

# *The* BEREAN SEARCHLIGHT™

Studying God's Word, Rightly Divided

June 2024



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This month’s cover features Pancha Island lighthouse Galicia, Spain.

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## *From the Editor to You*

Dear Friends in Christ,

June is a month filled with great historical significance, as it has been the backdrop for many pivotal events throughout history. It was in June 1215 that the Magna Carta, a document that laid the foundation for modern constitutional law, was signed. The U.S. Congress established the Continental Army, ratified the flag of the Thirteen States, and appointed one of its members, George Washington, as commander of the Continental Army, all in June.

June 28, 1787, marks the day that Benjamin Franklin, while in the midst of contentious disputes, requested that Congress begin its business each day with prayer. June 6th marks D-Day when Allied forces launched a massive invasion of Normandy, ultimately leading to the liberation of Western Europe from Nazi occupation.

June has witnessed numerous significant events in Biblical history as well. It was the month that Mordechai, Queen Esther's cousin, issued his decree allowing the Jews to defend themselves from the schemes of Haman and those who would try to kill them and take their property (cf. Esth. 8:9). Additionally, June marked Nebuchadnezzar's conquest of Jerusalem (Jer. 39:1-2), the creation of the golden calf during the Exodus, and Moses breaking the tablets with the Ten Commandments (cf. Exod. 19:1; 24:18).

But as important as history is, there are still some things best left in the past. Getting past *our* past is often vital to our walk after believing the gospel and becoming a child of God.

Two words in Scripture that probably get too little attention are “ye were.” The apostle Paul used these words six times when describing the believer's life and position before coming to Christ. “*Ye were* Gentiles carried away unto these dumb idols” (1 Cor. 12:2). “That at that time *ye were* without Christ” (Eph. 2:12) and “*ye were* sometimes [at one time] darkness” (Eph. 5:8). “But God be thanked, that *ye were* the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.... For when *ye were* the servants of sin, *ye were* free from righteousness” (Rom. 6:17,20).

God be thanked is right, for we are not who we once *were*. We “*are* sanctified in Christ Jesus” (1 Cor. 1:2). Though we *were* without righteousness, we are *now* “justified by his blood” (Rom. 5:9) and are *now* “made free from sin, and become servants to God” (Rom. 6:22). Remembering the past is often a good thing, but we must think daily about who we are *now* in Christ. Surely, these are some of the true and lovely “things” we are told to “think on” (cf. Phil. 4:8).

By His Grace,

Pastor Don Hosfeld

# The Lord's Prayer

## Dispensationally Considered



Religious leaders love to have their people recite the Lord's Prayer. It's the religious thing to do these days. The Lord's Prayer is one of the most beautiful, meaningful, and touching prayers in the Prophetic Scriptures, but those who recite it today are committing two major blunders. First, the Lord warned the disciples that they were *not* to pray this prayer, or any prayer for that matter, repetitiously (Matt. 6:5-7). Prayer is not a religious exercise but rather communication with God; therefore, it should always be spoken from the heart. Second, the Disciples' Prayer, which is the correct connotation for this prayer, was given as a model for those who would be called upon to endure the tribulation. Since the Body of Christ is delivered from the wrath to come, this prayer does not apply to us in this dispensation (1 Thes. 5:9).

### THE DISCIPLES' PRAYER

*Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.* The reference here to "our Father" is to the God and Father of Israel—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. In prophecy, heaven was His throne, and earth His footstool. His name was so holy that the Jews feared they might inadvertently speak it in vain, so they changed it from Yahweh to Adonai—Master, Ruler (Deut. 5:11; Isa. 66:1; Matt. 15:31; Luke 1:68).

*Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.* The hope of every Israelite was the establishment of the Davidic Kingdom. God's will for the earth is to overthrow the kingdoms of this world and establish the millennial kingdom of His dear Son (2 Sam. 7:8-17; Luke 1:68-72; Rev. 11:15; 20:6).

*Give us this day our daily bread.* In the future tribulation, God will set a table in the wilderness for His people, as He did in time past. The saints in that day will find it necessary to pray for their daily provision of food since they will be unable to buy or sell without the Mark of the Beast. Consequently, God will supernaturally nourish the chosen nation (Rev. 12:14 cf. Rev. 13:13-18).

*And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.* Today, we are to forgive others, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven us, but under the kingdom gospel, forgiveness was based upon a like-spirit (Matt. 18:21-35 cf. Eph. 4:32).

*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil* [Gr. noun: evil one]. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. The sense here is, "Lord lead us not into the Great Tribulation, but deliver us from Satan, who brings death and destruction in his wake" (Rev. 6:7-11; 12:12; 13:1-10).

—Pastor Paul Sadler



# Without Excuse

PASTOR DON HOSFELD

Berean Searchlight Editor

*“Excuses are the cradle...that Satan rocks men off to sleep in.”*

—Dwight L. Moody

“When it comes to excuses, law enforcement officers tend to have heard them all. But recently two drivers came up with some novel excuses. When a driver in Western Australia was pulled over for driving 10 miles per hour over the speed limit, he told police, ‘The wind was pushing me.’ The comment didn’t amuse the officer, or prevent him from writing a \$150 ticket.

“Then in the Chicago area, a 25-year-old woman was pulled over by police around 4:15 a.m. after officers watched her vehicle cross the center lane and the double yellow line. When officers pulled the vehicle over, the woman told them she was coming from a bar and ‘was doing nothing wrong,’ according to authorities. Then she told police she was driving to White Castle so she could ‘sober up.’”<sup>1</sup>

A common question we Christians receive is, “What about those who have never heard the

gospel?” or maybe it is worded differently, like, “How could God condemn people who have never heard?”

Granted, sometimes these questions come from a sincere interest or desire to know the answer, but often they come from those looking to make excuses for themselves or others who they suspect or know never believed the gospel or feel as if God has not sufficiently revealed His existence. Though the person asking may not intend to suggest this, these questions and those like them have at least two underlying false premises: that it is God’s responsibility to do something *more* than He has already done, and two, mankind cannot or should not be guilty as long as they are in a place of ignorance.

In reality, not only do unsaved men and women have no excuses for rejecting God and His Word, regardless of what time period they lived in, but God has made this fact abundantly clear. Thus, mankind is once again *without excuse!*

**“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.**

**“For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse” (Rom. 1:18-20).**

### **GOOD NEWS OR BAD NEWS FIRST**

My wife and I have a running joke because I routinely ask her, “Do you want the good news or the bad news first?” Making the situation even funnier (at least to me) is that sometimes I say this even if I have no good news, only bad.

When one considers the manner in which Paul introduces the gospel and other doctrines to the church in Rome, it is interesting to see that he doesn’t follow the pattern or flow that many may think or often employ themselves: Paul brings the bad news first, and he does so very bluntly.

Today, we often see a desire to “spare people” the harsh realities of the doctrines of Scripture without first making them feel good or comfortable. After all, “we don’t want to scare them away, right?” is the usual logic behind this approach. This was not the apostle Paul’s method, though.

Before getting to the wonderful news that Christ “was delivered for our offenses, and raised again

for our justification” in Romans 4:25, or that “being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” in chapter 5, Paul chooses to explain instead the bad news and harsh realities of man’s situation: God’s wrath is upon *all* mankind because of man’s ungodliness and unrighteousness (1:18).

**NO EXCUSES**

**“...not only do unsaved men and women have no excuses for rejecting God and His Word...but God has made this fact abundantly clear. Thus, mankind is once again without excuse!”**

In fact, verse 18 marks the beginning of a long section in which Paul will spend the rest of chapters one and two and the majority of chapter three laying the whole ugly truth on the table before ever giving the good news about a means to receive God’s righteousness in place of ours. There was no attempt to sugar-coat the situation or tone it down. There was no beating around the bush. There were no apologies, no carefully crafted illustrations to make a connection with those he was trying to share the truth with.

In essence, one might say Paul’s approach was “I have great news, but first, let’s be clear about the bad news.” He then proceeds

to prove that regardless of who you are (Jew or Gentile), “There is none righteous, no, not one” (3:10). This is very bad news indeed when one realizes that God *will* be judging man for unrighteousness.

It is not until Romans 3:21 that Paul changes direction by using those two beloved words, “But now,” and points out that God’s righteousness is upon all who believe. We, mankind, have no righteousness and are thus under God’s wrath, but we can have God’s righteousness if we believe the gospel, the right gospel specifically. It doesn’t get better than that because it doesn’t get more secure than that.

If salvation depends on my righteousness, then I am lost and always left in a state of wonder and insecurity. But by having God’s righteousness in place of mine, nothing can diminish my standing with Him, which is why Paul later concludes that *nothing*

As much as mankind would like to impose or demand that God forgive and save all, no such reality exists.

## THE JUSTIFIABLE WRATH OF GOD

When Paul says the gospel is “the power of God unto salvation to every one *that believeth*” and “the just shall live by faith” (1:16-17) he has dispelled any idea that believing the gospel is optional. He has removed any notion that the gospel is okay for some, but it’s alright to conclude, “I’m okay right where I am.” A person may choose to reject the gospel, but they most certainly are not okay where they are. They are lost, and as Paul lays out in these first three chapters of Romans, God is rightfully angry at man’s pride and arrogance.

Not the kind of anger that we so often demonstrate. God is not bad-tempered, mean-spirited, fitful, or irritable. God is not like man in that He becomes so offended that He becomes biased and does not think clearly. No, He simply warns mankind of the natural consequences of their actions, all the while desiring for “all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth” (1 Tim. 2:4).

Though He is offended and will someday bring His wrath upon those who, by their own choosing, remain alienated from Him and refuse to acknowledge the truth, He welcomes all who humble themselves, become thankful, and approach Him in faith. Of course, that faith *must*



“shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (8:39). Being “in Christ Jesus” means we are secure (eternally saved).

However, the means by which we can acquire God’s righteousness is up to God and not man.

be in what God has said and is applicable to us and not in what we choose. In other words, we don't dictate to God what we are willing to have faith in and expect Him to comply, even though many act as though they can. Faith is not enough if that faith is *not* in the right thing.

God is rightfully angered at man's repeated rejection of Him, what He has said, and man's refusal to be thankful to Him. His anger is the inevitable reaction of a righteous Almighty God toward sin. It is the proper reaction to the "ungodliness and unrighteousness of men" (Rom. 1:18).

His is not an emotional reaction but a rational one. Four times in the Book of Acts, Luke tells us that Paul "reasoned" with people when confronting them with the truth. God's words and expectations are valid and reasonable, and man's rightful response is to say, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" (cf. Acts 9:6).

To the Roman governor, Felix, Paul "reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come," causing him to tremble (Acts 24:25). Felix is the regrettable example of so many who have been exposed to the truth, but because it is not a "convenient season" (v. 25) and because they "mind earthly things," they reject and turn aside even though that end is destruction (cf. Phil. 3:19). This includes both general and special revelation.

### THE FOOL

*"He who thinks half-heartedly will not believe in God; but he*

*who really thinks has to believe in God."* —Sir Isaac Newton

Mankind has continually rejected God's rule and authority and instead lives as though God does not exist. This is not a case of ignorance, for all mankind has the knowledge of God, "because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them" (Rom. 1:19), even "the invisible things" of God (v. 20). Not only has God revealed Himself to all, we read in verse 20 that His "eternal power and Godhead" are "clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made."

Man chose to forget God, as stated in verse 21: "Because that, *when they knew God*, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations." Man moved from knowing God to rejecting God to vain imaginations. They replaced God with vain or worthless and empty thoughts. This was in the form of idolatry. Making matters worse, they did this while professing to be wise.

Instead of acknowledging God as God, man chose to change "the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things" (v. 23).

The people didn't stop worshiping when they chose to forget God; they merely changed what they worshiped (cf. v. 25). They gave the glory that should only be given to God to themselves and other created things. The world ooh's and aah's at Egyptian pyramids

and Myan temples as symbols of man's intelligence; in truth, they are nothing more than the testimony and evidence of people "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools" (v. 22).

Interestingly, the Greek word used for fools in verse 22 (*maraino*) is the word we derive the word moron from. Refusing to acknowledge God as God leads to becoming a moron; it makes you a fool (Psa. 14:1; 53:1). Consider the question and answer posed by Job: "Where shall wisdom be found? and where is the place of understanding?" (Job 28:12), it is not "found in the land of the living" (mankind or creation) (v. 13), but rather it is found in God because "God understandeth the way thereof, and He knoweth the place thereof" (v. 23).

### **THE INVISIBLE THINGS OF GOD ARE CLEARLY SEEN**

*"Acknowledging the Creator is the first step in trusting the Redeemer."* —Warren Wiersbe

How can "invisible things" of God be "clearly seen" (Rom. 1:20)? God's power and divinity are clear and on full display through creation. It is commonly taught that we do not need to

try and prove God's existence because God Himself doesn't do so. This is technically not true. God did set out to prove His existence through creation, which is why it says, "God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them" (v. 19). Creation is a public announcement that there is a Creator.

Why does this matter? God's eternal power and authority are fully displayed for *all* to see "so that they [all who reject this truth] are *without excuse*" (Rom. 1:20). The fact is, God has made Himself known to all. There is no one to whom God has not made Himself known. Atheism is a choice and is inexcusable because of the testimony proved through creation.

We are all stamped with an awareness of God, and rather than acknowledging the obvious, men and women suppress the truth. Those who refuse to acknowledge the existence of God are refusing to accept what they know to be true, regardless of what they admit.

It's been said that agnosticism is worse than atheism because it says there isn't sufficient evidence for God to come to a conclusion.



**"If salvation depends on my righteousness, then I am lost and always left in a state of wonder and insecurity!"**

This belief does no less than call God a liar, and that is precisely how we should look at it.

Christianity and creation are not based on emotions, superstitions, or groundless belief. God does not ask us to believe the unbelievable or to check our brains at the door. The evidence for God through the study of creation can be easily verified using the tool of science. The sheer complexity and perfection required for life to exist demands there be a creator.

The amount of information in DNA, as well as the perfection of



its structure, leaves no room for chance development. According to information scientist Dr. Werner Gitt, “From an engineering point of view...the code system used in living organisms...is the best of all possible codes....This testifies to purposeful design.”<sup>2</sup> Dr. Gitt gives the following examples to illustrate this efficiency:

- DNA the size of a pinhead contains as much information as 25 trillion 189-page paperback books. A pile of these books would stretch 920 times the distance from the earth to the moon.
- If you were to stretch out one milligram of a double helix strand of DNA material, it

would almost stretch from the earth to the moon.<sup>3</sup>

He further states, “The basic flaw of all evolutionary views is the origin of the information in living beings. It has never been shown that a coding system and semantic information could originate by itself [through matter].... The information theorems predict that this will never be possible. A purely material origin of life is thus [ruled out].”<sup>4</sup>

In other words, the information necessary for life to exist does not allow for evolution and proves beyond any doubt that there must be a Creator. Information can *only* come from pre-existing information. This is a fact that any adult and most children can recognize. Nobody looks at a painting or a computer and thinks it happened by chance and without a maker.

### **THE WRATH OF GOD IS REVEALED**

As Romans 1 describes the devolving of the human race, we should know that creation is not the only example of God making the truth known so that man has no excuse. It is noteworthy that Romans 1:18 doesn't say the wrath of God *was* “revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men.” It says it “*is*” revealed.

Though creation still testifies to God's power and authority, so, too, do other things. While in Lystra, Paul said that God “left not Himself without witness, in that He did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful



**“The sheer complexity and perfection required for life to exist demands there be a Creator.”**

seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness” (Acts 14:17).

But when it comes to a witness to God’s wrath upon ungodly men, nothing compares to the Flood. When honest men and women look at the scars upon this earth, it is undeniable that what God said He did, He did. From the carving of the Grand Canyon to the ocean life found atop the earth’s tallest mountains, the evidence for a global flood is everywhere.

Another less thought-of example of God’s wrath still being openly displayed for the world to witness is Sodom and Gomorrah. According to Peter, “turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly” (2 Pet. 2:6).

Jude verse 7 says, “Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.”

The first-century Christian Apologist Justin Martyr speaks of the witness of Sodom and Gomorrah being still evident in his day when he says, “Those who

so desire may view their whole countryside even now desolate, scorched, and sterile.”<sup>5</sup>

Even today, the destruction of these cities acts as a witness to God’s wrath against ungodliness. The ruins of Sodom and Gomorrah have been discovered in the region south of the Dead Sea and visitors today can see the evidence of their destruction for themselves. The destroyed buildings are “clearly seen” (cf. Rom. 1:20), and so, too, is the remaining brimstone in the form of balls of sulfur still capable of being lit on fire. Remarkably, the sulfur found here has been scientifically determined to be some of the purest on the planet.

While the world imagines every excuse possible for denying God His due recognition, the truth is that mankind has been justly denied any and every excuse. God has clearly demonstrated His existence, divine attributes, and His complete and total authority “so that they are without excuse” (Rom. 1:20). 

1. <https://www.preachingtoday.com/illustrations/2017/february/2021317.html>
2. *Without Excuse*, 2011, p. 211.
3. *Without Excuse*, 2011, p. 288.
4. *In the Beginning Was Information*, 2005, p. 123.
5. *First Apology*; p. 54.

# Question Box



**“When is the sun replaced by the light of God’s glory on the new earth?”**

**“And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof” (Rev. 21:23).**

The sun isn’t going anywhere. Revelation 21:23 does not mean that there will be no more sun or moon in the new heaven and new earth, as is commonly taught. Like the earth (Psa. 104:5), the sun and the moon will endure forever: “Praise ye Him, sun and moon: praise Him, all ye stars of light...He hath also stablished them for ever and ever: He hath made a decree which shall not pass” (Psa. 148:3,6).

Further, a careful reading of Revelation 21:23 shows that it only pertains to the light *within the new Jerusalem*: “And **the city** had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it...” Revelation 22:5 adds that, *in the city*, “there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light.”

The Apostle John is simply pointing out that the *light* of the sun and the *light* of the moon are not needed to illumine that great city because the glory of God is its brightness and light forever (Isa. 60:19). In the new Jerusalem, the glory of God shines brightly for all to see clearly and will outshine the natural lights of the sun and moon, but the sun and the moon will continue to serve their purposes as ordained by God to provide their light to the rest of the new earth.

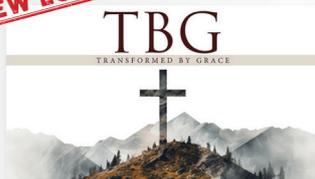
—Pastor Kevin Sadler

## Transformed by *Grace*

We’ve updated our Network name and look! If you haven’t already—download the TBG channel to watch Transformed by Grace episodes on Roku and Apple TV!



**NEW LOOK!**



# CSI: Stephen

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

PASTOR KEVIN **SADLER**  
*Berean Bible Society President*

Christian apologist and evangelist Josh McDowell wrote, “People refuse to believe that which they don’t want to believe, in spite of evidence. When explorers first went to Australia, they found a mammal which laid eggs; spent some time in water, some on land; had a broad, flat tail, webbed feet, and a bill similar to a duck.

“Upon their return to England, they told the populace of this, and all felt it was a hoax. They returned to Australia and found a pelt from this animal and took it back to England, but the people still felt it was a hoax. In spite of the evidence, they disbelieved because they didn’t want to believe.”<sup>1</sup>

In Acts 7, Stephen faced this kind of unbelief standing before Israel’s ruling council of religious leaders. In the power and wisdom of the Holy Spirit (Acts 6:8,10), Stephen had given them a powerful discourse on the history of Israel, using three prominent figures—Abraham, Joseph, and Moses—to lead them toward repentance and faith in Jesus as Israel’s Messiah.

Stephen reminded them how Abraham obeyed the command of God to “Get thee out of thy country” (7:3), courageously by faith. “Get thee out” was, in essence, what Stephen was calling these Jewish leaders to do, whose only desire was to stay put and keep things as they were. By the Spirit, they were being called out of their religious traditions to trust that Jesus was Israel’s Messiah.

Stephen also pointed out that two of Israel’s deliverers, Joseph and Moses, had at first been rejected, but then they were accepted “the second time” (7:13 cf. vv. 35-36). The Holy Spirit’s powerful ministry during Acts 2-6 had been their second chance to accept their ultimate Deliverer, Jesus Christ. However, like those in England in regard to the platypus, in spite of all the evidence, they disbelieved because they didn’t want to believe.

## THE INDICTMENT

**“Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.**

**“Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of Whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers” (Acts 7:51-52).**

Stephen concluded his defense by accusing his accusers. False charges had been leveled against him (6:11-14), but now he brought true and more serious charges against them. He became the prosecutor, and they became the guilty defendants. Suddenly Stephen stopped reflecting on Israel’s past, and having laid the historical foundation, Stephen hit them with a devastating indictment.

Stephen pointed out that these religious leaders were “stiffnecked.” Stiffnecked is a figure of speech from biblical times, referring to oxen that were headstrong and would not submit to be yoked or guided. Applied to the ruling council, Stephen meant that they were stubborn and self-willed. They had stiffened their necks and refused to submit to God.

Stephen further pointed out that they were “uncircumcised in heart and ears.” Their necks would not bow to the truth, and their hearts and ears would not receive the truth. They were spiritually hardhearted and deaf. They were unresponsive to God’s Word and will, and thus they were as unclean before God as the uncircumcised.

Stephen told them, “ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.” In resisting the speech of Stephen, a man “full of the Holy Ghost” (6:5; 7:55), they were guilty of resisting the Holy Spirit. As their fathers did, they opposed the truth brought to them by the authority of God. In their resistance to the Holy Spirit, their forefathers persecuted the prophets that God, in His mercy, sent to Israel to call the nation back to Him and His law (Neh. 9:26). The fathers resisted, persecuted, and even killed the prophets that prophesied “the coming of the Just One,” the Messiah.

Then Stephen leveled the charge at the ruling council that they were the ones personally responsible for the betrayal and murder of that Just One. Their fathers had killed the prophets who predicted the coming of the Messiah, but the men in front of Stephen had actually betrayed and murdered that Messiah. Their fathers had murdered God’s prophets; they had murdered God’s Son.

## THE RESPONSE

**“When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.**

**“But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,**



## SON OF MAN

**“And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.” Acts 7:56**

**“And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God” (Acts 7:54-56).**

The men on the ruling council “were cut to the heart” when they heard Stephen’s words. The Greek word translated “cut” means to be sawn through. Stephen’s sharp words of the Spirit had cut them in half. His message was more than their guilty consciences could bear, “and they gnashed on him with their teeth.” This phrase means they ground their teeth in their rage. In their seething anger, they could not speak or answer him, and they couldn’t even find the words to vent their fury.

In front of this group of enraged men stood Stephen, a picture of perfect peace in the middle of the turmoil around him. In that peace of God, Stephen looked up, and then God pulled back the curtain and allowed him to see “into heaven.”

Gazing intently into heaven, within the glory that accompanies God’s awesome presence, Stephen saw “Jesus standing on the right hand of God.” We need to remember that when Christ ascended, Mark 16:19 states, “So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, He was received up into heaven, and *sat* on the right hand of God.” But now, in the sight of Stephen, Christ is standing and not sitting.

According to prophecy, Christ’s ascension to God’s right hand was about God’s divine displeasure at the rejection of His Son until the time came for judgment to be visited upon His enemies.

**“The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit Thou at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool” (Psa. 110:1).**

The Lord was invited to the Father’s right hand because the Lord had “enemies” on earth who would not have Him. Christ was to remain seated with His Father at His right hand only “until” the time when Christ’s enemies would be made His footstool.

The cries “Arise, O God” and “Arise, O Lord” are found several times in the Psalms, which relate to the judgment of Israel’s enemies and the deliverance of the faithful.

**“ARISE, O LORD, in Thine anger, LIFT UP Thyself because of the rage of mine enemies...” (Psa. 7:6).**

**“O LORD God, to Whom vengeance belongeth...LIFT UP Thyself, Thou Judge of the earth: render a reward to the proud” (Psa. 94:1-2).**

Before the ruling council, Stephen narrated what he observed in heaven, that he saw “the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.” The title, “Son of man,” meant the Messiah (Dan. 7:13). The fact that He was *standing* at God’s right hand, the rulers, who were very familiar with the Psalms, knew this meant impending judgment. This view into heaven was testimony that they were the enemies of God and that the wrath and vengeance of God were about to be poured out on them because of their rejection of the Son of man.

### THE RESULT

**“Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,**

**“And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul” (Acts 7:57-58).**

The men of the ruling council were already seething. Upon hearing Stephen testify to what he saw in heaven, which they considered to be blasphemy, they could no longer contain themselves.

They all shouted together and, at the same time, they all stopped or covered their ears because they did not want to hear anything more. Then, in unison, they all ran toward Stephen. The highest religious court in Israel cast aside any dignity and self-respect, turning into a furious, murderous lynch mob.

For the sin of blasphemy, the law commanded that the person should be taken outside the camp and stoned (Lev. 24:14) so accordingly, verse 58 says they “cast him out of the city, and stoned him.” It was an illegal act, however, for these Jewish rulers to carry out this death. At the time, under Roman rule, they did not have the authority to execute someone apart from the Romans (John 18:31). But they were an out-of-control mob, so they dragged Stephen out of the city to stone him with their own hands.

The witnesses (cf. Deut. 17:7) to Stephen’s so-called blasphemy then “laid down their clothes at a young man’s feet, whose name was Saul.” The removal of their clothes speaks to the malice of the stoning. They did not want their outer robes to hinder their throwing of the stones. Revealing their heart of rebellion against God and their utter rejection of Jesus Christ, they wanted to throw those stones



as hard as they possibly could because a 90-mph fastball does more damage than one thrown at 50 mph.

A young Pharisee from Tarsus played a prominent role in this awful scene. The witnesses laid their robes at the feet of a

young man named Saul later known as the Apostle Paul. He fully supported putting Stephen to death, so he was right in the middle of the action, keeping watch over the clothes of the executioners.

The stoning of Stephen is the fall of Israel. According to the prophetic timeline, this should have triggered the start of the day of the Lord. Standing at God's right hand was indicative of the judgment that Christ was about to pour out during the prophesied Tribulation period. Instead, according to His eternal purposes, God postponed His judgment. He temporarily set Israel aside in her unbelief, paused His prophetic program, and started an unprophesied program with the nations (Rom. 11:11-15).

On the Damascus Road, the Lord Jesus appeared to Saul, the chief of sinners, saved him by His grace (1 Tim. 1:15-16), called him to be the Apostle of the Gentiles (Rom. 11:13), and ushered in the dispensation of grace (Eph. 3:2). That dispensation continues to this moment, and it will end with the Rapture of the Church. After the Body of Christ is raptured to heaven, God will pick up where He left off, with the judgment of the day of the Lord, and He will fulfill *all* the promises He has made to Israel. 

1. "Mammal Laid Eggs," Bible.org, <https://bible.org/illustration/mammal-laid-eggs>.



# SPOTLIGHT

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# WOMAN *to* WOMAN

## SOBER

Paul instructed Titus to *speak thou the things which become sound doctrine* (Titus 2:1), and in verses 3-5, he gives information as to what this will accomplish for women. He wanted the older women to behave holy and not be false accusers or partakers of much drink. This holy behavior would afford them the right and objective to teach the younger women all good things. Specifically, he states in Titus 2:4-5, *“That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the Word of God be not blasphemed.”*

Are you an older Christian woman who fits the above description of holy behavior and sound doctrine? If so, are you teaching the younger women? If you are a younger woman, are you seeking out an older, godly woman to mentor you in truth? This is the will of God for you both. Paul’s list includes many items for mentoring, with the first one being to teach *young women to be sober*. Let’s examine it briefly through a bit of a story.

She was beside herself in deep emotions of anger, anxiety, fear, and hurt. She pled her story, growing more anxious with each passing sentence. I tried to ask questions and calmly interject thought-provoking statements, but she heard none. Her mind was determined to grow this situation into a bitter enemy. There was no time for counsel as she insisted she knew the truth, not allowing any rational consideration. How was I to calm her anxious heart and bring her back to a place of sobriety? She was so deeply blinded by her own thoughts, thoughts that I deemed purely circumstantial with great exaggeration. Her mind had been overtaken by evil thoughts, which now were giving way to evil actions disguised as justice.

Perhaps the above story is a bit of hyperbole to make a point. But truly, is it? Have you ever exaggerated something in your mind, which later was proven entirely false? And in so doing, did you confront someone with angry accusations, later realizing that it was untrue?

The Greek *sophroniao* is used for the English phrase ‘teach...to be sober.’ Another definition is to restore or disciple one to one’s senses. Titus 2:4 is the only place in Scripture where this word is used. Do you think there might be a need for women to be taught to be sober-minded? Who better to disciple this young woman than another woman who once learned as the younger and is now seasoned from experience and truth?

—Valerie Hosfeld



# Advancing the Cause of Christ

## *Through Biblical Family Life*

PASTOR TIM BOARD

Guest Writer

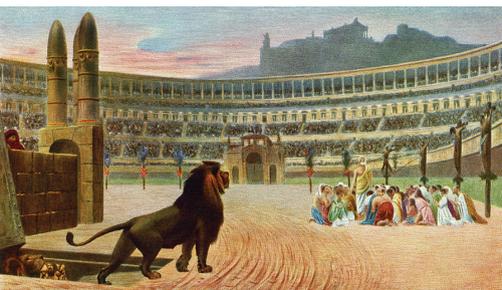
“Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall praise Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts” (Psa. 145:3-4).

Take a journey with me as we travel together back in time to the ancient Roman Empire. Robert Wolgemuth, in *The Most Important Place on Earth: What a Christian Home Looks Like and How to Build One*, shares how he and his almost eight-year-old granddaughter viewed a massive piece of art in a Charlotte, NC, museum. It was Jean-Leon Gerome’s 1863 piece called *Early Christian Martyrs in the Coliseum at Rome*. Personally, I

found this piece of art at *Grace Youth Camp*, where I found a hundred-year-old copy of *Foxe’s Book of Martyrs*, which I later paid my oldest son something like \$20 to read cover-to-cover at about 10 years old.

There was indeed a real-time in history when Christians whose supreme allegiance was to the Sovereign Potentate, the Lord Jesus Christ, refused to bow the knee and confess with their tongues that “Caesar is Lord” and were condemned to the arena with wild beasts as entertainment for the Coliseum’s blood-thirsting masses.

Reflecting upon this sobering reality, Wolgemuth’s challenge for us is to “imagine what it must have been like to sit down with your family and explain what being Christians in your neighborhood would mean. The answer takes *different* to a whole new level, doesn’t it? But the message has some similarities to your family and mine today. *Culture-friendly* can’t be on our family’s priority list. That builds nothing in our homes and takes us nowhere. *Different* should be on that list.”



first came across this piece of art myself at Wisconsin’s *Northern*

## Advancing the Cause of Christ Begins at Home

**“Through wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; By knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches” (Prov. 24:3-4).**

Advancing the cause of Christ to the ends of the earth through biblical family life is central to the Grace Commission because the spiritual health and vitality of the local church are built upon the spiritual health and vitality of the Christian home. The stewardship responsibility of this cause of Christ encompasses the comprehensive nature of the biblical worldview, in general, and the gospel of the grace of God, in particular.

Where will the next generation of pastors, missionaries, and ministry leaders come from if churches and families lack the wisdom, vision, and courage that is needed to co-champion the next generation and advance the cause of Christ to the ends of the earth? It is not the responsibility of ministry training schools to raise them up because ministry training begins well ahead of time right at home with dad and mom as they live on mission in Christ and are anchored in the local church together with their children.

It does not take a rocket scientist to understand that demographics are grim and radical changes must be made by churches and families moving forward as co-champions of the next generation. The strength of our gospel outreach both here and abroad depends on the spiritual health and vitality of American Grace churches. Therefore, if you and

I care about God’s glory being magnified through the salvation of rebel sinners among all nations worldwide, then we must care about our country, our churches, and especially our homes. Since advancing the cause of Christ to the ends of the earth begins right at home with biblical marriage and family life, we must take very seriously how students of history like Rod Drehr encourage “Christian parents [to] be intentionally countercultural in their approach to family dynamics.”<sup>1</sup> We must do so with dead serious urgency through the irreplaceable nature of: 1. Manhood, 2. Marriage, 3. Fatherhood, and 4. a Multiplied Legacy to the praise of God’s glory in Christ Jesus throughout eternity.

### Advancing the Cause of Christ through...the Irreplaceable Nature of Manhood

**“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful, and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion...’” (Gen. 1:27-28a).**

When the Lord Jesus Christ Himself spoke galaxies into existence just about 6,000 years ago in six literal 24-hour days, He also branded mankind in His image with a stewardship responsibility described as the cultural mandate of dominion (Gen. 1:26-28; 9:1,6-7; Exod. 20:11; Psa. 8:6-8; 33:6; Col. 1:16).

As the God-ordained leader, provider, and protector of his family, Adam was entrusted with

the duty-bound mission of the irreplaceable nature of manhood. Robert Lewis defines “a real man” as “one who rejects passivity, accepts responsibility, leads courageously, and expects the greater reward...God’s reward.”<sup>2</sup> In contrast to Adam, who failed to defend the integrity of God’s character, the veracity of His Word, and, as the proverbial knight-in-shining-armor, to rescue the damsel in distress from the fire-breathing dragon, as it were, biblical manhood is not aloof with indifference but rejects passivity, accepts responsibility, and leads courageously (Gen. 2:15; 3:6-10; Neh. 4:14; 1 Cor. 16:13-14).

“It does not take a rocket scientist to understand that demographics are grim and radical changes must be made by churches and families moving forward as co-champions of the next generation.”



**Cultivate Biblical Manhood.** There is a war against traditional masculinity and especially biblical manhood that is producing a massive crisis in American culture, which includes

the church and family. The good news is that God’s Spirit is beckoning to the hearts of men, young and old, to be a catalyst towards positive change beginning on the grassroots level right at home. biblical manhood can be intentionally cultivated through the spiritual disciplines of systematic Bible reading, prayer journaling, and Scripture memorization, along with active engagement with a robust local church community. In pursuit of this kind of spiritual muscle, remember how a wise man once said that “the difference in our lives a year from now will be due to four things: 1. the places we go, 2. the people we meet, 3. the books we read, and 4. the challenges we face” (Prov. 27:17; 1 Tim. 3:15; 4:7,13; Titus 2:11-14).

### Advancing the Cause of Christ through...the Irreplaceable Nature of Marriage

“And He answered and said to them, ‘Have you not read that He Who made them at the beginning “made them male and female,” and said, “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?” So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore God has joined together, let not man separate”’ (Matt. 19:4-6).

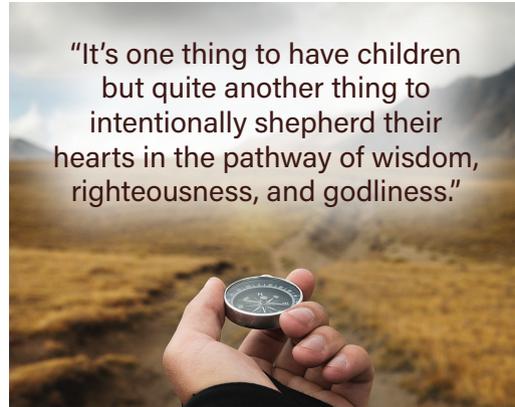
The Lord Jesus Christ, in His earthly ministry to the nation of Israel, affirmed the historicity and authority of Genesis by quoting from each of the first two chapters in virtually the same breath, thus upholding the irreplaceable nature of marriage (Gen. 1:27; 2:24; Rom. 15:8). Despite what

the sexually perverse spirit of the age that is hell-bent on rebellion against Almighty God asserts, biblical marriage upholds God's nuclear design, gender roles, and the glory of motherhood (Rom. 1:18-32; Eph. 5:21-33; Titus 2:3-5). A married dad and mom and kids is the gold standard or bull's-eye of the target designed by God as the natural or nuclear family and is not some type of so-called Western cultural construct. Whereas the extended family is still a blessed part of God's purpose for the home, He began in the very beginning with a biological man and a biological woman whose marriage relationship establishes the household as central to advancing the cause of Christ to the ends of the earth.

This biological reality is also upheld by God's design for gender roles within marriage, based on creation order, to reflect the triune nature of the Godhead and Christ's headship of the Church, which is His Body, that submits to His perfect and sacrificial leadership (1 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 5:22-25; 1 Tim. 2:13). Perhaps the most controversial truth of the irreplaceable nature of marriage is that God's biblical design upholds the glory of motherhood. Radical feminism and the Marxist agenda of woke paganism are in rebellion against the beauty, nobility, and glory of being a wife and mother, which the Holy Scriptures affirm with the utmost honor and dignity in the sight of God (Psa. 128:3; Prov. 31:10-31; 1 Tim. 2:15; 2 Tim. 1:5; 3:15; Titus 2:3-5).

Regardless of what the sirens of the age assert, only biological women have children, and God's

Word lauds the blessedness of the fruitful womb (Psa. 127:3-5; 139:13; Mal. 2:15). The irreplaceable nature of marriage builds civilization, fills this world with image-bearing worshippers of the one true and living God, and advances the cause of Christ to the ends of the earth beginning right at home.



"It's one thing to have children but quite another thing to intentionally shepherd their hearts in the pathway of wisdom, righteousness, and godliness."

**Cultivate Biblical Marriage.** God's design for marriage is fueled by a sacrificial, sanctifying, and cherishing love from the husband's heart at the helm of the household and is demonstrated in practical reality day by day for the glory of the Sovereign Architect and Omnipotent Powerhouse of biblical family life. Be intentional at cultivating the virtues of love and respect by communicating with your spouse in ways that speak the language of their heart in practical reality (1 Cor. 13:4-7; Eph. 5:33). In other words, demonstrate love through what Gary Chapman describes as the five languages of love: 1. Physical Touch and Closeness, 2. Words of Encouragement, 3. Acts of Service, 4. Gift Giving, and 5. Quality Time.<sup>3</sup>

## Advancing the Cause of Christ through...the Irreplaceable Nature of Fatherhood

**“As you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children, that you would walk worthy of God Who calls you into His own kingdom and glory” (1 Thes. 2:11-12).**

The Lord God Himself is the perfect Father and epitome of fatherhood whose holiness, righteousness, and justice, along with His merciful lovingkindness and super-abounding grace, renders who He is and all that He has done in and through the person and finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ worthy of all praise. Having been branded in the image of this perfect Father, His Spirit beckons all men to be champions of biblical fatherhood that invests wisdom, instills vision, and infuses courage into the hearts of their children to the praise of His glory in Christ Jesus (Gen. 18:19; 2 Chron. 32:7-8; Neh. 4:14; Eph. 6:4).

Every dad is impacting the next generation whether he realizes it or not because our lives automatically affect our progeny whether or not we are living godly in Christ Jesus. Dads must take heed to themselves before God as the divinely ordained counselors of wisdom, communicators of vision, and cultivators of courage in the hearts and minds of their children (2 Cor. 5:9-10; 1 Thes. 2:11-12).

**Cultivate Biblical Fatherhood.** Make time for what’s important by carving it out in this season of life before it’s too late by making the following daily and

weekly rhythms of life a priority: 1. Family Suppertime, 2. Family Worship, and 3. Family Church Attendance. Gathering around the family table for a meal is one of the most significant disciplines of life that fathers ought to deliberately prioritize on a regular basis for the sake of advancing the cause of Christ right at home (Deut. 6:6-7; Psa. 128:1-3).

In tandem with this old-fashioned habit is what the saints of old called Family Worship or the Family Altar, where fathers would lead their families spiritually through Bible reading, singing hymns of God’s praise, and praying together. Any given Sunday is a celebration of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and should, therefore, find fathers leading the way as their families gather to attend church with other families to worship the Lord in song, hear the preaching of His Word, and fellowship with the saints at their local assembly (Matt. 28:1; 1 Cor. 16:2; Col. 3:16; 1 Tim. 3:15; Heb. 10:24-25).

## Advancing the Cause of Christ through...the Irreplaceable Nature of a Multiplied Legacy

**“Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. That the generation to come might know them, the children who would be born, that they may arise and declare them to their children, that they may set their hope in God...” (Psa. 78:4b, 6-7a).**

Advancing the cause of Christ to the ends of the earth through biblical family life from generation

to generation is a vision for gospel ministry that must be championed because every one of us are heirs to the past and ancestors to the future. This kind of biblical legacy champions the blessing of children, godly character, and generational faithfulness to the gospel purposes of the Lord Jesus Christ. While the spirit of this age vaunts itself in the abortion holocaust, Almighty God is the Author and Progenitor of life, as every precious life is priceless in beauty (Psa. 139:13-16; John 8:44; 10:10).



It's one thing to have children but quite another thing to intentionally shepherd their hearts in the pathway of wisdom, righteousness, and godliness. The biblical goal of education is moral and spiritual development in the fear of God, having awe and reverence for who He is as Creator and Redeemer, along with a wholehearted devotion to His Word (Psa. 1:1-6; Prov. 1:7; 9:10; Eph. 6:4).

Other aspects of childhood experience have a place, but such things like academics, athletics, and social status threaten to subvert the biblical goal of education in the humanistic pursuit of admission to an Ivy League university, earning an NCAA Division I scholarship, or garnering the

status of a social media celebrity. Biblical legacy also champions generational faithfulness to the Lord Jesus Christ and the Word of God.

Famously, the 18th-century pastor and theologian Jonathan Edwards was instrumental in the First Great Awakening in the colonial era, but his greatest legacy was the spiritual impact of his family life upon future generations. Be the kind of hero that your progeny in future generations can be grateful for because the testimony of your life points to the irreplaceable nature of a multiplied legacy to the praise of God's glory in Christ Jesus (Psa. 78:1-8; 145:1-4; 2 Tim. 2:2).

**Cultivate a Multiplied Legacy.** Pray for your children and grandchildren to be blessed with wisdom, vision, and courage: wisdom to understand the times in which we live through the lens of a comprehensive biblical worldview, spiritual vision to see beyond what is to what could be as far as their lives and ministry are concerned, and courage to initiate decisive action for the cause of Christ (1 Chron. 12:32; 2 Chron. 32:7-8; Eph. 3:20-21; 5:15-17). Also, pray for your children and grandchildren's future spouses and the families in which they are being raised. Ask the Lord to bring them together in His perfect timing and use them to raise up a godly generation that fears, honors, and serves the King of kings and Lord of lords, the Lord Jesus Christ (Psa. 78:6-8; Prov. 22:6; 31:10; 1 Tim. 1:17).

Finally, pray for your children and grandchildren to gladly receive the blessing of children

themselves as a result of their hearts being filled with a passion for advancing the cause of Christ to the ends of the earth beginning right at home through biblical marriage and family life (Gen. 1:28; 9:1,7; Psa. 127:3-5; Prov. 24:3-4).

### **The Gathering Storm Over the Generations**

In the same spirit as Wolgemuth's encouragement for biblical family life to mean something radically countercultural, whether it was in the ancient Roman empire or this present evil age, Al Mohler issues another bold challenge for the church and family because of the gathering storm coming over the generations due to the secularization of the culture.<sup>4</sup> It is looming on the horizon, and intentional ministry training must be co-championed

by the church and family in three powerful ways: 1. Christian parents [and grandparents] must view church as the highest and utmost priority for their family's weekly schedule; 2. Christian parents [and grandparents] need to be serious about the effects of technology, screen time, and social media, and 3. Christian parents [and grandparents] must endeavor to fill their homes with the fragrance of the gospel. Advancing the cause of Christ to the ends of the earth through biblical family life is the stewardship responsibility of our generation. Come what may, let us be faithful to the praise of God's glory in Christ Jesus! 

1. Drehr, R. (2020) *Live not by lies: a manual for Christian dissidents*. New York, NY: Sentinel.
2. Lewis, R. (1997) *Raising a modern-day knight*. Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family Publishing.
3. Chapman, G. (1995) *The five love languages*. Chicago, IL: Northfield Publishing.
4. Mohler, Jr., R. Albert. (2020) *The gathering storm: secularism, culture, and the church*. Nashville, TN: Nelson Books.

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# Midwest Grace Fellowship

## Bible Conference

July 12-13, 2024

**Location:** Wellsville Manor Care Center  
304 W. 7th Street, Wellsville, Kansas

**Speakers:** Pastor Kevin Sadler, *Berean Bible Society* President  
Pastor Joel McGarvey, *Bible Doctrines to Live By*

**Contact:** Pastor Tom Schwartz at 918.499.0276  
or Byron Finley at [finfarm@gmail.com](mailto:finfarm@gmail.com)

# Missouri Bible Conference

July 18-20, 2024

**Location:** New Hope Church  
County Road 6200, Salem, Missouri

**Speaker:** Pastor Don Hosfeld,  
*Berean Searchlight* Editor

**Contact:** Pastor Wayne Werline  
at 573.247.9748

# BBS Letter Excerpts



## **From YouTube:**

“I’m convinced that every one of these episodes [of *Transformed by Grace*] is custom-made for me. Thanks!”

## **From Facebook:**

“This is a very good reminder that we may be the only light in someone’s world. Let our light shine before men.”

## **From the Philippines:**

“Thank you for your wonderful messages and your magazine [*Berean Searchlight*]. I use your lessons in our Bible studies in church.”

## **From Oklahoma:**

“Thank you all for your faithfulness to biblical truth. Because of your ministry and tremendous writings and teaching, my faith and knowledge are strengthened each day, and for that, I am so grateful.”

## **From Florida:**

“Thank you so much for your ministry and faithfulness to the Word rightly divided. We so appreciate it.”

## **From Oklahoma:**

“I enjoy your *Searchlight* so much. It helps answer questions for me.”

## **From Indiana:**

“My grandmother gave me this subscription about 40 years ago. This year, I have been blessed to be able to pass them on to a struggling young man.”

## **From Missouri:**

“Thank you so much for faithfully sending the *Searchlight* each month and for your unwavering stand in rightly dividing His Word. The articles always provide so much information and encouragement amidst a chaotic and turbulent world. Thanks for your article, ‘Eutychus,’ in the October edition. I enjoyed it so much and am also grateful for your *Transformed by Grace* ministry.”

## **From YouTube:**

“I want you to know, Brother Kevin, that I call you my Sunday School teacher. The gift you have to expound on the Scriptures the way you do is very edifying to me. It reminds me of the Sunday School of my youth...I’m in my sixties now. I am very thankful to the Lord that He loves us so much and that His ‘Sunday School’ continues. I watch the broadcast on WJYS here on the south side of Chicago.”

## **From Pennsylvania:**

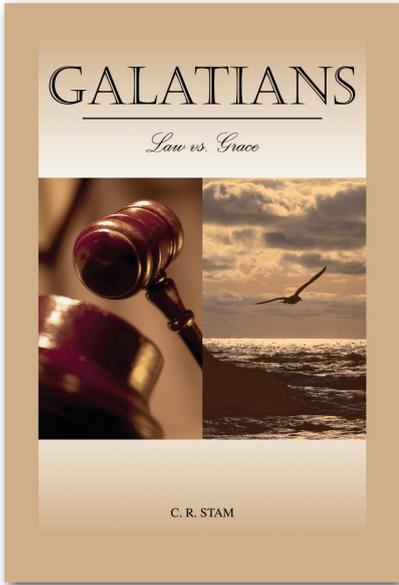
“I really do enjoy your magazine. I read it from cover to cover. May God richly bless all of you as you bless me so much.”

## **From YouTube:**

(Responding to *Transformed by Grace* “Reaching Out By Faith”) “This was so moving to me and aligned with a change in my walk of faith. God is awesome! Thank you, Pastor Kevin.” (It’s wonderful to hear that God used it in your life—Ed.)



## Legalism exposed and the Gospel of the Grace of God vindicated



### Galatians

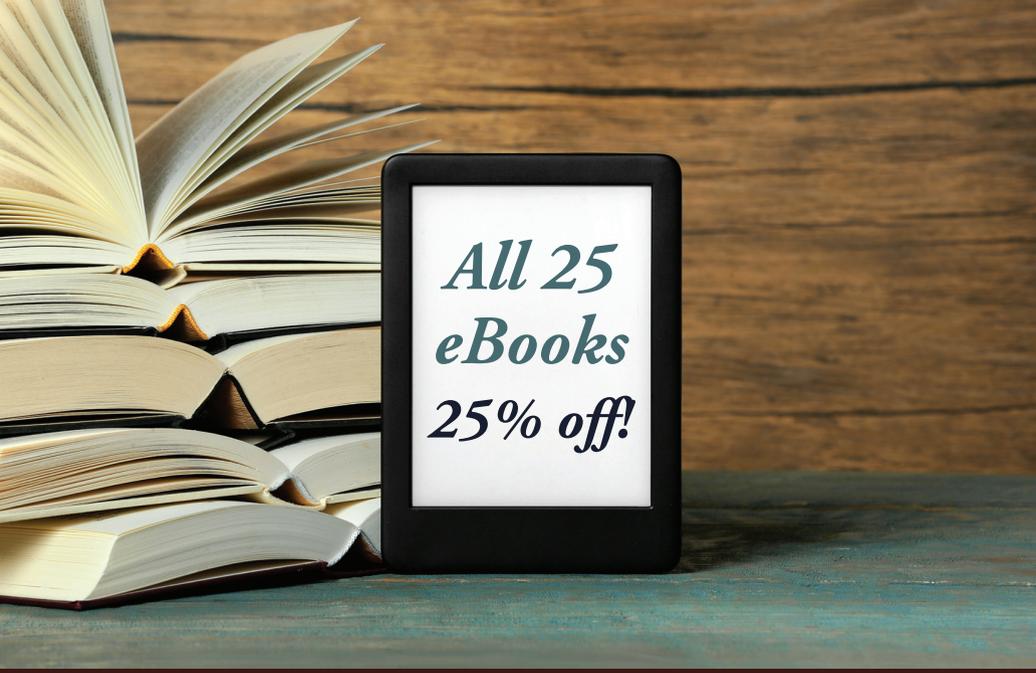
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# News & Announcements



**Northeast Ohio Bible Conference:** The annual Northeast Ohio Bible Conference will be held August 16-18th, at the *First Grace Gospel Church* in Ashtabula. BBS board member, Pastor Jeff Seekins will be speaking at this transformative weekend of faith and fellowship. If you have any questions or would like more information, contact Pastor Michael Morris at 440.997.8191.

**New Transformed by Grace Episodes:** Pastor Kevin Sadler recently completed a 5-part series on *Winning and Losing*, exploring topics such as "Building to Win," "Running to Win," "Working to Win," "Battling to Win," and "Finishing to Win." If you missed it on CTN, you can still watch it on the BBS website or the TBG YouTube channel. Don't miss out on the opportunity to catch up on this inspiring series as Pastor Sadler takes us on a transformative journey toward victory in life's battles.

**Your Support Needed:** As a non-profit organization dedicated to spreading the message of the Bible, we rely heavily on the generosity of our supporters to sustain our mission of providing resources and guidance for spiritual growth. As the BBS continues its unwavering dedication to helping people understand and enjoy their Bible, we hope that you will consider joining with us to ensure that this valuable work can thrive. Together, we can continue to make a difference in a world starved for truth. Please consider donating at <https://bereanbiblesociety.org/donations/>.

**TBG is on the Move:** Beginning the end of May, our TV ministry, *Transformed by Grace*, is moving from WJYS in Chicagoland on Sunday mornings to "The Walk." This will give us a greater national outreach, as "The Walk" has over 60+ broadcast affiliates (over-the-air and cable) that reach a potential of 26 million households around the country. Pray that this move will bring glory to God and help more people grow in their faith.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR!

**BBF Summer Bible Conference**, June 16-20, Tipp City, OH

**Midwest Grace Fellowship Conference**, July 12-13, Wellsville, KS

**Missouri Bible Conference**, July 18-20, Salem, MO

**Northeast Ohio Bible Conference**, August 16-18, Ashtabula, OH

# BIBLE COMMENTARIES & MORE GRACE WORKS BY BBS

## COMMENTARIES

Matthew (J. Fredericksen) .....	\$30.00	True Spirituality .....	14.00
Acts Volume 1 (C. R. Stam).....	26.00	Two Minutes with the Bible (Devotional) .....	14.00
Acts Volume 2 (C. R. Stam).....	26.00	<b>PAUL M. SADLER</b>	
Romans (C. R. Stam).....	20.00	Exploring the Unsearchable Riches of Christ.....	\$15.00
1 Corinthians (C. R. Stam) .....	15.00	The Life and Letters of the Apostle Peter.....	15.00
2 Corinthians (C. R. Stam) .....	15.00	The Oneness of Marriage .....	10.00
Galatians (C. R. Stam).....	18.00	The Triumph of His Grace .....	17.00
Ephesians (P. Sadler).....	20.00	<b>KEVIN J. SADLER</b>	
Philippians (P. Sadler) .....	15.00	Key Words of Our Faith .....	\$12.00
Colossians (C. R. Stam) .....	18.00	Runaways, <i>Running from God</i> .....	10.00
Thessalonians (C. R. Stam) .....	15.00	<b>RICKY KURTH</b>	
Pastoral Epistles (1,2 Timothy/Titus, C.R. Stam) .....	15.00	Rightly Divided Answers to FAQ.....	\$12.00
James (P. Sadler) .....	12.00	More Rightly Divided Answers to FAQ.....	12.00
Revelation Volume 1 (P. Sadler) .....	15.00	<b>JOHN FREDERICKSEN</b>	
Revelation Volume 2 (P. Sadler) .....	17.00	Daily Transformation (Devotional) .....	\$15.00
Revelation Volume 3 (P. Sadler) .....	17.00	Foundational Truths .....	15.00
Revelation Volume 4 (K. Sadler/P. Sadler) .....	18.00	Growing in God's Grace.....	10.00

## GRACE STUDY BOOKS

### C.R. STAM

Baptism and the Bible.....	\$11.00
Divine Election and Human Responsibility .....	13.00
Holding Fast the Faithful Word.....	12.00
Man, His Nature and Destiny.....	15.00
Moses and Paul .....	9.00
Our Great Commission, What is It? .....	11.00
Paul, His Apostleship and Message .....	11.00
Things That Differ .....	12.00
The Lord's Supper and the Bible .....	9.00
The Twofold Purpose of God .....	9.00

### GROWING UP IN GRACE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Bible Events Book 1 .....	\$24.00
Bible Events Book 2 .....	24.00
Bible Events Book 3 .....	24.00
Bible Characters Book 1 .....	24.00
Bible Characters Book 2 .....	24.00
Bible Characters Book 3 .....	24.00
Bible Doctrines Book 1.....	24.00
Bible Doctrines Book 2 .....	24.00
Bible Doctrines Book 3.....	24.00
The Life of Our Lord Jesus Christ .....	24.00

**Free Shipping!** *Wisconsin residents please add 5.5% sales tax*

BEREAN BIBLE SOCIETY N112 W17761 Mequon Rd., Germantown, WI 53022

Phone: 262.255.4750 | Website: [boreanbiblesociety.org](http://boreanbiblesociety.org)

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

THE BEREAN SEARCHLIGHT  
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GERMANTOWN, WI 53022

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“The meek man cares not at all who is greater than he, for he has long ago decided that the esteem of the world is not worth the effort.”

—A.W. Tozer



**TBG**

TRANSFORMED BY GRACE



#### BEREAN BIBLE SOCIETY TV MINISTRY

Sunday 9:00 am ET:

- The WALK Television Network

Monday–Friday 6:00 pm ET:

- Christian Television Network (CTN)
  - DirecTV: Channel 376
  - Dish Network: Channel 262
  - Glory Star Satellite: Channel 117

TBG Network 24/7 streaming channel on Roku and Apple TV  
Also available on TBG YouTube, and the BBS website

