

# The Berean Searchlight

Studying God's Word, Rightly Divided

March 2004



Feature Articles

*Studies in the Book of Revelation—Rev. 12:5-13:2*  
 Pastor Paul M. Sadler ..... 5

*Adam and the Fall*  
 Pastor Cornelius R. Stam ..... 11

*Secure or Not Secure?*  
 Pastor Ricky Kurth ..... 15

Departments

Mailbag Extra ..... 4

Question Box ..... 22

From Our Mailbag ..... 26

The BBI Byline ..... 29

News and Announcements ..... 30

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## From the Editor to You:

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Dearly Beloved,

Later this year we plan to take a missionary tour through Scotland and England. With God's help, we hope to challenge those of like-precious faith to stand fast in the defense and confirmation of Paul's gospel. We will also be visiting a number of historical sites throughout these realms. The rich Christian heritage that we enjoy here in America is deeply rooted in these two countries.

When John Knox brought the Reformation to Scotland, he preached with such power that those who heard him clung to the pews fearing they were about to slip into the lake of fire. It was said of his preaching, "Others lop off branches, but this man strikes at the root." In short, he was like "a spark in a keg of gun powder."

John Wycliffe, called the "Morning Star of the Reformation," shook all England when he exposed the corruption of the Catholic Church. He was so hated for putting the Scriptures into the hands of the common people that after his death the Council of Constance condemned him as an "arch-heretic." The Council ordered "his body dug up out of its grave...his bones to be burned, and the ashes to be strewn over the waters of the Severn River."

For those who would like to join us on this fascinating 12-day historical journey, time is of the essence! It is essential that you apply for your *passport* immediately, if you do not have one. If you do, check to make sure it hasn't expired. Additional identification such as a driver's license is helpful as well. The authorities are unforgiving if your credentials are not in order. While you won't be "left behind" at the Rapture, you will be left behind if security finds a problem with your identification!

Dr. Henry Hudson, a historian in his own right, has graciously agreed to be our tour guide. Throughout the years Brother Hudson has taken many groups abroad, so he's a seasoned traveler, like the Apostle Paul! Those who are interested in receiving a brochure, simply call or e-mail us here at the *Berean Bible Society*. For technical questions about the trip, please contact Dr. Hudson at: (616) 403-1438 or e-mail: [drhth@juno.com](mailto:drhth@juno.com). Lord willing, we hope to see you in September!

Yours in His abounding grace,  
Paul M. Sadler, President

# Mailbag Extra

Every once in a while we receive a letter from a *Searchlight* reader that is too long to fit into our *Mailbag* section, but too wonderful to edit down to size. This is one such letter. We hope that it encourages you as much as it did us.

“I believe I understand what the *Berean Bible Society* basically believes for the most part and I agree with a lot of the teaching on right division. I am a sophomore at an independent Baptist Bible college. I have been raised in a good family but a lot of what I have learned has been from my own study.



“I had never heard about dispensations until this past July. Now I am an oddball at college. No one really understands what I have been studying. When I ask the faculty a question they usually have no clue as to what I’m talking about. I’m just searching for truth. I subscribed to the *Searchlight* and I also requested some tapes by Dr. Stam from the lending library. I’ve ordered some of his books and they are on the way to the college.

“I am pretty confused right now. I have been preaching for a few years, I’m just 20, but it’s still hard being open minded when you’re disagreeing with everyone who has taught you. The only other person who studies this stuff is my roommate. We are sure enjoying it though. The Gospels and Acts have really come to life and I believe I am getting a little more familiar with the application of Hebrews and James, but I have no clue about the Johns. Any advice would be a blessing.

“My roommate and I both are becoming convinced that water baptism has no place in the present dispensation. But I have some problems. I work on a bus route, we pick up many children every week. I believe over seventy now have trusted Christ who have ridden our bus to Sunday school in the past five months. I also teach a boy’s Sunday school class every week. I do not often use the lessons the church recommends, I am presently teaching through Genesis and about the founding of the nation of Israel. The boys are learning so much. But we are pressed to have baptisms. How can I have a part in this? There is a great possibility I’ll be in charge of my own bus soon, then I’ll have to either have baptisms or ‘come clean’ that I disagree. I’m not sure what I’ll do.

“I am learning so much, I can’t help but talk about it. One of my classmates and long-time friends is also becoming convinced about proper divisions in Scripture. You may get a laugh at this, but my roommate calls it ‘dispensationalizing’ someone when we try to convert our buddies! I hate to keep bombarding you with questions but I need to ask a couple....”

Please pray for this brother and his friends.

—Pastor Kurth

# Studies in the Book of Revelation

## Revelation 12:5-13:2

By Paul M. Sadler

**“And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to His throne. And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.”**

—Rev. 12:5,6

Living under grace we have a grave responsibility to warn our loved ones about the wrath to come. Who will be able to stand against God's wrath? In that day, who will not be brought under the deceptive spell of Satan? His diabolical plot to deceive the world crouches at the door like a lion ready to attack its prey. The only hope of escape is to flee before it's too late. Flee to the foot of the Cross! Before we can effectively sound the alarm, however, we must first grasp the gravity of coming events ourselves.

In our last lesson, we confirmed that the woman John saw in the sign is Israel. Immediately thereafter followed another great wonder in heaven described as a Dragon who drew a third part of the stars of heaven, which we established to be the Devil and his fallen host. But who is the

man child that Satan is so interested in destroying? To answer this question we must consult the prophets. In the context of the day of the Lord, Isaiah says:

**“Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child. Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children. Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? saith the LORD: shall I cause to bring forth, and shut the womb? saith thy God” (Isa. 66:7-9).**

The man child of Isaiah 66 and Revelation 12 are one and the same. Throughout the Prophetic Scriptures it is plainly stated that Israel will one day *return* to the Lord, which will result in her ultimate restoration in the kingdom to come. The first indication of this approaching day is the birth of the man child in the middle of the Tribulation. We believe this is a reference to a special group of Jewish believers who totally devote themselves to the Lord during the first 3½ years of Jacob's Trouble. They are the “overcomers” of Revelation Chapters 2 & 3.

In essence Isaiah says, “*Before* Israel enters the Great Tribulation, she brings forth, *before* her pain comes, due to intense persecution, she will deliver a child.” Prior to her final restoration there will be a premature birth in Israel—a male child. The child, then, is representative of those believers who will “overcome” the evil one, as a result of their complete obedience to God. Therefore, they are promised deliverance from the Great Tribulation. Interestingly, what is true of these “overcomers” is also true of the “man child.”

away of these faithful Israelites must **not** be confused with the translation of the Church, which is His Body. The Rapture of the Church will have already taken place years earlier.

### WAR IN HEAVEN

**“And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the**

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| <p>1. “He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death” (Rev. 2:11).</p> <p>2. “And he that overcometh...to him will I give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron” (Rev. 2:26,27).</p> <p>3. “He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life” (Rev. 3:5).</p> <p>4. <b>Promise:</b> “Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation [trial] which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth” (Rev. 3:10).</p> <p>5. “To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne” (Rev. 3:21).</p> | <p>1. The child is caught up to God thus escaping the second death (Rev. 12:5).</p> <p>2. “And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron” (Rev. 12:5).</p> <p>3. Since the child appears in the presence of God, the names of these believers have not been blotted out of the book of life as promised (Rev. 12:5).</p> <p>4. <b>Fulfillment:</b> If the child is caught up to God then these believers have been removed from the earth before the “hour of trial” or the Great Tribulation (Rev. 12:5).</p> <p>5. “And her child was caught up unto God, and to His throne” (Rev. 12:5).</p> |
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Like Enoch, who walked with God, and was translated without ever experiencing death, the same will be true of these overcomers. We should pause here to make it perfectly clear that the catching

**earth, and his angels were cast out with him” (Rev. 12:7-9).**

While there are numerous Old Testament prophecies that foretell the casting out of Satan to the earth, the actual fulfillment does

not take place until the middle of the Tribulation. This is merely another step in a long list of predicted demotions of the arch-enemy of God. When Lucifer sinned he was cast out of the presence of God into the second heaven where he resides today. In the coming day of the Lord he will be banished from the heavens altogether, as noted above. At the Second Coming of Christ he is cast into the bottomless pit where he is bound for 1,000 years. His final demotion comes when God tosses him into the Lake of Fire, which was originally created for the Devil and his angels (Matt. 25:41).

“Prophecy is nothing more than an accurate history written in advance of the actual events.”

It isn't without significance that Michael, the Archangel, takes the initiative to array the forces of God against the forces of evil. This is a demonstration of the sovereignty of God—the appointed time has come for Satan to be expelled from the heavens where he will never return again. The domains of authority vacated by the fallen host can now be occupied by the Church, the Body of Christ. You see, we are promised the realms and positions of authority that are currently held by Satan and his workers of darkness. This is why Satan would like nothing better than to overthrow the plans

and purposes of God regarding the Body of Christ (Eph. 6:12).

## DELIVERANCE

**“And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death” (Rev. 12:10,11).**

Here again the Body of Christ is not in view simply because no one, not even Satan, can bring a prosecutable charge against the Church (Rom. 8:33,34). But in Israel's case, their salvation is yet future. As the Lord said to His disciples, “And when these things [signs] begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh” (Luke 21:28). With this in mind, Satan will accuse these brethren day and night. The accusation is this: How can a holy and righteous God allow a sinner, who is laden with sin, into His presence? The answer is the blood of the Lamb! Consequently, these overcomers can be caught up to the throne of God on the basis of the blood of Christ, which cleanses from all sin. These saints will be numbered with the great throng of prophetic saints who return with the Lord at His Second Coming to the earth.

Remembering that the events described here in the Book of Revelation are futuristic, John's next statement probably includes the

Body of Christ. “Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them.” What is the cause of this jubilation? Our nemesis that deceived us, and tempted us, and opposed us is cast out of the heavens forevermore. But what brings joy to our heart will bring sorrow to the world in the form of the third *woe* of the Apocalypse.

**“Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time” (Rev. 12:12).**

This particular passage helps us to better appreciate why the last 3½ years of Jacob’s Trouble are called the *Great Tribulation*. There are a number of reasons, the primary one being, the Devil is confined to the earth. An eerie presence of evil will pervade the streets and hamlets of the world. The great conflict of the ages now shifts from heaven back to the earth. As it was in the time of Christ, demonic activity will again be commonplace (Rev. 16:13,14). Since Satan is well aware that his time is short he will unleash his fury on two fronts. He will attempt to destroy the woman and will require the world to receive the mark of the beast, leaving men hopelessly condemned for eternity.

**“And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished**

**for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent” (Rev. 12:13,14).**

In fulfillment of our Lord’s words delivered during the Olivet Discourse, Israel will flee Jerusalem and Judea, first to the mountains and then into the wilderness. She is said to be given the wings of a great eagle, which symbolically speaks of God’s divine protection and her swift departure from the motherland. This will be similar to her exodus from Egypt (Ex. 19:1-4). Exactly where this wilderness is we are not told. However, it is apparently a secret hiding place, perhaps in the earth itself. There is an Old Testament passage that sheds some light on this period.



**“Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be over-past” (Isa. 26:20).**

Unable to locate the vast majority of Israelites, the Anti-Christ will attempt to starve her out of her secure hiding place by requiring the mark of the beast. Without this mark it will not be possible to buy or sell. But here,



too, God will intervene by supplying her every need. Subsequently, the woman is “nourished for a time (1), and times (2), and half a time (½)” or 3½ years. Earlier in the context John made an interesting statement that is often overlooked: “And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there” (Rev. 12:6). Note that “they” will feed her. This is an obvious reference to the Gentiles (Matt. 25:31-40).

We believe that God will also supernaturally provide for His people as He did in time past when He set before them a table in the wilderness. God supplied for His people manna from heaven, quail, and water. It wasn't the delicacies of Egypt, that is, onions, leeks and garlic, but it nevertheless satisfied their hunger, not to mention being far more nutritional.

Throughout this “hour of trial” she will pray the Lord's Prayer without ceasing: *“Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.”* In that day, for those who hunger and live under the terrifying shadow of the Anti-Christ, this prayer will take on a new meaning, unlike today when it used without rhyme or reason.

## THE BEAST

**“And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy” (Rev. 13:1).**

Probably most believers read a passage such as this only to conclude it will never be understood in this lifetime. We concede that the Book of Revelation is a book of symbolism. But this should not hinder our study of the Scriptures. These things are spiritually discerned; therefore, what at first seems to be an enigma, upon further consideration becomes crystal clear, as we compare spiritual things with spiritual things.

“...the appointed time has come for Satan to be expelled from the heavens where he will never return again.”

Once again, before we proceed we must unravel the symbolism of this chapter. The *sea* in the Scriptures is often used as a symbol of the populace or the nations of the world (Dan. 7:1-3 cf. Rev. 17:15). Although there are different beasts spoken of throughout the biblical record, there's little doubt that this beast is the Anti-Christ (Rev. 13:3-5). He is also referred to as the Man of Sin, Son of Perdition, and the Wicked One. Since he is a counterfeit of the true Christ, he is clearly a Jew, as we have already established in a former lesson.

As John saw the beast rise out of the sea, the Spirit would have us understand that the Anti-Christ will emerge from one of the Gentile nations of the world. We should not find this a strange thing

seeing that Israel is scattered throughout the world. There are more Jews in America than in Israel! The Anti-Christ is said to have “seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns.” Thankfully we are not left to our own imagination as to what this might signify.

The “seven heads” are interpreted for us in Revelation 17:9-13. John states: “And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains.” According to Isaiah a “mountain” represents a *kingdom* (Isa. 2:2 cf. Jer. 51:24,25). Thus, there will be seven kings and their kingdoms that form a confederation early in the Tribulation. The Anti-Christ and his kingdom will be one of the seven. Initially they rule the world with him until most of them are assassinated (Rev. 17:10). The Man of Sin then assumes control of their territories, as we will see.

The ten horns and ten crowns (diadems, kingly crowns) are ten kings that have no kingdoms, but who align themselves with the Anti-Christ (Rev. 17:12). We might use someone like former President Clinton today as an example. He is wealthy and powerful, but no longer the leader of the free world. It is politically connected

men such as this who will help the Man of Sin solidify his power base.

With the rise of the Anti-Christ to a nearly superhuman status in the middle of the Tribulation, this is another reason the Great Tribulation is called “*Great!*” The Lord’s instruction to those who are living at that day is this, when they *see* the Anti-Christ stand up in the Temple and declare himself to be God they should flee for their lives (Matt. 24:15-22). The Man of Sin will become the very embodiment of evil, destroying anything or anyone in his pursuit of absolute power.

**“And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority” (Rev. 13:2).**

You will recall when we began our study that one of the prerequisites of understanding the Book of Revelation is that we must have a well-rounded knowledge of the Old Testament. The proper interpretation of this passage is dependent on this very premise. Prophecy is nothing more than an accurate history written in advance of the actual events.

*To Be Continued!*



## PRAISE GOD!

### We’re Delivered from the Wrath to Come!

“For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him” (I Thes. 5:9,10).

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This is the first of a series of articles that first appeared in 1950 in *Truth* magazine, published by *Milwaukee Bible Institute/Worldwide Grace Testimony*, now the *Grace Gospel Fellowship*. These articles have never before appeared in the *Searchlight*.

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## Adam and the Fall

By Cornelius R. Stam



**“...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

### EVOLUTION AND THE FALL

The fall of the human race is more than a theological dogma; it is an unhappy fact with which we are all faced from day to day.

Do you remember the last time you slipped or stumbled and fell? Do you remember how it made you feel?—rather ridiculous, didn't it?

The late G. K. Chesterton, referring to the so-called “animal kingdom,” once said: *“Only man can be ridiculous because only man can be dignified.”*

He was right. Does any one ever laugh when a dog or a cat falls? Why laugh when a *man* falls? What is there about the fall of a man that seems so ludicrous? Why is it that whether injured or

not—he is so greatly embarrassed by it? What makes him look about to see if any one has noticed it?

The answer is that man was originally created in the image of God and was meant to stand upright, physically, morally and spiritually. When he fell, thru sin, he made a fool of himself. It embarrassed him acutely and continues to do so, for his fall is one from which he is unable to rise without help from God. Yet, rather than cry immediately for help, guilty man hopes no one has noticed his fallen condition while earnestly, but vainly, he tries to rise to his feet.

It is man's depraved and fallen condition which the theory of evolution so utterly fails to account for. Seeking to substantiate her doctrine of *“the ascent of man”* she ignores or denies the Bible account of *the fall of man in Adam*. The fact is, however, that while “the god of this [age] hath blinded the minds of them which believe not” as to the *gospel* (II Cor. 4:4), man is nevertheless keenly aware of his fallen condition and deeply embarrassed by it. He is well aware that within and about him there is a positive dislocation, a definite disorder of things which constantly troubles him. Things

go wrong rather than right and, what is worse, he finds himself all too willing to yield to temptation to do those things which he knows will but increase his misery, sorrow and trouble.

As to the “ascent of man,” there is no evidence that he has become more holy or righteous or loving than he was centuries or millenniums ago. Indeed, his accumulation of knowledge seems to have made him more vicious and ruthless than ever.

In the light of facts obvious to all, evolutionists may as well concede—as some have—that their theory of “the ascent of man” is nothing more than wishful thinking, for whereas the theoretical “cave man” was capable of oppressing and killing a few, man has now attained to such heights of intelligence and morality that he wipes out whole cities at once and, though gripped by the fear that he will yet bring about his own extermination, he nevertheless works feverishly at preparations for wars more deadly than have ever been waged before. *The ascent of man!* The wars of bygone days were but Sunday school sessions compared with our World War II and the fiercer onslaughts yet contemplated.

### **BY ONE MAN SIN ENTERED INTO THE WORLD AND DEATH BY SIN**

How much more reasonable to accept the Bible account of the fall of man and its plan of salvation through Christ! Indeed, the first step to salvation and a righteous standing before God is a

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“...their theory of ‘the ascent of man’ is nothing more than wishful thinking....”

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recognition of the fact of the fall. It must be acknowledged that as sons of Adam we are *by nature* under condemnation; condemned, not first of all because of what we have done, but because of what we *are*. It is not only sins, but *sin* that would keep us out of heaven—not only what we have done, but what we are constantly prone to do and would do even in heaven were we admitted in our present state. It is impossible to explain the universality of man’s misery, sorrow and—sin, apart from the fact that Adam, as head of the race, transmitted a sinful nature to all his posterity. All the Word of God, from Genesis to Revelation, bears testimony to this important and basic fact.

In Psalm 51:5 David, acknowledging his (not his mother’s) sin, says:

***“Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.”***

And in Ephesians 2:3 it is declared that

***“...we all...were by nature the children of wrath even as others.”***

And this tallies with human experience. Parents, do your children have to be taught to tell lies, steal, do unkind things, etc.? Certainly not. They do all that naturally. You must teach them *not* to steal, lie and be unkind. But why

is it that they so naturally do what is *wrong*? Simply because they are *your* children! They were *born* with sinful natures as you were.

**“By ONE man sin entered into the world, and death by sin... through the offence of ONE many be dead...the judgment was by ONE to condemnation...by ONE man’s offence death reigned...by the offence of ONE judgment came upon all...by ONE man’s disobedience [the] many were made sinners” (Rom. 5:12,15-19).**

It all began with one act of disobedience, after which Adam and Eve fled to hide, not from each other, but from God. As a result all their posterity became totally depraved—“*wholly inclined to evil and that continually*,” as the Westminster Confession has it.<sup>1</sup>

In the reading of our Bibles we have scarcely passed the account of the fall of man when we find that

**“God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually” (Gen. 6:5).**

And in Acts 17:30 we read that “...God...now commandeth *all men everywhere* to repent.”

This, of course, implies that all men everywhere are sinners.

### **AND SO DEATH PASSED UPON ALL MEN FOR THAT ALL HAVE SINNED**

There is, naturally, the constant effort on the part of fallen man to explain his condition so that the responsibility for it will not rest upon him. Even those who theologically accept the Bible account

of the fall, frequently protest: *Why am I to blame? I cannot help it. I was born with a sinful nature.*

Such have failed to observe what Romans 5:12 clearly states, that

**“death passed upon all men, for that *all have sinned*.”**

But some will object that we have just finished proving that death passed upon all because of the sin of ONE man. Yes, but we were all *in* that one man when he sinned. *We all sinned in Adam.* It is too soon forgotten by some that all of us were once in Adam, were part of him, have come from him, and that the sins we are now tempted to commit by our own fallen natures are but the natural fruit of that original sin committed by us all in Adam when he was yet a free moral agent.

The fact that sin and death entered the world through Adam does not excuse us; it but increases and clinches our condemnation for all Adam’s posterity were *in Adam* when he sinned—“*and so death passed upon all men, for that ALL HAVE SINNED.*”

### **THE LAST ADAM A LIFE-GIVING SPIRIT**

Thank God for “*the second man...the Lord from heaven*,” “*the last Adam*” who, in contrast to the first Adam, is *a life-giving Spirit* (I Cor. 15:45,47).

**“For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive” (I Cor. 15:22).**

But here we must be careful, for just as there are those who teach that the fall came about through Adam’s sin without any

responsibility on our part, there are also those who teach that all will be saved by Christ's death whether or not they *trust* Him for salvation in this life. This too is false for as we were constituted sinners in Adam, so we can be made righteous only *in Christ*.

I Corinthians 15:22, quoted above, is a stronghold of the Universalists. In utter disregard of the context they emphasize the words: "...as...all die, even so... shall all be made alive," whereas the true emphasis lies on the words, "...as in Adam...even so in Christ..." the "all" in each case referring to those respectively "in Adam" and "in Christ."

Paul does not speak of the resurrection of all men in this chapter, but of that more glorious resurrection which only the saved shall experience.


He speaks of it as the believer's hope (I Cor. 15:13-19). Immediately after saying "even so in Christ shall all be made alive," he goes on to say: "But every man in his own order: Christ the first-fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at His coming" (Verse 23). The unsaved clearly are not contemplated here. He says of

the believer's body: "it is raised in incorruption...it is raised in glory...it is raised in power...we shall...bear the image of the heavenly" (Vers. 42,43,49). All this could not be said about the unsaved, nor could it be said of them that they are made alive *in Christ*. It is only the believer who is made alive *in Christ*:

**"For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him" (I Thes. 4:14; Heb. 13:20).**

Yes, "As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all [i.e., those in Him] be made alive." They will not be raised merely to be condemned to the second death. They will be *made alive* in the fullest sense of the word.

To fallen man, then, God freely offers eternal life and perfect righteousness *in Christ*,

**"Even the righteousness of God...unto all and upon all them that believe" (Rom. 3:22).** 

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### Endnote

1. This does not mean that man can do nothing that is good by comparison with others, but simply that nothing he does can be pronounced good by a perfect and holy God.

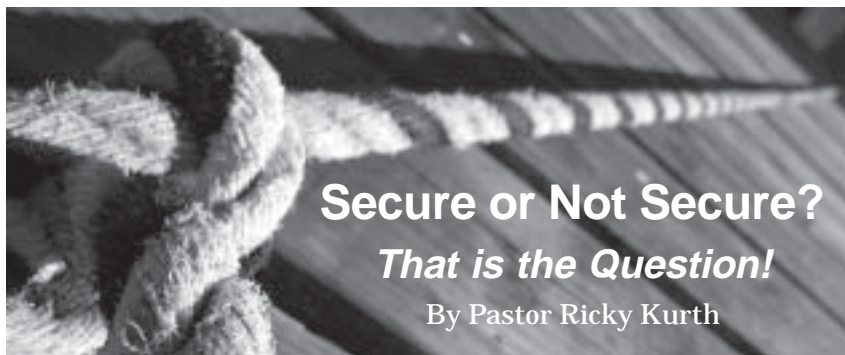
## Spring Bible Conference

**Location:** Grace Life Fellowship Church, Paducah, Kentucky

**Dates:** April 2-4, 2004

**Speakers:** Pastor Trent Cole & Pastor Ken Lawson

*Meals and child care will be provided.* For directions and additional information, please contact Pastor Tim Stonecipher at: (270) 554-0808 or e-mail: [stonecipher6@aol.com](mailto:stonecipher6@aol.com).



## Secure or Not Secure? *That is the Question!*

By Pastor Ricky Kurth

No, I'm not talking about *our* security. It is the teaching of our Apostle Paul (Rom. 11:13) that members of the Body of Christ living in the dispensation of Grace are eternally secure in Him (Rom. 8:35-39; Phil. 1:6). But the question has long been asked if the Hebrew believers in the kingdom program enjoy the same assurance. This writer believes that the answer to this question is yes—and *no!* Let's consider the evidence.

**“But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved” (Matt. 24:13 cf. 10:22).**

Our Lord's words here suggest that any Hebrew believer who does *not* endure unto the end of the Tribulation without taking the mark of the beast will *not* be saved. We find the same thought in John 8:

**“As He spake these words, many believed on Him” (John 8:30).**

Here we are tempted to think that these people were immediately saved and eternally secure, since Paul later says, “*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved*” (Acts 16:31). But we mustn't read our Lord's later revelation to Paul into His earthly ministry. In the next verse we rather find Him saying something quite different:

**“Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on Him, IF ye continue in My word, THEN are ye My disciples indeed” (John 8:31).**

The ensuing conversation between our Lord and these believing Jews indicated clearly that they would *not* continue in His word, and He ends up calling “those Jews which believed on Him” *children of the devil* (v. 44).

And then there is the account of Simon in Acts 8:

**“Then Simon himself believed also, and...was baptized” (Acts 8:13).**

Since Mark 16:16 clearly states that “he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved,” we would expect that Simon was saved. But when Simon revealed that his heart was “not right in the sight of God” (Acts 8:21), Peter told him that he would “perish” (v. 20), and that he needed to “repent” and “be forgiven” (v. 22), concluding:

**“For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity” (v. 23).**

It would appear from this that even though Simon believed and was baptized, he was not eternally secure upon believing.

As we move to the Hebrew epistles, we see that the kingdom message of “he that endureth unto the end shall be saved” doesn’t change. Hebrews 3:6 says:

**“But Christ as a son over His own house; whose house are we, IF we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.”**

And Verse 14 echoes this thought:

**“For we are made *partakers of Christ*, IF we hold the beginning of our confidence *stedfast unto the end*.”**

The conditional nature of these statements suggests that Hebrew believers had only conditional security. Indeed, the writer of Hebrews goes on to use an illustration based on a case of conditional *legal* security from the Law of Moses.

Hebrew law, like our law, saw a difference between pre-meditated murder and accidental manslaughter. Under the Law, murderers had to die (Num. 35:16-18). Interestingly, the death penalty for murder in Israel was not inflicted by stoning; rather, capital punishment for murder was administered by a friend or relative of the murder victim, called “the revenger” (v. 19). This avenger was also allowed to pursue those guilty of manslaughter—but the manslayer had an option. He could flee to a city of refuge (v. 10,11), where he would be safe from the avenger—as long as he continued to “abide” within the confines of the city (Num. 35:25).

Many years later, God Himself used this clause in the Law to Israel’s advantage. When she demanded that the Romans execute her Messiah, Israel was surely guilty of *murder*. Even in our system of law, if you put someone else up to killing another, you yourself can be charged with murder. But in pronouncing the murder indictment against the nation (Acts 3:14,15), Peter added these strange and wonderful words:

**“And now, brethren, I wot that *through ignorance* ye did it, as did also your rulers” (v. 17).**

On the authority of our Lord’s words from the cross, “Father, forgive them, for *they know not what they do*,” Peter here reduced Israel’s charge from *murder* to *manslaughter*. While she *should have known* that He was their Messiah, and indeed *could have known* from the descriptions of the coming One found in their own prophets, the fact is that *they did not know*, and under their Law, any man who claimed to be God who was *not* God had to die (John 19:7).



On the basis of this new reduced charge, individuals in Israel could now flee to a city of refuge for protection from the avenging Antichrist that God was about to send. But the cities of refuge were only types of Christ, and mere types could not save them from deicide. But *Christ Himself could!* This is why Hebrews 6:18 speaks of Hebrews who had believed in Christ as those who had “*fled for refuge*” to Him. But like the type in Numbers 35, they could remain safe from the avenging Antichrist *only* if they continued to “abide” in Him. As the Lord Himself put it in John 15:6,

**“If a man *abide* not in Me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.”**

Our Apostle Paul also uses the word “abide,” but in a very different sense:

**“If we believe not, yet He *abideth* faithful: He cannot deny Himself” (II Tim. 2:13).**

Today believers in Christ are members of His Body, and “*He cannot deny Himself.*” Today the Lord abides faithful *to us*. But the responsibility for abiding faithful in the kingdom program lay squarely on the believer.

Why then does the author of Hebrews go on in Hebrews 6 to call their hope “an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast” (Heb. 6:19)?



Well, Hebrew security can be illustrated by a story told by my uncle Jerald, a fighter pilot on an aircraft carrier during the Vietnam War. He says that he never worried about being shot down, but he had nightmares about completing his mission—only to return and find that someone had *sunk his landing strip!* But this was not a

concern for the Hebrew believer. He knew that if he could endure to the end and complete his mission, the kingdom of heaven would be there to offer him a safe and happy landing.

This is why Hebrews 6 warned the Pentecostal believers who “were made partakers of the Holy Ghost” that...

**“...it is impossible for those who were once enlightened...if they shall *fall away*, to renew them again unto repentance...” (Heb. 6:4-6).**

These words “*fall away*” match the parable where our Lord warned that some would “for a while *believe*, and in time of temptation *fall away*” (Luke 8:13).

All of these passages, and others like them, have vexed many a Bible teacher who sought to harmonize these conditional statements

with the unconditional security taught by the Apostle Paul. But the solution is not to try to harmonize God's prophetic program with His mystery program, but to recognize the dispensational distinctions and then view these verses in their proper dispensational perspective. Security for kingdom saints works differently than it does for us.

Let's go back to the very first Hebrew, Abraham. How was he saved? When God told Abraham that He would multiply his seed, Genesis 15:6 says,

**"...he believed in the Lord, and He counted it to him for righteousness."**

Clearly Abraham was saved by faith alone. Indeed, to prove that justification *today* is "to him that worketh not, but believeth," Paul says of him,

**"...if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God.**

**"For what saith the Scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness" (Rom. 4:2-5).**

But then James comes along and says,

**"Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?"**

**"And the Scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness..." (James 2:21,23).**

Paul says that Abraham was justified by faith alone, but James insists he was justified by faith plus works. How can both statements be true?

The answer lies in the meaning of the word "*fulfilled*" (James 2:23). This word in Scripture often means *to fill full*. For example, the often significant *first use* of the Greek word for "fulfilled" is found in Matthew 1:22, where Matthew asserts that our Lord's birth "fulfilled" the prophecy of Isaiah 7:14. But we know from the context in Isaiah 7 that God was predicting the birth of a child who was born and lived in Isaiah's day (7:15,16), probably Isaiah's own son. But Matthew says that this prophecy was "*fulfilled*", i.e., filled *full*, when our Lord was born.

Similarly, Matthew 2:16-18 affirms that Jeremiah 31:15 was "fulfilled" when Herod slew the babes in Israel under two years of age. Yet we know from the context in Jeremiah 31 that the prophet was speaking primarily of the children in Israel who—like Daniel—were taken captive by the Babylonians. We know this from the very next verse, where Jeremiah comforts the mothers in ancient Israel, assuring them that their captive children would "come again from the land of the enemy" (v. 16). Obviously, the prophecy of Jeremiah 31:15 was *fulfilled* centuries before Christ, but it was *filled full* with Herod's slaughter of the innocents.

Now let's transfer this thinking to Abraham's justification. In a similar way, righteousness was imputed to Abraham by faith alone in Genesis 15:6, but not until he later offered up Isaac do we read:

**“And the Scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness...” (James 2:23).**

When was the Scripture *fulfilled* that declared Abraham righteous? As with the prophecies of Isaiah and Jeremiah, the Scripture was fulfilled when Abraham passed the test of faith in Genesis 15, but it was *filled full* when he passed the test of faith *plus works* in Genesis 22.

But what if on his way to sacrificing Isaac, Abraham were to have dropped dead of a heart attack. Would he have been saved? Of course, for righteousness had been imputed to him! But since he lived, he had to offer up his son for the Scripture that pronounced him righteous to be “fulfilled.”

In all of this, Abraham was the prototype of Hebrew salvation. All subsequent Hebrew saints were justified by faith, but also by faith *plus works*. When God said, “Believe and bring a sacrifice,” what did believing Hebrews do? They believed and offered a sacrifice. When God said, “he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved” (Mark 16:16), believing Hebrews likewise believed and were baptized. If a Hebrew believed and refused to be baptized, he showed that he didn't *really* believe God when He said you had to believe and be baptized to be saved.

But what if a Hebrew believer died suddenly of a heart attack while on his way to be baptized? Would he have been saved? Of course! Like Abraham, he was accounted righteous the moment he believed God. But also like Abraham, if he lived, he had to perform the work that God required and be baptized.

But Abraham was not only the prototype for Hebrew *salvation*, he was also the model for Hebrew *security*. Abraham was saved by simple faith in Genesis 15. But would his faith pass any test that God might give him? Only God could know, of course—and God *did* know! Abraham would still have to pass the test of offering up his son, but if God did not know in advance that he would pass this test, then it was presumptuous for Him to impute righteousness to Abraham in Genesis 15.

All subsequent Hebrew security worked the same way. When God said, “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved,” a man was saved the moment he believed. But would his faith pass the test of works and be baptized? Only God could know, of course, and God *did* know! If God did not know in advance that he would pass this test, then it would be presumptuous for Him to impute righteousness to the man by faith alone. But two incidents from Scripture show us that God *did* impute righteousness to believing Hebrews before they were baptized.

First, our Lord's words to the dying thief (Luke 23:43) reveal that righteousness had been imputed to him by faith without baptism. Who can argue that the thief *would have* been baptized had he not been nailed to a cross! But the fact remains that God justified him by faith alone in a day when baptism was required for salvation. Still another incident in Acts 10 explains how.

When Peter told Cornelius and his friends to believe in Christ (Acts 10:43), he was about to tell them to be baptized to be saved, just as he had preached in Acts 2:38. But,

“...believers today do not have to pass any *subsequent* test of faith, as did Abraham and the Hebrew believers, because we *passed all tests when we believed.*”

**“While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word” (Acts 10:44).**

What had happened? Acts 2:38 mandated that men “be baptized...*for the remission of sins*” and *then* “receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” What happened here? We needn't wonder. As Peter later explained,

**“And God, *which knoweth the hearts*, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as He did unto us” (Acts 15:8).**

Obviously, God knew that as true believers they *would* be baptized, and so gave them the remission of sins *before* they were baptized. We know from the earlier case of the thief on the cross that this is how “baptismal regeneration” always worked when it was a part of God's program.

Of course, today God says to believe *and do nothing*. True believers rest in the finished work of Christ on Calvary, believing God when He says that salvation is “not of works” (Eph. 2:9), not even by “works of righteousness” (Titus 3:5). Any man who says that he believes in Christ's death for our sins but also trusts in his own good works shows that he does not really believe God when He says that righteousness is imputed “to him that worketh not” (Rom. 4:5). But believers today do not have to pass any *subsequent* test of faith, as did Abraham and the Hebrew believers, because we *passed all tests when we believed*. We believed God when He said that *there would be no subsequent tests of works*, that salvation is “*not of works*.”

But during the Great Tribulation to come, salvation will again be by faith plus works, and the work that God will require for salvation is enduring faithful to the end. True believers will set their mind to do this. Some of them will die at the hands of the Antichrist before they can endure to the end of the Tribulation. But *true believers* will be reckoned righteous by faith, even if they die before completing the

work that God required. But of Tribulation believers who live, *true believers will endure to the end*. We know this from what John says of some people in his day:

**“They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us” (I John 2:19).**

Similarly, Hebrews 10:38 warns *all* believers to be faithful:

**“...if any man draw back, My soul shall have no pleasure in him.”**

But in the *next* verse, the writer assures *true* believers:

**“But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul” (v. 39).**

In the face of “great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be” (Matt. 24:21), this writer has often asked himself if he would have the spiritual fortitude to endure to the end to be saved. But *if you really believe God* when he says that *not* enduring will doom your soul to hell, *you will endure*. The doctrine of the perseverance of the saints is quite out of place in this dispensation, but fits the Tribulation period perfectly.

Over and over the Hebrews are told to “endure” and *patiently* wait for the Lord to come at the conclusion of the Tribulation (James 5:8-11), lest *impatience* cause them to follow the Antichrist. Indeed, Abraham is cited as the prime example of one who had to “*patiently*” endure to receive what he was promised (Heb. 6:12-15). In addition to many other references to patience (Heb. 10:36; 12:1; Rev. 2:2,3,19; 3:10), the Lord Himself asserted:

**“In your patience possess ye your souls” (Luke 21:19).**


But in the face of such horrific persecution, where are Tribulation saints going to find such patience? Revelation 14:12 answers:

**“HERE is the patience of the saints...”**

Where is the patience of the saints? It lies in the terrifying description of eternal torment that precedes this statement (v. 9-11). If a Hebrew truly believes God when He says that not enduring faithful to the end will damn his soul to hell, he *will* patiently endure to the end and be saved. God knows that he will, and imputes righteousness to him the moment he believes. This is how it worked with Abraham, with Cornelius and the thief, and with Noah for that matter. We are told that “*by faith* Noah...prepared an ark...*by the which he...became heir of the righteousness which is by faith*” (Heb. 11:7). From the moment Noah began to prepare the ark, he had saving faith, for it says that he prepared the ark “*by faith*.” But only by actually preparing the ark do we read that he “*became heir of the righteousness which is by faith*.”

This is why the same Hebrew Scriptures that present conditional security *also* give such wonderful assurances as:

**“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life” (John 5:24).**

So in conclusion, to answer our carefully worded opening question, not *all* Hebrew believers are secure, but *true* Hebrew believers are! Not all Tribulation believers will endure to the end, but *true* believers are immediately justified and as such *will endure to the end*. 

## Question Box

*“Please explain how Abraham ‘saw’ the Lord’s day (John 8:56).”*

**“Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day; and he saw it, and was glad” (John 8:56).**

The Greek word for “see” here is used 667 times, and is translated “see” 314 times. But it is also translated “*know*” 281 times. It is the same word used in Hebrews 11:13:

**“These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having *seen them afar off*..”**

The heroes of faith mentioned here didn’t actually live to see the promises, but they *understood* all about them. Thus in John 8:56 the Lord was saying that Abraham *knew about* His day and was, of course, glad about it. This is not surprising, since even Job knew that his Redeemer would “stand at the latter day upon the earth” (Job 19:25), and Job is the oldest book in the Bible.

Our English word “see” here is not a bad translation, for oftentimes when we are speaking with someone we will say, “I see,” meaning, “I understand, I *know* what you are saying.”

But this does *not* mean, as some insist from John 8:56, that Abraham knew and believed that Christ would die for his sins to be saved. Galatians 3:8 says:

**“And the Scripture...preached before the gospel unto Abraham, *saying*, In thee shall all nations be blessed.”**

When Abraham believed the gospel that his seed would bless the nations, God then applied the merits of Calvary to him in response to his faith. But there is no indication anywhere in Scripture that anyone was ever saved by looking forward to Christ’s death for their sins. —Pastor Kurth

## Oshkosh Bible Conference

**Location:** *Grace Bible Church*  
549 Washington Avenue  
Oshkosh, Wisconsin

**Dates:** March 27-28, 2004

**Speaker:** Pastor Paul M. Sadler

For directions and additional information, please contact:

Pastor Richard Ware (920) 231-1499  
or e-mail: [RnRWare@aol.com](mailto:RnRWare@aol.com)

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*"That Your Hearts May  
Be Encouraged"*  
(Colossians 2:2)

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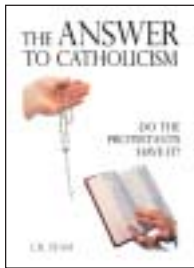
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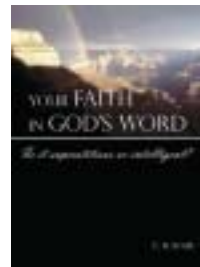
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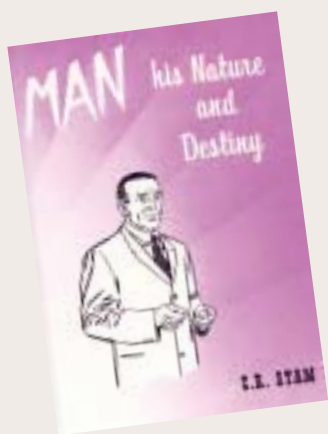
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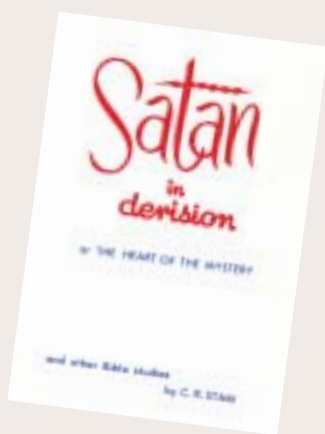
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**From Florida:**

"Thank you. I praise the Lord for your ministry. I really enjoyed the salvation plan in your August 2003 issue."

**From Pennsylvania:**

"I've been getting the *Searchlight* for 20 years. I am a country preacher in the hills of PA. I used your booklet to help me preach on tithing. The people just did not know what to say about the *truth*, but the truth will set you free from the Law. So I thank *God* and *Christ* for your study in God's Word. Here is a gift to help you all."

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"I have the privilege of sharing the Word of God (rightly divided...smile) with a small body of believers and I rejoice in the helpful information I receive from the BBS materials."

**From New York:**

"Thank you for rightly dividing the Word of God, and helping me to see the freedom in Christ."

**From Wisconsin:**

"I'm so blessed to receive these messages. I don't know if I completely agree with the message of this day. But on two specific occasions this year, I was struggling with some issues that were causing me great inner strife. I prayed to God for peace and His leading to help me see His will in my circumstances. On both occasions, the day following my prayers, there was a message in *Two Minutes with the Bible*, which spoke directly to the struggles that were troubling me. Tears of joy overwhelmed me both days as I saw the demonstration of God's love and grace sent to me through words that were written years before. I appreciated how God uses this means to send us His love. Thanks be to Him and to you for your faithfulness."

**From the Philippines:**

"I was challenged to study the Word of God more deeply by the help of the Spirit and by your teachings. I am one of our church workers, a deacon. I will be ordained as an elder soon. That's why I want to learn more deeply the Word of God before I accept that duty and responsibility unprepared. This will be a breakthrough in our church, if most of our leaders will understand the program of God about the dispensation of Grace." (Please pray for this brother and his church. R.K.).

**From Nebraska:**

"I am so glad that you provide us readers with the opportunity to be Bereans and present differing views without venom or malice." ("Speaking the truth in love" is what makes this a family ministry! R.K.).

**From California:**

"I shared this "Two Minutes" article with my kids this morning. It was a good lesson as to what happens to the Word of God when one fails to rightly divide Scripture."

**From Florida:**

"I really enjoy your *Searchlight*. It has been a great blessing to me and my family. We have been reading it together. I really enjoy seeing the riches of God's grace in the gospel of the grace of God. Thank you!"

**From England:**

"Having been brought to a knowledge and understanding of the Mystery as revealed to and through our Apostle, I have come a long way. From being in the new-evangelical, charismatic, ecumenical scene for quite a few years I now stand far distanced from much of what I once believed. This is very much the result of right division of His Word. However the more I come to know, the more I realize there is to know."

**From Indonesia:**

"I was really satisfied to receive your fast and informative explanation. As an elder in one of the Grace churches in Jakarta, we have had many experiences with God, showing us that God is really blessing us. Of course, there are many problems, but we found out that God in Jesus Christ is always in us."

**From Colorado:**

"I just wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed your article in this month's *Searchlight—The Spirit Within*. We in the Grace Movement are in need of good teaching on the Spirit's ministry in this present age and your article 'hit the nail on the head.'"

**From Minnesota:**

"I just wanted to write that the *Two Minutes with the Bible* messages by Russell Miller are *excellent*. They are exceptionally well-written, as well as Scriptural and rightly divided. Right on, Brother Miller!"

**From Norway:**

"The dominating doctrines in Scandinavian Christendom right now are those who do not separate Peter's teaching from Paul's. Those who are up-front in that heretical forum is the Word Faith Movement, closely followed by parts of the old Pentecostal movement. I feel like as if I am a row boat trying to turn a huge oil carrier ship!" (We're all in the same boat, Brother! R.K.).

**From South Africa:**

"I would like to thank you for sending me the *Searchlight* and some other booklets. I can assure you that I enjoyed every word and will pass it on. How I wish we had a Grace church to go to."

**From Florida:**

"I've read books by C. R. Stam and also books by Robert Brock. I'm amazed what I've learned, and I would like to continue. I'm really interested in learning about rightly dividing the Word so that I can share with others. If it wasn't for Jesus I would have given up long ago."

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

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*Berean Bible Society*



We will be visiting the home of John Knox and John Wesley, Bede's Museum, Gainsborough Old Hall, the meeting place of the Pilgrims, Parish Church of Lutterworth where John Wycliffe, "the Morning Star of the Reformation," spent the last years of his life, Oxford, Westminster Abbey, the Tower of London, and much, much more!

For a brochure or additional information, please contact the *Berean Bible Society* at: P.O. Box 756, Germantown, WI 53022, or phone: (262) 255-4750, or e-mail: [berean@execpc.com](mailto:berean@execpc.com).



Dr. Henry Hudson has graciously agreed to be our tour guide. Brother Hudson has had a wide and varied career: born in England, served in the British Royal Military Police, missionary, pastor, and college professor. He is an experienced traveler, and has led many tours to Great Britain and Europe. If you have any questions about the tour, Dr. Hudson can be reached at: 850 Brook Village Drive, Holland, Michigan 49423, or phone: (616) 403-1438, or e-mail: [drhth@juno.com](mailto:drhth@juno.com).

## THE BBI BYLINE

The overall goal of **Berean Bible Institute** is to help individual members of the Body of Christ learn God's Word with an eye towards; (1) their becoming strong defenders of the authority, dispensational nature, and crucial truths of Scripture, (2) that they would personally apply the truths of the Bible to their lives, and (3) that they would, in turn, become effective ministers of God's Word to others. In other words, our goal is to cultivate, by God's grace, fruitful members of the Body of Christ who will provide strong

leadership for the Grace Movement in the years to come.

We are endeavoring to carry out our mission by taking a strong stand for the "revelation of the mystery," defending the essential doctrines of Biblical Christianity, demonstrating a solid testimony of God's grace at work within the school, and encouraging a strong desire for self-sacrificing ministry among the students. May we, by God's grace, be found faithful in carrying out the ministry that the Lord has called us to.

—Dr. W. Edward Bedore



*The Fall Semester  
at BBI begins  
August 23rd, 2004!*

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If you have a heart-felt desire to prepare for the ministry, plan now to attend **Berean Bible Institute** next fall. For more information about **BBI's** program and an application, please contact Dr. W. Edward Bedore, PO Box 587, Slinger, WI 53086, or phone: (262) 644-5504, fax: (262) 644-5507, e-mail: [bbi@bereanbibleinstitute.org](mailto:bbi@bereanbibleinstitute.org).

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[www.bereanbibleinstitute.org](http://www.bereanbibleinstitute.org)

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# NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## OUR GOOD FRIEND AND BROTHER MISSIONARY LEO KEIPER

has over the past twenty years translated many of Pastor Stam's books into Portuguese, the native tongue of Brazil. For further information about these, you can contact him at: *Word of Grace Mission, Inc.*, P.O. Box 1160, Collinsville, IL 62234, or visit the mission website at: [wordofgracemission.org](http://wordofgracemission.org). You may also want to consider helping him financially as he endeavors to translate, print and distribute even more Grace literature.

**MISSIONS:** There is a great need for audio cassette recorders on the foreign field. If you would like to donate a used recorder, kindly ship it to Barbara Schmidt, 224 Terrell Drive, Toccoa, GA 30577. Barbara can also be reached at (706) 282-0495 should you need more information. **Please note:** These recorders must be in "good working order." Thanks in advance for your assistance!



**SPRING CONFERENCE:** Our one-day conference in Michigan City, Indiana has happily become an annual event. This year's date is Saturday, May 1st, and speakers include Paul Sadler, Casey Groeneveld and Ricky Kurth. If you live in the area, mark your calendar and watch for an announcement in next month's *Searchlight* for further details.

**THIS YEAR'S CELEBRATE GRACE CAMP** will be held July 25-30 near Montrose, Colorado. This is a wonderful opportunity to vacation economically in scenic Colorado and enjoy the ministry of Pastor John Fredericksen, this year's main speaker. For further information, call Jerry Worthley at: (719) 276-2469, e-mail him at: [JerNJudy@hotmail.com](mailto:JerNJudy@hotmail.com), or write him at: 0627 CR 3, Canon City, CO 81212.

**OUR COVER THIS MONTH** features a photo taken by Ken and Barb Wardius, a couple who travel extensively throughout the state of Wisconsin in search of unique photo opportunities. You can view some of their impressive gallery of photographs on various themes at their website: [www.execpc.com/~slw81/](http://www.execpc.com/~slw81/), and you can e-mail them with any questions at: [slw81@execpc.com](mailto:slw81@execpc.com).

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\*The picture of the lighthouse that appears on the front cover was taken by Ken and Barb Wardius. The *Wind Point Lighthouse* is located in Racine, Wisconsin. The U.S. Lighthouse Service constructed the Wind Point light station in 1880. Until that time, a large "wind blown tree" marked the point and the hazardous reef nearby for sailors. The tower stands 112 ft. high and its light is visible for 19 miles. It's one of the tallest and oldest lighthouses currently active on the Great Lakes.

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“Make a joyful noise unto the Lord,  
all ye lands” (Psa. 100:1).

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