

The **Berean Searchlight**

Studying God's Word, Rightly Divided

August 2006



Feature Articles

Christian Liberty
 Pastor Paul M. Sadler 5

Spiritual Revival
 Pastor Cornelius R. Stam 13

Growing Up in Grace Sunday School Program
 Mr. Stephen Shober 19

Departments

The New Inquisition 4

Question Box 12

Promotions to Glory 17

Spanish Edition of *Things That Differ* 25

From Our Mailbag 26

News and Announcements 30

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

The *Berean Searchlight* is the official organ of the *Berean Bible Society*, and is sent free of charge to any who request it.

Editor: Paul M. Sadler; Assistant Editor: Ricky L. Kurth

Composition and Layout: Kevin J. Sadler

Printing: United Press Inc., Elk Grove Village, IL

Questions, comments, orders? You can reach us at:

Berean Bible Society
 N112 W17761 Mequon Road
 PO Box 756
 Germantown, WI 53022

Main Office: (262) 255-4750
 Fax Number: (262) 255-4195

Internet: www.bereanbiblesociety.org
 E-mail: berean@execpc.com

Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., CST

The Berean Searchlight (ISSN 0005-8890), August 2006. Vol. 67, Number 5.

The *Berean Searchlight* is published monthly (except July) at no subscription price, by *Berean Bible Society*, N112 W17761 Mequon Rd., PO Box 756, Germantown, WI 53022-0756. Second-class postage paid at Germantown, WI. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Berean Searchlight*, N112 W17761 Mequon Rd., PO Box 756, Germantown, WI 53022-0756.



From the Editor to You:



Dearly Beloved,

Paul instructed Timothy, “*Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.*”

The reading of books broadens our horizon and helps to equip us in the faith. While Grace works are plentiful in the English language the same cannot be said in other languages, such as Spanish. With this in mind, a couple of years ago we embarked on a long journey to have *Things That Differ* translated into Spanish.

As we were praying about the need we were contacted by Francisco J. Maldonado, who expressed a willingness to do the translation for us. Brother Francisco was born in Mexico and lived in an area frequented by English-speaking tourists, so he began to learn English at an early age. He came to the United States roughly 32 years ago at age 19 and became a state-certified translator in the State of Washington. He worked simultaneously as an interpreter for *Merino Translating Services* and the *Department of Social & Health Services* in the Tacoma area. Words fail to adequately convey our gratitude to Brother Maldonado for his labor of love to see the project through to its completion.

We also want to offer a special word of thanks to Luis Alonso Cabezas Alvarez and Henry Gonzales Elizondo of Costa Rica. These dear brethren spent many, many hours painstakingly editing the entire manuscript. They methodically checked every word, sentence, and paragraph to ensure that the proper sense was being conveyed throughout the translation. In addition, we are eternally grateful to Mrs. Sally Selfors and Mrs. Maria Martin who proofread the manuscript. Sally and Maria also offered many helpful suggestions that were incorporated into the text.

Lord willing, we hope to release the Spanish version of *Things That Differ* by mid-September. Over the past several years there has been a growing interest in Paul’s apostleship and message among our Spanish-speaking friends. So we’re praying the Lord will use this work to introduce many in this community to the preaching of Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the Mystery. We are now accepting advance orders, and those who are interested should please see page 25 for further details on our *Special Introductory Offer*.

If you are in a position to assist us with the next printing of this volume, simply designate your gift: *Spanish TTD!* May the Lord guide you as you consider this investment in reaching precious souls with Paul’s gospel. Your partnership in the work is greatly appreciated!

In His redeeming love,
Paul M. Sadler, President



Thankfully the vast majority of our Grace assemblies are places where visitors are warmly welcomed and the truth of Paul's gospel is proclaimed in love. However, as the following open letter conveys, there are exceptions, which is unfortunate. We would all do well to remember the words of Paul: "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another."
—Pastor Sadler

The New Inquisition

By Mr. Brad Truitt, Etowah, NC

There is an issue I would like to address regarding an alarming trend I believe is becoming much too common in the Grace Movement. It is that of an "inhospitable spirit" in some of our local Grace churches. For over 15 years we have lovingly tried to steer a dear couple in the direction of the Mystery. Finally, in just the past few months the Holy Spirit has opened their hearts to the truth. Of course my wife and I were ecstatic over their new found freedom in Christ.

Our first thought was to get some good literature into their hands, and steer them to a Grace church where they could grow. My first step was to send them a copy of both *Things That Differ* and *The Mystery*. The next step was to find them a Grace church. The on-line "Grace Church Directory" listed several within driving distance of their home. For the past several weeks they've been visiting these churches only to be greeted by questions of: "Are you Grace believers?" "Do you rightly divide?" "With what Grace preacher do you align yourselves?"

What has happened to courtesy and a genuine welcome, rather than a third degree inquisition? It goes without saying that they felt intimidated and will not return to these churches. Is this what we have come to, a people full of head knowledge and lacking in love, and even common courtesy? This is not the first time I have heard of this happening, but it is the first I have been involved.

Please print this letter in hopes of waking up our people to the truth that we need to be genuine lovers of men's souls, especially those of the household of faith, and that we treat with courtesy all who may come into our assemblies. We need to remember Paul's words to the heady Corinthians: "Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies." In this day when we as Grace believers are considered a cult by more than a few, may we be more successful in winning others to the truth as lovers than as critics.

Christian Liberty

By Paul M. Sadler



On August 1, 1838 the little island of Jamaica abolished slavery. The historical account of the event reveals that the day before their liberation a large company of former slaves gathered by the seashore to observe the solemn occasion. If you had been there that evening you would have seen a large mahogany coffin sitting beside a deep hole in the beach. All evening long the soon-to-be emancipated slaves placed symbols of their enslavement into the casket—there were leg-irons, chains, whips and padlocks. A few minutes before midnight the box was lowered into the hole in the beach, and as the sand covered the coffin all joined their voices in one accord to sing:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise Him all creatures here below,

Praise Him above ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

They were free at last! In similar fashion, Christ's death freed us from the bondage of our sins. He stepped into the slave market of sin and purchased us with His precious blood. Christ freed us from sin and death. He freed us from the power of Satan, and, wonder of wonders, he even saved us from ourselves. Christ's finished work is what has made our *liberty* in Him a reality.

OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST

“The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the Body of Christ?”

—I Cor. 10:16

In the narrative before us the Apostle Paul is going to methodically walk us through the subject of Christian *liberty*. The apostle

begins by emphasizing our oneness in Christ. We are members one of another and we must never lose sight of this wonderful truth. Those who have placed their faith in Christ's finished work, that He died for their sins, was buried, and rose again, are members of the one true Church, which is the Body of Christ. We must, therefore, before God, hold other members of His Body in the highest esteem, even though we may not always agree with one another on this side of glory.

The cup of blessing: Carefully note the order of the elements in this chapter—the “cup” first and the “bread” second. Normally we begin with the bread followed by the cup as outlined in I Corinthians 11:23-26. But the order here is reversed, and for good reason. Paul is going to deal with *relationships* in this section as he develops the theme of our liberty in Christ.

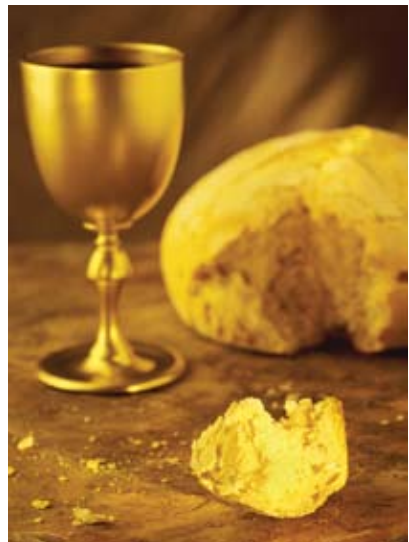
It has been said that there must first be a *vertical* relationship between God and the sinner, which is established through faith in the blood of Christ, before it can extend *horizontally* to touch the lives of those around us. The cup of blessing not only reminds us of our relationship with Christ, but also the oneness we enjoy with other members of the Body of Christ because of His once-for-all sacrifice. This is why when we are introduced to another believer for the first time it seems as though we've known them for years.

The Bread: “The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the Body of Christ? For we being

many are one bread, and one Body: for we are all partakers of that one bread” (I Cor. 10:16,17).

In the Old Testament, God gave the seven Levitical feasts to Israel. Fifty days after the feast of First-fruits the priest was to take *two loaves* of bread, place them side by side, and wave them before the Lord (Lev. 23:16,17). According to prophecy, one loaf represented the 10 northern tribes, while the other loaf signified the two southern tribes. This looked forward to the day when the divided kingdom would be reunited and Israel restored to her former glory.

We witness a partial fulfillment of this type when Peter stood up on the day of Pentecost (50th) and said: “Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem” (two southern tribes) followed by, “Ye men of Israel, [ten northern tribes] hear these words.” The two loaves are then united in the apostle's statement: “Therefore let **all** the house of Israel know assuredly,



that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ” (Acts 2:14,22,36). Israel is represented in prophecy as two loaves.

Interestingly, when we turn to Paul’s epistles we note an important dispensational distinction. “For we being many are one bread, and one Body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.” Today believers are called “one loaf” or “one Body.” You see, we lose our identity in Christ. We are a new creation, there is no Jew or Gentile, bond or free, male or female; we are all one in Him. As members of His Body we have all been made to drink into one Spirit, by whom we are indwelt and have received life and life more abundantly (I Cor. 12:13).

BIBLICAL SEPARATION

“Behold Israel after the flesh: are not they which eat of the sacrifices partakers of the altar? What say I then? that the idol is any thing, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is any thing? But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils. Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord’s table, and of the table of devils” (I Cor. 10:18-21).

In these passages Paul makes reference to three tables: The Lord’s table, Israel’s table, and the table of devils.

When we gather at the Lord’s table it is to commune with Him. What we call the Lord’s Supper is actually a memorial service. For

example, in the middle of most town squares it is not uncommon to see a bronze statue of a soldier standing beside a piece of artillery. It was purposely placed there to bring to mind those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country to preserve our freedom. In like manner, when we hold that little piece of bread in our hand at a communion service, it is a *reminder* that Christ’s body was broken for us. When we partake of the cup it is in remembrance that Christ shed His precious blood that we might enjoy a knowledge of sins forgiven. Every time we observe this memorial it is an act of *worship*, which shows forth “the Lord’s death till He come” (I Cor. 11:26).

In time past, Israel’s sacrifices were made to the living God; this, too, was an act of worship. Every sacrifice typified some aspect of the once-for-all sacrifice that was yet to be offered. At Israel’s table those who offered the sacrifices also partook of them, which was ordained of God.

Paul also speaks of a third table—the table of devils. When the unbeliever offered a sacrifice to idols they were sacrificing to devils, not to God. Unbeknown to them they were worshiping devils. An idol is nothing in this world—they have eyes, but they can’t see; they have ears, but they cannot hear. But Paul is careful to expose the evil influences behind the idol. While the cup of the Lord is full of realities and truth, the cup of devils is full of vanities and false religions. Here are a few examples:

Islam teaches: “humans are basically good, but fallible and need guidance. The balance between good and bad deeds determines eternal destiny in paradise or hell.”

Christian Science teaches concerning Christ’s death: “One sacrifice, however great, is not sufficient to pay the debt of sin.”

Modernism teaches that every man must atone for his sin, and they add: “the gospel of gore (referring to the blood of Christ) is outworn.”

Separation is a theme that is woven throughout the Scriptures. You will recall when old King Nebuchadnezzar erected an idol to himself, a blatant act of self-deification, he required that all bow and worship him when the musical instruments played. Those who failed to do so would be cast into the burning fiery furnace, which by no means was an idle threat. Even though Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego served in the king’s court, they lived *separated* lives unto God and refused to obey the king’s commandment. They remained standing when everyone else lay prostrate on the ground. When they were hauled before the king by their jealous enemies they gave this memorable response:

“O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up” (Dan. 3:16-18).



Paul wanted those at Corinth who were still dabbling in idol worship to *separate* themselves from this evil practice because it was affecting their testimony for Christ. The apostle was not advocating isolation, but separation from the world. As the old saying goes, “you want the boat in the water, but not the water in the boat.” Sadly, today the Church has been so influenced by the world that it is becoming increasingly difficult to tell the two apart. Living a separated life more clearly defines who we are as ambassadors of Christ. Remember our three Hebrew friends; they *stood out* among their countrymen who compromised their convictions on the altar of conformity.

The following is an excerpt of a letter we received from a young prisoner which vividly demonstrates how others are drawn to those who live a separated life for the Lord.

“I am speaking on behalf of myself and my cousin who is only 14 years old—I am 19 years old. We both are locked up in a big prison, in a small town, on big charges. We both came from a nice family and a loving church, but we strayed. We watched a young man [from our local assembly] who carried himself in a well-behaved manner and we asked, how can we be like that in a place like this...? Well,

we are both asking that you keep us in your prayers and if it isn't a problem, could you send us some reading materials...to help our spiritual growth? Thank you!"

LIBERTY IN CHRIST

"All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not" (I Cor. 10:23).

Paul says, "All things are lawful," that is, *permissible*, under grace, but all things are not expedient or *profitable*; all things are lawful but not all things edify or *build up*. Having separated us from false religions, the apostle now touches on our liberty in Christ, which has been purchased for us at a great price. We should be ever mindful what our Savior endured to deliver us from the slave market of sin. Death by crucifixion is one of the most inhumane forms of death that mankind has ever devised. Even the hard-hearted Roman soldiers often pitied those who suffered this cruel means of ending a life.

Liberty is like *fire*. It can be used for good such as cooking, heating or a romantic candlelight dinner. But it can also be destructive. Fire that is out of control all too often takes lives and destroys everything in its path. We are not to use our liberty for an occasion to the flesh or to further our cause. Paul says: "Let no man seek his own, but every man another's *wealth*" (vs. 24). That is, we are to be looking out for the welfare of other believers. Liberty is considerate! It's tolerant! It accepts others where they are in

their spiritual life without being judgmental.

"Whatever is sold in the shambles, that eat, asking no question for conscience sake. For the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof" (I Cor. 10:25,26).

Before we continue, it will be necessary to define the terms "shambles" and "conscience." The term *shambles* was usually used of the slaughterhouse, but recent archeological digs have discovered that the slaughterhouse and meat market were often one and the same. Modern day excavations of Pompeii, the city frozen in time due to a volcanic eruption, also substantiate this finding.



Conscience is a warning system that God has placed within each of us to differentiate between right and wrong. We might liken it to the long striped gates at a railroad crossing. When a train is approaching the gates come down, lights begin to flash and in some cases bells ring. The flashing lights and gates are warning you that danger is approaching—beware! However, the warning system does not have the ability to make you stop; that's a matter of the will. You must apply the

brakes to stay out of harm's way; those who fail to do so proceed at their own peril. In similar fashion, the conscience doesn't have the power to keep you from doing something wrong; it can only warn you of the danger.

“Living a separated life more clearly defines who we are as ambassadors of Christ.”

In regard to meats offered to idols, Paul essentially says to the mature believer—don't ask questions for conscience sake. It's a non-issue; therefore don't trouble your conscience or the conscience of others who never entertained the thought. After all, an idol is nothing in the world anyway. Furthermore, the “earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof,” which in this context implies there are no dietary restrictions today, so all foods can be received with thanksgiving. Liberty says it's okay to eat!

“If any of them that believe not bid you to a feast, and ye be disposed to go; whatsoever is set before you, eat, asking no question for conscience sake” (vs. 27).

But what if an unbeliever invites us over to dinner, Paul, what should we do in this case? Once again, the mature believer understands that an idol is nothing; therefore, don't ask the unsaved if the meal he is serving was offered to an idol. Since your host hasn't

raised the issue, there's no need to ask. Once again, liberty says it's okay to eat!

“But if any man say unto you, This is offered in sacrifice unto idols, eat not for his sake that showed it, and for conscience sake: for the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof. Conscience, I say, not thine own, but of the other” (I Cor. 10:28,29).

Next the apostle turns his attention to the weaker brother in the faith. If a weaker brother is sitting across the table from you and someone comments that the meat about to be served had been offered to an idol, Paul says—*don't eat it!* If you partake of the sacrifice in front of the weaker brother, he will think you are *compromising*, simply because he hasn't yet come to a full appreciation of his liberty in Christ. Note the apostle states a second time, “The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,” to make it perfectly clear the earth belongs to the Lord, not the false gods. However, with this said, these false gods would be honored in the mind of the weaker brother if the stronger brother eats in his presence. You see, we have liberty to not exercise our liberty, so as not to offend a brother in Christ who may not be as far along as we are in the faith. Essentially, meat was not as much the issue as love. Love will not partake out of concern for the weaker brother's conscience.

“For why is my liberty judged of another man's conscience? For if I by grace be a partaker, why am I evil spoken of for that for which I give thanks? Whether therefore

ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God” (I Cor. 10:29-31).

Why was Paul judged? Why was he “evil spoken of?” He had given thanks to the Lord. After all, this is the age of grace—he had liberty to partake if he so desired! Paul could have demanded his rights, but he chose rather to allow *grace* to control his actions. You see, the apostle understood we are to glorify God in everything we do. Of course, this would be impossible to accomplish if he caused a weaker brother to stumble; consequently, it was best for him to abstain from eating all meats offered to idols if it caused an offense. And he was willing to do so! Thus the apostle concludes: “Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God” (I Cor. 10:32).

LIBERTY IS ACCEPTANCE

“Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, but not to doubtful disputations” (Rom. 14:1).

Here we learn that we are to receive the weaker brother with a cordial welcome, not with a spirit of critical analysis or an attitude of superiority. There are many questionable areas in the Christian life where there is no specific command in the Word of God to guide us. Today a believer may choose to be a vegetarian because he is of the opinion that red meat could harm his body, which is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Another brother in Christ may not share this view, believing this type of protein, within moderation, is necessary to maintain sound physical

health, which would also glorify God. Who’s right? Grace says there is liberty to do either!

Several years ago I came across the following list of questionable areas in the Christian life. I’ve taken the liberty to add a few things to it from my denominational days:


1. Working in the yard on Sunday afternoon
2. Shopping on Sunday after church
3. Wearing certain clothing
4. Watching television
5. Listening to secular music
6. Dining at a restaurant where alcohol is served
7. Having a glass of wine for dinner
8. Wearing jewelry
9. Not having a quiet time everyday
10. Going to the movies

We must remember that these are *questionable* things. Some would call them gray areas. This could be grounds for excommunication in certain denominational churches if you are guilty of one or more of these infractions. These types of assemblies have an unwritten code of ethics (their’s) you must follow or run the risk of being given the cold shoulder or worse.

If you were to ask six believers to list 10 things they deem to be unacceptable Christian conduct, not directly addressed in the Word of God, I think you will find each list would differ dramatically. What one believer may find acceptable another may find unacceptable, which is fine, as long as they don’t impose their

convictions on another brother in Christ. Liberty says we are to respect one another's convictions even though they may not be the same as our own.

Sadly, many believers establish these unspoken rules to measure whether or not others are spiritual. But spirituality is not trying to conform to someone's list of do's and don'ts. This is nothing more than a form of carnality! The

spiritually-minded man is a man who desires to conform his life to the image of Christ. He always has a balance in the Christian life because his attitude and responses are always in line with the Word of God. Having a Christ-like spirit, he walks in lowliness of mind and consistently esteems others better than himself. He values his liberty in Christ, yet is very careful never to misuse it. 

Next Month: *Paul's Epistle to the Philippians*

Question Box

“What was ‘the reproach of Christ’ that Moses esteemed greater than the riches of Egypt (Heb. 11:26)? What did Moses understand of Christ?”

Although Moses knew of Christ (Deut. 18:15-19), we must not anticipate revelation and conclude that Moses knew more about Christ than what is revealed about Him in the Old Testament Scriptures. To do so would be to go beyond “what is written” (Luke 10:26).

When Moses agreed to represent God to Pharaoh, he knew that he was choosing to bear all of the reproach that Egypt's monarch felt for his God. The writer of Hebrews, by progressive revelation, later identified the God that Pharaoh reproached as *Christ*. This is similar to how Genesis 1:1 tells us that in the beginning “God” created the heaven and the earth, and John 1:1-3, by progressive revelation, later identified the God of Genesis 1:1 as the Lord Jesus Christ. Similarly, we now know that the “I AM” for whom Moses suffered reproach (Exodus 3:14) was the Lord Jesus Christ (John 8:58).

Why the switch to “Christ” in Hebrews 11:26? The Hebrews to whom the Epistle was written were used to bearing the reproach of Jehovah; they had been bearing this reproach all of their lives. As a people they had been bearing His reproach for many centuries. Now they needed to learn to be willing to bear the reproach and contempt that the world holds for the Lord Jesus Christ.

—Pastor Kurth

The following is the latest installment in our series of articles drawn from Pastor Stam's classic work on *True Spirituality*. Since this book never appeared as a series in the *Searchlight*, many of even our long-time readers may not be familiar with these selections.

Spiritual Revival

A RECURRING NEED IN CHRISTIAN LIFE

By Cornelius R. Stam

These lines are written at a critical time in the world's history, when much is being said and written about revival. Many Christians are praying for revival; popular evangelists are doing their best to bring it about; leading periodicals, secular as well as religious, and even the daily newspapers, are discussing it, generally using such phraseology as "a revival of religion," "a revival of religious feeling" or "a revival of religious faith." Whatever the human failures involved, every true believer will thank God for the measure in which men are awakening to the need of supernatural aid in solving the grave problems that confront our generation.

WHAT IS SPIRITUAL REVIVAL?

But precisely what is true spiritual revival? This question is not too simple to ask while there are those who call almost any series of religious meetings a revival, while others confuse revival with the waves of religious feeling which sweep over the masses periodically and still others suppose that a revival is an ingathering of souls.

Actually a revival is simply *a restoration to vigorous health*. It relates to the *living*, not to the dead. The dead cannot be revived, but we do administer food and medicine to those who are faint or ill, in order to restore them to vigorous health. Thus spiritual revival is the restoration of ailing Christians to vigorous spiritual health.

A series of meetings *may* be used of God to *produce* a spiritual revival among His people, and such a revival often *results* in an ingathering of souls, but neither the series of meetings nor the ingathering of souls is in itself the revival. The revival is the *spiritual restoration of believers*.

THE NEED FOR SPIRITUAL REVIVAL

With individual believers, as with the Church at large, the *need* for spiritual revival is frequently not recognized until exceedingly low levels of spirituality¹ have been reached. Actually, however, the need is almost continuous.

Physically most of us need to be revived at least three times a day. Hunger and weakness soon overtake us and we feel the need

of food to renew our strength. Spiritually it is not less so, for *“man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God”* (Matt. 4:4). Sad to say, however, we are by nature prone to neglect our spiritual welfare and lapse into carelessness and sin, so that repeatedly the need for spiritual revival and restoration becomes acute.

THE CAUSE OF SPIRITUAL DECLINE

Many feel that lack of prayer, failure to live separated lives, indifference toward the lost, etc., are the real causes of spiritual decline. These, however, are the *effects*, not the causes. The *cause* of spiritual decline today is always our departure from the Word of God in general and from the Word of God *to us* in particular. There lies the root of our spiritual ills, though comparatively few as yet recognize or acknowledge it.

With Israel it was departure from Moses' law that constantly got her into trouble; with us it has been the departure from Pauline truth, for, remember, as surely as the dispensation of the law was committed to Moses, so surely was the dispensation of grace committed to Paul (Eph. 3:1-3) and those who have lapsed or backslidden, from his day until ours, have done so through departing from the truths committed to him for us.

In Paul's epistles we find both the evidence and the tendency on the part of believers to depart from the path of blessing, and God's diagnosis of the particular cause of the trouble. In every

case the cause is rebellion against the apostle's God-given authority and departure from his God-given message and program.

It was only a few short years after Paul had been sent forth with "the gospel of the grace of God" that the revolt against his authority began. The Galatians rebelled, followed the Judaizers and fell into the bondage of legalism. In his letter to them Paul takes almost two whole chapters to prove again his authority as "the apostle of the Gentiles," calling upon them to examine thoroughly the certificate of his apostleship and warning them of the dangers of departing from his God-given message.

Dumbfounded at their sudden declension, he exclaims:

“I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel” (Gal. 1:6).

And he adds:

“But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed” (Ver. 8).

Challenging them as to the result of their rebellion, he asks:

“Where is then the blessedness ye spake of? for I bear you record, that, if it had been possible, ye would have plucked out your own eyes, and have given them to me” (Gal. 4:15).

“But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another” (Gal. 5:15).

Mark well: the Galatian believers had lost their blessedness because of their departure

from God's appointed messenger and God's appointed message *to them*.

“...the most godly among us need spiritual revival almost constantly...”

Twice the apostle charges the Galatians with *disobedience* (Gal. 3:1; 5:7). But why? They had sought to obey *more* than Paul had commanded them. They were prepared to submit to circumcision *in addition* to the program he had, by revelation, outlined for them. And they had Scripture for their position too. Yes, but *not* Scripture *rightly divided*. Their return to Moses and the law was a repudiation of the *further* revelation given through Paul: “the preaching of the cross,” which was even then bringing the Mosaic dispensation to a close. Even the apostles and elders of the Jerusalem church had recognized the Gentiles' freedom from the law and had “*written and concluded that they observe no such thing*” (Acts 21:25). Thus obedience to the law now became *disobedience* to the *truth* and cost the Galatians their blessedness, bringing them into a state where they bit and devoured one another.

The Corinthians also rebelled and started rival sects among themselves, as though it were a question of who was right: Paul, Apollos, Cephas or Christ. Thus departing from the glorious revelation committed to Paul, the Corinthians fell into many other

grievous errors and sins. The apostle therefore challenged them too as to his spiritual authority and warned them of the dangers of their heresy.

In Asia Minor, where the apostle had labored for “the space of two years,” the issue was again *Paul and his message*. In his second letter to Timothy the apostle had to write:

“This thou knowest, that all they which are in Asia be turned away from me...” (II Tim. 1:15).

This does not mean that all the saved in the province of Asia—and there were many—were now lost, or even that they did not genuinely love the Lord. It means simply that they had turned against *Paul* as the one to whom had been committed the new dispensation, “*the dispensation of the grace of God.*”

These are but a few examples. The sacred record contains many more examples of spiritual declension since the raising up of Paul, and always the declension was brought about by a departure from one or more of the particular truths revealed through him: the truth of the “one body” and the sympathy for one another which this implies, or the truth of the “one baptism” with its death to the flesh and its identification with Christ in the heavenlies, or, perhaps, the truth of our standing in grace, with the resultant life lived for God out of sheer gratitude.

HOW TO ENJOY SPIRITUAL REVIVAL

When we recognize the fact that the old Adamic nature is still with us, it is easy to see why the most godly among us need spiritual

revival almost constantly, for by that very nature we are ever prone to depart from the blessed teachings of the Pauline epistles.

This is why Paul wrote, by the Spirit, to Timothy and to us:

“Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus” (II Tim. 1:13).

The Word of God, then, is of supreme importance to the spiritual well-being of every believer; not merely as a collection of beautiful and heart-warming thoughts, but as the revelation of God’s program for the ages, and especially for us today, to be studied, understood and obeyed. As food and medicine must be wisely administered to the weak and ill, so must the Word be “rightly divided” to provide the necessary benefit to those who need spiritual restoration.

How may we enjoy true spiritual revival? Can it be gained by more prayer or self-denial or confession of sin? No, these again are the *products*, the *results* of true spiritual revival, which begins with *God*, not with man. In spiritual revival as in regeneration, the Spirit uses *the Word*. There is the food and the medicine which God has given to restore us to vigorous spiritual health.

Perhaps the reader will recall the record of the revival under Ezra; how the *Book* was recovered for the people and how Ezra and his helpers “read...*distinctly*, and gave the *sense*, and caused them to *understand* the reading” (Neh. 8:8). What a spiritual awakening resulted! How the people wept (Neh. 8:9) and rejoiced (Neh. 8:9-11) “*because they had understood*

the words that were declared unto them”! (Neh. 8:12).

The understanding of God’s Word always revives His people spiritually. Hear the two at Emmaus from whom our Lord had just departed:

“Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the Scriptures?” (Luke 24:32).

And if this was true in other dispensations it is particularly so in this present dispensation of grace, when the glorious secret of God’s purpose and grace has been revealed. Little wonder Paul prays so earnestly for the Colossians and for us all:

“...that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will [purpose] in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

“That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God” (Col. 1:9,10).

Little wonder he reminded them of his warnings and teachings, of his labor and strife and conflict (Col. 1:28,29):


“That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement [Gr., thorough knowledge] of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;

“In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (Col. 2:2,3).

If indeed we would be spiritually revived and enjoy vigorous spiritual health; if indeed it is our desire to walk worthy of the Lord, to be fruitful in every good work,

to increase in the knowledge of God, then we should be satisfied with nothing short of a clear understanding of “His will” and a thorough knowledge of “the mystery” as it is presented to us in the epistles of Paul. And as we grasp the vital and wonderful truths associated with “the mystery” the whole Word of God will prove the richer and more nourishing to us spiritually.

In these days of spiritual declension may God give us an

appetite for the Word! May it be our deep desire to *know* God’s Word *so that we may obey it*, for there is probably no joy like that which comes to the believer from the knowledge that he is *in the will of God*. 

Endnote

1. We do not say *morality*, for believers who are scrupulously conscientious about moral matters and even about their duties as Christians, may still be far from *spiritual*.

Promotions to Glory

By Paul M. Sadler

“Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His saints.” This past April, Virginia Koch was called home to be with the Lord at the age of 92. Four weeks later her beloved husband, Charles, who turned 99 earlier this year, was also promoted to glory. Had they both survived until August, Charlie and Virginia would have been married 65 years, which is a touching tribute to the institution of marriage.

My wife and I had the privilege of meeting the Koch’s in the early 70’s at the annual *Berean Bible Fellowship Conference* held in Cedar Lake, Indiana. Charlie and Virginia were first introduced to Paul’s apostleship and message through the ministry of Pastor J. C. O’Hair at the North Shore Church in Chicago. They also worked closely with Brother Stam to make all men see what is the fellowship of the Mystery. Charlie wasn’t afraid to speak his mind; therefore, anytime Paul’s gospel was under attack he was usually one of the first to step forward in its defense.

Charlie was always helping us out with various repairs around BBS, and what fond memories we have of our fellowship in the gospel. He will long be remembered for his burden for lost souls. This was demonstrated many times over as he shared Christ and Him crucified at the *Pacific Garden Mission*. Tears would often well up in his eyes when he spoke of the peril of the unsaved who were yet outside of Christ.

We want to convey our love and sympathy to Charlie and Virginia’s daughters: Carolyn, Lois, and Linda, who lost both of their parents in such a short period of time. They shared with me, as we stood together at the graveside, how grateful they were that their parents left them a wonderful Christian legacy that transformed each of their lives.

“Those who live in the Lord never see each other for the last time”



Midwest Grace Fellowship Summer/Fall Bible Conference

Dates: August 19-20, 2006

Location: *Community Center*
Hutchison, Kansas

Speaker: Pastor Paul M. Sadler

Theme: *Earthly and Heavenly Ministries of Christ*

For directions and times of services, please contact:

David Tidd at (620) 365-6004

Connecticut Grace Bible Conference

Hosted by:

Grace For Today and Berean Bible Society

Dates: September 29-30, 2006

Location: *Norwalk Courtyard by Marriott*
474 Main Avenue
Norwalk, Connecticut

Guest Speakers:

Dennis Kizonas, President of *Grace For Today*
Paul M. Sadler, President of *Berean Bible Society*
Leon Gilchrist, Bible Teacher, *Grace For Today*

The next day, Sunday, October 1st, at 10:30 a.m., Pastor Sadler will be the Bible Teacher at the *Grace For Today* church service in Brooklyn, New York, located at the YWCA, Atlantic Avenue and Third Avenue.

For more information, please contact: *Grace For Today*, PO Box 798, Times Square Station, New York, NY 10108, or phone: 1-800-803-0003, e-mail: conference@gracefortoday.org. You may also contact: *Berean Bible Society*, PO Box 756, Germantown, WI 53022, or phone: (262) 255-4750, e-mail: berean@execpc.com.

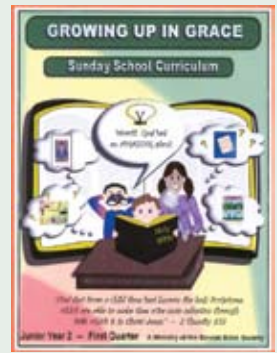
Join us for this exciting first-time event!

The BBS' Sunday School Program

Growing Up In Grace

By Stephen Shober
Sunday School Administrator

“And that from a child thou hast known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus” (II Timothy 3:15).



Opporknockity: The following light-hearted humor makes a relevant point.

Several years ago in the White House the first lady noticed the piano in the East Room needed tuning. Her staff said the only person to hire for this job was a man named “Opporknockity.” She asked Mr. Opporknockity if he would tune the piano and he was delighted to do so. After tuning, the piano was sounded better than at anytime since President Harding. A year later the heat and humidity in Washington caused the piano to require retuning. The first lady called Mr. Opporknockity but he resisted doing the job. She said she would pay any amount but must have him; he still steadfastly refused. Finally, in desperation, she said, “Why won’t you do it?” He replied, “Because, Madam, Opporknockity only tunes once!”

We at the Berean Bible Society (BBS) believe the Lord has “knocked” by providing an opportunity, indeed responsibility, to develop a comprehensive Sunday School Program. This opportunity is humbling and daunting, but we are confident in His provisions. We believe the BBS has been used by the Lord for many spiritual endeavors, is well grounded, and has an ardent desire to meet the needs of the Lord’s people. Concerned Grace believers confirm there is no higher priority than to train our youth in the Scriptures, rightly-divided, by means of quality, Grace-based Sunday School lessons.

Need: Grace churches and believers have struggled with a problem for years. Teachers either had to develop their own lessons or had to use material prepared by those who do not see the Scriptures from the Pauline perspective. Those who used prepared lessons had to struggle to adapt the lessons. Other teachers developed their own lessons, but then visual aids, take home papers and games became a problem. Even our most effective Grace teachers were always looking for new ideas; a good Grace-based curriculum could help by drawing upon the creativity and resources of seasoned Grace teachers. Grace Churches and home schools have been hampered at a time when students are most reachable, because the needed Grace lessons have not been available.

Getting Started: The BBS established four goals to help direct the future work of the Society. They are: to evangelize the lost, to educate the saved in rightly dividing the Word of truth, to energize Christian lives, and to encourage the local church. As the BBS considered these goals and the most important needs existing in the Grace Movement, one item dwarfed most others and kept coming to the forefront. Interestingly, this item fit into each goal statement. This item was Grace-based Sunday School lessons.

The timing was right and the need was obvious; thus, the mission of completing a ground-breaking Sunday School Program (SSP) began. Pastor Jeff Seekins initiated a feasibility study for this effort and, in 2003, Pastor Mike Keshan became the first Sunday School Director and successfully launched the program. The Sunday School lessons were termed, *Growing Up In Grace (GUIG)*.



What GUIG is: GUIG lessons are prepared by dedicated Grace believers grounded in the Word. The lessons are critically reviewed by special teams of pastors and knowledgeable persons to assure biblical correctness and doctrinal accuracy. Care is taken to assure key issues, like water and spiritual baptism, are taught correctly and without compromise. Care is also taken to assure that sensitive issues (for which there are accepted, alternative Grace views) are taught in a way that presents the views in a fair and non-contentious manner.

GUIG lessons do not confuse Law and Grace, Kingdom and Mystery, faith and experience, or the Gospels and the Pauline Epistles. The goal is to first seek to learn what the Lord instructed Paul for today's dispensation of Grace (Ephesians 3:2), and then understand and apply all Scripture in light of that instruction. Salvation by God's grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (and nothing else) is the emphasis (Ephesians 2:8-9). Once saved, the issue of personal spiritual growth and a student's walk in Him are paramount (Colossians 2:6-7 & Romans 12:2). Practical, every-day applications are made in each lesson to assure the Word is understood and made applicable to the student's life.

The first lessons were introduced in September of 2004, and have been used to instruct students in both church and home settings. The lessons are essentially teacher's manuals, with all the needed visual aids, take home papers and activities. They can be used to help ground Christians of all ages (even adults) in home Bible studies, family devotions, and home schools.

Process of Developing Lessons: Currently there are five teams involved in this effort with participants scattered throughout the United States. Two teams develop lessons, two teams provide critical review and one team edits and publishes them. The Lord has provided incredibly devoted and talented people for His work; we cannot thank Him or them enough. Teams employ the skills of writers, graphic artists, formatters, critical reviewers, and editors. This team approach allows the BBS to use the God-given expertise and collective experience of individuals from all walks of life and geographic regions.

Goals of Each Lesson:

- Teach the Bible correctly
- Provide Grace-based doctrine
- Promote the salvation message
- Assure a practical application so students not only understand Grace truths but also allow God's grace to permeate their lives
- Create classroom participation with captivating and attention-grabbing lessons
- Foster learning and obedience to the Word of God

Accomplishments to Date: Early on it was decided the most important place to start was the Junior age (9-11). Two years of lessons are essentially completed.

Year 1: 39 Key Events. These lessons provide an over-all view of the Scripture, focusing on 39 major events of the Bible and leading to a simple time-line. They show that God set Israel aside and then introduced the Church, the Body of Christ. They reveal that the Church does not replace Israel in God's plan and one day God will fulfill His promises to that nation. The Church has a distinct program, Apostle, message, blessing, hope, etc.

Year 2: 39 Key Characters. These lessons focus on the main characters of the different dispensations. Each lesson shows how God dealt with mankind and how those dealings have changed throughout the history of the world. While God never changes, the way He interacts with humans does.

Year 3: 39 Key Doctrines. These lessons are scheduled for completion by Fall, 2007. These lessons examine the most important doctrines applicable today, but without mixing the prophetic program and the mystery program. They explore the differences and similarities in doctrines for today ("But now...") and those for other ages.

The Life of Christ, this one-quarter series is currently under development and is targeted for completion in the Fall of 2006. This series of lessons can be used for a stand alone summer quarter and/or for "Christian" holidays.

Future Direction: At this time there are many ideas and options for the GUIG lessons. It is our desire to develop a full set of lessons for kindergarten through high school. It is likely more teams will be needed to accelerate the process and to effectively deal with special areas that need emphasis. In the future CD's, DVD's, or Powerpoint options may be made available as the increased expense for these are justified by increased sales.

The BBS is firmly committed to the future success of this initiative. The costs to develop creative, quality work are considerable and

increased sales would help this entire effort. We encourage all Grace churches and home schools to consider using these lessons. A free trial lesson is offered so you can see if this material is right for you.

Providing Help at Home: Home Bible studies and youth clubs/groups could benefit by using these lessons; you might be surprised how Junior level lessons can also be used for other ages. If you have had trouble getting into a family devotional routine or have problems with what to teach, GUIG may be God's provision for you. Ephesians 6:4 says, *"And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath; but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."* Family devotions are an integral part of the responsibility given to fathers; single parents may also capitalize on these lessons for family needs.

What you get: For \$60 a church will receive a teacher's manual of 13 complete lessons (one quarter). Home schools and individual families are offered a special price of \$48 per quarter. You get value in a complete package: all materials such as visuals, object lessons, review games, memory verse games, answer keys, and reproducible take home sheets are included in the binder. Since the material is in a binder form, organizing and storing Sunday School literature for future use is simplified. Both the binder and paper used are heavy-weight to ensure years of use. All the lessons use the King James Version of the Bible.


Each lesson gives complete instructions on how to use the materials provided. Each lesson has ample subject matter, so it can be expanded for several weeks of study. The lessons enable a teacher to be "good to go" for as long as desired and for as many young people as the Lord provides. Additionally, extra packets of Take Home Papers and Visual Aids are available.



Teacher Testimonials: “I am involved in teaching the BBS’ Sunday School Curriculum, ‘Growing Up in Grace,’ at *Grace Bible Church of Castle Rock*, Colorado. This material is an answer to prayer! It has everything needed to prepare the Grace believers of the future; the content of the lessons is doctrinally sound and presented in a very interesting manner. The children love the story of ‘David and grandpa,’ the graphics are excellent and the jump-start questions help keep the lessons fresh in the children’s mind; which in turn, helps them to ask questions of their own and to resolve any doubts they may have. Last, but not least, this material gives an overview of the Bible from a Grace perspective, something very much needed.

“I hope every Grace church, and others as well, are taking advantage of this wonderful resource; it is great and also a joy to teach. Thanks be to God for the talents given to all those working in this project. We should all keep them in our prayers.” (Maria Martin of *Grace Bible Church*, Castle Rock, Colorado)

“As a Sunday School teacher for at least ten years and having used several different publications, I can say that it is a real joy and relief to pick up the ‘Growing Up in Grace’ curriculum and have everything I need for a great lesson! Lesson layout keeps the teacher on track with meaty lessons that are user friendly. The posters that accompany each lesson add interest and help, especially for the visual learner. While targeting juniors, they work well with younger as well as older students.

“If the child attends regularly, I know that he/she will receive a balanced overview of biblical lessons, traveling through all of God’s Word once each year. There is always a take home activity sheet that stresses Scripture memorization and each lesson gives a clear presentation of the Gospel for salvation. They can easily be adapted for any length of class time. It is the only curriculum that I have used that clearly presents the message of Grace as presented by the Apostle Paul.” (Bonnie Lawson of *Grace Memorial Church*, Edinburg, Illinois) 

Ordering Lessons:

Mail: *Berean Bible Society*, N112 W17761 Mequon Road,
PO Box 756, Germantown, WI 53022

Online: www.growingupingrace.com
You can now order and pay online.

Email: info@growingupingrace.com

Phone: 262-255-4750, ask for Deb Keshan

Promotion: For promotion at your church or at conferences contact Steve Shober by email: Shober@chorus.net, or mail: 7179 Clover Hill Drive, Waunakee, WI 53597.

*"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures,
which are able to make thee wise unto salvation
through faith which is in Christ Jesus."
II Timothy 3:15*

Berean Bible Society presents



GROWING UP IN GRACE

Sunday School Program



Ages 9-11

**For churches,
home schools,
& family devotions**

Thirteen lessons include
Memory verses
Introductory stories
Bible lessons
Object lessons
Visual aids
Review questions
Review activities
Take home activity sheets

2nd year, 2nd quarter available now!

Two full years available by Fall 2006

\$ 60 /qtr for churches

\$ 48 /qtr for families and home schools

Teaching The Saving Gospel of God's Grace

www.growingupinrace.com

Email: info@growingupinrace.com

Phone: (262) 255-4750

Fax: (262) 255-4195



Coming Soon!

Spanish Edition of *Things That Differ*

By C. R. Stam



Prophecy and the Mystery

Unfolding of the Mystery

Peter and Paul as Builders

The So-Called Great Commission

Good News

The Last Days

Those who desire to have a fuller understanding of God's Word will find this work very beneficial. Many agree that this particular volume has long been a light shining in a dark place.

(Includes Scripture Index)

Paperback

300 Pages/with Charts

Orders are now being received for a September release!

Special Introductory Offer: \$7.00

(Or order a quantity of 5 for \$30.00!)

THIS OFFER ENDS AUGUST 31, 2006

(Extended 21 days for all foreign orders)

Orders up to \$20.00, please add **\$3.00** for postage and handling.

Orders over \$20.00, please add **15%** for postage and handling.

**Foreign orders must be remitted in U. S. currency!*



www.bereanbiblesociety.org



From Ohio:

“Just trying to write a report on baptism and I think you guys are right!”

From the Internet:

“I’m new to Grace teachings. I love the *Searchlight* as it has been the first literature I’ve received that rang true when I checked it. I’m a babe about the Scriptures, but I am learning everyday, and I want not to be confused, or to confuse others.”

From Australia:

“I have recently become dispensational and your *Berean Searchlight* has been a great help. Thank you.”

From Florida:

“I have just started receiving the *Searchlight*. What a tremendously insightful pamphlet. Where have you been all these years? I wish I had found you so much sooner.” (We were looking for you, too!—RK).

From California:

“I recently purchased *Moses and Paul*, which I have read with great interest. Pastor Stam mentions our ‘*all spiritual blessings*’ (Eph. 1:3). Do you have literature on the topic of these spiritual blessings associated with the Christian’s position?”

From Texas:

“Learning about rightly dividing the Word has made a lot of things so much easier for me. I’m looking forward to more study of Acts, and I appreciate your help.”

From North Carolina:

“Through Bible study and being led by the Spirit I have come to see the distinction in time and manner in which God has dealt with mankind. I see the Word, rightly divided, and Paul’s distinctive apostleship.”

From Texas:

“I became familiar with Berean teaching through a pastor friend of mine who is mid-Acts. I had never heard of it before I met him. I was a Baptist and preached Baptist doctrine and he gave me *Things That Differ* to read. After I had read through it I came to the conclusion I could not argue with it or disprove it so I came to rightly divide. I really appreciate all your help. The attachments are great and the article is very helpful.”

From Georgia:

“Thank you for the April article, *Biblical Differences Between the Kingdom and Body Churches*. For a number of years I have seen bits and pieces of these differences and have attempted to share them with the church that meets in my home. However, using Brother Van Arendonk’s outline and Scripture references that show the distinction between the Kingdom Church and the Body Church is an answer to my prayers regarding the truth between the two churches.”

From Ohio:

“I’m still evaluating the Grace Movement as a whole, but have found interesting and rewarding stuff nevertheless. FYI, I teach a Sunday School class of about 150, and often your stuff seems to creep its way in, as the Holy Spirit confirms it to me.” (The truth does have a way of creeping into the heart and ministry of those who are open to it!—RK).

From Pennsylvania:

“I cut out a copy of a short article that appeared in my local paper, the Williamsport Sun-Gazette, entitled: *The Noble Bereans & Paul’s Gospel*. Can you send me information on the Bereans? Just who are they, when they lived, what they did, etc.”

From New York:

"It's so important to read Scripture with the correct dispensational background and the Bereans have accomplished this quite wonderfully. Please mail me the *Searchlight* so I can enjoy it at home!"

From Indiana:

"Your simplicity in *Now That I Believe* was a true gift for me. Praise God! After reading about water baptism, I thought, 'Wow, I get it!' For you see, I have experienced baptism in earlier years only to find that along the way, I kept getting re-baptized as per whoever told me to, because that's what was required. I laughed in joy in realizing it's not something I'm supposed to do as though under the Law. God is working in my spirit the rightly divided Word. The more I come to know about the grace message, the more the scales of my heart just fall off."

From Florida:

"I am using the letter you sent me as a study guide. The booklet by Pastor Sadler on the sign gifts is also helpful. I'm coming to the conclusion that I have been a deceived fool for many years. By rightly dividing the Word, many questions and confusions and problems with Scripture are being answered and solved." (No one is a fool who is faithfully living up to the light he has from God's Word, but what a joy it is to find the truth!—RK).

From Oklahoma:

"I had been studying on another website that led me to your website. I have enjoyed reading it and would accept any literature or comments you can provide me. I cannot get enough of God's Word."

From Florida:

"*Things That Differ* has shown me that I have been misled. I understand things more clearly now."

From Tennessee:

"It was Les Feldick who started it all for me. I was confused about 'conflicts' in Scripture. So I prayed for answers and then this tall, skinny, older man with a very gentle but effective way of teaching was brought into my life. I was shocked at first, but when everything fell into place WITHIN the Word of God, I began to understand. I started to thirst for more. And here I am!"

From California:

"I have learned so much that I didn't understand before being opened to Grace teachings."

From Arizona:

"I have discovered your books have the best explanations of the Bible that I have read. Thank you!" (That's because our books observe II Timothy 2:15, the key to understanding the Bible!—RK).

From Florida:

"I've been studying books that you have recently published and I find them to be very interesting on spiritual truths that I haven't known before concerning the different dispensations."

From Indiana:

"I'm making an outline on Acts and am going to start teaching it next week. We have a new young couple coming who have attended a Baptist church. Each week their eyes get a little bit wider. What a thrill! That makes it all worthwhile."

"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

Mid-Atlantic Fall Grace Bible Conference

Dates: September 8-10, 2006

Location: *White Sulphur Springs*
Manns Choice, Pennsylvania

Guest Speakers:

Pastor Ricky Kurth
Pastor Brent Biller
Pastor David Hobbs
Pastor John Hollis

Theme: *The Works of the Workmanship* (Eph. 2:10)

For directions or additional information, please contact:

Mrs. Suzanne Potter (304) 263-2411

*If you enjoy studying the Word, rightly divided,
then these meetings are for you!*

St. Louis Meetings

Dates: September 15-17, 2006

Location: *St. Louis Bible Fellowship*
6234 Victoria Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Guest Speaker:

Paul M. Sadler
President of *Berean Bible Society*

For more information or to receive a brochure, please contact:

Pastor Richard Owsley (314) 781-0472

*Meet us in St. Louis for a wonderful time of
fellowship around God's Word, rightly divided!*

On May 20th, *Berean Bible Institute* hosted their 2006 Graduation and Awards Ceremony. Paul Turner, Matt Ritchey and Justin Lynn (pictured left to right) graduated from the three-year program and were awarded BBI's *Diploma in Advanced Biblical Studies*. All three graduates majored in *Pastoral Ministry*.



While still a student at BBI, Paul Turner was called to the pastorate of *Grace Bible Church* of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where he will now continue to serve the Lord with his wife Rebecca, and their four children.

Matt Ritchey was also recently called to the pastorate of *Grace Bible Church* in Beloit, Wisconsin, where he and his wife Jennifer will now continue to minister God's Word with their three children.

Justin Lynn has accepted the associate pastor position of his home church, *Grace Family Bible Church* of Duncansville, Pennsylvania. He and his new wife Candace are looking forward to working with Pastor James Zaebst in the work of the ministry there.

Pastor Joel McGarvey, of *Bible Doctrines to Live By*, gave the commencement address. It was a blessed day in the Lord for Pastor McGarvey, for all three graduates are products of his church ministry when he was the pastor of the Duncansville church.

As you can see, *Berean Bible Institute* graduates are in demand. The need is great for pastors in our existing Grace churches, and new works are forming all the time. Our churches also stand in need of Bible teachers, Sunday School teachers, and other well-trained Christian workers. In addition, the mission field is also calling for bold individuals with a heart for the souls in "the regions beyond," and the field is as broad as the world is wide.

If it is your heart's desire to train for a lifetime of ministry for the Lord Jesus Christ, why not join the dedicated men and women who are already working hard to prepare themselves for the highest calling known to man, the service of "the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ."

Fall Semester begins August 21, 2006!

It is not too late to register for our fall semester, but you must act *now!* For more information about BBI's program, and for an application for admission, contact Dr. Ed Bedore at: **Berean Bible Institute**, 116 S. Kettle Moraine Drive, P.O. Box 587, Slinger, WI 53086-0587, phone: (262) 644-5504, fax: (262) 644-5507, e-mail: bbi@bereanbibleinstitute.org, web address: www.bereanbibleinstitute.org.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fall Conference of the *Berean Bible Fellowship* (October 12,13) will be hosted this year by our *Berean Bible Institute*, located in nearby Slinger, Wisconsin. Grace pastors from around the country will address the theme: *Israel & The Body of Christ, A Contrast in Prophecy and Mystery*. If you or someone you know is thinking about attending BBI, this would be a golden opportunity to meet many of the faculty and students. For more information and a brochure, contact Dr. Ed Bedore at PO Box 587, Slinger, WI 53086, e-mail: bbi@bereanbibleinstitute.org, phone: (262) 644-5504.

Beginning next month in our September *Searchlight*, Pastor Sadler will begin a study of Paul's Epistle to the Philippians. While we trust that all of our readers will be blessed by this study, certainly every troubled Christian will want to follow this series closely to learn how the Apostle Paul could write such a joyful epistle from behind the walls of a Roman prison.

Berean Grace Church of Genoa City, Wisconsin, would like to extend to all of our *Searchlight* readers an invitation to their fall Bible conference, scheduled for Saturday, September 30th, and Sunday, October 1st. Pastor Ricky Kurth and other Grace pastors will bring messages on the theme of *Abounding Joy*. For more information, contact Pastor Steve Ross at (262) 279-6435.

Late Word: The *Grace Bible Church* of Lancaster, Wisconsin will hold its fall conference this year on September 8th-10th. The meetings will be held at the *Rural Insurance-Farm Bureau Center*, just north of Lancaster on Highway 61. The guest speakers this year will be Pastor Joel Finck, and Peter Fries, Bible teacher. These brethren will be expounding the theme of *Understanding Prophecy through Understanding the Mystery*. For additional information and directions to the conference, please contact: Mr. Mel Flogel (608) 348-7574 or Mr. Jack Trumm (608) 794-2410. Hope you can attend!

It is always exciting to hear about new people just coming to see the Grace message and the Word of God, rightly divided. With that in mind, this month's *Mailbag* (Pages 26,27) features letter excerpts from *Searchlight* readers dealing exclusively with this theme. We trust that your heart will be encouraged about the bright future of the Grace Movement that these letters represent.

*Our cover lighthouse photo was taken by Alan Neubauer of Evanston, Illinois. The *Michigan City East Pierhead Lighthouse* is located in Michigan City, Indiana. This active light was built in 1904 and sits at the end of the breakwater forming the harbor in Michigan City.

PRICE LIST

BIBLE STUDY BOOKS BY CORNELIUS R. STAM—FOUNDER

(Hardcover—Gold Stamped)

Acts, (Commentary) Volumes I & II	\$20.00
Acts, (Commentary) Volumes III & IV (w/Bible Index).....	20.00
Author's Choice, The	10.00
Baptism and the Bible	9.00
Colossians (Commentary, w/Bible Index)	13.00
I Corinthians (Commentary)	11.00
II Corinthians (Commentary).....	11.00
Divine Election and Human Responsibility	9.00
Galatians (Commentary, w/Bible Index).....	13.00
Hebrews, Who Wrote It and Why?	9.00
Holding Fast the Faithful Word (w/Bible Index)	13.00
Man, His Nature and Destiny	11.00
Memoirs of Pastor Cornelius R. Stam, The.....	12.00
Pastoral Epistles (Commentary)	11.00
Paul, His Apostleship and Message (w/Bible Index)	10.00
Romans (Commentary).....	11.00
Sermon on the Mount, The	9.00
Suggestions for Young Pastors	9.00
Thessalonians (Commentary).....	10.00
Things That Differ (w/Bible Index)	11.00
True Spirituality (w/Bible Index).....	10.00
Two-Fold Purpose of God, The (w/Bible Index).....	8.00

(Paperbacks)

Lord's Supper and the Bible, The	\$8.00
Moses and Paul (w/Bible Index)	8.00
No Other Doctrine.....	8.00
Our Great Commission (w/Bible Index).....	8.00
Present Peril, The.....	8.00
Satan In Derision	8.00
Things That Differ (w/Bible Index)	9.00

WRITINGS BY PAUL M. SADLER—PRESIDENT

Exploring the Unsearchable Riches of Christ (HC, w/Bible Index).....	\$11.00
Life and Letters of the Apostle Peter, The (HC, w/Bible Index).....	12.00
Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians (HC, w/Bible Index)	15.00
Triumph of His Grace, The (HC, w/Bible Index)	12.00
According to the Scriptures (Booklet)	2.00
Are You Secure? (Booklet).....	1.00
Historical Beginning of the Church, The (Booklet)	3.00
Institution of Marriage, The (Booklet)	4.00
Key to Understanding the Scriptures, The (Chart).....	0.50
Supernatural Sign Gifts of the Acts Period, The (Booklet).....	4.00

Ask about our special package offers!

Orders up to \$20.00, please add **\$3.00** for Postage and Handling
Orders over \$20.00, please add **15%** for Postage and Handling

**Foreign Orders Must be remitted in U. S. Currency*

“Those who do not rightly divide the Word of
truth do not find the truth.” —E. W. Bullinger

THE BEREAN SEARCHLIGHT
1112 W17761 MEQUON ROAD
PO Box 756
GERMANTOWN, WI 53022-0756

PERIODICALS
PAID AT GERMANTOWN, WI