



Bible Believers' Bulletin

Vol. 38 No. 4

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth” (John 17:17)

April, 2014

THE FOOL

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

“The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good. The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one” (Psa. 14:1–3).

The above passage is useful in personal work, especially when dealing with a puffed-up egotist who swells up with pride and declares, “I am an atheist!” Such a thing is said for its “shock value,” as if the person expects you to have a heart attack upon hearing such a thing.

I always “**answer a fool according to his folly**” in such a case (see Prov. 26:5) and say, “Remarkable! You could have fooled me; you look like an intelligent man!” That always “ties the rag on the bush.” “**Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools**” (Rom. 1:22).

Atheism, as evolutionism, is an *emotional* religion: it comes from the *heart*, not the head. For example:

The chances of viable proteins forming from a polypeptide chain of amino acids, sugars, enzymes, etc., by pure ACCIDENT (and so believe all neo-Darwinians) is one out of 2.3 times ten to the 75th power (that’s 230



with 75 more zeroes after it).

The chances of a viable DNA strand being formed from 84 nucleotides by “haphazard mutations” would be one out of 4.8 times ten to the fiftieth power.

The chances of ACCIDENTALLY synthesizing the “left-handed” amino

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“But Now Is Christ Risen”

“And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept” (1 Cor. 15:14, 20).

If there was one thing that marked the message of the apostles and the early Christians of the book of Acts, it was the preaching that *Christ rose from the dead*. It is the resurrection of Jesus Christ that sets Biblical Christianity apart from every other “religion” on earth. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the basis upon which Biblical Christianity stands or falls; it is the “Gibraltar” of Christian evidences and the “Waterloo” of infidelity, agnosticism, and atheism.

Everything in the Christian faith hinges entirely upon that doctrine. If Christ rose from the dead, then atheism, agnosticism, humanism, evolutionism, and all forms of Marxism (Socialism or Communism) aren’t worth the powder and shot it would take to send them home to Hell. But if Jesus Christ didn’t rise from the dead, then there are some things that are true as a matter of fact, and Paul lists some of them in 1 Corinthians 15.

First of all, if Jesus Christ didn’t come up from the dead, **“then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain”** (1 Cor. 15:14). If Jesus Christ remained in the grave like Buddha, Mary, and Mohammed, then I am *preaching nonsense*, and you are *believing nonsense*. After all, if Jesus Christ didn’t get out of the tomb, it doesn’t make any difference whether you are a Communist, atheist, Democrat, Republican, Socialist, Catholic, Protestant, Mohammedan, Satanist, Taoist, Jew, Hindu, or Buddhist. If Jesus Christ didn’t rise from the grave, then every man is his own god, and *every god will be eaten by worms* (Job 21:26).

I will say it again: if Christ didn’t come up from the dead, any religion is just the same as another. All men are their own gods with their own standards of authority and their own sets of rules.

Listen, people, your faith is only as good as the historical facts behind it. If you believed on something that wasn’t so, what good would that do you? That is why all religions would be the same: they would all be based on *lies*.

That brings us to Paul’s next point: **“Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God: because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up”** (1 Cor. 15:15). It’s not just that we are wrong in our preaching and faith; we are *lying* if Jesus didn’t get out of that graveyard. Either Christ arose or He did not. Well, if He

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Dr. Peter S. Ruckman
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didn't and you say He did, *you're a liar*.

If Jesus didn't come up from the dead, **“ye are yet in your sins”** (1 Cor. 15:17). You are part of your sins, and your sins are part of you. The Holy Spirit never baptized you into Christ's death, burial, and resurrection because Christ didn't rise from the dead (Rom. 6:3–4). You were never “raised to **‘walk in newness of life’**” if there was no resurrection. If the resurrection never happened, then when the preacher baptizes you, he should put you under the water and hold you there until you drown *because you ain't coming up*.

If the Holy Spirit didn't baptize you into Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, then you aren't **“risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead”** (Col. 2:12). That means you were never **“circumcised with the circumcision made without hands”** (Col. 2:11). You have never been loosed from your body of sinful flesh; *your soul is still stuck to your flesh*. That means that whatever sin your flesh commits affects your soul. *You will die in your sins* because you are still **“dead in sins”**; you were never **“quickenened . . . together with Christ”** (Eph. 2:5) because He was never **“quickenened”** (cf. 1 Pet. 3:18).

If Jesus Christ didn't come up from the dead, then not only will you die in your sins, but those Christians who have died before you **“are perished”** (1 Cor. 15:18). They are either in Hell or Abraham's Bosom (Luke 16:22–23), and Jesus never **“led captivity captive”** (Eph. 4:8). If you buried a Christian momma or daddy, or a Christian wife or husband, or a Christian grandma or granddaddy, or a Christian son or daughter, you will never see them again. If Jesus Christ didn't come up, *neither will they*. All that will be left of them will be a handful of *dirt* (Gen. 3:19).

And if Jesus Christ didn't come up, then **“we are of all men most miserable”** (1 Cor. 15:19). Your hope (Rom. 8:17–25 cf. Tit. 2:13) is *vain*. You have **“no hope”** because you are **“without Christ”** and **“without God in the world”** (Eph. 2:12)—that is, IF Christ is still dead.

I don't care how miserable you are in your Christian life; you aren't *that* miserable. You have something to look forward to beside “soul sleep” or the Lake of Fire (Phil. 1:21–23). If you are saved, you have a **“peace with God”** (Rom. 5:1) that **“passeth all understanding”** (Phil. 4:7), and that peace was made possible by the resurrection of Jesus Christ (Heb. 13:20).

Now all that would be true IF Jesus Christ didn't rise from the dead, but thank God for the disjunctive conjunction in 1 Corinthians 15:20—**“BUT now IS Christ risen from the dead.”** Christ *didn't* stay dead: He *did* come up. So there are some other things that are just as true in that case.

First, the resurrection of Jesus Christ *proved the existence of God*. If there is no God, then how did Christ get up out of that grave? I'll tell you how: a

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living God resurrected Him (Acts 2:24, 3:15, 4:10, 5:30, 13:30).

If there is any God up there at all, He can raise the dead. If there is a God in Heaven, that means that every man, woman, and child on this earth will have to give account to Him for the way they lived. The only way that can happen is for God to raise up the dead to stand before Him in the day of judgment (John 5:21–29). That is why those Greek philosophers in Athens rejected the physical resurrection (Acts 17:18, 32): *they didn't want to be held accountable for their proud, egotistical, filthy, immoral lives*. But God said they would, and as proof of that, He raised the Judge from the dead.

“Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that HE HATH RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD” (Acts 17:31).

Second, the resurrection *proves the Deity of Christ*. The Apostle Paul said Jesus was **“declared to be the Son of God with power . . . by the RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD”** (Rom. 1:4). God raised Christ from the dead to set Him **“far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come”** (Eph. 1:20–21 cf. Phi. 2:9–11; Neh. 9:5). Christ arose **“that he might be Lord both of the dead and the living”** (Rom. 14:9).

The resurrection means that salvation is *an accomplished fact* (Rom. 4:25, 5:10; 1 Pet. 3:18). Jesus said salvation was *completed* when He died on the cross (John 19:30), and the resurrection confirms this. Real salvation is a *done* proposition, not a *do* proposition. The people who are trying to get to Heaven by works have never been saved; they are headed for Hell. The difference between God's salvation and man's salvation is that in man's salvation, men try to *justify themselves by doing* (works!). They reject God's salvation, which is accepting what Jesus Christ *did for them*.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ guarantees that every born-again child of God will *live again*. Jesus said, **“because I live, ye shall live also”** (John 14:19). He told Martha, **“I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live”** (John 11:25).

The promise for the Christian is: **“And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also”** (John 14:3). This is made possible by the resurrection.

“But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming” (1 Cor. 15:20, 23).

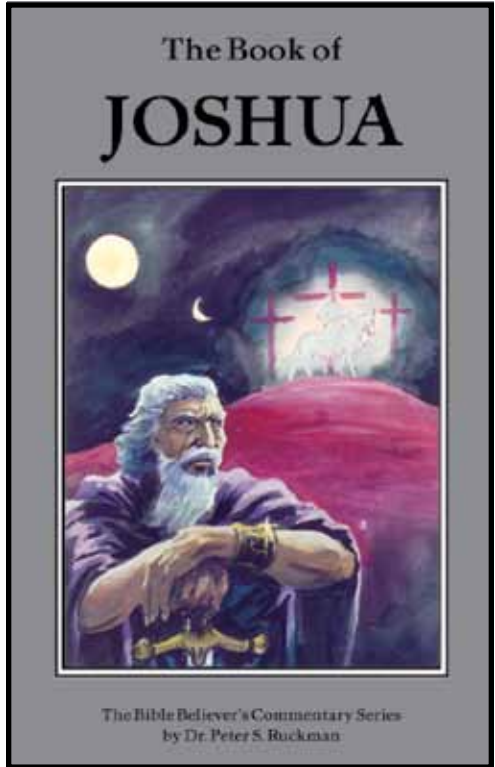
As a Christian, you have the same Holy Spirit living in your body that

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to the Christian's spiritual warfare against the world, the flesh, and the Devil. The geography of the book is tied in to associated events in the rest of the Old Testament, with a map at the end to help the reader locate the major cities in Joshua, as well as the division of the tribes in the land.



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“But Now Is Christ Risen”

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raised up Christ from the dead, and some day, that same Spirit will raise you up just as He did your Saviour (Rom. 8:11). So the return of Jesus Christ for His own is directly connected to His physical resurrection.

And finally, the resurrection gives the believer a power he can experience and enjoy right now.

“That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death” (Phil. 3:10).

The resurrection of Jesus Christ gives you a **“newness of life”** (Rom. 6:4) that comes from a *living* Christ living His life anew in your body. Paul wrote, **“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us”** (2 Cor. 4:7). The born-again, saved child of God is an earthen vessel in whom dwells the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of the risen Christ (Rom. 8:9–11); it is that Spirit who gives the Christian the power of the resurrected life.

Victory can be ours if we march forth with the risen Christ as the head of the Church Militant. We are on the winning side, and while we may experience losses in the temporary short-run, when it comes to things eternal, we can't lose (2 Cor. 4:16–18; Rom. 8:18).

Paul concludes his discourse on the resurrection of Jesus Christ with this statement:

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord” (1 Cor. 15:58).

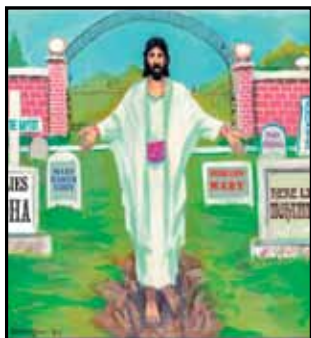
The resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ should drive us to service to Him. As the old song says:

“I serve a risen Saviour, He's in the world today;
I know that He is living, whatever men may say;
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,
And just the time I need Him He's always near.
He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart.”

Although the resurrection of Jesus Christ is an *objective fact*, like the birth of Christ, it only becomes meaningful to a person when it accomplishes its purpose in his life.

(The material in this article was taken from Dr. Ruckman's work on *Theological Studies*, Vol. I, chap. 23, and his comments on 1 Cor. 15:14–20 in the *Bible Believer's Commentary on 1&2 Corinthians*.)

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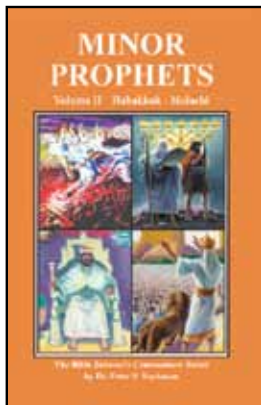
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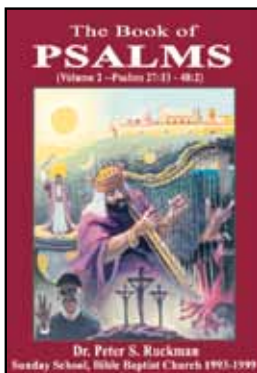
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acids necessary for one viable protein molecule are one in ten to the 210th power.

The chances of a single cell evolving in the 4.6 billion years allotted by the evolutionists for the age of the earth is one out of ten to the 40,000th power *at best*. (One Ph.D. in physiology, a Dr. Joseph Mastropado, in his 1999 article on "Evolution is Biologically Impossible" for *Acts and Facts*, Vol. 28, No. 11, put the chances at more like *one out of ten with 4,478,296 zeroes after it.*)

(The above statistics are taken from chaps. 7 and 8 of *The Evolution Handbook* by Vance Ferrell, 2001.)

Now that is not a "heart" matter; those are the cold hard facts of mathematical, computerized *statistical probability*. According to the laws of statistical probability, if the chances of something taking place are over one in ten to the fiftieth power, the thing will *never* take place *naturally*. That is, to believe everything you see around you got here by *mindless, random chance* (evolution), you have to be under tremendous psychotic pressure and in an emotional panic, and that *is* a "heart" matter.

All modern scientists and all Federal judges, with few exceptions, are in both conditions. Their "reason" (what a word!) for not allowing *real* science to be taught in public schools, and State Universities and Colleges, is that it would overthrow their system of moral anarchy, that results in a totalitarian dictatorship by the State, on what is "truth" and "right" (e.g., the "union" of two sex perverts with the sanction of the government [falsely called "gay marriage"] and the "toleration" of a radical religion with the goal of the complete takeover of the American government and Western Society [Islam]). The "fairy tale for grown-ups" (evolution) keeps things "in order."

Now there are two reasons why an atheist is a *fool*. No atheist can find "truth," and no atheist can do "good." According to that Book, "**without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God MUST BELIEVE THAT HE IS, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him**" (Heb. 11:6). John 7:17 lays down the law for any scientific researcher who professes to be "searching for the truth."

"If any man will do his will, he will know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself."

God pays no attention to a *dishonest skeptic*, and that's what atheists are, with few exceptions. Atheists are *agnostic relativists*: they believe in shifting, variable "truths" that change within the framework of what "works" or "doesn't work" in any given situation (pragmatism and "situation ethics"). Like Herod (Luke 23:8-9) and Pilate (John 18:38), God shows them *nothing*. That is why no atheist can find any "answers," because God gives no answers to sinners who believe there is no God; He simply calls them "**fools**" (Psa. 14:1).

And despite the recent campaign by atheists to "be good for goodness sake" (a "Christmas" campaign by the atheists to remove Jesus Christ from the holiday that claims to be celebrating His birthday), no atheist can do any

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real “good” (Psa. 14:1—“**there is none that doeth good**”). The bloodiest governments on this earth have been professing *atheists* (*Communist Russia, Communist China, Communist Cambodia, etc.*). Lenin was responsible for the deaths of nearly a million people. Stalin beat Lenin at his own game and had twenty million of his own citizens killed. But it is the atheist Mao Tse-tung who holds the world record for mass killings. During his time as “Chairman” of China, he had 45 million people executed. The Khmer Rouge (Cambodia Communists) slaughtered 200,000 of its own citizens, and Mikhail Bakunin (1840–1876), the “Father of Latin Communism,” has for his record the deaths of over 20,000 Latin Americans. *That* is the fruit of atheism when it is in charge.

The real joke, though, is the historical fact that the highest enlightenment on earth has never been able to produce even one nation of *real* atheists. Khrushchev, the former “Chairman” of the Soviet Union, when visiting the USA, once unwittingly blurted out, “Well, *God is on our side too.*” How’s that from a professing “atheist.”

Once an atheist fell into a swollen stream and was being swept away toward a waterfall. As he headed toward the falls, he screamed, “Oh God! Oh God! Oh God, help me!” A preacher who had dealt many times with the atheist heard him crying out and pushed a large fallen timber into the river, blocking the old sinner’s plunge over the edge. As the preacher hauled the atheist out of the water, he said, “I heard you callin’ on the good Lord. Thought you didn’t believe in God.” “Well, I don’t,” said the half-drowned man, “but there oughta be one around for a fella when he gets in a scrape like that!” Exactly.

A tombstone for an atheist should read: “Here lies an atheist; all dressed up and *nowhere to go.*” A “dial-a-prayer” for an atheist would be the fellow phoning the number and *nobody answering.*

A *real* atheist would be a man falling out of a burning plane at 20,000 feet without a chute and all the way down thinking of how “man” is the “master of his fate and the captain of his soul.” Such people never do, though. All the way to the ground they scream, “Oh God!” The old saying is: “There are no atheists in foxholes.” When the artillery shells are coming in and your buddy beside you is being blown to bits, you aren’t thinking how “man” will conquer his environment and populate outer space; you are preoccupied with *meeting your Maker.*

No atheist seeks God, no atheist *understands* God, and no atheist is *clean* before God (Psa. 14:2–3). Someone has aptly said, “An atheist is a fool who lives with no *invisible* means of support.”

Someone else has observed, “Egotism is the hypodermic God allows a man to use on himself to deaden the pain of being a *fool.*” Samuel Butler (1835–1902), the Victorian novelist, used to say, “Lord, I do NOT believe; help Thou mine UNBELIEF.”

By way of contrast, Lord Chesterfield once said to a gathering of nobility, “We, my lords, may thank Heaven that we have something better than our

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 brains to depend upon.” The organization American Atheists, the National Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Humanist Association, and the Freedom From Religion Foundation DON'T.

(Material taken from Dr. Ruckman's comments on Psa. 14:1 and Heb. 11:6 in those Commentaries of the *Bible Believer's Commentary Series*.)

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U.S.A., A Broken Reed

By Robert Militello

“Lo, thou trustest in the staff of THIS BROKEN REED, on Egypt; whereon if a man lean, it will go into his hand, and pierce it: so is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all that trust in him” (Isa. 36:6).

Around 712 B.C., Sennacherib, king of Assyria, sent his army under Rabshakeh to lay siege to Jerusalem. King Hezekiah of Judah, with his back to the wall, was looking to So, Pharaoh of Egypt, for help. Fast forward some 27 centuries, and think of how much trust Israel's Prime Minister has in the United States under President Barack Obama. I believe the Lord put the junior senator from Illinois in the White House to bring an end to Israel's false sense of security based on its relationship with the U.S.

“It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes” (Psa. 118:9).

Without a doubt, the greatest sign given the Gentile nations that God is the God of history and the Keeper of Israel is the emergence of the modern state of Israel. We are witnesses to a national resurrection from the dead. Could the Apaches of Arizona or the Seminoles of Florida retake their ancestral lands and flourish? The world has been confounded by little Israel's ability to survive and prosper though surrounded by Moslem nations with the shared goal of seeing the Jewish state destroyed.

“And he turned him unto his disciples, and said privately, Blessed are the eyes which see the things that you see: For I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired TO SEE THOSE THINGS WHICH YE SEE, and have not seen them” (Luke 10:23–24).

In light of what Bible believers see happening before their eyes, you would think the redeemed of the Lord would be immersing themselves in God's word and seeking to win souls just before they leave **“this present evil world”** (Gal. 1:4). You would have thought that in light of the miracles being done by Jesus of Nazareth, including raising a four-day-old corpse (Lazarus), the Jewish leadership would have embraced their King, the Son of David. What will it take for many of God's own saints to leave their comfort zone and sell out to Jesus Christ?

We have seen the gathering of the nations as prophesied by Zephaniah (3:8) in 630 B.C., so the Lord could **“pour upon them”** all His **“fierce anger.”** The UN in Manhattan is a testimony to the God of Jacob's ability to manipulate history so that it conforms exactly to the narrative of scripture. There is an increasingly unsettling conviction even among those who ignore the Bible or mock it that history is moving toward a geopolitical cataclysm of some kind. Planet earth is headed toward a showdown with its Creator.

“A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth; for THE LORD HATH A CONTROVERSY WITH THE NATIONS, he will plead with all flesh; he will give them that are wicked to the sword, saith the LORD” (Jer. 25:31).

Now in these last days before the King of Glory returns to take possession

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U.S.A., A Broken Reed

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of what He rightfully earned at His first coming, the nations are being allowed to arm themselves with weapons of which man never conceived since Adam and Eve. Weapons of mass destruction, chemical and toxic warheads fitted onto intercontinental missiles, and so-called "dirty bombs" able to fit in a suitcase are now available to man. Neutron bombs, canisters containing anthrax, and highly radioactive explosive devices can now be secretly manufactured and made ready for use when a government feels threatened by another nation, or even by its own population.

Some nations may now possess, or soon will possess, devices that can disturb and seriously disrupt the earth's magnetic field. A nation's entire electrical system could be fried by a so-called "EMP" (Electro-Magnetic Pulse) triggered high above us.

There is a prophecy concerning the days in which we are living that speaks to the way nations now deal with each other.

"Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up: Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: LET THE WEAK SAY, I AM STRONG" (Joel 3:9–10).

When in all of recorded history has a weak nation, a small nation, one with a military that cannot begin to intimidate a stronger neighbor, been able to say to a large hostile nation, "I can hurt you."

Look again at the last part of Joel 3:10. Small nations, developing nations, rogue nations like North Korea, Pakistan, and Iran, can say to powerful nations, "Watch out, I'm strong like you." This has never before happened in history. Judah didn't intimidate Rome, Samaria didn't frighten Assyria, and no one made England tremble for over three centuries. Powerful nations got their way by threatening military action.

In our day, the playing field is being leveled, thanks to nuclear and electronic technology. The world in which we presently live has become exceedingly dangerous and able to be destabilized in hours. Terrorism on an international scale will drive the nations to look for a man who promises freedom from fear. Remember FDR's famous line when he became president in 1933: "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself." What a joke!

"For when they shall say, PEACE AND SAFETY, then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and THEY SHALL NOT ESCAPE" (1 Thess. 5:3).

I believe the "they" in that verse are the nations. Notice that "peace and safety" are coupled together. The pope always prays for peace, and it hasn't come yet. Also, since the UN was born in 1945, replacing the League of Nations, there has been an explosion of wars, local and regional.

Right now, there are many nations living somewhat peacefully with each other, but that doesn't mean these nations feel safe. Israel lives in a danger-

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U.S.A., A Broken Reed

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ous neighborhood. It is not at war in the classical sense with any neighboring nation, but it certainly doesn't feel safe. Who will bring peace with safety to Israel? It will be a "christ" but not **"the LORD's Christ"** (Luke 2:26). Looking to the U.S., a **"broken reed,"** or even the European Union with its anti-Semitic undercurrents, to stand with Israel against the Moslem world is bankrupt geopolitical strategy.

"Zion spreadeth forth her hands, and THERE IS NONE TO COMFORT HER: the LORD hath commanded concerning Jacob, that his adversaries should be round about him: Jerusalem is as a menstruous woman among them" (Lam. 1:17).

When you no longer believe your best friend will stand by you, desperation begins to set in. President Obama's election in 2008 was obviously the Lord's way of squeezing Israel into a corner. Upon our departure (Tit. 2:13), the Jewish state will look to replace its bodyguard, for the U.S.A. will no longer be a superpower. Last year, it became apparent not only to Israel, but to a number of Arab states (Saudi Arabia included), that long-standing U.S. commitments in that region were subject to change. Someone will soon begin to emerge as a great statesman, a man of peace. Israel will begin to believe in him, slowly at first, but then much more readily.

"The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords" (Psa. 55:2).

What is it about human nature that causes people to seek relief anywhere and in anyone but the Lord Jesus Christ at the first? The Devil's christ will seem so much more attractive to Israel than the renegade Jew that set himself above Moses and said **"a greater than Solomon"** was among them (Luke 11:31). What "chutzpah" this Jesus had. Why embrace Him? This attitude will change, thank God, but first comes a chastening through which no nation on earth has ever gone or will be asked to go in the future.

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that the remnant of Israel, and such as are escaped of the house of Jacob, SHALL NO MORE AGAIN STAY UP HIM THAT SMOTE THEM; but shall stay upon the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth" (Isa. 10:20).

As a Bible believer, it hurts to know the land that you love and that has been blessed of God like no other nation since Israel in the days of Solomon will eventually throw Israel under the bus. The anti-Bible forces in this nation have made rapid gains lately. History is rushing to a climax, and the Devil knows it better than anyone in the UN.

Just a year ago, the Catholic Church turned to a Jesuit to lead it, even while a pope (Benedict XVI) was yet alive and possessed of a sound mind. *Time* magazine named Pope Francis its "Man of the Year" last December—no surprise there. Jews around the world think this pope is their friend. That

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misjudgment is more pathetic than America trusting President Obama to bring meaningful change to Washington, D.C.

“But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief” (1 Thess. 5:4).

There is absolutely no excuse for a Christian to be taken by surprise at the coming of the Lord for His bride. We have seen history line up with God's word in amazing ways. Some years ago, Israel made a currency switch. When the nation was born (1948), it used the Israeli Pound as its unit of legal tender. Back in February 1980, I was reading the *New York Times*, and I discovered that Israel had discontinued the pound note and introduced the shekel back into circulation. The old biblical currency was back just like Hebrew had to come back, and so will the One they rejected come back.

History is a long running play. We have been given seats for the final act. Is there any good reason why you should not be sold out to Jesus Christ?

Israel has Someone in its corner, and it is definitely not our President.

“For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed” (Mal. 3:6).

Our *King James Bible* has the book of Esther before the book of Job. Geopolitics in these last days must line up with the Bible. Job is a type of Israel going through the Great Tribulation. Forty-two chapters match the 42 months of **“Jacob's trouble”** (Jer. 30:7). In Esther, we find the Jews about to be slaughtered throughout the Persian Empire. In the days in which we live, Iran (biblical Persia) is Israel's greatest threat. Not a week goes by in which the Iranian Mullahs do not vow to destroy Israel. They are looking to build a nuclear weapon.

What book on this earth dared to predict the return of the Jews, the building up of Zion, the Persian threat, and the satanic attack on regathered Israel? It's here in Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, and Job. This order of historical events was not known to anyone in Christ's day and for years after. All they had then was the Hebrew canon which ended with 2 Chronicles. It wasn't until the New Testament was completed and the Old Testament books rearranged that the whole sweep of history could be seen, and that is what we see today in 2014. Glory to God! History's climax is upon us. We know it, but the UN doesn't. Are you looking for Him?

The Jews left Egypt on Passover (April 15th this year). We will leave our Egypt, **“this present evil world,”** in a moment; maybe this year. Have you said goodbye to this world in your heart, or are you like Lot's wife, unable to stop yourself from taking a last look? Don't be caught by surprise. Many of us have already had too many failures in our Christian walk; why add to the list?

“And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: FOR NOW IS OUR SALVATION NEARER than when we believed” (Rom. 13:11).

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Old Soldiers Never Die

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

There's a song they used to sing at West Point at graduation. The song goes: "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away."

There is some truth in that. If a soldier doesn't die in his first three actions, he just seems to go on until he fades away in old age. That is a great disappointment to those old-time combat veterans. Nothing hurts a combat soldier worse than to die in peace.

I was raised in a family where four generations of my family were commissioned officers. I was taught by my dad that the greatest honor for a man was to die for his country, especially being killed leading troops into battle. I don't believe that anymore. I wouldn't want to die for some scumbag like Clinton or some Marxist like Obama. I think the greatest thing a Christian can do is die *doing what God called him to do*.

But my dad believed the greatest thing he could do was to die leading troops in battle, and that's not what happened. He was a frontline Captain in World War I, with three battle stars: he had seen action three times and lived. What hurt him the most was when World War II came along and he got promoted to Colonel, he was put in the ordnance corps (weapons development). That's a branch of the quartermaster corps. In other words, when you get too old (my dad was fifty at the time) and can't see to shoot straight like you used to, they stick you in supply. The old quartermaster song goes, "My eyes are dim; I cannot see. I have not brought my specs with me."

Those combat veterans want to "die with their boots on," but strangely enough, the best ones never do. The best examples are two tank commanders: Patton and Rommel. Patton was known as "Old Blood and Guts" (*our* blood; *his* guts, you know). His men made fun of him, and some cussed him, but they respected him. They would do anything for him.

Hitler thought so much of Patton as a military commander that he told his General staff, "Stop Patton!" That's because when Patton made up his mind to take an objective he took it, no matter what the cost in lives; that's why they called him "Old Blood and Guts."

You would think a fellow like that would die in battle, but he didn't. He made it through the war and got hit by a truck and died in the hospital under questionable circumstances because he was talking about attacking Communist Russia.

Rommel was the German General to beat. He was such a formidable adversary that just the mention of his name was enough to demoralize the troops.



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British General Montgomery finally told his men, "Don't say 'Rommel'; say 'the enemy.'"

Well, Rommel got involved in an unsuccessful plot to kill Hitler, and he was given a choice: be hung in disgrace with his family sent to a concentration camp or take a cyanide pill, be buried with full military honors as a hero, and his wife would receive a full pension. Naturally he took the pill to spare his family.

"Old soldiers never die; they just fade away." They get out of circulation, and nobody keeps track of them anymore. People forget about them, and nobody honors them anymore for their service.

Now God has soldiers in His service. The Apostle Paul said:

"Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier" (2 Tim. 2:3-4).

He said, **"Fight the good fight of faith"** (1 Tim. 6:12), and **"war a good warfare"** (1 Tim. 1:18). So we are going to look at an old soldier in the Scripture, and he is an example for us in our Christian warfare. This would be *Joshua*.

The first time you see Joshua in the Scriptures, he is *in battle*. He is fighting the Amalekites as they attacked Israel when they came out of Egypt (Exod. 17:9-13). He fights for the rest of his life.

Some of God's soldiers had to fight all their lives. Bob Jones Sr. was like that. Bob Jones Sr. said one time, "I thought when I got to be sixty I could sit down and rest, but I found that I had been kicked so hard that I couldn't sit down." That old boy had been defrocked by his own denomination (the Methodists) because he wouldn't support Modernists in the Methodist Church. "Old man Bob" was so used to battle that sometimes he got a little strenuous about it when he didn't need to.

There was an old boxer named Iron Man Joe. He fought in the ring so much that he got "punchy" and had to quit boxing. He got into trouble and shot a cop, and went to jail. While in jail, a gospel singer named Nye came to visit him and led him to Christ. Iron Man Joe joined the Salvation Army when he got out of jail. That old boy couldn't read, so when he was out there in those street meetings, he would hold his songbook upside down and sing those hymns.

When he was asked about his salvation experience, he said, "When I heard about Christ dying for my sins, I figured that fellow didn't have a buddy in the world when He died, so I would be one of His buddies." Joe said when he got saved he "got a new manager" (that was his way of saying he had accepted Christ as his Lord and Saviour).

The next thing about God's soldier is that he usually has what is known as a *"mountain-top experience."* Joshua went up with Moses into Mt. Sinai when Moses got the Ten Commandments. There always comes an experience with real combat men that is shocking and terrible, but it is a defining moment with them. They usually don't want to talk about it because they don't want to relive it in their minds.

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I used to have a friend named Jake Godwin who was a Korean War vet. He was up on Pork Chop Hill one night when the “Gooks” attacked. The Chinese stormed the American position, and our boys had to fight them there in the trenches hand-to-hand. Godwin was running around cutting the iron straps off the ammo boxes with his bayonet so his buddies would have ammunition in the attack. After cutting so many of those straps, his blade became dull.

About that time, he ran right into one of the enemy. That Gook’s automatic rifle got caught right between the two of them where it was shooting away from them, and Godwin’s blade was so dull that it couldn’t cut through the other guy’s quilted winter overcoat. Finally Godwin got his knife behind the Chinaman’s back with the point in the guy’s ribs. All he had to do then was push the fellow back and let the point of the blade go through him. After Godwin killed that Chinese soldier, he went back to getting the ammo opened.

When Godwin told me that story, he really got into it. He was going through all the movements, and sweating and shaking. He was reliving the whole thing. I’ve seen that on more than one occasion talking to fellows who went through different things in combat; those were “mountain-top experiences.”

The next thing about Joshua is that he was *Spirit-filled*.

“And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him” (Deut. 34:9).

Oliver Cromwell was a great soldier, and he was a born-again man. There are three Generals in history who never lost a battle as long as they personally were leading the troops: Joshua, David, and Oliver Cromwell. Because of that, the English people wanted to make Cromwell King. He told them, “I’m not going to be your King; *God* is your King.” That’s what Gideon told the people in Judges 8:22–23. That was the basis of the American Revolution, but who is foolish enough to think that God is this country’s King *now*?

Gustavus Adolphus, the King of Sweden, was a spirit-filled soldier. He was a born-again, saved man who intervened on the behalf of the Lutherans in Germany during the Thirty Years’ War and prevented Germany from becoming 100% Catholic.

Stonewall Jackson was a great spirit-filled General during the Civil War on the Southern side. He was a saved man who loved the Lord and believed the Book. He encouraged prayer meetings in his camps. One night one of his officers came to him to shut down a prayer meeting that was going on after Taps, saying, “General, the manual says there should be no unusual sound in the camp after Taps.” Jackson replied, “God forbid that prayer should ever be an unusual sound in this camp,” and he let the men go on praying.

Robert E. Lee was a great spirit-filled man. After the Civil War was over, his men wanted him to go out to Texas and continue the war. He said, “No, it’s time to have peace,” and he became the president of a College that trained preachers.

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“Am I a soldier of the cross,
A follow'r of the Lamb?
And shall I fear to own His cause,
Or blush to speak His name?”

“Must I be carried to the skies
On flow'ry beds of ease,
While others fought to win the prize,
And sailed through bloody seas?”

If the Lord tarries, we are going to get our chance—*literally*.

I'll tell you something else about Joshua: he was *ready to fight*. When the Captain of the Lord's host appeared to Joshua there on the plains of Jericho, Joshua didn't know who He was at first, and he *challenged the Angel of the Lord* (Josh. 5:13). That was some soldier, boy.

Another thing about Joshua is that he *succeeded a great man*—Moses. Imagine what it would be like to try to fill Moses' shoes. When a great man dies, someone has to take his place, and the one who does rarely can do it successfully.

Melancthon wasn't the man Martin Luther was. Bob Jones Jr. was not the man his father was. Richard DeHaan couldn't take M. R. DeHaan's place without running down the ministry. When Beauchamp Vick died, he was replaced by Truman Dollar and A. V. Henderson, and neither one could take Vick's place. The Detroit Baptist Temple went from around 4,000 in attendance to about 900; then the congregation had to sell their building and move into a smaller one. Today, Vick's church is a charismatic outfit with “contemporary music” and the rest of the modern junk. You wouldn't even recognize Vick's work today.

Joshua had to take Moses' place because Moses represented *the Law* and Joshua represented *Jesus Christ*. **“The law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ”** (John 1:17). “Moses” can't get you into the “Promised Land” (Heaven); only Jesus Christ can do that.

It's hard to replace a good man. There was a first Lieutenant back in World War II named Wilson who commanded an assault regiment. His men made fun of him because he was young, quiet spoken, didn't smoke, didn't drink, never cussed; undoubtedly he was a Christian. But his troops would follow him because he would lead them and show them what to do. If they were afraid to transverse a minefield, he would say, “Follow me,” and he would be “point.” He did everything “by the book,” but he got his men through alive.

In one town in Germany, they were fighting house to house. As they were in the second or third story of one building trying to take out the machine gun nest on the top of a building across the street, Lieutenant Wilson got hit by a shell in his head. He put up his hand, trying to stop the bleeding, yelling to his men, “Hit me, hit me!” to keep his circulation going. He fell down to the floor,

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drew up his legs, kicked a table across the room, and died in one last gasp of breath. After the battle was over, and as the body of their commander was being taken away, his men stood there shaking their heads and saying, "Where the blank are we going to get another good one like him?" His men missed him.

Christian, when you're gone, is anyone going to miss you? Is your Lord going to miss you?

Now something else about Joshua that you wouldn't expect of a military man was that he was a *prophet*: he prophesied about the rebuilding of Jericho (Josh. 6:26 cf. 1 Kings 16:34). The old-time preachers were "prophets" in the sense, as Bob Jones Sr. used to say, that God raised them up in times of national declension to take the Lord's side in a controversy against the people. That was one of the marks of the Old Testament prophets. The old-time preachers like J. Frank Norris, Sam Jones, Mordecai Ham, and Bob Jones Sr. would *name sin* and *name sinners* in their preaching. That's what's missing from the preaching of this modern bunch.

Another thing about Joshua was *he had the problems all humans have*. The Bible says of Elijah that he "**was a man subject to like passions as we are**" (James 5:17). Men like Joshua and Elijah were sinners just like we are, but they were sinners *who trusted God and God used them*.

You take Joshua. When he came down from Mt. Sinai with Moses, he mistook a rock concert for a battle (Exod. 32:17–18); that was a trained combat veteran who couldn't tell the difference between the noise of battle and a dance. Joshua got overconfident at Ai and forgot to pray and get his battle plan from God; when the men of Gibeon showed up pretending to be ambassadors from a far country, he forgot to pray again and ended up making a league with a bunch of unsaved heathen. Joshua was human. He sinned; he made mistakes.

And finally, Joshua was "**faithful unto death**" (cf. Rev. 2:10). Paul said, "**I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith**" (2 Tim. 4:7).

Before Joshua dies, he calls all the children of Israel together and tells them, "**if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve . . . but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD**" (Josh. 24:15). That old boy is up around 110, and he's still determined to serve God.

Years ago there was a great Governor in Louisiana, named Nichols. Nichols was a Civil War veteran. He had lost an arm at the Battle of Manasseh, a leg at the Battle of Richmond, and an eye at the Battle of Sharpsburg. But not only was Nichols a brave soldier; he was a dedicated Christian.

One day some men came to see him. They were all dressed up in nice clothes like businessmen. They came there to pressure Nichols to pass a State lottery so organized crime could come in there. Of course, they bribed him and made veiled threats against him if he didn't do it.

Nichols grabbed his crutch with his one good arm, stood up on his one good foot, and looked those thugs in the eyes with his one good eye, and said, "Gentlemen, I understand what you mean perfectly. Do you see this bad arm?"

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♥ ♥ Heart Trouble ♥ ♥

By Tom Waddle

The *heart* is mentioned well over 800 times in the Bible. There are times that it's talking about the organ that pumps blood through the human body, but the one with which I'm going to deal is that thing inside you that drives your affections—what you love. The Strong's concordance says the heart, in its New Testament usage (2588), is "the thoughts or feelings (mind); also (by analogy) the *middle*." You'd think a concordance on *the Bible* could at least give you what *the Bible* says about it, wouldn't you? Well, it didn't.

According to *the Bible*, this heart has *thoughts* (Gen. 6:5), an *imagination* (Gen. 8:21), and can be *blind* and *astonished* (Deut. 28:28). It can be *deceived* (Deut. 11:16), *grieved* (Deut. 15:10), and *comforted* (Judg. 19:5). One man was given "**another heart**" (1 Sam. 10:9), and another man's heart was "**hardened**" (Exod. 7:13–14, 22). A heart can be *tender* (2 Kings 22:19), *faithful* (Neh. 9:8), or *broken* (Psa. 34:18). It can *direct* you (Deut. 30:17), *smite* you (2 Sam. 24:10), and even *stir you up* (Exod. 35:21).

So we will just ignore the Strong's concordance and believe what the Bible says about it. You are always safe believing what the Book says.

"God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged" (Rom. 3:4).

There is something wrong with man's heart. When I say "man's," I mean if you are a human being then you will *fit the profile*. Your heart without God is *wicked*.

"And 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 the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth" (Gen. 8:21).

The atheist's problem is not in his *head* (even though he may have a degree); it's in his *heart*. **"The fool hath said IN HIS HEART, there is no God"** (Psa. 14:1). He's got *heart trouble*.

"But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth FROM THE HEART; and they defile the man. For OUT OF THE HEART proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man" (Matt. 15:18–20).

If you hear something vile come out of a man's mouth, rest assured it just didn't come "out of the air"; he's got *heart trouble*. It is naturally bad; it is his native constitution.

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9). The heart of fallen man is not only "**wicked**," but "**desperately wicked**."

Now the Bible does mention "**an honest and good heart.**" Luke 8:15—**"But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with**

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♥ ♥ Heart Trouble ♥ ♥

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patience." How did that heart become "**honest and good**"? Isn't that worth thinking about? Shut that *blasted idiot box* off for a while and do some thinking.

Now think a minute. Here's a parable talking about the condition of the soil (the heart) and how it receives the seed (the word of God). The condition exists *before the word (seed) is sown*. Note: the condition of the soil is the decisive factor of reaping a good crop or not reaping one at all.

First, let's "put to bed" some erroneous gibberish the average preacher or teacher has been putting out for years. "Parables express only general truths, and we must not take details that are mentioned in these parables as specific truths." That, my friend, is just a lame excuse to quit studying your Bible.

Every part of every parable in the Bible, to quote Dr. Ruckman, is "an exact, correct, infallible, and perfect teaching of a doctrine given in a veiled and mysterious form, for the purpose of fouling up those who treat the Bible lightly or indifferently" (*Bible Believers' Commentary on Matthew*, 2000, pp. 284–285). Their heart isn't right.

"Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: For this people's heart is waxed gross, and *their ears* are dull of hearing, and *their eyes* they have closed; lest at any time they should see with *their eyes*, and hear with *their ears*, and should understand with *their heart*, and should be converted, and I should heal them" (Matt. 13:13–15).

God is not obligated to reveal truth to a man who doesn't want it. That's why these same preachers and teachers who reject the details of these parables when it comes to Bible truth are, like I remember someone saying, "dumber than a box of rocks." Amen, brother; amen.

"The legs of the lame are not equal: so *is* a parable in the mouth of fools As a thorn goeth up into the hand of a drunkard, so *is* a parable in the mouth of fools" (Prov. 26:7, 9).

It is clear, *in the Bible*, that "**the seed is the word of God**" (Luke 8:11), and the ground is *the heart* (Luke 8:15). There are four different types: the wayside, the rocky, the thorny, and the good ground. Note that how or if the seed (the word of God) bears fruit depends on the condition of your heart. The Bible is the only Book in the world that comes with the condition that what you get from it depends on your *heart attitude toward it*. Please read Ezekiel chapter 14. According to verse 4 in that chapter, "**I the LORD will answer him that cometh according to the multitude of his idols.**"

The *wayside* is where the ground is trodden down, and the Devil (the fowls) devour it. This one is when the heart is *unresponsive*. This is the heart that is given over to pleasure, keeping up with the latest fashion or that new business deal. Don't give your heart to the world. They will do nothing but

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♥ ♥ Heart Trouble ♥ ♥

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stomp it and make it where you can't even comprehend what God is trying to tell you.

The preaching of the word has no effect on those with unresponsive hearts. They may come to church and occupy a pew, but their heart is elsewhere. They are happy when "church" is over. The word has no place in their heart, so the Devil easily snatches it out so they couldn't remember it if they tried.

The next one is the *rocky ground*. This will be ground where there is a shallow layer of soil and then rocks. It will match what we call "thin-skinned Christians." They are very emotional—"receive the word with joy" (Luke 8:13)—but it's all on the surface. They are very easily offended and cannot endure any kind of trial or temptation. They are easily persuaded by baby-faced, fair-haired, positive speakers. It is ground where no plowing has been done. The word of God is just a "passing sentiment"; there's "**no root.**" "**For a while**"—there is no lasting persuasion; they are "**carried about with every wind of doctrine**" (Eph. 4:14).

Next is the *thorny ground*. This one can be hard to differentiate from good ground. This soil seems to be in good shape and may even start to see some results, but then it is soon surrounded by hostile weeds ready to kill it. You know what weeds are good for: choking the word so it becomes unfruitful, taking away all of the good nutrients, and covering the word so it cannot get good sunlight.

Remember, it's not because of faulty seed; the *ground wasn't prepared properly*. This is where the heart is filled with the "**cares and riches and pleasures of this life**" (Luke 8:14). They are "spiritual" on Sunday at church, but come Monday, they fit right in with the world. It is very easy to get "caught up" in this world, trying to pay the bills and keep your head above water, and *it's getting harder*. The Christian is not on equal playing ground. If you make any profession whatsoever of being a saved born-again Bible believer, the world is going to make sure to hold you to a higher standard; they know what's right.

Last is the *good ground*. This is the "**honest and good heart**" (Luke 8:15). It receives the word, gets depth, takes root, and bears fruit. These are the church members to whom every preacher wants to preach. After you preach, you are completely "worn out" because these church members soak up every word you say and keep "egging you on." They are not just hearers of the word, they are "**doers of the word**" also (James 1:22).

The secret is just giving *the Lord your heart*. "**My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways**" (Prov. 23:36). You must give it to Him and let Him prepare it to receive the word. It must be more than just a mental assent to the letter of the law. "**For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness**" (Rom. 10:10). We are told, "**Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life**" (Prov. 4:23).

Ask the Lord for a *truth-loving heart*, one that esteems "**the words of his mouth more than my necessary food**" (Job 23:12). "**Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me**" (Psa. 51:10).

Salvation is of the Jews

By Brian Donovan

When dealing with the woman at the well in Samaria, the Lord Jesus Christ makes a statement of truth that is to be completely rejected by anyone who wishes to get along and fit in with this world system. When Christ told that Gentile woman that **“salvation is of the Jews”** (John 4:22), He closed the door on a few billion Moslems, Hindus, Buddhists, atheists, and Roman Catholics, as well as every college-educated “inclusivist” in America. In this age of tolerance, this kind of dogmatic speech is unacceptable. But the Jesus Christ revealed in the Bible is never compatible with **“a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness”** (Prov. 30:12).

Any man interested in finding TRUTH must come to the Jews. It is the Jewish race that gave mankind the only book that reveals from where man came (Gen. 1) and where he is going (Rev. 22). It is the Jewish race that gave the world the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, **“the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David”** (Rev. 5:5), the promised **“ruler in Israel”** to come out of **“Bethlehem”** (Mic. 5:2). This “exclusivism” is the very reason that the vast majority of sinners will refuse the truth and damn themselves. The seed of Japheth and Ham must admit that God chose a race of people from which He would reveal truth and bring them salvation, and it was NOT them.

The masses of Gentiles must humble themselves before a Jewish Book that tells them **“salvation is of the Jews,”** but they are far too educated and proud to make such an admission. But the Creator of heaven and earth said that He would look to the man who **“trembleth at my word”** (Isa. 66:2). Well, dear reader, where is that word? Do you reckon it is found in Darwin’s *Origin of the Species*? How about Hawking’s *Brief History of Time*? Neither one of those men knew from where he came or where he is going (though Charlie has since found out). They may be good for a handful of speculative guesses that are good for a laugh, but the TRUTH? Hawking says the idea of Heaven or Hell is a “fairy story for people afraid of the dark.” His god is his brain, and very soon, his god is going to be eaten by worms.

The Jewish race comes from Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and his twelve sons. Just being of Abraham’s seed is not enough. Abraham produces a lineage through an Egyptian handmaid named Hagar that is rejected from the covenant (Gen. 17:18–21). That rejected lineage becomes a race of people through Ishmael who are wild men (Gen. 16:12), who never get over the fact of their rejection from the Promised Land. It is in Isaac that the Lord continues His promise (Gen. 17:21), but just being of Isaac’s seed is not enough. Isaac’s elder son, named Esau, is rejected and excluded from the covenant that is given to his younger brother Jacob (Gen. 25:23). It is only through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob that salvation came to this world.

Jacob becomes the stereotypical Jew. I realize you are not supposed to

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Salvation is of the Jews

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“stereotype,” but every college professor in America stereotypes every single day. He just pretends he doesn't. For instance, I walk onto an airplane with a big Bible in hand and immediately get stereotyped. No problem with me; just quit pretending that you don't stereotype.

Now Jacob is the typical Jew. He is crafty and cunning (Gen. 27:20), lives by sight (Gen. 29:10), knows exactly how to make financial gains (Gen. 25:31), has supernatural protection in this world (Gen. 31:29), and is extremely intelligent (Gen. 30:37–42). The Gentile world notices these things and is jealous of these abilities and differences, no matter how much it pretends not to notice.

Back in 1994, an interesting book was published called *The Bell Curve*. The facts presented in that book have been quickly and quietly cast aside because facts can be stubborn problems when you have an agenda. In that book, along with a few other published studies, the facts were shown that “all men are NOT created equal.” Charts are given that show (by race) the chances of being incarcerated, being born illegitimately, and even worse for this politically correct generation, intelligence quotients. The studies proved that, on a consistent basis, one race comes out on top and another comes out on the bottom. Let's forget about which one comes out on the bottom; just be advised that the Jewish average I.Q. is persistently higher than the other races. This accounts for the reason that Adolf Hitler dismissed the use of I.Q. tests in Germany. I believe it is called “having an agenda.” Now I wonder what yours would be that makes you so upset at these facts?

Like it or lump it, the Jews are a special people, separate from the nations, with a special land covenant given to them that the Gentiles cannot have (Psa. 135:10–12). From within this land comes salvation and light to a dark world (Matt. 4:16). The **“one mediator between God and men”** is a **“MAN.”** He is a Jew, and his name is Jesus Christ (1 Tim. 2:5). When He came to this earth as God **“manifest in the flesh”** (1 Tim. 3:16), He was rejected by His own people, the Jews (John 1:11). Given chance after chance, they rejected their Messiah (John 19), and the tragedy of the last 2,000 years is to observe the history and results of this chosen people's error. The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob sent them salvation, and when they chose Caesar instead (John 19:15), they chose the blood of

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Old Soldiers Never Die

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I lost this arm at Manasseh. Do you see this bad leg? I lost it at Richmond. Do you see this bad eye. I had it knocked out at Sharpburg. Gentlemen, you may leave me blind, armless, and legless; but there is not enough money on this earth to buy me."

Now that is a soldier who was "faithful unto death."

The word *Joshua* is the Old Testament word for *Jesus*. Joshua is a type of the Lord Jesus Christ at His Second Coming. That's why Christ is called the Captain of our salvation (Heb. 2:10). Is he *your* Captain? Have you "joined up"? Are you part of the Lord's army by trusting Him as your Saviour?

(Editor's note: *The Bible Believer's Commentary on Joshua* is now available from the Bible Baptist Bookstore. See the ad on page 5.)

Salvation is of the Jews

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millions of their children (Matt. 27:25).

When one of the sons of the Roman Catholic Church was used to begin slaughtering the Jews, some well meaning Gentiles tried to step in and help, but without salvation, it was to no avail. In Holland, Anne Frank and her Jewish family were hidden from the Nazis for over two years, from July 1942 through August 1944. Yet Anne, her sister Margot, and their mother all died in concentration camps, with Anne dying within one month of the British liberating Belsen-Belsen. Not far from that scene in Amsterdam, some Gentiles tried to help save some

Jews at the Ten Boom home. In one famous incident, four Jews were hidden behind a false wall that the Germans couldn't figure out, though they were inches from them, only to have those same Jews die later and face eternity without salvation.

My conclusion is that there is only one Book (and it was given through the *Jews*), and only one Saviour (and He was given through the *Jewish race*), and only through Him is salvation come. Whether you are a Jew or a Gentile, you must submit to this fact: "salvation is of the Jews."

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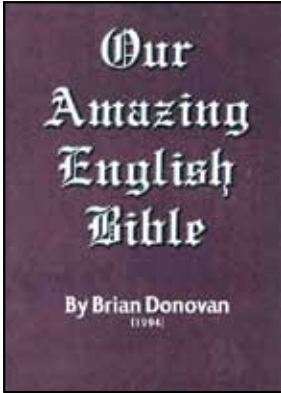
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By Brian Donovan

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THE CREED OF THE ALEXANDRIAN CULT

1. There is **no final authority** but God.
2. Since God is a Spirit, there is **no final authority** that can be seen, heard, read, felt, or handled.
3. Since all books are material, there is **no book on this earth that is the final and absolute authority** on what is right and what is wrong, what constitutes truth and what constitutes error.
4. There **WAS** a series of writings one time which, **IF** they had all been put into a **BOOK** as soon as they were written the first time, **WOULD HAVE** constituted an infallible and final authority by which to judge truth and error.
5. However, this series of writings was lost, and the God who inspired them was **unable to preserve their content** through Bible-believing Christians at Antioch (Syria), where the first Bible teachers were (Acts 13:1), and where the first missionary trip originated (Acts 13:1-52), and where the word “*Christian*” originated (Acts 11:26).
6. So God chose to **ALMOST** preserve them through Gnostics and philosophers from Alexandria, Egypt, even though God called His Son **OUT** of Egypt (Matthew 2), Jacob **OUT** of Egypt (Genesis 49), Israel **OUT** of Egypt (Exodus 15), and Joseph’s bones **OUT** of Egypt (Exodus 13).
7. So there are two streams of Bibles. The most accurate—though, of course, there is **no final, absolute authority** for determining truth and error; it is a matter of “preference”—are the Egyptian translations from Alexandria, Egypt, which are “almost the originals,” although not quite.
8. The most **inaccurate translations** were those that brought about the German Reformation (Luther, Zwingli, Boehler, Zinzendorf, Spener, et al.) and the worldwide missionary movement of the English-speaking people: the Bible that Sunday, Torrey, Moody, Finney, Spurgeon, Whitefield, Wesley, and Chapman used.
9. But we can “tolerate” these if those who believe in them will “tolerate” US. After all, since there is **NO ABSOLUTE AND FINAL AUTHORITY** that anyone can read, teach, preach, or handle, the whole thing is a matter of “PREFERENCE.” You may prefer what you prefer, and we will prefer what we prefer. Let us live in peace, and if we cannot agree on anything or everything, let us all agree on one thing: **THERE IS NO FINAL, ABSOLUTE, WRITTEN AUTHORITY OF GOD ANYWHERE ON THIS EARTH.**

This is the Creed of the Alexandrian Cult.

King James Bible Conference

Victory Baptist Church of Hartland, Michigan will be hosting its annual King James Bible Conference on April 17-19, 2014.

Services will be 10 A.M. and 7 P.M. on Thursday and Friday, and Saturday at 6 P.M. The church is located at 3642 Washington Street, Hartland, MI 48353.

More information can be had at www.vbchartland.org or by calling the church at 810-632-6337.

Preaching this year will be Pastor David Peacock, Pastor Bobby Utley, Evangelist Jack Patterson, Evangelist Charles Tenney, and others.

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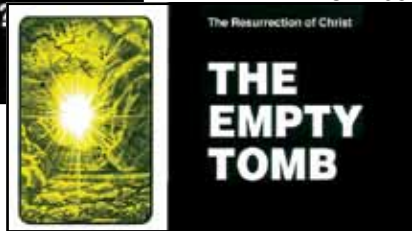
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Pensacola WEBY 1330 AM Brooksville WKJO 102.7 FM	8:00 A.M. Sun. 4:00 P.M. Fri.
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MICHIGAN	
Lupton WMSD 90.9 FM	8:15 P.M. Wed.
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