comes home saying he has heard strange things in the synagogue from the lips of a visiting rabbi. Reaching for the sacred Scriptures, he begins an intensive search. The rest of that Sabbath day finds him buried in thought over the writings of the prophets. And not only that day, for he continues the search day after day. He hurries home from his daily work. He puts aside the less

---

1. At this point in the article, many years later, Pastor Stam added these hand-written words in the margin: “Now all that Paul preached was not to be found in the Old Testament, for Paul had received a further revelation from the Lord. But it all fit right in with the Scriptures they had. None of it was contrary to the Old Testament.”

important things. Untiringly he searches on until he is sure he has the Truth of God.

And he is only one of many. This was the general attitude in Berea toward Paul's message. "They searched the Scriptures *daily*, whether those things were so." They were not willing to take his word for granted. They sifted his message carefully and put it to an intense investigation in the light of the Word of God.


Result? "*Therefore many of them believed.*"

And we may be sure that these Bereans were strong in the faith, for they had an intelligent understanding of the subject. They not only had the "full assurance of faith" (Heb. 10:22), but the "full assurance of understanding" (Col. 2:2).

How we need to learn this lesson! Thousands of believers today are satisfied with their preachers, so satisfied that they never even check up on what they say. If a minister of the Word is fundamentally sound and has a passion for souls, they feel he is a pretty safe man to follow. But, beloved, we cannot safely follow the teachings of *any* man. No matter how greatly we may love and respect our spiritual leaders, it is our *duty* to examine their teachings in the light of the Word of God. Yet how few Christians practice this! How few, after hearing man's word, go home and diligently search the Scriptures to see whether these things are so!

How much new light, how much fresh, encouraging truth might have been found in the last decade or two if we had all been Bereans! After the wonderful truth of the Lord's premillennial return was recovered a few decades ago, it seemed that the Bereans began to die off. It seemed that believers were satisfied to stop their searching of the Word, as though they had found *all* the truth. And, depend upon it, when the Berean spirit dies, the Church loses its vitality. But again, praise God, there seems to be an awakening among some, both of Bible searching and true evangelism.

The virtues of the Bereans may at first seem contradictory. They were broad and yet narrow. They were progressive and yet conservative. But these virtues *do* go together. These are the characteristics of the spiritually great. And, another strange paradox: those who reject new light, refusing even to consider it, are the very ones who accept old errors without even considering them in the light of Scripture. Those who are so suspicious of other preachers are often so credulous of their own.

Beloved, are you a Berean? Do you stand among the nobles of the Church of Christ today? Are you spiritually big enough to give men a hearing, and yet exacting enough to accept only what is in harmony with God's Holy Word? 



Pastor Cornelius R. Stam (1908-2003) was the founder of *Berean Bible Society* and president for 46 years (1940-1986). He authored over 30 Bible study books, including the classic work, *Things That Differ*.

*Reservations are due May 11, 2020!*

BEREAN BIBLE SOCIETY

# BEST OF GREECE

11 DAY TOUR—SEPTEMBER 16-26, 2020

- Philippi
- Corinth
- Athens
- Berea
- Thessalonica
- Ephesus
- Six nights lodging at four star hotels
- Breakfast and dinner daily at the hotel
- Three day cruise
- Travel in a deluxe motor coach
- Devotions led by BBS leaders



PILGRIM TOURS 1-800-322-0788 | PO Box 268 Morgantown, PA 19543  
[www.pilgrimtours.com](http://www.pilgrimtours.com)

Price per person **\$3,699** (based on double occupancy and a minimum of 20 passengers).

Included in the price is roundtrip air from New York/JFK, 3 nights aboard cruise ship in standard inside cabin, 6 nights lodging at four star Greece hotel, breakfast and dinner daily at hotels, all meals on the cruise, 3 shore excursions from cruise ship, full time English speaking tour guide on land tour, and services of air conditioned deluxe motor coach.

**Reservations:** A completed reservation form and a \$300 deposit are due to reserve a place on this tour.



# In God We

# Trust

PASTOR PAUL M. SADLER

Past BBS President

1990's

**“Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers” (Eph. 1:15,16).**

“The story is told of the famous violinist who consented to perform at a concert. It was announced that at the performance he would play a *twenty thousand dollar* Stradivarius violin. Music lovers and violin greats came from near and far to hear the maestro play. To the delight of the audience, as he came out on stage, he played the number flawlessly.

“However, before he departed he threw the violin to the floor and trampled it into a hundred pieces. The audience was *horrified!* Just then the conductor stepped up to say that the violin the master just finished playing and smashing was only worth twenty dollars and that now he would play the twenty thousand dollar Stradivarius!”

The author went on to add, “The point was of course—it was not the instrument, but the master who made the beautiful music.

Sometimes we are like that twenty dollar violin—far from what we should be, inadequate and out of tune, but the *Master* is able to bring beautiful music from us if we would only be willing instruments.”

Of course, this not only applies to our willingness to serve the Lord, but should also filter down to our *prayer life*. God would have us to be instruments of praise and thanksgiving. Although the subject of prayer is woven throughout the Scriptures, it must be studied *dispensationally* to ascertain God’s will. Sometime back, a Christian brother dropped us a note to express his displeasure concerning our dispensational approach. He stated: “I don’t chop up the Bible like you folks are guilty of—I believe all the promises in the Book are mine!!” I graciously responded: “If that’s true, beloved, then don’t forget to apply all the curses in the Book when you disobey the Word of the Lord.”

Theologically, a knowledge of dispensationalism saves us from feeling that the Scriptures

contradict themselves. It guards against doctrinal errors, shows where we are in the history of the world, and protects us against fears and false hopes. While many clamor these days that doctrine is dead and should be buried alongside its counterpart, dispensationalism, without a proper understanding of both, one will quickly find himself out of the will of God.

### **Prayer, Dispensationally Considered**

Which of the two following statements are *true* of your prayer life:

**“And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive” (Matt. 21:22).**

**“Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered” (Rom. 8:26).**

Under the former dispensation of the Law, God spoke to Israel through miraculous manifestations, which were often reflected in her prayer life during the earthly ministry of Christ. She walked by faith and by *sight*. Thus, when our Lord said to His disciples, “If ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done,” their prayer would have been answered, if they had truly believed (Matt. 21:21-22). That mountain would have literally disappeared into the depths of the sea.

Shortly after the day of Pentecost, the disciples were persecuted and their lives threatened

for preaching that Christ was the Messiah of Israel. Unshaken by these threats, this company of believers prayed the Lord would give them *boldness*. They besought the Lord to stretch forth His hand to heal, and that signs and wonders would be done. “And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the Word of God with boldness” (Acts 4:29-31).

Why are the above responses unheard of today, and who would dare say otherwise? Why is it wrong to claim these promises today? Simple! God has changed His dealings with mankind. We are living in the dispensation of Grace. Today, the heavens are *silent* in regard to outward miraculous manifestations associated with prophecy. Our prayer life reflects the grace of God. Consequently, “we walk by *faith*, not by *sight*” (2 Cor. 5:7).

On the one hand, the saints on the day of Pentecost were under the control of the Holy Spirit; therefore, they knew the will of God and prayed accordingly. On the other hand, we are admonished “to be filled with the Spirit,” which is a *goal* to be attained through Bible study and prayer. Since the members of the Body of Christ are not under the control of the Spirit, “we know not what we should pray for as we ought.” For example, is it God’s will to spare the life of an ill loved one? We have no way of knowing with any certainty. Thus, our prayer for them must close with words like, “as it is according to Thy will, Lord” (cf. Rom. 8:27).

## Paul's Prayer Life

**“Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers” (Eph. 1:15,16).**

The prayers of the Apostle Paul, two of which are found here in Ephesians, serve as light-houses for the Church, the Body of Christ. Their beacons of light help guide us through the treacherous water of life's uncertainties. Prayer is merely *communication* with God. It's the channel through which the finite has *access* to the infinite. If we desire to have an effective prayer life, we must follow Paul's example. Unlike most believers today, Paul never underestimated the importance of prayer. He clearly understood that it was the source of our spiritual power in Christ. Those who shook the foundations since the apostles day echoed the same through the centuries by their actions. It is said that Martin Luther prayed for two hours every morning before beginning his day. If he was facing a particular busy day, he prayed for three hours!



Paul had established the church at Ephesus on his third apostolic journey. Some years later, during

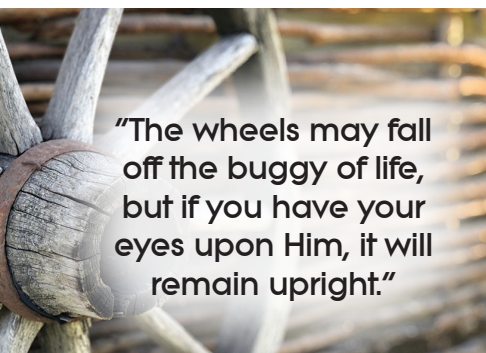
his Roman imprisonment, he was encouraged to find that they were still standing for the truth. Thus, he commends them for their *faith* in the Lord Jesus Christ and acknowledges the sincerity of their *love* for all the saints. Usually believers turn this around. They tend to place their trust in men, and then speak of loving the Lord, which of course we should. The problem with trusting men is, if they fall from grace, those who are following them often become disillusioned with the Lord's work. A missionary once said, "The more I have dealings with men, the more I trust the Lord." We cannot overemphasize the importance of keeping our eyes upon the Lord. The wheels may fall off the buggy of life, but if you have your eyes upon Him, it will remain upright.

The Apostle Paul was a model of *thankfulness*. As Paul wrote to the saints at Ephesus, he was genuinely grateful that they were saved by grace and living for the Lord. "Wherefore I also...cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers" (Eph. 1:15,16). The apostle did not selfishly feel he was the only one who could effectively serve Christ. He thanked God that others were standing for the truth as well. Perhaps we should pause here for a moment to ask, when was the last time we thanked the Lord for someone else's faithfulness?

If there is one thing God *abhors*, it's ingratitude. In fact, "when they [the Gentiles in time past] knew God, [i.e., about Him] they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful" (Rom. 1:21). Rather than being grateful

that God had revealed Himself to them, and blessed them beyond measure, they turned their backs on the Creator, which brought His judgment.

As believers in Christ we should be the most grateful people on the face of the earth. The apostle not only instructs us to pray and be thankful for all things, but we are also to watch in prayer. “Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving” (Col. 4:2). We are to “continue in prayer,” that is, cling hard to it, persevere in taking *all things* to the throne of grace. Paul’s primary intercession for the saints usually centered around spiritual things. However, he also placed a great deal of emphasis upon their *physical* needs, as seen in his prayers for earthly rulers (1 Tim. 2:1-2); gratitude for daily meals (1 Tim. 4:3-5); healing of physical infirmities (Phil. 2:24-30); deliverance from prison (Phil. 1:19,20); journeys’ mercies (Rom. 1:7-10); etc.



**“The wheels may fall off the buggy of life, but if you have your eyes upon Him, it will remain upright.”**

Then we are to *watch* in the same with thanksgiving. The word “watch” in Colossians 4:2 is the Gr. *gregoreuo*, which means to be alert, stay awake, be vigilant. We need to stay alert, lest we find our minds wandering off to

fleshly things. Furthermore, it is essential to watch to avoid becoming careless or neglectful of the privilege of communicating with God. As we pray with thanksgiving, we are giving thanks to our heavenly Father for past evidences of His goodness and mercy, knowing that, even now, He can again supply our *needs* according to the riches of His grace.

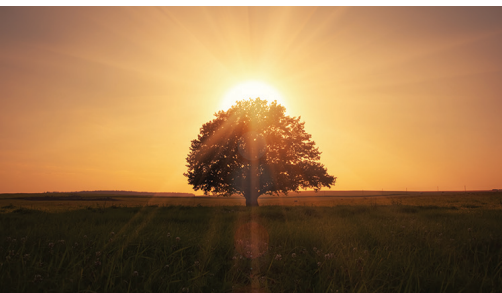
**“That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him” (Eph. 1:17).**

Our doctrinal statement reads: “Jesus Christ was begotten of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, and is true God and true man.” We teach without apology that Jesus Christ is *God*—He is co-equal and co-eternal. What then is the apostle speaking of when he says, “The God of our Lord Jesus Christ?” This phrase must be interpreted in light of the *humanity* of Christ. Our Lord emptied Himself of the outward manifestation of His attributes and glory. He laid them aside for the great work of redemption that was set before Him. Thus, as a *man*, who took on the form of a servant, it is correct to say “the God of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Phil. 2:5-8). As the *eternal Son*, the apostle emphasizes His relationship with the Father: “Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” (2 Cor. 1:3 cf. Isa. 9:6).

Paul prays for the Ephesians that the Father would give them “the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him.” Notice that the apostle doesn’t pray that they would receive a direct revelation from the Lord; this was

reserved for the *inspired* apostle of Grace (Eph. 3:2,3). Rather, he prays that the Holy Spirit would give them wisdom and illuminate them to the revelation already given in his epistles.

If you have a knowledge of the preaching of Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the Mystery, it affirms two things. First, you were searching for the truth. Second, the Spirit of God enlightened you to this blessed message through your study of the Scriptures. He delights in teaching us the things of God. Pastor C. R. Stam used to say, “It’s like the man who was searching for the sun one morning—then, it dawned on him!”



The apostle’s prayer for these dear saints was that they might have a *fuller* knowledge of Christ. Incredibly, after thirty years of service, Paul says, “That I might know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings.” I always like to tell young couples who are planning to marry that they really won’t know one another until after the first year of marriage. They usually look at one another in disbelief. But that young lady has no way of knowing that her husband-to-be is miserable to be around when he first wakes up

in the morning. Probably most reading these lines know the Lord, but our desire for you is that you may know Him more deeply, more intimately. This is accomplished by acknowledging and prayerfully studying the revelation committed to Paul.

### God’s Inheritance

**“The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints” (Eph. 1:18).**


Once we come to a knowledge of the Mystery, the Lord would have us understand “what is the hope of His calling.” There are various callings in the Scriptures, but this particular calling has to do with our *future state*. The storms of life may rage, the enemy may ruthlessly attack, despair may seem like a close friend, but the beacon of light that shines on the horizon gives us hope of arriving at a safe harbor. That light is the glorious *appearing* of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. The *Rapture* is the hope of His calling. We can survive most anything as long as we have hope. Our hope is to be caught up together to meet the Lord in the air! Some golden daybreak we are going to be delivered from this body of death.

Those who have believed the gospel have experientially tasted of the “riches of His grace.” We have a knowledge of sins forgiven, new life in Christ, and an understanding that we will be delivered from the wrath to come. However, we have yet to experience the “riches of His glory.” Not until we step into His presence and see

Him face to face, and behold the wonders of heaven itself, will we fully comprehend the *riches of His glory*. Our finite comprehension of His glory is so inadequate that every believer in Christ will be completely awestruck on that day.

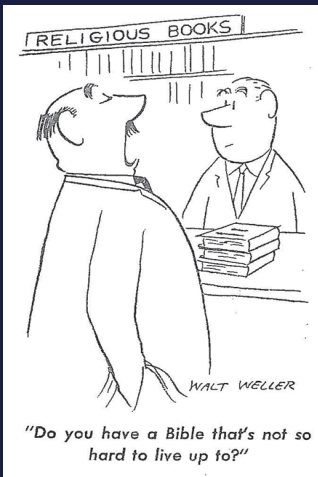
Paul carefully distinguishes here between “our inheritance” in verse 11 and “His inheritance” in verse 18. An inheritance is property or possessions passed from one party to another. Normally, it is never fully realized until *death*. For example, if your father names you in his estate as the sole beneficiary of one hundred acres, that’s your inheritance. It will be titled in your name. Insofar as God is the sovereign Creator of heaven and earth, He has every right to give them to whom He will. Since Christ is carrying out His heavenly ministry during this present parenthetical period of grace, the Father has chosen to sign over the rights of the heavenly realm to us. Thus, the members of the

Body of Christ have a *heavenly inheritance* (Phil. 3:20 cf. Col. 1:5).

But what is “His inheritance in the saints”? We believe this is another distinct aspect of Paul’s revelation. According to Ephesians 5:27, the *Body of Christ* is His inheritance. “That He might present it [the Body of Christ] to Himself a glorious Church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.” Think of it, unworthy sinners like us occupying a place in the heart of God! That’s grace!! As the recipients of His secret purpose, we are His prized possession on the basis of the shed blood of Christ. He who made the universe is going to showcase us as the trophies of His grace. Through *us* God will receive honor, glory, and worship in the ages to come. Our prayer is that He will grant us the opportunity to be instruments of praise and thanksgiving as we await the sound of the trump. 



Pastor Paul M. Sadler (1948-2016) faithfully served as the president of the *Berean Bible Society* for 29 years, from 1987-2016. His valued writings and teachings continue to greatly aid believers in their understanding of God’s Word, rightly divided.



## 1960’s

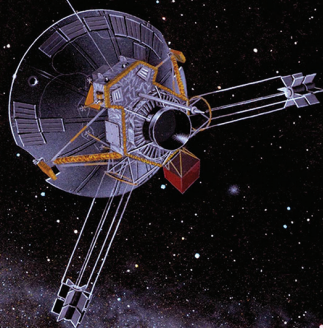
Would you really want a Bible that’s not so hard to live up to? Some people think it would be less discouraging if God lowered His standards to accommodate Himself to our circumstances.

This is not true, for God not only requires; He *provides* perfect righteousness in Christ (Rom. 3:26). Indeed, He provides the help we need each day to live lives that honor His name (Rom. 8:3,4).

—C.R. Stam

# The Little Satellite That Could

PASTOR KEVIN J. SADLER  
BBS President



**“This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men” (Titus 3:8).**

“In 1972, NASA launched the exploratory space probe Pioneer 10. According to Leon Jaroff in *Time*, the satellite’s primary mission was to reach Jupiter, photograph the planet and its moons, and beam data to earth about Jupiter’s magnetic field, radiation belts, and atmosphere. Scientists regarded this as a bold plan, for at that time no earth satellite had ever gone beyond Mars, and they feared the asteroid belt would destroy the satellite before it could reach its target. But Pioneer 10 accomplished its mission and much, much more. Swinging past the giant planet in November 1973, Jupiter’s immense gravity hurled Pioneer 10 at a higher rate of speed toward the edge of the solar system. At one billion miles from the sun, Pioneer 10 passed Saturn. At some two billion miles, it hurtled past Uranus; Neptune at nearly three billion miles; Pluto at almost four billion miles. By 1997, twenty-five years after its launch, Pioneer 10 was more than six billion miles from the sun.

“And despite that immense distance, Pioneer 10 continued to beam back radio signals to scientists on Earth. ‘Perhaps most remarkable,’ writes Jaroff, ‘those signals emanate from an 8-watt transmitter, which radiates about as much power as a bedroom night light, and takes more than nine hours to reach Earth.’ The Little Satellite That Could was not qualified to do what it did. Engineers designed Pioneer 10 with a useful life of just three years. But it kept going and going. By simple longevity, its tiny 8-watt transmitter radio accomplished more than anyone thought possible.”<sup>1</sup>

The *Berean Searchlight* is “the little magazine that could,” and by its 80-year longevity, the Lord has been using it to proclaim the truth and help many to understand “what is the fellowship of the mystery” (Eph. 3:9). In nearly every *Searchlight* throughout its eight decades, there are testimonies of the impact this periodical has made on people’s lives and their understanding of God’s Word. By God’s grace, this will keep going and going.

1. “Servant,” Sermon Illustrations, accessed Jan. 30, 2020, <http://www.sermonillustrations.com/a-z/s/servant.htm>.


God desires faithfulness from His servants. He wants us who “have believed in God” to “be careful to *maintain* good works.” We should keep going—like Pioneer 10—serving God and never stopping until the Lord calls us home. By our faithfulness and allowing God to work through us, we can accomplish more for Christ than anyone thought possible.

We are saved by faith alone in Christ. It is “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us...” (Titus 3:5). We are saved, “not by works,” but after we believe in God, we are to “be careful to maintain good works.” We don’t do good works to get to heaven; we do good works because our destination is heaven.

Paul challenged Titus to “affirm constantly” within the church and stress the importance of maintaining good works. He was to do so because members of the Body of Christ are created in Christ for good works. God has a blueprint for every life, a plan for all the good works He wants us to do in His name: “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them” (Eph. 2:10).

To “be careful” (Titus 3:8) means to ponder or exercise thought. Sometimes we should step back and think and examine our lives to see if we are maintaining a life full of care and good works for the glory of God. We also should be careful to consider the importance of serving the Lord and its priority in our lives. We need to give careful thought to serving Christ *faithfully* so we do not miss opportunities to serve the Lord and reach the people who need Him now and in the future.

In the context of this verse, we are also to give careful thought to maintain good works in light of what we once were: “sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another” (v. 3). We are to think about what has been done for us: “But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared. . . That being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life” (vv. 4,7). This careful thought makes us realize that the recipients of God’s grace, mercy, kindness, and love are to be people of grace, mercy, kindness, and love, as shown by our good works. Grace received is to be grace given away.

Please keep *Berean Bible Society* in your prayers as we seek to “maintain good works.” It is encouraging to look back on what God has done in the past through the ministry of the *Berean Bible Society* and the *Berean Searchlight*. It’s thrilling to look ahead and think of what God will do in the future as we remain faithful. However, we must be ever vigilant to seize on the opportunities and the good works the Lord wants us to do right now. 

**“We should  
keep going—  
like Pioneer 10—  
serving God and  
never stopping  
until the Lord  
calls us home.”**



Pastor Kevin J. Sadler has been serving as the president of the *Berean Bible Society* since 2016, and has ministered at BBS for the past 24 years. His preaching and writings are widely used in our television ministry, booklets, and tracts.





# NEVER FORGET

SEPTEMBER

The most singular moment of the 2000's decade came on September 11, 2001. In the next issue of the *Searchlight*, BBS president Pastor Paul M. Sadler wrote these words...



There are many faces of evil in this world. On Tuesday, September 11th, one of those faces appeared in the shadowy form of 19 terrorists who commandeered 4 airliners, laden with fuel, bound for the West Coast. The objective of these hijackers was clear, kill as many infidels as possible. This was more than merely an assault on capitalism and freedom; it was an attack on Christianity.

The image of planes flying into buildings, taking thousands of innocent lives, was a wake up call for our nation. Our country has drifted far from the Christian faith and values it once embraced. If there is nothing else that comes out of this haunting nightmare, perhaps our nation will be awakened spiritually. On the day of the disaster, tens of thousands were praying for the families of those who lost loved ones in this unprecedented display of evil. For the first time since the Second World War, churches across America were filled to capacity. However, it will not be religion that brings deliverance, but the living Word of God. We have witnessed firsthand the end result of religious extremes. It is Christ who brings life and life more abundantly!

**“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned” (Rom. 5:12).**

Sadly, man has brought this evil upon himself. Thus, we are left with an important lesson from these recent turn of events, a lesson each of us would do well to remember—death could visit us or our loved ones at any time. Those who worked at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon began their day like any other day, but in a moment of time they were all swept into eternity. If death were to lay its icy grip upon you today, can you say with all certainty that you would spend eternity with Christ? If you are unsure, simply believe that Christ died for your sins, was buried, and rose again the third day.



# The Cure

The cure for the confusion that presently grips the Church is to be found in one place and one place only: THE BOOK. There is the medicine which the Church has refused to take. There is the remedy which so many of its leaders have refused to administer. There is the light we need in every time of darkness; the truth which will make us free.



# His Great LOVE

**“But God, Who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us” (Eph. 2:4).**

God’s Word declares that all have sinned (Rom. 3:23), and sin separates us from a holy God Who can never allow even one sin in His presence. Unless our sins are taken away, sin will separate us from Him eternally.

Singer Steven Curtis Chapman once said, “In the gospel, we discover we are far worse off than we thought, and far more loved than we ever dreamed.”

God is rich in mercy and loves us with a “great love.” Out of that great love, He sought our greatest and highest good, even though we have nothing to commend ourselves to Him. And He sent His perfect Son to die for us, to bear the full punishment for our sins at the Cross (1 Cor. 15:3,4).

God provides a very simple way to salvation today: just believe that Christ died for you, for your sins personally, and that He rose again; at that point you are saved by grace through faith, your sins are forgiven, and you are made the righteousness of God in Christ (2 Cor. 5:21). It’s been said, “The redeeming death of the Savior is sufficient for all, deficient for none, but efficient only for those who believe.” **Have you believed?** —Pastor Kevin J. Sadler

## **Pastor Paul M. Sadler wrote:**

“Shortly after coming to BBS, I initiated the Question Box. When I consulted with Pastor Stam at the time to see what he thought about it, his exact words were, ‘It’s a great idea!’”

The first question Pastor Sadler answered came in March of 1992...

1990’s

## **Question Box**

*“Could you please explain the apparent discrepancy between 1 Corinthians 10:8, where Paul states 23,000 died in the plague, and Numbers 25:9, where Moses indicates that 24,000 fell in judgment?”*

This numerical discrepancy is easily reconciled when we remember that the Apostle Paul reveals how many Israelites fell in *one day*, whereas, Moses gives us the total death toll of the plague. The key phrase in 1 Corinthians 10:8 is “*in one day*” which does not appear in Numbers 25:9. —Pastor Paul M. Sadler

# Grace

## 50 Years in the Grace Message

PASTOR RICKY KURTH  
Berean Searchlight Editor

As the new year began to unfold, it dawned on me that 2020 wouldn't just welcome the 80th anniversary of the *Berean Searchlight*, it would also be the year that I observed my 50th year in the grace message. So I pitched the idea of sharing my personal testimony with you in our 80th anniversary issue, and BBS president Pastor Kevin Sadler agreed that it would be something our readers might find encouraging.

In September of 1970, I had a crush on a girl in my high school English class, so I asked her out on a date. She agreed, but afterward informed me that our *next* date would have to involve a visit to her church. When I assented, she said, "How about Wednesday?" Since I'd been raised in the Catholic church, I asked her, "You go to church on Wednesday?" We Catholics didn't do that, aside from once a year on Ash Wednesday.

As we waited for the assistant pastor to pick us up, I noticed that she was carrying a Bible,

so I said, "You bring a Bible to church?" We Catholics never opened a Bible. Finally, I saw that she was also packing a notebook, prompting me to ask, "You take notes in church?" I was beginning to wonder what I was getting myself into!

After the service her pastor, a grace pastor named Jeff Farrell, sat me down and showed me from the Scriptures how I could know for sure that I was going to heaven. This was something I'd never heard of before, and I was more than happy to put all my faith in Christ's payment for my sins on Calvary's cross.

In the year that followed, I began to compare what my pastor was teaching to what I was hearing on Christian radio. That's when I learned that I'd been saved in a *grace* church, a church that taught God's Word *rightly divided*. From there it didn't take me long to realize that we had the answer to all of the religious confusion that polluted the Christian airwaves in those days, as it still does today.

## My Call to the Ministry

About that time, I attended the third annual Bible conference of the *Berean Bible Fellowship* in Cedar Lake, Indiana. When I saw how few pastors there were in the country who were teaching the truth, I knew that we needed more of them. And I knew one thing for sure, and that was that I didn't want to be one of them! I *hated* public speaking, and used to get physically ill when I had to give a speech in school. But when the Lord gives you something to say, it makes all the difference.

When I told my pastor that I wanted to study for the ministry, he enrolled me in the pastor's training program he had always conducted for his young men. I still have some of the papers I wrote for that class. Across the top of one of them, Pastor Farrell had written in red ink, "Excellent, General Custer. Now all you need is a haircut!" If you remember how young men wore their hair in 1971, you'll understand why he gave me that nickname. Custer was famous for his long, flowing locks! In one training class, Pastor Farrell decided to teach us how to officiate at weddings by conducting a mock wedding. Guess who he picked to play the bride!

Another assignment was to answer the questions found at the end of each chapter of *Things That Differ*, a book about the fundamentals of dispensationalism written by *Berean Bible Society* founder Pastor C. R. Stam. Thirty years later, when someone wrote us at BBS and asked for the answers to those questions, I learned that neither Pastor Stam nor anyone else had ever written

them out. So I sent the man the answers that I had written *as a teenager*, and I continue to share those answers with people who ask for them to this day.

## Bragging Rights and Wrongs

Now I mention that to brag, of course—but *not about myself*. I mention it to brag about that little training program, found in that humble little church, conducted by a pastor who had never been to Bible school, but was able to teach a *fifteen-year-old kid* the answers to questions that *adult* Christians were still asking 30 years later.

You know, the answer to the question, "who hath despised the day of small things?" (Zech. 4:10) is—*most people*. Even most *Christians*, who should know better. In Zechariah's day, God's people despised how small their new temple was. They were afraid He would be *embarrassed* to live in it, after the many years He lived in Solomon's magnificent edifice.

What they forget is that their God used to live in a *tabernacle*, a humble *tent*. In fact, we know that He *preferred* such humble quarters, for that's what God told Moses to *make* for Him so He could dwell among His people. Later when David told God that he wanted to build Him a *temple*, God replied,

***"Shalt thou build Me an house for Me to dwell in? Whereas I have not dwelt in any house since the time that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt...but have walked in a tent...a tabernacle. In all the places wherein I have walked with all the children***

**of Israel spake I a word...saying, Why build ye not Me an house of cedar?" (2 Sam. 7:5-7).**

God never said *one word* about wanting a nicer house. And we know He *always* prefers humble things, for He inspired Paul to write,

**“God hath chosen the foolish things of the world...the weak things...and base things...and things which are despised, hath God chosen...” (1 Cor. 1:27,28).**

I’m sure as people pass by the church that I’ve pastored for forty years now, in addition to my duties here at BBS, they *despise* how small and humble it is. But God is using it, just as He used the humble church in which I was saved, and that little pastor’s training program that prepared several men for the ministry. One of the names you might recognize is that of Brother Don Webb, who wrote the important work, *Basic Bible Doctrines*.

If you ever get discouraged that your grace church is small, or that the grace movement in general is not among the “mighty” denominations of the world, I hope it heartens you to know that God is able to do more with a few who understand Pauline dispensationalism than He is with a multitude who don’t.

### **I Couldn’t Wait to Get Started**

Even though I was still just *training* for the ministry, I already had a heart to share the truth with others. So I got up early before school every day to go around putting gospel tracts on doors, along with an invitation to our church. I’ll never forget

the Sunday that Pastor Farrell called me over to introduce me to a man who had come to church in response to the material I’d left on his door.

I also started up a Bible class at my high school so I could share the gospel with the young men in my vocational machine shop class. They were curious about this guy who carried a Bible to class every day, in addition to all the other textbooks we had to lug around. So when the teacher would leave for extended periods during those three-hour-long classes, all the lathes and milling machines would shut down, and we’d go up to the locker room where I’d preach Christ.

Looking back now, I know it wasn’t a good testimony to go behind the teacher’s back like that. But if your heart is in the right place, God can bless and use *even the mistakes you make* while learning the *right* way to serve Him. So don’t ever be afraid to do something for the Lord, thinking you don’t know what you’re doing. You serve a God who can bless and use you no matter how big a knothed you are, as I have proved many times in my life.

By the way, I took that class because my father owned a tool and die shop, and I figured I might have to work as a machinist someday to help support myself in the ministry. In those days, vocational students were exempt from the rule that said all students must take four years of English. But I knew that I wanted to be a pastor, so I took a fourth year of English anyway, something that convinced the other guys in shop class that I was a few french fries

shy of a Happy Meal. I mean, *nobody* signs up to learn more about split infinitives and dangling participles than they have to! But do you think maybe that came in handy forty years later when BBS president Pastor Paul Sadler made me the editor of the *Berean Searchlight*?

I say all that to say that if you are a young person just starting out in life, if you'll do now what I did back then, and make *every decision in your life* based on how you might best serve the Lord, I guarantee that God will bless and use *you* in His work as He has used me.

### **It Was Time to Step Up**

A year or so after Pastor Farrell began training me, he moved away to pastor a grace church in another state, and suddenly we were without a pastor. And when our song leader left the church as well, you'll never guess who they asked to take his place. Why, the student pastor, of course! The guy who didn't know *boo* about music. I wasn't even all that familiar with the hymns we sang, since I hadn't been brought up in a Protestant church. So on Saturday night, I'd meet our piano player at church, and while her husband cleaned the building, she'd play the next day's hymns and I'd record them on my portable cassette player. I'd then take them home so that I could learn them by rote, since I couldn't even read music.

I share that memory of how I became the reluctant song leader to assure you that it doesn't matter what you know or don't know about whatever ministry you're

asked to be part of, God doesn't call the qualified, *He qualifies the called*. If you will make yourself available for God to use, *He will use you*. A long-haired song leader with knees that shook with fear is living proof of that.

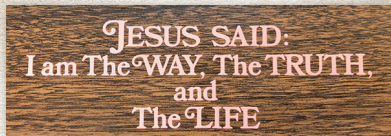
About that time, our assistant pastor moved away, leaving us without a youth leader—and without a youth *group* for that matter. So another teen and I decided we'd step up and start one. I began attending the *Youth For Christ* meetings at my high school to meet Christian young people whom I could invite to church where they could learn the grace message, and several of them did.

Once I graduated high school, I began working at my dad's machine shop. And if you know anything about machining steel, you know that after you set the lathe or the shaper to take a cut, you just have to stand there and watch it cut for five or ten minutes, or even longer. So I spent that time *memorizing Paul's epistles*. I memorized Ephesians, then Philippians, and was working on Colossians when I left that job. Do you think maybe that came in handy a few years later when I became a pastor and *taught* those books through, verse by verse? If you've never tried memorizing Scripture, I'd encourage you to give it a go. Imagine being able to quote *all of Paul's epistles*, every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God that is written to God's people *today*.

### **My First Sermon**

About that time, I gave my first message. I'll never forget that I preached on John 14:6, where

the Lord declared, “I am the way, the truth and the life.” If you want to know how nervous I was, even during the time I spent *preparing* to speak, I somehow managed to muff the third point of my point message. Somehow I had nervously misread the verse, so I taught that the Lord Jesus was the way, the truth and the *light*. And I have to tell you, if someone had stopped me during my message and said, “It says *life*, not *light*, you knothead,” I’d have fainted dead away on the spot.

A rectangular wooden plaque with a natural wood grain finish. The text is engraved in a serif font. The words 'JESUS SAID:' are at the top in a smaller font. Below that, 'I am The WAY, The TRUTH, and The LIFE' is written in a larger font, with 'WAY', 'TRUTH', and 'LIFE' in all caps and 'and' in lowercase.

Not long after that, a friend gave me a plaque bearing the words of John 14:6 as a birthday gift. He did it to tease me, of course. But I hung it on my wall, knowing that if I ever got to thinking I’m some great preacher, it would remind me of my humble beginnings. It hangs on the wall of my study at home to this day, along with a plaque quoting the words of a verse in that same vein that Pastor Stam wisely shared with me: “Seekest thou great things for thyself? seek them not” (Jer. 45:5).

I share that embarrassing experience to assure you that if you’re a young man just starting out in the ministry, *you are going to make mistakes*. Probably not as knotheaded as the one I made,

but mistakes that are sure to cause you an equal amount of embarrassment. At such times, just promise your congregation that you’ll be making many more mistakes in the years to come, and they won’t be disappointed when you do. They’d have a hard time relating to a perfect pastor anyway, since they themselves are as flawed as you are, and long to grow in the Word just like you.

About that time my girlfriend and I began going door to door, telling others about the Lord. People thought it was cute and sweet that a teenaged couple were out sharing the gospel. God can often use young people in ways that He *can’t* use adults. Our youth group went out one Halloween—not to get candy, but to pass out gospel tracts, knowing it’s the one night of the year that just about everyone answers the door! People thought it was great to see young people doing that, and I’m sure that translated to them receiving our tracts with a more open mind. And since we were barely more than kids, we didn’t mind when they gave us candy anyway! You’re never too young to serve the Lord, and you might be surprised how much fun you can have doing it.

### **The Greatest Ability Is Availability**

Our church was still without a pastor, so I began guest-speaking once a month. Eventually I learned about three other pastorless grace churches within 100 miles of where I lived, so I started speaking in those assemblies as well. If you learn to never say no in the ministry, you

might be surprised at how widely God can use you.

When I was still a very young man I was at a Bible conference, and Pastor Stam asked me to retrieve something from his car. Maybe he was thinking of how I wasn't too proud to be his gopher that day when years later he hired me to work the new computerized machine he'd purchased to typeset the *Searchlight*. Even in those days older people needed young people to help with computers! But it was there that I continued my Bible education as I worked side by side with Pastor Stam, proofreading *Searchlight* articles and discussing the books I was typesetting for him as well. And while he usually dictated letters to his secretary, he would dictate them to me whenever it was a doctrinal letter, so we could discuss that as well.



Me typesetting the *Searchlight*

I cite this memory to say that if you're a pastor mentoring a young student pastor, keep a sharp lookout for ways to help him learn. There's a reason God told His people to take His words and "teach them diligently unto thy children, and...talk of them when thou sittest in thine house,

and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up" (Deut. 6:7). Such opportunities are an important part of being "instant in season, out of season" when it comes to training young men as well (2 Tim. 4:2).

### **My First and Only Pastorate**

One day a man from the church I'd later pastor for forty years called *Berean Bible Society*, saying they needed a pastor. I'd done some guest speaking there over the years, so he told the rest of the men on the church board that they should try to get "that kid" to come and shepherd their flock. I soon accepted their call, and asked Pastor Stam for some advice. He replied, "Teach a book of the Bible." Then he paused and said, "Teach Romans."

I did. And then Acts, and eventually all of the books of the New Testament, including Paul's epistles two or three times, and many Old Testament books as well. Teaching verse by verse "through the Bible" has worked pretty well for our good friend Les Feldick, so I reckon Pastor Stam gave some pretty sound advice! If you're the pastor of a grace church, I recommend this path for you as well.

Pastor Stam also advised me to start a church bulletin, and to write a little Bible study article in it every week. I did, but I didn't think that I had anything to offer as a writer, so in those early days I'd type out articles by other grace pastors for our bulletin. Besides, as the pastor of a poor church who was supporting himself as a painting contractor, how was




I supposed to work up a bulletin message in addition to the two I was giving every week for Adult Sunday School and church?

But eventually I took Pastor Stam's advice when I realized I could multitask by summarizing the message I'd preached the previous Sunday for the article in the bulletin, a practice I continue to this day. That came in handy many years later when we began posting my messages on our BBS website, and BBS webmaster Richard Church asked if I'd begin writing a summary of my messages to post alongside the MP3 audio link to my message. I told him I could send him bulletin articles of *all* my past messages, and you can find them on our website to this day.

Of course, reducing a 45 minute message to around 700 words to fit in our bulletin required learning to write succinctly, and it required learning some editing skills as well—skills that came in handy many years later when I

became the editor of the *Searchlight*. All because I wasn't afraid to do something *that I didn't know I could do* for the Lord and become a writer.

So no matter who you are, and no matter how limited you believe your abilities to be, or how much formal education you may lack, I'll close this personal testimony by assuring you from personal experience that you'll never know how you can serve the Lord until you try. We have the most liberating message on the face of the earth, and it is worthy of all of the devotion in life that you can give it. Pastor Stam used to say that if the grace message isn't the answer to all of the religious confusion in the world, let's forget it and go do something else. But if it *is* the answer, let's instead give our lives in every way imaginable to "make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery" (Eph. 3:9).

Why not get started today? You'll be eternally glad you did. 

# Northeast Ohio Bible Conference

April 24-26

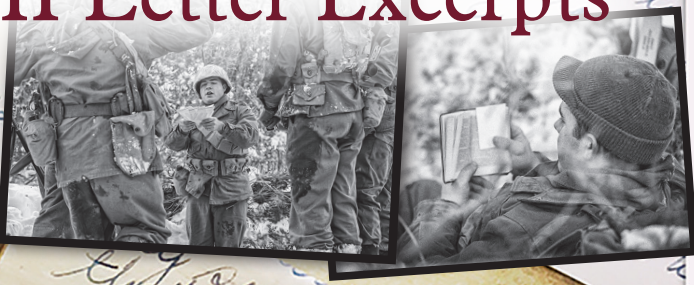


**LOCATION:** *First Grace Gospel Church*  
5730 Adams Avenue, Ashtabula, Ohio

**SPEAKER:** Pastor Kevin Sadler, BBS President

For directions and additional information, please contact:  
*First Grace Gospel Church* at 440-997-8191

# WWII Letter Excerpts



A year after the *Searchlight* was born, our nation was drawn into World War II, and many grace believers went off to war. They couldn't tell Pastor Stam where they were serving for security reasons, so he listed which branch of the military they served in instead. Here are some of the letters they sent BBS from the front, beginning with an introduction by Pastor Stam. —Ed.

## FROM OUR BOYS IN SERVICE

The following letter excerpts are from our boys in the armed forces. They are writing us from many parts of the world now: New Guinea, the Hawaiian Islands, Italy, Bermuda, Brazil, the USA, and places unknown to us; and it is most encouraging to see how God can bless with joy and peace and a bright testimony in spite of varied and difficult circumstances.

We praise God too, that He has graciously used the *Berean Searchlight* for their spiritual blessing and help as it reaches them at the front lines, in jungles, on ships, and in strange cities. How we pray that God will protect and use them and bring them home to us soon again! —C.R. Stam

## U.S. Army

"I received your most welcome *Berean Searchlight* which I enjoyed reading very much. I'm now resting after the battle of Sicily. I was in on the invasion to the end of the battle. Had only a few narrow escapes, as I did in Tunisia, but the Good Lord took good care of me and brought me through another one okay."

## U.S. Army Air Corps

"----sends me the *Berean Searchlight* and I have certainly found it a blessing here. Although the Old Book has been my guide and source of blessing while in the Army, I must confess that this grounding in the faith has had a great effect on me. May your ministry be of greater blessing than ever...As for me, I am resting alone in His grace and testifying to this alone."

## U.S. Navy

"I went to church this morning. It just burns me up to hear the chaplain smooth everything over when he could bring a real salvation message to fellows who are lost and without Christ. He just says a lot of nice words to make them feel good.... Thanks for the *Berean Searchlight*."

## U.S. Army

"I would like to have you send the *Berean Searchlight* if possible, because a fellow really misses the study of the Word even though he reads the Bible for himself."

## U.S. Navy

"Thanks so much for the *Berean Searchlight*. I'm very thankful the Lord put me where I am. There is really a great work to be done here. I am afraid our group is going to be split up, but come what may, we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, and certainly the Lord knows where He can use us best. Enclosed is a \$25 money order. Use it where it is needed most."

### **Somewhere in Germany**

"I read the *Berean Searchlight* regularly and get much enjoyment from every copy...It was in October 1944 when my best friend and I had a conversation about the 'mystery.' Since then I have become a sincere believer in the message of Paul. Enclosed is \$20 which I pray will send copies of the *Searchlight* to other Christians who have not yet learned this glorious truth. May the Lord keep the *Berean Searchlight* shining."

### **Somewhere in the Pacific**

"It has already proved of much value to me in understanding the mystery...While I am here, I intend to get in a lot of studying."

### **U.S. Army**

"Could you send the *Berean Searchlight* to me? I would also like very much a copy of that last publication by Pastor O'Hair."

### **Somewhere in Germany**

"I received the little paper you publish for several months prior to my induction into the Army. I enjoyed its message thoroughly and would like to have my address changed to the one on this envelope."

### **U.S. Navy**

"Just a few words from a Christian sailor. I'm ship's company away up in ---- and it surely makes my heart glad to see your bold stand for the gospel of grace. I have received by mail from a Christian friend several copies of the *Berean Searchlight*. One thing this Navy needs more than ships, guns, and other fighting equipment is the pure gospel of the grace of God revealed though Paul, 'the unsearchable riches of Christ.' I thank God that there is a handful of boys here at ---- like myself. We all know what it is to really trust in the Lord. We meet in the scrub house almost every night and have prayer and fellowship over the Word...We have many opportunities to speak to our shipmates."

### **U.S. Army**

"It is hard to find pastors who stand for the real grace gospel even though it is spreading like wildfire....I would like very much if you would send me the *Berean Searchlight*. I enjoyed those that I have read in the past immensely."

### **U.S. Army Air Corps**

"May God bless you in your work, and remember, He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think. It's wonderful isn't it?"

### **U.S. Army**

"Thanks for the *Searchlight*... The Lord gave me a part in leading another soldier to Christ last week."

### **Somewhere in Germany**

"I received and read completely your March 1945 issue of the *Berean Searchlight*....A couple of years ago I wished you would quit sending it but your issues followed me all over the U.S.A. and even Europe. You have helped me to rightly divide the Word of Truth and have given me much light!"

### **From Manila, Luzon**

"I am new in dispensational teaching, only having learned of it on the boat coming over here in April. A few of your *Berean Searchlights* opened the door for me, and the Holy Spirit led me to a new understanding of His Holy Word. Now, thank God, many things in Scripture which were hard to understand have been made clear. May God ever strengthen and guide you in the work you are doing."

### **From Luzon, Philippine Islands**

"I noticed on the inside cover page you quote someone in Manila, Luzon, who has just learned the truth of the one body and one baptism, and is rejoicing in this truth. Apparently he is a soldier, since he spoke of learning the truth as he came over on the ship recently. I was wondering if you could give me his name. I am stationed about 15 miles south of Manila, and go in several times a week."

A man once told Pastor Stam how much Things That Differ had helped him, and he replied, "Any help that book gives people had to have been all of the Lord, for I wrote it during the busiest time of my life." Why not take advantage of this special offer to stock up on these timeless books and get busy yourself getting the grace message out to others?

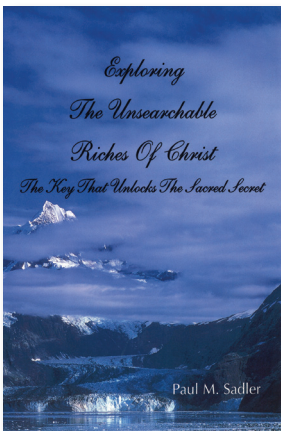
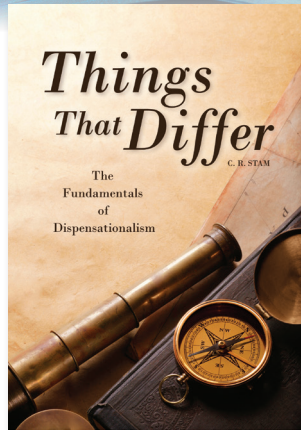


Get the grace message out to others with these timeless books.

## Things That Differ

290-page paperback by C.R. Stam

Price: \$8.00 plus shipping\* (Reg. \$10.00)



## Exploring the Unsearchable Riches of Christ

190-page hardcover by Paul M. Sadler

Price: \$10.00 plus shipping\* (Reg. \$12.50)

**Special prices end March 31, 2020**

\*Please add \$4 for shipping and handling to orders up to \$30.

Add 15% for orders over \$30. Please inquire for international postage rates.

(262) 255-4750 or [www.bereanbiblesociety.org](http://www.bereanbiblesociety.org)

If this month's issue has whetted your appetite to read some vintage editions of *The Berean Searchlight*, here's your chance to order some bound volumes of issues from years past. Times change, but "the preaching of Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the mystery" is the same yesterday, today and forever!



## THE BEREAN SEARCHLIGHT *Vintage Editions Set*

This set consists of eight hardcover volumes.  
Each volume contains 11 issues of the *Searchlight*.  
Select volumes between 1960 and 1988.

**Price: \$40.00** (Reg. \$48.00)

**Free Shipping\***

(\*Outside US, please inquire for shipping rates.)

**Special Offer Ends March 31, 2020**

Volumes are not sold separately during the sale period.  
A volume for every year is not available.

# News and Announcements

**Doesn't Sun City West sound warm?** Well, come March 20-22, that's where you'll find BBS president Pastor Kevin Sadler, basking in the glow of the warm fellowship you can always find at the *West Valley Grace Fellowship*. If you've had just about enough of cold and snow, there's no better way to shake off the winter blues than to soak up the sunlight of God's rightly divided Word. For more information about this Phoenix-area conference, contact our good friend Pastor Mark Dilley at [jjdster@gmail.com](mailto:jjdster@gmail.com), or Jim Humphrey at (623) 466-7636.

**Mississippi Bible Conference:** Tupelo will be almost as warm come March 20-22, and the saints of *Grace Bible Ministry Church* are just as warmhearted. If cabin fever has you painting pictures of spring flowers on snowbanks, the cure is to "look not at the things which are seen" at the other end of your snow shovel. If you need help, GBMC has invited Pastor Ricky Kurth to help direct your attention to "the things which are not seen" in God's rightly divided Word. To learn more about this annual Bible conference, contact Pastor John Smith at [gracebibleministry@att.net](mailto:gracebibleministry@att.net), or (662) 706-4086.

**Just for Fun!** Since this is our 80th anniversary issue, we thought we'd reprint some of the first items that ever appeared on our News page. The following announcement is all about a cutting-edge ministry in March of 1947 that involved machines that predated "tape" recorders, and the item following that appeared in the March 1950 issue with some follow-up information.

**Wire Recorder Classes** are being planned by the *Berean Searchlight*. Those living in out-of-the-way places or who have no sound church in their vicinity can start classes of their own by purchasing wire recorders and letting the editor send them weekly messages on spools of wire. The cost of a Webster wire recorder is about \$150.00. If you are interested write us.

**1950's** Those who are still confused about our Wire Recorder Bible Classes should read the following: We keep our own master recordings of the editor's messages. These recordings are always one half hour in length. If you have an RCA, Webster or Sears-type recorder and would like to start a class, simply send a one-half hour spool (or your RCA cartridge) to us. That's all. We will then "tap" a recorded Bible message from one of our own spools to yours and return yours to you. (Ah, the good 'ol days! -Pastor Kurth).



Webster-Chicago  
wire recorder

# Bible Study Booklets

## PRICE LIST

(This is only a partial price list. For a full price list please see our website or contact BBS.)

### C.R. STAM

Ambassadors for Christ .....	\$1.00
Answer to Catholicism.....	2.00
Believer's Walk .....	2.00
Continue Thou .....	1.00
Early Ministry of Paul.....	2.00
Faith of Christ .....	1.00
Fulfillment .....	1.00
God's Plan of Salvation .....	2.00
Hope for the Bereaved .....	2.00
Intelligent Christianity .....	2.00
Is Salvation Certain? .....	2.00
Knowledge of the Mystery .....	2.00
Logic of the Plan of Salvation .....	2.00
Lord's Prayer.....	1.00
Lord's Supper.....	2.00
Love of Christ.....	1.00
Our Oneness in Christ.....	1.00
Paul the Master Builder.....	2.00
Pentecostal Signs.....	2.00
Power of God.....	2.00
Preaching of the Cross.....	2.00
Rapture of the Church .....	1.00
Saul the Sinner and Paul the Boaster .....	2.00
Seven Times a Failure .....	2.00
Simple as Can Be (English or Spanish) .....	1.00
Sonship .....	1.00
Temple of God .....	1.00
That Blessed Hope.....	2.00
This Is That (English or Spanish) .....	2.00
Unanswered Prayer (English/Spanish) ...	1.00
Unpardonable Sin.....	1.00
Water Baptism.....	2.00
We Know a Secret.....	2.00
When the Lord Became Angry.....	1.00
Why Was Christ Baptized?.....	1.00

Will There Be Tears in Heaven? .....	1.00
Writings of John.....	2.00
Your Faith in God's Word .....	2.00

### PAUL M. SADLER

According to the Scriptures .....	\$2.00
Are You Secure? .....	2.00
Dispensationalism .....	3.00
Historical Beginning of the Church.....	3.00
Supernatural Sign Gifts.....	4.00
Trials and Temptations.....	2.00
Uncertain Trumpet of Water Baptism.....	2.00

### KEVIN SADLER

2 Great Commissions.....	\$3.00
Absent From the Body.....	3.00
A Praying Life .....	4.00
Everybody's a Somebody in the Body of Christ .....	3.00
For We Must All Appear .....	3.00
Grace in Gray Areas .....	3.00
Grieving With Hope .....	3.00
Looking For a Few Good Men.....	3.00
Saved From What? .....	3.00
The Church Under Grace .....	3.00
The Rapture vs. the Second Coming .....	4.00
Understanding Your Bible.....	3.00
What Must I Do To Be Saved? .....	3.00

### RICKY KURTH

Discerning the Will of God.....	\$3.00
Now That I Believe (English/Spanish/Dutch) .....	3.00

### OTHER AUTHORS

Bible Contrasts (Adams) .....	\$3.00
Confession of Sins (Lawson) .....	2.00
Pentecost, Was it the Birthday of the Church? (Lawson) .....	2.00

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

## HOW MUCH! HOW MUCH MORE!

1970's

“As we consider our feeble, blundering efforts, we are amazed at how much has been accomplished in this ministry. But as we consider the infinite power of God, we realize how much more could be accomplished. Let’s all pray that 2 Corinthians 9:8 may indeed be fulfilled in us.” —C. R. Stam

“And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work” (2 Cor. 9:8).



Transformed By  
*Grace*

Berean Bible Society  
TV Ministry

Sunday 9:00 am in Chicago on WJYS  
Monday 10:30 am ET: ION Plus  
Monday 6:00 pm ET:

- DirectTV: Channel 376
- Dish Network: Channel 267
- Glory Star Satellite System: Channel 117

Roku and Apple TV—BBS Network 24/7 streaming channel