



Bible Believers' Bulletin

Vol. 41 No. 11 "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17) November 2017

The Flat Earth Conspiracy

By Brian Donovan

When I was a younger boy, I remember going through the checkout lines with Mom at the market and seeing a newspaper called *The National Enquirer*. In 1953, the paper was turned into a sensational tabloid by its owner, named Pope, for the sole purpose of more sales. The *Enquirer* used wild conspiracy headlines that often grabbed the attention, but by the 1960's the stories became laughable. Stories included that Hitler and JFK were alive, the government controlled the weather to kill us, the moon landing was a hoax, Elvis was alive, as was Marilyn Monroe and Jimmy Hoffa and aliens abducted people and implanted devices to control the mind and erase memory, etc. Back in 1981, as a young Christian, I was told about a conspiracy that the earth was hollow and that a

race of scientifically advanced giants, who were between 400-800 years old, dwelt inside. They could be reached by flying to the North Pole and any plane trying to fly directly north or south would eventually fly into the hollow earth as it is not possible to fly over the poles. Admiral Byrd and a few others had encountered this "truth" and it was being hidden from us in a massive conspiracy. I bought the book called *The Hollow Earth* by Raymond Bernard, B.A., M.A., Ph.D. and still have it in my library. It certainly was "intriguing" to read. There are supposed to be 1400 mile wide openings at the north and south poles that will bring you into the hollow earth if you try to fly over the poles, but in a concerted conspiracy, no one is allowed to do that or ever talk about it if they get close enough to the openings. As a young Christian, I listened and watched closely as a few older Christians got caught up in the conspiracy and constantly talked about it and the need to get to the bottom of it. It became their "gospel", not only with other Christians but with lost sinners.

Another old conspiracy theory that
Continued on 13

In This Bulletin

The Flat Earth Conspiracy.....	1
What Every American Should Be Thankful For	2
Acts 8:37 and Final Authority.....	24
National Embarrassments	31

New Commentary on Mark—see page 9

What Every American Should Be Thankful For

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

“Praise ye the LORD. I will praise the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation” (Psa. 111:1).

I am no “pinko,” Communist, or Socialist. I am a red, white, and blue American. My people were military people for four generations. I was raised on the flag and to believe dying in combat in the service of this country was the greatest honor a man could have. Of course, since I have been saved, I don’t believe that anymore. I believe the greatest honor a man can have is to live and die in the service of his Lord and Saviour.

Nevertheless, I am still a loyal American. I must admit, I have lost a lot of my patriotism over the years, mainly by studying the leaders and the government. But I am still a real American. The Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights were all written by my crowd: *white, straight, male, Anglo-Saxon Protestants*. If that offends you, too bad. You say, “If you don’t like America, Ruckman, why don’t you leave it?” You leave it; my bunch was here first.

Now there are some things for which every real American should be thankful to God, and its leadership over the last few decades is not one of them. But the first one to which I want to draw your attention is found in Psalm 111:5—**“He hath given meat unto them that fear him.”**

David wrote, **“I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen**

the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread” (Psa. 37:25).

We ought to thank God for the *natural resources* God has put in this land. Before the white man came over here, this land belonged to the Indians, and for various reasons, among which was the idolatry of spirit worship (animism), they couldn’t appropriate all of it. As *one nation*, this country has more natural resources than any other on earth. As a continent, Africa has more, but Africa is broken into several nations by tribalism and false religions. Some parts of Africa have been decimated by diseases spread through fornication (like AIDS). Because of all the in-fighting and disease, the Africans can’t make sufficient use of the resources they have.

America is a *big* country. That used to be reflected in its machines, its farm lands, its literature, and even in its citizens. I have traveled all around the world, and there aren’t the fertile farmlands like you find in Iowa, Ohio, and Illinois. There are no mountain ranges like in the Rockies and the Smokies. There certainly are higher ones like the Himalayas, but they are not wooded and beautiful like the ones here in the United States. No country has rivers like the Missouri and the Mississippi. The Nile and the Amazon certainly are bigger, but when it comes to climate, industry, and farming, the Missouri-Mississippi system beats the other two hands down.

America is a big country. I travel farther in a year than the Apostle Paul

Continued on 3

What Every American Should Be Thankful For

Continued from 2
traveled in a lifetime, and it's all in the *same country*. If you've ever traveled to another country, you don't realize what a blessing it is to live in the United States. Russia and China may be larger in territory than America, but as a citizen, you can't just pick up and move where you want when you want. Those governments restrict the movements of their citizens.

Up until the 1980s, this country was self-sustaining. Not anymore. Now we are in debt to Communist China. We have more oil reserves than any other nation on earth, but because of the Communists in the Democratic Party and the environmental movement, the Moslems in Saudi Arabia and the Socialists in Venezuela have us, literally, over a barrel—a barrel of oil.

Nevertheless, this nation has great resources. Nearly everyone in this country has enough to eat, and if you don't, you can get help getting food. Fifty-eight percent of the American population eats out weekly. The sad fact is, a lot of the wheat and corn grain in this land are turned into *liquor*.

These “the-sky-is-falling” environmentalists complain about “over-population.” As of 2015, our population was 321.4 million, and that was down about fifty million from the last time I preached this sermon. With that size population, there is enough land in this country to provide five acres to every American.

Back to Psalm 111: **“A good understanding have all they that do his commandments”** (Psa. 111:10).

Now I know there are a lot of unsaved people in this country who don't fear God and don't keep His commandments. But I'll tell you what you do have in this country, which is rapidly disappearing with all the “politically correct” mess—it is a *sense of humor*. You should thank God for that. Americans have always had a native sense of humor about things that allows them to know a fake when they see it.

Television has been the curse of this country; it has greatly curtailed the ability of the average American to spot a fake. With Hollywood and New York feeding Americans their sense of humor (usually left-wing, dirty stuff), most Americans have been conditioned to take the news media seriously. *Never take CBS, NBC, ABC, CNN, and FOX seriously.*

Your Saviour said, **“that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God”** (Luke 16:15). So the best rule of thumb is, if the news media is for something or trying to make a god or goddess out of someone, don't hesitate two seconds to make fun of it (or him or her). Just go ahead and mock it and ridicule it; you'll get it right nine times out of ten.

G.I.s are great ones for making jokes about things that normally wouldn't be funny, but they do that to keep from going crazy. A group of Marines go into an attack, and some “gunny” gets blown up into a thousand pieces. One private says to his buddy, “It'll take more than that to stop the

What Every American Should Be Thankful For

Continued from 3

Sarge.” That may be morbid, but it’s funny. It’s called “iron humor.”

There was a bumpersticker out when Clinton and Obama were in office that said: “Lee Oswald, where are you when we need you?” You say, “The very idea, Ruckman, joking about an assassination.” Sure man, JFK was the son of a bootlegger who got into office on his daddy’s liquor money. He was a womanizer, an adulterer, and had VD. He got a bunch of Cubans killed who were trying to take back their country from a murderous Communist. Sure, why not joke about it? The very idea of making a god out of a scumbag like that and requiring that I take him seriously. No, I don’t! Not in America; not yet.

Folks get upset at me for what I say about the pope. I call him a “monkey man” (that’s John Paul II, Benedict XVI, and “Francis”—all the same crew). Do you know why? Because he says the Genesis account of creation is a myth, and we all got here by evolution. He teaches Adam and Eve were a couple of apes God chose to elevate to the status of “human.” Well, he ought to know who his ancestors are better than I, so I call him what he claims to be—a *monkey man*. Why take the pope seriously if evolution is true?

Two Moslem women are sitting, talking about their sons dying in suicide bombings. One sighs and says, “They blow up so quickly.” Some of you will get more upset at that joke than you will at the mothers who let

their children sacrifice themselves in service to a false god, the imams who teach them they can get to paradise and fornicate with 72 perpetual virgins for doing it, or the victims they killed and maimed. Why respect a bunch of barbarians like that?

Americans used to have more sense than that, but now they have to walk around on egg shells, trying not to “offend” anybody. You call that “the land of the free and the home of the brave”? Why don’t some of you thin-skinned sissies get offended when the “left” tells you you can’t put a manger scene up in front of the court house or some teacher throws a child’s Bible in the trash can so he can’t read it at “free time” or the police threaten to arrest a first grader for reading to with his classmates the verses his mother puts in his lunch box to encourage him or the school forbidding children from singing Christmas carols at the school Christmas program? That stuff is against everything the Founding Fathers set up—whether they were saved or lost.

“The works of the LORD are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein” (Psa. 111:2).

Every American, no matter what his “denomination,” should thank God for the *Protestant heritage* of this nation. If you are a Catholic, then you had better thank God you weren’t born Catholic in Spain or Mexico or Italy or Poland or the Philippines. A Catholic in America has freedom from his church that Catholics in those countries don’t

Continued on 5

What Every American Should Be Thankful For

Continued from 4

have. If you don't believe me, talk to Raymond Jones down in Mexico; he was raised there. Talk to Mike Wolski over in Poland. Talk to Dean Mazzaferri over in Italy. Learn some things about your "brethren" in places where the priests have an iron grip on the lives and thoughts of the people. Don't be a prejudiced bigot all your life.

Stop filling your mind with sewage from the "glass toilet" (the TV). Stop being brainwashed by professional models on the boob tube reading propaganda off a "teleprompter." I have been over to places like Germany, Austria, India, and the Philippines. Those people under the thumb of the Catholic Church in those countries want to come over here to get some relief from the oppressive spirit. There isn't a Moslem woman in Pakistan or Afghanistan or Saudi Arabia or Iran or Libya who wouldn't rather be over here if given a chance. That's because this country was founded by a bunch of Bible-believing people trying to escape a church state.

The United States of America and Israel are the only two nations in history that *started right*. All the rest of the nations started with a *pagan religion* or a *state church*. America is the only country since the Lord called Israel out of Egypt that began with God and the Bible. This country wasn't ever under the control of a church state, like Roman Catholicism in Spain and Italy, or Lutheranism in Germany and Denmark, or Presbyterianism in Scotland, or Anglicanism in England. All those

churches were over here and active, but none of them were churches which the state required the citizens to belong to and support with tax dollars. Each denomination was allowed to operate, evangelize or proselyte, disciple its converts, and influence the communities where they were without the state enforcing that religion on anyone. That's not how things were back in the "Old Country." What few freedoms you have in regards to the so-called "separation of church and state" are "hangovers" from that Protestant heritage. You should thank God for that.

"His work is honourable and glorious: and his righteousness endureth for ever" (Psa. 111:3).

You should be thankful for the "*right-wing*" *conservatism* still found in this country. Thank God for people, even *unsaved* people, who still believe in the Ten Commandments, old-fashioned morality, and aren't socialistic Marxists.

There's a big flap between Republicans and Democrats right now about bringing in millions of Moslem "refugees" who won't assimilate and believe in destroying the freedoms and laws of this country with their own church state (Sharia—Koranic law). Back in the days when the immigrants were "screened" in places like Ellis Island in New York, those Germans and Irish and Polaks and Italians were asked why they wanted to live in this country. One fellow said, "I want to live a peaceable life and

Continued on 6

What Every American Should Be Thankful For

Continued from 5
earn an honest living.” The immigration official said, “Good; that’s not one of our overcrowded fields.” Another immigrant was asked a question: “Would you advocate the overthrow of the government by subversion, rioting, or violence?” The poor fellow thought it was a multiple-choice question and answered, “Uh, violence?” (Maybe groups like “Black Lives Matter” and “CAIR” ought to take a quiz like that.)

Proverbs 28:2 says, **“For the transgression of a land many are the princes thereof.”** The more rotten a country is morally, the bigger the bureaucracy. The founder of Pennsylvania (William Penn) said, “Those who will not be governed by God will be ruled by tyrants.” If an individual or a country will not let God run it, the devil will; you don’t have any other choice in the matter (Luke 16:13).

The current “police state” of this nation is a protective overkill. The government wants to control all circumstances so nothing bad can happen. It wants to control everything until *the government takes God’s place*. The state becomes the substitute for God; it becomes your provider, your protector, your healer, and your rewarder.

That’s what happened in the old Soviet Union. The Communist bureaucracy inserted itself in the place of God in the minds of its citizens. In the public schools, the “change agents” for the State (the public school teachers) would stand before a classroom of chil-

dren who were hungry due to the *policies of the state* and say, “Children, bow your head and pray to God for some food.” After the children prayed and no food miraculously appeared, the teachers would say, “Now bow your head and ask Stalin (or Lenin or Khrushchev or whomever) for some food.” And while those kids’ heads were bowed and their eyes were closed, Communist soldiers would wheel in trays of food for the children. So under a socialistic “republic,” the children are taught *the state is God*.

I am here to tell you that the One who supplies my needs is *God* (Phil. 4:19). The One who heals me is *God* (Psa. 103:3). And the One who is my **“exceeding great reward”** is *God* (Gen. 15:1). It is NOT Washington, D.C., the Congress, the Supreme Court, or the president (whoever that might be). The lesson of history is that what the government giveth, the government taketh away. Like David, you had better rely on the mercies of God rather than **“the hand of man”** (2 Sam. 24:14).

“He hath shewed his people the power of his works, that he may give them the heritage of the heathen” (Psa. 111:6).

As an American, you should be thankful for *Bible-preach-*

Continued on 7

What Every American Should Be Thankful For

Continued from 6
ing ministers. I am not talking about this modern “coping and sharing,” scripture-twisting, “purpose-driven,” “seeker-sensitive,” “emergent,” ecumenical, positive-thinking, liberal, modernistic bunch of apostates filling the pulpits of “megachurches.” I am talking about preachers who believe the Book from cover to cover, preach sound doctrine, preach against sin, and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ.

There are still some preachers in this country like that. They haven’t all sold out. You won’t hear about them on TBN or Daystar or the National Religious Broadcasters, but they’re out there. They usually have small churches. They aren’t “influential” when it comes to the world’s standards, but they still believe the King James Bible and preach the truth.

You had better thank God for them while you have them. The moment they’re gone, the Lord will probably blow this country to a “fair thee well.” That’s what happened to Sodom and Gomorrah. If they had had some Bible-believing preachers winning souls, God would have spared those cities (Gen. 18:23–32 cf. Matt. 11:23).

Men like J. Frank Norris, M. R. DeHaan, Bob Jones Sr., Billy Sunday, Lester Roloff, and Oliver

Greene did more to “make this world a better place to live in” than any government bureaucracy or program like the Health and Welfare Department, food stamps, Obamacare, Medicare, or Social Security. That’s because a Bible-believing preacher improves the *individual*, not just his circumstances. The gospel changes people. You don’t change the people by changing the environment; you change the environment by changing the people. That’s why no gun-control law ever works. Thugs, criminals, and murderers will find a way to get guns and abuse them no matter how many laws you pass. The *hearts* of people have to be changed for the killing and shooting to go down.

At the end of “Drawing Men to Christ,” I have a segment where I talk to the viewers by myself. On most other programs, that end segment is saved to plead for funds to stay on the air or add more stations. Now I am thankful for Bro. Jerry Dunson getting me on the air and for all the stations the program is on. I hope the Lord opens more doors for the program. But I will not get caught up in begging for more money for more stations, which forces you to beg for more money to stay on the stations into which you over-

Continued on 8

What Every American Should Be Thankful For

Continued from 7
extended yourself.

I tell the viewer to keep his money to buy himself a clean shirt. I am not after his money; I am after his *hide*. I want the sinner to *trust Christ*, not send me his money.

The more souls that come to Christ and follow the Book, the better place this world will be in which to live. Bible-preaching ministers have done more for this country than the CIA, the HRS, the NAACP, the NEA, the CFR, or the ACLU combined.

What is a preacher doing if he doesn't give you anything to prepare for death or to meet God? D. L. Moody asked a liberal one time, "What do you preach? I never hear you preach about life after death or how to get to heaven or the new birth or how to get forgiveness of sins. What do you preach?" The liberal replied, "I preach social justice and racial equality." "Doesn't it seem kind of pointless at times?" asked Moody. That liberal hung his head and said, "Yes, as a matter of fact, it does."

But not only is the preacher proclaiming the "**wonderful works**" of God, the Holy Spirit is causing them "**to be remembered**" (Psa. 111:4). Jesus said when the Holy Spirit came to indwell the believer, He would "**teach you all things, and bring all things to your re-**

membrance, whatsoever I have said unto you" (John 14:26). So if you are saved, you should be thankful for *the indwelling presence of the Spirit of God*.

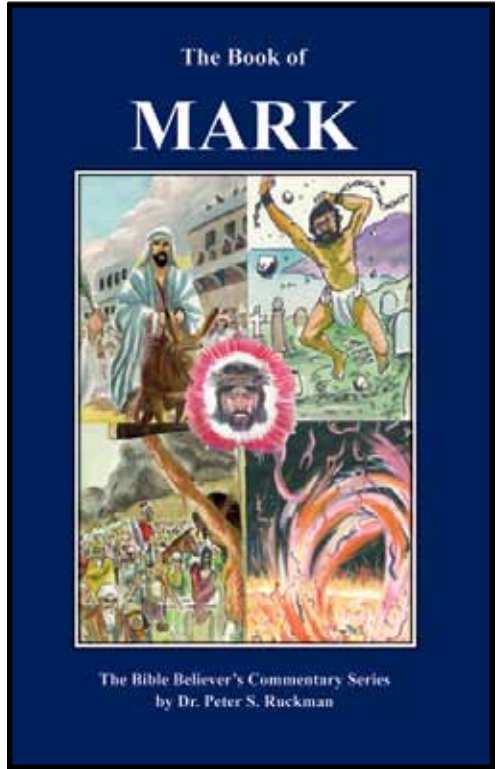
Maybe you don't realize just how blessed you are to live here in America. I know God is omnipresent but when a land ceases to believe that Book and ceases to acknowledge the God of that Book and continually rejects the gospel, the Lord ceases to manifest His presence in that land. I have traveled all over this world, and I can tell you that the spiritual atmosphere of Europe and India is not the same as it is here. I led a German to Christ here in Pensacola, and he had to return to Germany because he didn't have what he needed to stay in this country. That fellow cried and said, "I don't want to go back, Bro. Ruckman. In Germany God is dead." He didn't mean that God was literally dead like Nietzsche taught. He meant that he couldn't feel God's presence over there like he could here.

I know this country is in rough shape, but you still have a better chance of hearing the gospel here than in Saudi Arabia, Austria, Italy, Spain, France, Malaysia, Afghanistan, etc. There are more Bible-preaching churches in Jacksonville, Florida or Dallas, Texas than

Continued on 10

MARK COMMENTARY

The Bookstore is pleased to offer the volume completing Dr. Ruckman's comments on the entire New Testament. Based on Dr. Ruckman's Sunday school teaching, the work covers the textual distinctives of the Gospel of Mark, with the attacks of the textual and higher critics discussed and refuted. The doctrinal progress of the gospel message from the ministry of Christ to its proclamation in the Acts of the Apostles is traced. Roman Catholic teachings on the Passion Week and the Crucifixion are shown to be legends and myths. As in all the commentaries in this series, Dr. Ruckman, in his own signature way, makes practical application to the life of the believer as well as an evangelistic emphasis for the lost.



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What Every American Should Be Thankful For

Continued from 8
you will find in the whole country of Poland. There are villages in India where no one has even heard the name of Jesus Christ. Why, there are highways in this country where you can't drive ten miles down the road without seeing a billboard or a sign about Jesus Christ, the Bible, or a church. You still have access to the truth in this country, and it is *plentiful* if you really want it. There are all kinds of tracts, Christian bookstores, Bibles, Christian radio stations, etc., where the Holy Spirit is still working and testifying to the truth.

And that brings me to my last point: you should be thankful that there are *still chances to be saved* in this country. Of course, it is growing less and less. There are all kinds of churches in this nation that *used* to preach the gospel. Now they are just places to hear lectures on how to have a better life or how to keep your family together by letting your wife run things or how to lead a moral life to get to heaven. The pulpit is out; the old Book is out; the choir and the organ are out. They have been replaced with a pastor who "raps" with his congregation, up to two dozen or more modern translations that all say something different, and a rock band. Churches are hav-

ing to put in coffee shops and fast-food joints in the vestibule just to get people to walk through the door. But here and there are Christians still witnessing, still passing out tracts, still preaching from a King James Bible.

When I was 27 years old, I hadn't heard the gospel a single time, and I was a college graduate from the "Bible belt" (the University of Alabama). That was back in 1949, when the gospel wasn't that hard to find. The "pace" has "picked up" since then. You can go into some church buildings and encounter no sign of the gospel whatsoever. But there are still places and people giving out the truth about salvation.

Jack Chick is still putting out tracts all over the world. Bearing Precious Seed and the Trinitarian Bible Society are putting out gospels, New Testaments, and Bibles all over the place. Jerry Dunson has got my program on satellite television over in the Middle East where Moslems and Jews can get the truth. Bible Baptist has something like 65 missionaries out on the foreign field and dozens of pastors and associate pastors all over this nation preaching the Book. That doesn't even count the other mission boards and pastors from

Continued on 11

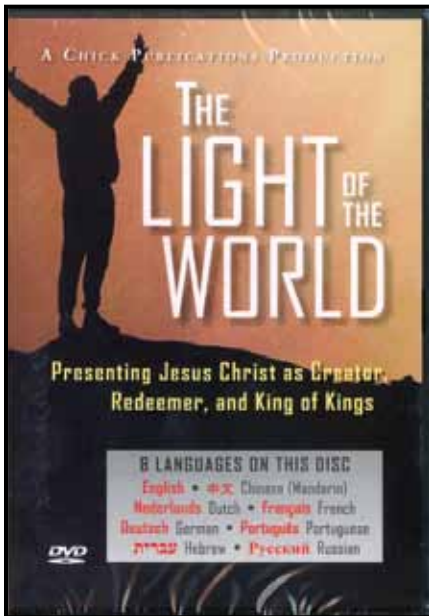
What Every American Should Be Thankful For

Continued from 10 other works who still believe and preach the Book. You had rather go to hell from the Amazon or Iran or Bhutan than you had from the United States, because anyone in this country has more of a chance to receive Christ than anyone in those nations; you will have no excuse for turning

down the gospel when it was so available.

The lights are just about out. The shades of night are falling. But here and there in the gathering gloom are still some candles burning. You had better be thankful if the Holy Spirit is still dealing with you, and you had better take the truth while you can still get it.

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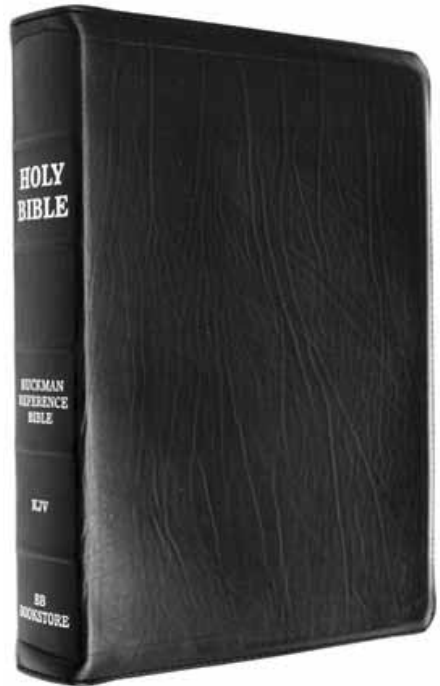
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The Flat Earth Conspiracy

Continued from 1

has resurfaced again is that the Bible teaches that the earth is flat and all of the scientists, airline pilots, military personnel, and seafaring captains of every nation are hiding this fact from a few billion dummies. NASA is said to be the chief conspirator, as it has never reached the moon, and every picture of the earth from space is a lie that has purposely been rigged to make it appear to be a globe. The astronauts are merely Hollywood actors who have played a part in a movie filmed inside a jumbo jet to mimic zero gravity. Jeffrey Williams and James Irwin were NASA astronauts and not only were they both born again Christians but were not ashamed to be a witness for the Lord Jesus Christ, making them to be quite the hypocrites in the faith if they took part in such duplicity. Irwin claimed that his trip to the moon was used of the Lord to help him quit being a "silent Christian" and he became much more vocal and public about his Saviour after the Apollo 15 mission. Irwin believed the Bible account of creation and rejected evolution. He went to his grave without ever confessing the part he supposedly took in this great hoax of not really landing on the moon.

The flat earth theory teaches that the sun and moon are both about thirty-two miles in diameter, circling above our heads a few thousand miles up, both shining as spotlights that light up a portion of the earth at a time. Because the sun's light does not reach the outer edges of the earth, proponents say that a huge wall of ice surrounds the earth, holding in the oceans, teaching that

there is no such thing as the continent called Antarctica. Many ocean-going vessels and airline pilots are reported to have seen this 150-200 foot high ice wall around the earth but are not allowed to talk about it, lest the duped public find out the truth.

The flat earth conspirators believe the moon is a flat disc that possesses its own light. Yet every Bible verse that talks about the moon's light going out, or it being turned into blood is always connected to the sun's light going out first, showing that the moon's light comes from the sun (see Isaiah 13:10, Matthew 24:29, Joel 2:10, Acts 2:20, Ezekiel 32:7). The moon is a type of the church in that she follows the Sun (John 21:22), reflects His light to this dark world at night (Philippians 2:15, Romans 13:12), and has no life or light of her own (Colossians 3:3, Job 25:5). The conspiracy continues with saying that the moon is not solid, and passes through the sun during "apparent" eclipses. The "proofs" given for the theory include the flat appearance of the horizon to an observer, the angles that the sun's rays hit our earth, and the fact that water always finds the lowest flattest level to rest. Rather than waste time with the numerous "scientific reasons" the conspirators put forth to prove their idea, in this article, I would like to take the novel approach of **"what saith the scripture"**. Now the reader should understand that we are not going to waste hours watching youtube videos of losers who film themselves to attract attention to themselves and then look to see if

Continued on 14

The Flat Earth Conspiracy

Continued from 13

anyone is stupid enough to actually listen to them. Rather than getting out in public and giving the gospel face to face to lost sinners, these “youtubers” get a thrill at the thought that someone might actually have watched them for a few minutes.

Of the two books that I have read on the subject by those who believe in a flat earth, one was not interested in the Bible, and the other gave three Bible references to “prove” his point. As a Bible believer, the reader should be very interested in what the perfect *King James Bible* says about any subject, without changing a word of it to fit an idea. In conversation about the subject, I have taken note that flat earth folks (the same as the “there is no gap between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2” folks), must change the wording of the *KJV* to teach their idea. For instance, to disprove the destruction and recreation of the original earth of Genesis 1:1, the no gappers continually misquote the second verse by saying “the earth was unformed and unfilled”, instead of “**without form and void**”. One of the “no-gappers” even named his book *Unformed and Unfilled*. With the flat earth theorists, there are constant references to a “dome” or “canopy” covering the earth’s atmosphere, which is not found in the *King James Bible*. The word they are struggling with and changing is the “**firmament**” (found in Genesis 1:6,7,8,14,15,17). In the flat earth set up, the sun, moon and stars are only a matter of miles away, since they are placed within the firmament (Genesis 1:17). That one word (“**firmament**”),

has not only confused Bible believers but the best of the physicists. Isaac Newton thought it was an ether, while today’s scientists think it is a vacuum, however, it is neither. In trying to figure out the problem, science has invented the idea of gravity that supposedly acts through the vacuum of space, as an answer to the actions of the heavenly bodies on each other, while they are ignoring the firmament. But no one can answer how gravity pulls enough on Mercury to keep it in orbit around the sun, and at the same time pulls on Jupiter, which is thirty times the size of Mercury and much further away (the law of conservation of inertia does not answer the problem, nor do Kepler’s laws of planetary motion).

The sun, moon, stars and “planets” (II Kings 23:5) have been placed into this firmament (Genesis 1:14-17) and as this firmament turns, these heavenly bodies move with it around the earth. The flat earthers have at least understood the Bible correctly that the earth is still and the sun moves (Joshua 10, Psalm 19, Ecclesiastes 1 and numerous other scriptures), but the teaching of heliocentricity is not a conspiracy in which the science world needs to put out fake pictures and fake movies, etc. They have come up with a theory that they can “prove” mathematically and the Lord allows them to be deceived since they have rejected the final authority of scripture. Even their god, Mr. Einstein, had to admit that it does not matter whether you say the earth or the sun is standing still, either will work in his (“**science falsely so called**” | Tim-

Continued on 15

The Flat Earth Conspiracy

Continued from 14
 othy 6:20) theory of relativity. But the point remains, that lost scientists are not trying to hide the fact of a still earth, knowing that it is the truth, as must be done in the conspiracy world of the flat earth theory. What has been missed in the firmament of the recreation in Genesis 1:6-8, is that this firmament is what God called "**Heaven**" (verse 8), and it was into that second heaven, not a canopy or dome, that the Lord placed the sun, moon and stars (verse 14). These bodies, including the planets, revolve around the earth within the motion of this firmament (the second heaven of the Bible and the "universe" of modern science). The Bible believer knows that there are three, not seven heavens (II Corinthians 12:2), and these three heavens are delineated in Psalm 148:1-2 (the third heaven with all the hosts of angels); Psalm 148:3-4 (the second heaven that includes the "**waters**" above the physical universe, and the sun, moon, planets and stars, and we do not mean a canopy above the atmosphere of earth); Psalm 148:7-12 (the first heaven including

the atmosphere of wind, snow, fire and hail (verse 8), as well as the mountains and trees (verse 9) and the beasts and mankind (verses 10-12). It is amazing how scientifically correct a Christian can be when he believes the written words of God.

A mistake is made by the flat-earthers, as well as almost everyone else when they miss the fact that the firmament of Genesis 1:20 is NOT the firmament of Genesis 1:6-8. The fowl that fly above the earth are not in the same firmament as the sun, moon and stars, and this should be obvious by the wording of our perfect Book, the *King James 1611*. The fowl are flying in an "**open firmament**" (Genesis 1:20) of the earth, not inside an invented "canopy" or "dome". This open firmament surrounds the earth allowing the living creatures to breathe and live in the midst of another firmament wherein is the domain of Satan and his army of "**spiritual wickedness in high places**" (Ephesians 6:12). The flat earthers have equated the two different firmaments and think that the fowl are flying

Continued on 16

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The Flat Earth Conspiracy

Continued from 15

in the same space as the sun, moon, and stars within their invented dome.

The Bible says that the **“sun also ariseth, and the sun goeth down”** (Ecclesiastes 1:5) and this is where the flat-earthers must quit being literalists and say that is only what they “appear” to be doing. In their model, the sun and moon revolve a few thousand miles above the earth and never go up or down. What saith the scriptures? They say the sun rises and goes down. Falsely so-called science says it only “appears” to do that because it is really the earth that is rotating. Flat-earthers say that it only “appears” to do that because their theory is in opposition to the scripture. So, our flat earth friends depart from the scriptures in the same way modern science does. The wisest man of his day in 1000 B.C., through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, taught of wind circuits (Ecclesiastes 1:6) and evaporation and precipitation (Ecclesiastes 1:7), but in verse 5, according to the flat-earthers, he all of a sudden was only speaking from our “perspective”, and the sun is not really rising and going down. Was Joshua only speaking from our “perspective” when he said the sun and moon stood still (Joshua 10:12)? My dear reader, whose “perspective” is being given in Joshua 10:13? That statement is from the Holy Spirit and it is His “perspective”, not Joshua’s. Pray about that thought awhile.

There are three scriptural “proof texts” that flat-earthers use for their theory. The first is found in Daniel 4:11, where a tree is said to grow to

a height so that its sight went **“to the end of all the earth”**, and the argument is that this could only be possible if the earth was flat. They say this as serious as a heart attack. Instead of looking to prove conspiracies, let’s just read the Bible. First of all, the tree in the passage was in Nebuchadnezzar’s dream only (verse 5), and secondly, the tree he saw in the dream represented himself and his dominion (verses 20-22). Did Nebuchadnezzar himself literally, physically grow large enough for him to be seen from every point on earth? The second scripture “proof” comes from Matthew 4:8 where the devil takes Christ **“up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world”**. Again, according to our conspirators, this could only be done on a flat earth. Two errors immediately jump out. Comparing scripture with scripture, we find that in the companion passage of Luke 4:5, Christ was shown all the kingdoms **“in a moment of time”**. In this supernatural, spiritual battle, Christ was being offered the rule of all the kingdoms of all time, including those that had not come to pass as of yet. The second error is that if this is to be taken literally in a physical sense, then what mountain on this earth can any human being stand on to see from Japan to England to the USA? None of the climbers that have made it to the top of Mt. Everest have even glimpsed Kathmandu, let alone Berlin. What kind of vision is required to look east from Jerusalem to Tokyo (5600 miles), and then look

Continued on 17

The Flat Earth Conspiracy

Continued from 16

west from Jerusalem to New York (5700 miles)? The third scripture is found in Revelation 1:7 where it is said that when Christ returns to this earth, **“every eye shall see him”**. The same problem comes up as the other two scriptural “proofs”, namely, how does the normal human eye see thousands of miles, within our atmosphere? Jesus Christ will one day return to this earth, not as some luminous, gigantic heavenly body that can be seen coming from outer space, but **“shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven”** (Acts 1:11). As he left the disciples, they watched him till **“a cloud received him out of their sight”** (Acts 1:9). His risen, spiritual body was the size of a normal human being that was raised up higher and higher until he could no longer be seen. That is how he will be returning the second time and flat earth or not, every eye cannot see him using the normal human eyesight. Something supernatural must go on at the second coming of Christ for every eye to see him at once, just as something supernatural took place between Christ and Satan in the temptation on the mountain in Matthew 4.

One of the strongest points of the flat earth conspirators (at least in their minds), is that the Bible calls the earth a circle, and not a globe or sphere (Isaiah 40:22). Once again, two errors come to mind. First of all, the Bible does not need to use man's terms, such as “dinosaur”, “computer”, “pyramid”, or “mathematics” in order to refer to those things, but as Bible believers,

we are to adjust ourselves and our vocabulary to the perfect words as found in the Book. A circle is not limited to a plane, flat, geometrical figure as it may be limited in today's usage. As a matter of fact, one of the definitions given in the 1828 Webster's dictionary for a circle is as follows: “in popular use, the line that comprehends the figure, plane or surface, and the whole body or solid matter of a round surface, as a circle, ring, orb, or earth...” In other words, in “popular use”, which is exactly how our King James Bible was translated, the **“circle of the earth”** of Isaiah 40:22 can most certainly (and does) refer to something more than a flat plane. Secondly, if you pay attention to the wording, the verse does not say that the earth *IS* a circle, but that the Lord sits upon the circle *OF* the earth. The wording implies that the earth has, or contains a circle. How many flat plane circles can be inscribed in one sphere or globe?

Anytime the Bible believer begins getting caught up with conspiracies, and there are plenty of them around, he is trapped into a vicious cycle of accusations, lies, and never getting to the bottom of the hole he digs. More importantly, he gets distracted from the concern for souls on their way to hell. The lost world looks at the conspiracy theorists as complete idiots, not for believing the Bible, but for pointing the finger at every tree and bush looking for the boogie man. The educated, modern, lost sinner should think that we are nuts for believing every word of the Bible, not for believing

Continued on 18

The Flat Earth Conspiracy

Continued from 17
 in conspiracies that are out to get us. The Bible believer should be aware of human nature and realize that men and women from every nation are not going to keep their mouths shut if they knew the earth was flat and that they were being lied to. Evolutionary theory is not a conspiracy of scientists trying to hide what they know is the truth. They really are deceived and believe their dating methods that include assumptions that give them the millions of years that can be mathematically proven on paper. The Lord gives them what they desire because of the idol in their heart (Ezekiel 14). NASA, military personnel, airline pilots, physicists, etc., of every nation around the world, are not connected, obedient servants interested in propagating a lie that the earth is a globe when

they know it is flat. Anyone believing that, does not know human nature. But even if you could answer why the Southern Hemisphere sees a different set of constellations turning in the opposite direction as those in the Northern Hemisphere, or why the shadows of the moon's surface show it to be rounded, or why the lunar and solar eclipses take place, the real question remains, "**what saith the scripture**". This one short article covered over thirty Bible verses for you to read, and the conspirators will never take the time to look them up. Will you? Instead of spending time in the KJV, they will continue to waste hours watching youtube videos that are "intriguing". If the scripture says that the earth is flat, then believe it without apology or pointing fingers at conspiracies out to get you.

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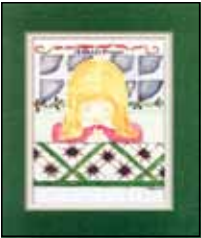
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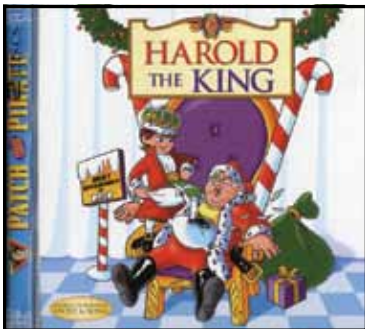


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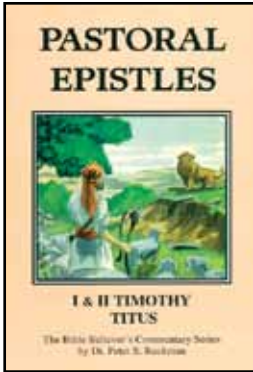
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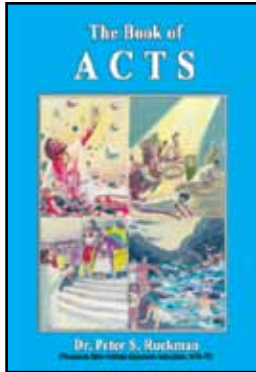
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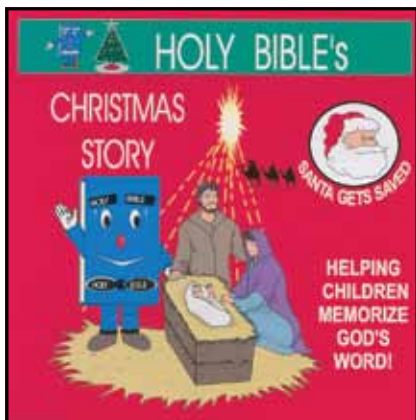
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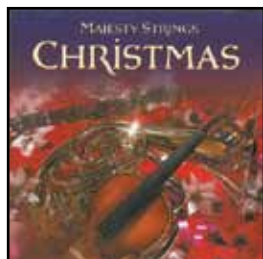
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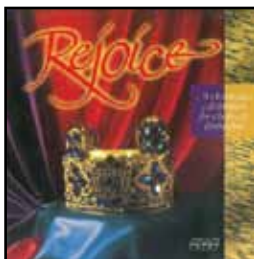
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New Commentary on Mark—see page 9

Acts 8:37 and Final Authority

(Editor's note: This material is taken from the research of PBI graduate Art Barton for his master's degree, from *The Christian's Handbook of Biblical Scholarship* and the *Bible Believer's Commentary on Acts* by Dr. Ruckman.)

“And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God” (Acts 8:37).

The above verse is absent from Greek New Testaments published by the United Bible Societies and the apostate textual critics in Münster and Stuttgart, Germany, and likewise from the corrupt translations taken from that text (ASV, NASV, RSV, NRSV, ESV, NIV, as well as being called into question in the footnote of the NKJV). It was thrown out by the Alexandrian Cult on the basis of P⁴⁵, P⁷⁴, *Sinaiticus*, *Vaticanus*, C, *Alexandrinus*, L, and *Psi*, several cursives (049, 056, 0142, 436, 326, 1241, 1505, 2127, 181, 81, 88, and others), and the Sahidic, Bohairic, and Harclean and Peshitta Syriac translations (after Origen got through messing with them).

The earliest Greek uncial to contain the verse is E from the sixth century (it is also found in cursive 629 dated to the fourteenth century), so Nestles' throws it out since “the oldest is the best.” But that being the case, it is found in the Old Latin and Old Syriac from the second century and the Armenian and Georgian versions from the fifth and sixth centuries. And if that were not enough, it is quoted in whole or in part by Irenaeus (second century), Tertullian (second century), Cyprian (third century), Pacian (fourth

century), Ambrose (fourth century), and Augustine (fourth century): all of which are as old as and *older than* “the oldest and best manuscripts.” The only reason for getting rid of the verse is a *heart* problem (somebody is getting *saved* in the verse, as in Luke 23:42 and Acts 9:6), not a *head* problem.

Several years ago now, one of our graduates here at the Pensacola Bible Institute (Art Barton) was working on his master's degree and decided to find out what the “scholars” of various Christian schools and ministries thought as to whether or not Acts 8:37, as found in the King James Bible, is a mistake that should be left out of the biblical text. Out of forty letters he sent out, he got back 22 responses. We thought it might be interesting to see some of those responses.

Here is Ellen G. White and the Seventy-day Adventists. This is the response of Lloyd A. Willis, Ph.D., writing for the Religion Department of Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas. He agrees that the NIV is “correct in leaving this verse out.” Why? “It is not in the oldest, or best manuscripts.” And what are those “oldest, or best manuscripts,” Dr. Willis? “The *best* manuscripts include the papyri from the 3rd Cent. AD [he meant to say papyrus, singular, because he threw out P⁷⁴ since it came from the seventh century] and large manuscripts in book form including the Codex Sinaiticus and Codex Vaticanus from the 4th Cent. AD and Codex Alexandrinus from the 5th Cent.”

He ignored all the quotations of the
Continued on 25

Acts 8:37 and Final Authority

Continued from 24
church fathers from the second, third, and fourth centuries. Why? *Because they supported the KJV reading.* Don't believe me? Read on.

"It seems to me that we must prove our doctrines from the *irrefutable* evidence of the best manuscripts." Well, thank you, "God," for that divine fiat. The manuscript evidence of *Sinaiticus, Vaticanus, Alexandrinus*, and P⁴⁵ are "irrefutable"? *We refuted it.* This is someone throwing out any evidence for the Reformation text based on what? *Based on his own divine decree as to what is "irrefutable" and what is not!* He's the final authority to tell you what evidence is "irrefutable."

"To use the KJV *in such places* (if we know the evidence is at best debatable church tradition) would seem to me to be dishonest." No, Doctor, what is "dishonest" is withholding any evidence that disagrees with your preconceived notions about the biblical text.

Note: he is trying to "prove our doctrines"; he's not concerned at all with those WORDS the Holy Spirit said He would *preserve* (Psa. 12:6-7), that He said were *pure* (Prov. 30:5), and by which man is to *live* (Matt. 4:4). That's Barth and Brunners' Neo-orthodox position, just like John R. Rice taught it (see *Dear Dr. John, Where is my Bible?* by Herb Evans).

"There is plenty of good evidence for all of our DOCTRINES [not the WORDS] in any of these *good* modern translation [the three he names are the NIV with a lesbian and a queer on the committee, the RSV of the National Council of Communist Churches, and the

NASV that has the Jehovah's Witness reading of the New World Translation in John 1:18], so it's wise (for clarity) and honest as well [don't you know, baby], to use them I want my students to *understand what is being said*" Where? He tells you, "We don't have the original documents of the Bible writers." "What is being said" from *what*?

Oh, here it is: "the most reliable text." What text would that be, Doctor? *He doesn't say.* You are led to believe it is the text of "the oldest, or best manuscripts." You mean manuscripts Burgon and Scrivener described as three of the most corrupt and carelessly copied manuscripts extant? You mean manuscripts that disagree with each other over 3,000 times in the Gospels alone? "We can *trust* the Bible in spite of these minor errors," can we? Three thousand of them in only four books?

The only authority Lloyd A. Willis, Ph.D., has is his own *opinion*; he is his own god. But he's no different than any orthodox Fundamentalist or Conservative.

Here is Don Green, a counselor for John MacArthur's ministry "Grace to You." Dump Acts 8:37 because "it is not found in the oldest and most reliable manuscripts of the book of Acts which are available to us." What is the final authority for deciding what God said? Why, what "most scholars believe," of course—pure *humanism*.

But don't worry; it doesn't really matter if the verse is there or not. "Our UNDERSTANDING of the passage in Acts 8 isn't affected by whether the verse is included or excluded from the text." In other words,

Continued on 26

Acts 8:37 and Final Authority

Continued from 25
the Holy Spirit *lied* about “**every word of God**” (Matt. 4:4; Prov. 30:1; Psa. 12:6–7).

Here are the *Anglicans* (Rev. Dr. Rodney A. Whitacre, Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry). “It is important to note that no DOCTRINES of the faith are in jeopardy because of these differences among the manuscripts.” No words; just “doctrines” and “our understanding.”

“No doctrine of the faith is up for grabs due to these differences” “No doctrine” but the Virgin Birth in Luke 2:33, the Incarnation in Acts 4:27, 30, the Deity of Christ in 1 Timothy 3:16, the Trinity in 1 John 5:7, the Blood Atonement in Colossians 1:14, etc.

“I accept THE BIBLE as the Word [the Neo-orthodox designation of Barth and Brunner] of God.” *What* “Bible,” Rev. Dr.? There have been over 323 of them put out since 1880. Which one is the “Word of God”? Any of them? All of them? None of them? If “the Bible” is the “originals,” then *no one* has the “Word of God” since “We do not have the very copies that the original authors of Scripture wrote.”

“I accept it in the FORM [not the WORDS] God, in His infinite wisdom, chose to give it to us.” Which “form”? The Alexandrian “form”? The *Textus Receptus* “form”? The KJV “form” which differs in 500 places from the NKJV “form,” in 36,000 places from the NASV “form,” and in 64,000 places from the NIV “form.”

How about our Holy Ghost-baptized, tongues-blabbering Charismatic brethren of the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary? Dr. Benny C. Aker, the Professor of Exegesis

and New Testament, says, “We must also note that the King James was not accepted by the church [which church, Doctor?] for quite a number of years. It, too, underwent several revisions before reaching the one we have now.”

So what? What does that have to do with whether or not Acts 8:37 should be in the text? You wouldn’t be trying to raise a smokescreen to distract us, would you, Doctor?

“That verse is found in only a few manuscripts.” Why, that doesn’t bother the editors of the new versions. They will remove words and whole verses based on the evidence of only *two* manuscripts (*Sinaiticus* and *Vaticanus*), and whenever one of those manuscripts *agrees* with the King James, they will side with the *one* that is against it.

“In this instance, it seems to be more apparent that the originals did not have that verse” You have the “originals” to verify that, do you, Doctor? “. . . because of the doctrinal viewpoint of later copiers and because of the attempt to remove the difficulty through the process which the verse itself went through.” It is just as “apparent” to a much more thorough scholar such as Edward Hills, who examined *all* the evidence, not just the “few manuscripts” on which Dr. Aker based his argument, that Acts 8:37 was *dropped from the text* due to “the doctrinal viewpoint of later copiers” (the careless scribes who copied *Vaticanus* and *Sinaiticus*); i.e., *delaying baptism* until after “confirmation.”

“All conservatives believe that only the document that the writer pro-

Continued on 27

Acts 8:37 and Final Authority

Continued from 26
 duced is the inspired one.” Then no one has the scripture, does he, Doctor? After all, **“ALL SCRIPTURE is given by inspiration of God”** (2 Tim. 3:16). If “only the document that the writer produced is the inspired one,” then no one has had any **“scripture”** since the original “documents” of Moses, David, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Paul, et al., crumbled into dust. Wanna bet, Doc (see 2 Tim. 3:15)?

“The King James is a good translation, but so is the NIV.” Even though the NIV gets rid of 64,000 words from the biblical text. “The important thing is to know what IT means and live IT out.” “It”?! What’s “it”? What is this “it” a Christian is to know the meaning of and live out? Is “it” the KJV? Is “it” the NIV? No, “it” isn’t.

“The bottom line is—does one know the Author of the ORIGINAL WRITINGS.” And there it is in all its apostate stench. You are to know the meaning of and live out a *pile of lost papers you have never seen and never will see*.

Professor Aker has no final authority, unless it is Charlie Sheldon’s “WWJD?” final authority. “A personal relationship with Jesus is what counts—not that anyone embraces a particular translation.” Which “Jesus” would that be, Professor? Would that be a “Jesus” who is a “begotten God” separate from His Father who is an “unbegotten God” (John 1:18, NASV)? Would that be a “Jesus” who is not God manifest in the flesh (1 Tim. 3:16, ESV)? Would that be a “Jesus” who was not God’s **“holy child”** but only a **“servant”** (Acts 4:27, 30, NKJV)? You see, Doc, there are

all kinds of “Jesuses” out there with whom you can have a “personal relationship,” and all of them but one will *damn you*. You had better get the “Jesus” of *that Book*—AV 1611—if you want to avoid the “smoking section” of eternity (Rev. 14:11–12).

Here is Bruce Metzger, Professor Emeritus of New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary, and one of the editors of Nestles’ Greek Testament: “There is no reason why scribes should have omitted the material if it had originally stood in the text.” That is, unless, of course, *the scribes were crooked* (2 Cor. 2:17). Someone who graduated from the same school you did (David Otis Fuller—Princeton Seminary) cited at least eighty heretical sects that corrupted the scriptures (*Which Bible?*, pg. 2). Why couldn’t you find them, Professor?

Who that actually knew the scriptures (not Greek, Hebrew, ancient manuscripts, or the “originals”) wouldn’t know that the devil’s first and foremost interest is casting doubt on the words of God (Gen. 3:1)? The idea that Satan has nothing to do with Bible manuscripts and Bible translations is the height of naivete.

Here is Harold W. Hoehner, Professor of New Testament Studies at Dallas Theological Seminary: you are to assume the King James *added* to what God said and not that the modern versions *subtracted* from it. Based on what? Based on nothing but the pipedreams of Professor Hoehner.

Ditto Robert H. Gundry, Professor of New Testament and Greek at Westmont College in “the land

Continued on 28

Acts 8:37 and Final Authority

Continued from 27
of fruits and nuts” (Santa Barbara, California). But the Prof adds this little tidbit at the end of his letter: “Almost all the differences in ancient manuscripts have to do with SMALL ITEMS that make NO DIFFERENCE to the . . .” Now what do you think is going to come next? The *words* of scripture? Not on your Alexandrian tintype.

“ . . . small items that make no difference to the basic MESSAGE of Scripture.” Get it and get it down pat: Alexandrians don’t deal in the *words* of God. They deal in doctrines, understanding, the message, the thoughts, the principles, the fundamentals, but never those W-O-R-D-S. So to them, it makes no difference what words are there or not there, or what those words say or don’t say, as long as the “message” gets across the “doctrines” for your “understanding.” But your Saviour said this:

“He that is of God heareth God’s W-O-R-D-S [not the “message” or “doctrines”]: ye therefore hear them not, because he are not of God” (John 8:47).

“It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the W-O-R-D-S [not the “fundamentals” or “principles”] that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life” (John 6:63).

“ . . . If a man love me, he will keep my W-O-R-D-S: and my Father will love him . . .” (John 14:23).

“Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my W-O-R-D-S [not some nebulous, Neo-orthodox “Word”] shall not pass away” (Mark 13:31).

“SMALL ITEMS that make NO DIFFERENCE”? You call confessing faith in the Son of God for salvation a

“small item that makes no difference,” do you, Professor? With Matthew 16:17–18; John 3:18, 11:27, 20:31; Acts 9:20; and 1 John 4:15, 5:10–13 staring you in the face? Evidently, Professor Gundry has *his own* rule for what is “small” and what is important “to the basic message of Scripture” (whatever that is). Robert H. Gundry, Professor of New Testament and Greek, is his own final authority in the matter, and you are to set aside your Bible—*any* Bible—and listen to *him*. “You need to use a modern translation such as the New International Version or (MY PREFERENCE) the New American Standard Bible for greater accuracy of text.”

Why, who gives a flip what your “preference” is, Prof; i.e., *unless you are God*. That is exactly the position Professor Gundry is taking. *He* will tell you what is and is not “scripture,” what was or was not “an original part of the Bible,” and what translation to use—based solely on *his* “preference.” *He* will judge all manuscripts, all readings, and all translations. He’s “God.”

Now that is about enough Alexandrian garbage to fill the county dump. The rest is just repetitive tripe. There are no “inspired scriptures” any doctor, professor, or “reverend” has ever seen. You should take a bold, brave stand for the inerrancy of a bunch of lost piles of paper that were never gathered into one book; but sit in judgment on every manuscript, translation, version, and Bible extant because there is (*present tense*) NO infallible, inerrant, inspired scripture preserved by God (“imperfect scribes have preserved it imperfectly”—Mor-

Continued on 29

Acts 8:37 and Final Authority

Continued from 28
gan L. Phillips; Chair, Religion department; Ohio Wesleyan University). You are to submit to *scholarship* as the final authority in all matters of faith and practice, and accept the preferences of *scholars* as to which translation to use. And although the King James was all right for "its time," you should get rid of it like a hot potato and get you a translation that removes anywhere from 500–64,000 words from the text and attacks every cardinal doctrine of the Christian faith.

That is the Alexandrian Cult; *that* is the Scholars' Union. For a fuller description of their position, see "The Creed of the Alexandrian Cult" printed in every issue of the *Bulletin*.

Bro. Barton has done a great service to the Body of Christ in letting these puffed-up, educated stuffed shirts expose their apostasy and infidelity toward the Book. But before closing this article, let's look at the *one* "exception to the rule." This is from J. G. Tharpe, pastor of the Baptist Tabernacle in Shreveport, Louisiana and chancellor of Louisiana Baptist University.

"I accept no translation but the King James Version. I believe it is our English speaking Bible."

Oh no! "King James Onlyism"! He's a member of a cult! Don't be a fool.

"I realize there are many versions and I use some for comparative study. [Exactly as we do here at the Pensacola Bible Institute. We compare 26 different versions—we *only believe one!*] I do not accept them as translations because I think they are interpretations . . . The Bible was written in Greek and I believe *God*

had everything to do with the 1611 translation for us . . . It all boils down to this one thing, you will accept God and His plan by faith. You must make the decision as to what you believe is the very Word of God [and this time, he's not referring to some Neo-orthodox "message"]. I made my decision by faith. I truly believe God gave us the translation from the Greek to English, the King James Version."

Amen and amen. No "preference" to it; just belief in God and what He wrote—in both Greek and English. No teacher here at the Pensacola Bible Institute has ever "used" the King James Bible because he "preferred" it. He *believed* it to be the very *words* God wanted us to have in English—inerrant and infallible. He believed it to be the *scriptures* in the universal language of the last days, and "**ALL scripture is given by inspiration of God,**" not just the "originals." No teacher ever corrected or got rid of one word in that Book (AV 1611), because *it* is the final authority; not any pastor, doctor, or professor at any Christian college, university, seminary, church, or denominational headquarters.

Acts 8:37 belongs in your Bible, and if all the "scholars" had gone to the scriptures for their final authority—instead of "preferences" for "older and better manuscripts"—they would have seen the connection between that "**believest**" in Acts 8:37 and the "**scripture**" the Ethiopian eunuch was reading (Acts 8:32–35 cf. Isa. 53:1—"Who hath **BELIEVED** our report"). But that takes belief in what you are reading to be the *scripture*, and not just an "out-dated" translation that was good for "its time."

Bro. Donovan's Meeting Schedule

November 3-5

Bible Believers Baptist Church
128 Goodman St.
Munfordville, KY 42765
Pastor Sean Riggs
(270) 524-5678

December 8-10

Bible Baptist Church
16503 State Rt. 3.
Catlettsburg, KY 41129
Pastor Dennis Miles
(606) 923-4037

January 12-14

Bible Believers Baptist Church
3857 Hartley Road
Jacksonville, FL 32256
Pastor David Peacock
(904) 334-5783

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National Embarrassments

By Robert Militello

“Happy is that people that is in such a case: yea, happy is that people, whose God is the LORD” (Psa. 144:15).

We have “In God We Trust” on our currency. German military belt buckles in World War II had “*Gott mit uns*” on them: translated, “God is with us.” So who is God in America today? Certainly not the LORD of the Bible. The overwhelming majority of Americans have SELF for God. **“For men shall be lovers of their own selves”** (2 Tim. 3:2). Alongside self, our society worships money. States compete with one another to offer the most attractive lottery games because millions dream of one day getting rich.

The sweet psalmist of Israel (2 Sam. 23:1) connected happiness, both personal and national, with worshiping the right God, and that’s the LORD GOD. America knows nothing of this happiness, and because of this sad condition, the prescription drug industry is enjoying a bull market of epic proportion. “God bless America”—really? How can He bless a people intoxicated with the things of this world and given to covetousness from their youth?

Millions of Americans who are lost and on their way to hell delude themselves, wanting to believe God is on their side. This delusion is especially strong in Washington, D.C., and among those engaged in the public’s business. If you are not saved, God is not on your side. Nothing you do will work out for good eternally, but believers can claim Romans 8:28 and rest assured all will turn out good. I’m say-

ing this because, in my lifetime, I’ve witnessed five presidents declare war on various social cancers affecting life in America. These wars are not shooting wars. They are more like crusades against evils that the media has declared “public enemy number one.”

For example, the first war I remember was the War on Poverty declared by President Lyndon Johnson in his State of the Union address on January 8, 1964. As a lost American about to turn 18, I thought the idea was noble, not knowing God’s word and that Jesus said that the poor would be around forever (John 12:8), I believed our government was launching a righteous crusade. Surely the Lord was with our president, amen? Well, things got worse, not better. Just check the latest figures on those receiving food stamps and other forms of government assistance. The War on Poverty never really ended, nor have the other “wars” launched by Presidents Ford, Nixon, Reagan, and Bush. Anyone who knows the scriptures knows why our nation will lose every social war it declares: **“for without me ye can do nothing”** (John 15:5).

“Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people” (Prov. 14:34).

Could it be any clearer? Do our public officials on the national, state, and local levels read the Bible? Many say they do, especially when running for office in districts with a heavy concentration of evangelical voters. Decadence, moral rot, corruption, and lying flourish where real Bible preaching is absent. America

Continued on 32

National Embarrassments

Continued from 31
has lost the battle for its soul; only a few want to admit that. It sounds so unpatriotic, so unloving, so judgmental; but travel to our major cities and turn on the local news and judge for yourself whether I'm right or wrong.

President Nixon's War on Crime followed President Johnson's War on Poverty; it failed also. The "Law and Order" candidate beat Hubert Humphrey in November 1968 and promised a crackdown on the hoodlums and thugs terrorizing the citizenry. Our nation's War on Crime led to the largest expansion of our prison population in our history. Construction companies in all fifty states did a booming business building federal, state, and county prisons and jails. Courts were overwhelmed, while prosecutors and defense lawyers found their caseloads exploding. Was this a war that public officials felt could be won? Not really, but for "law and order" candidates, it was a great issue on which to run.

"It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man" (Psa. 118:8).

Good intentions don't win wars.

"I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit" (Eccl. 1:14).

King Solomon ruled with a God-given wisdom that produced such wealth and abundance that it took the breath away of the Queen of Sheba. America has been blessed materially like no other nation in the Gentile world. With our wealth, our presidents have tried to create a more just, safe, and prosperous soci-

ety. Not ruling in the fear of God, but in the fear of the voters, our elected representatives have squandered away the nation's treasure. Today, the citizens of the United States, thanks to their elected officials, owe foreign governments, mega banks, and hugely wealthy foreigners about twenty trillion dollars. That is our national debt. Who is going to pay this bill?

Soon, at such a time when it pleases our God, the U.S. credit card will have "maxed out." The great Ponzi scheme created with the establishment of the U.S. Federal Reserve System by President Wilson in 1913 will have crashed. There may be a civil disorder of such proportion that all local law enforcement bodies will be helplessly overwhelmed. Then what?

Social wars are breaking this nation. There is no political or economic remedy. Our problem is spiritual, and no amount of graduates with advanced degrees from Harvard, Yale, and Princeton will be able to prevent the crash. Perhaps the Lord will have taken His church home before then, but that's not certain, so pray and keep praying.

Does anyone remember President Gerald Ford's War on Inflation? In October, 1974, after President Nixon resigned in disgrace, President Ford attempted to check a 10% annual inflation rate that was rapidly destroying the buying power of the U.S. dollar. People who supported the president were asked to wear "WIN" buttons (Whip Inflation Now). I remember those years. Mortgage rates were 12% and access to credit

Continued on 33

National Embarrassments

Continued from 32

dried up. You had to prove to the bank that you didn't need the loan for which you were applying before it would approve your application. President Ford's efforts went nowhere. Alan Greenspan, in his book *The Age of Turbulence*, called the campaign "unbelievably stupid." Greenspan, as head of the Federal Reserve, was a Jew who knew how to manage money.

Part of the War on Inflation involved an energy saver program because the oil embargo of 1973 by the Arabs had ended the days of cheap gas and modest utility bills. We weathered that storm by the grace of God, but it was now apparent that without massive government spending, our economy could crash in any major crisis. The U.S. had a triple A credit rating, so our elected officials, who wanted to maintain the high standard of living that we enjoy in America, pulled out the Uncle Sam credit card and began charging. Voters don't want to hear talk of tax raises; they prefer spending cuts, but only when those cuts don't affect them. Politicians eager to stay in office (the perks are great) know that social programs are expensive, so they borrowed more with the idea that the next generation would manage the debt. It's called "kicking the can down the road," and it's a craft learned quickly once you get in office and have power to spend other people's money.

"The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise" (Prov. 12:15).

When the Book is closed and the

fear of God leaves a nation, fools multiply faster than rabbits. We've become a nation of fools. With Thanksgiving coming, I look at the blessings afforded me living in this blessed land, but it should grieve the heart of all serious Christians to see their nation decay so rapidly. History shows the degeneration and collapse of great cities, societies, and empires. Men's hearts are wicked. President Johnson's War on Poverty ended up creating a new class of bloodsuckers called "poverty pimps." Nixon's War on Crime helped create a bloated justice system; it did not make American cities safer. In fact, millions of citizens left the cities for the suburbs. There was only one building boom in our cities at that time—public housing for minorities. Ford's War on Inflation made the banks rich, and the profits of the nation's oil companies grew like mushrooms after days of rain. All these "wars" to make America stronger had the opposite effect. Why? When I pledge allegiance to the flag and say ". . . one nation under God . . .," does saying that make it so? If our country is "under God," which god is it?

When President Reagan declared that our nation's best days were ahead of it, his administration, like those before it, embraced the gospel of positive thinking. It's not easy for a doctor to tell a patient he has inoperable cancer. What president is going to tell American citizens that their beloved republic is in serious decline and is sick in its soul? President Reagan's wife, Nancy, went around the country say-

Continued on 34

National Embarrassments

Continued from 33
ing, “Just say no to drugs,” as if her personal power of persuasion would change things for the better. She could have said, “Drugs will destroy your life and put your soul in hell.” But negative preaching is not politically correct. With the drug epidemic raging and the consequent increase in crime, young people went out and bought copies of a song by Madonna called “Papa don’t preach.” So-called “recording artists” fueled the drug culture raising an army of dopeheads that laughed at the president’s War on Drugs. Again, our nation found itself spending billions in a futile attempt to close the gates of hell. Those gates were opened to America when Pope Paul VI came to New York City in October, 1965, and cursed us with his “blessing” of peace.

“At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy it; If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them” (Jer. 18:7–8).

I know a great number of God’s people have prayed for revival in our country. Somehow, they thought that perhaps the windows of heaven would open and God’s Spirit would move on our land. Sad, isn’t it? Surely, after the Supreme Court legalized sodomite marriage in June, 2015, those who hoped for revival got their heads out of the clouds and opened their Bibles to 2 Timothy 3:1–5.

The reality is that the good, ole’ USA is taking on too much water,

and though the pumps are working full time increasing an already enormous public debt, we will sink like the Titanic. No nation can spend and borrow its way to financial health. The Lord has put too many holes in the U.S. Treasury. We may have as many as twelve million illegals here, most from Latin America. They came to escape the poverty that came from praying to Mary and allowing Romanism to subvert their minds and hearts. They should know that every time the “Holy Father” visited America, we became that much poorer and our social problems intensified. Jesus, not Mary, ought to be entreated daily, because He alone keeps us afloat.

Now, since the beginning of the new millennium in 2001, we have taken on another war that President Bush called “the War on Terror.” Unfortunately, this war involved our service personnel going to filthy, backward, corrupt countries like Iraq and Afghanistan. This is another war that will never come to a happy end. Already, the number of Americans killed in those two countries is over 4,500 and still counting. According to the U.S. Congressional Budget Office, almost two-and-one-half trillion U.S. taxpayer dollars have been wasted on Iraq and Afghanistan. President Bush thought he could stabilize those countries and ignore the fact that Ishmael’s descendents are wild men, according to Genesis 16:12. His attempt to bring western-style democracy to Muslim nations was about as wise as taking a palm tree from Miami Beach and planting it in the Yukon. That’s what a degree

Continued on 35

National Embarrassments

Continued from 34
 from Yale did for President Bush "Jr." He claims to be a born-again Christian; if so, he is about as knowledgeable in God's word as Papa John is when it comes to making real Italian pizza. What the War on Terror really did for Americans was to give the government security agencies the right to spy on everyone. All of these wars against something or other result in Americans becoming less prosperous, less safe, and significantly less trusting of the political leadership and the huge bureaucracies in Washington.

"Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fullness of bread, and abundance of idleness" (Ezek. 16:49). America grew fat after World War II. Television came on the scene, and the advertising business found gold. The greatest device for the promotion of coveteousness was given its own place in almost everyone's living room by the end of the fifties. Now Americans could see products displayed before their eyes, often accompanied with product demonstrations. Prior to this, radio could only talk about the items being advertised. We covet with our eyes, hardly with our ears. Mother Eve was seduced this way, but now multiple millions of American TV watchers were in a position to be sold whatever they thought would make their lives better. Satan used TV to undermine God's command in 1 John 2:15.

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

Life in these United States had

grown much more enjoyable. Sports on TV, entertainment, dining out, and summer trips, and yes, church on Sundays—what's bad about that? The fear of God was drying up like the early morning dew on the grass, but who noticed?

While America was enjoying the blessings of a bountiful Creator, pulpits around the entire nation were being filled with men (women came later) who graduated from seminaries and Bible colleges that destroyed the absolute authority of the King James Bible. More than any other reason, our country began to slide into moral chaos and the idolatry of self-gratification because preachers lost their way. No absolute truth, no spiritual vision—there it is!

"His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber. Yea, they are greedy dogs which can never have enough, and they are shepherds that cannot understand: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain, from his quarter" (Isa. 56:10–11).

Here, the prophet of God, some 700 years before Jesus was born, is nailing the whole lot of mega-church preachers filling their pockets prior to the departure of Christ's body. So-called Christian television opened the sheepfold to roving packs of wolves dressed like sheep, sounding like sheep, with an uncanny ability to lie convincingly with pious expressions on their faces.

"For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good

Continued on 36

National Embarrassments

Continued from 35

words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple” (Rom. 16:18).

What is particularly painful to witness in these last days is the number of “Christian” denominations in America that have turned on Israel. Last July, the Mennonite Church USA voted to sell its holdings in companies that profit from the Israeli “occupation” of Palestine territories. So the Mennonite elders decided to align with a movement known as BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions), which is designed to put moral pressure on Israel to allow a Palestinian state. This is nothing but another move of Satan to demoralize Israelis and open up more opportunities for terrorists.

In previous years, the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the United Church of Christ joined the BDS campaign. The United Methodist pension board pulled out of five Israeli banks, citing human rights concerns. The Church of Rome and the Church of England do not publicly sanction the BDS movement, but their feelings toward the state of Israel are not well disguised. They show their hand often and are eager to criticize the Jewish state when it serves their interests. Other small church bodies such as the Quakers support the disinvestment tactic, thinking that Israel will eventually yield to all the pressure. Do any of the leaders of these denominations realize there is someone watching over the Jewish state? How is it that Protestant denominations that steadfastly resist many of the teachings of Romanism allow themselves

to be led by Rome in taking an anti-Israel political stance? Here’s another example of Herod lining up with Pilate and consenting to the death of Jesus Christ (Luke 23:12). We are already witnessing two former enemies, the United Nations and the Church of Rome, drawing ever closer as the real church is about to vacate this earth. Israel has few friends in this world, and the many who should be their friends, like the forementioned Protestant bodies, are turning their backs to them. Woe to the leaders of these churches; your day is coming!

“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation” (1 Pet. 2:9). There is a nation hidden within our nation. This nation in which I am a citizen has a glorious future. America’s societal decay is demonstrable proof that where the fear of the Lord is absent, the future will become darker, no matter what our leaders say. All the positive preaching served up every Sunday in the megachurches cannot change what is written in scripture.

“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come” (2 Tim. 3:1).

Nevertheless, we rejoice. We are told to give thanks in everything because it is God’s will (1 Thess. 5:18). There’s an ominous black cloud building over America, and for this also I give thanks. Perhaps the demented leader of North Korea will soon have the ability to send nuclear missiles towards some states out west. If God has ordained a chastening for our land, He has good

Continued on 38

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Bookstore staff has gone back into its archives and now is happy to announce the availability of recordings of Bad Attitude Baptist Blowouts all the way back to 1985. Please note these recordings are available as *digital downloads only*. Just go to our website, www.kjv1611.org, click on the Digital Downloads button on the left of the screen, and then click on Blowout Sermons and Music from the drop-down selection.

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.

National Embarrassments

Continued from 36

reason for it, amen? Our nation may fear what is coming, and it has good reason to do so, but the holy nation within our nation has no reason to fear.

“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I WILL FEAR NO EVIL: for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me” (Psa. 23:4).

The rod will terrify one nation, but comfort another. His ways are past finding out—bless God!

If you count your blessings as regularly as you should, Thanksgiving Day is every day. How often do we give thanks for the faithful men who pastor churches where the word of God is magnified? King-James-Bible preachers are few and far between. It is not difficult to believe that these men are the principal reason judgment upon America has yet to fall. I give thanks for every hard, negative message that comes from the sanctified hearts of these men. Aren't we to **“work out”** our **“own salvation with fear and trembling”** (Phil. 2:12)? Thank God for those sermons that stab at my heart and make manifest the corruption and wickedness that resides within me. Thank God for these shepherds and their assistants that labor to keep the sheep clean and fed. Their watchfulness and care for the sheep are often interpreted as a lack of love by Christians who spend more time with their computers than with the living bread from heaven.

Someday soon, we'll be at the table with the LORD: the marriage feast of the Lamb with his Bride. Are we not expected to do our best to

see to it that everyone in our near and extended family will have a seat at that table? There is no promise that assures us another Thanksgiving will come after this one. Seats that are occupied now can be empty next year. Give thanks this year more in deed than in words. Draw nigh to your Saviour; time is short. Pray God's servants will not grow **“weary in well doing”** (Gal. 6:9). Remember those in foreign lands and give thanks for their call as missionaries.

“What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me?” (Psa. 116:12).

Great question. Think about it as you prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving Day.

P.S. This is the sixtieth article I have written in the Bulletin. I want to thank my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and Bible Baptist Church for allowing me this great privilege and high honor.

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Indianapolis WBRI 1500 AM	6:00 P.M. Sat.	
KANSAS		
Kansas City KCNW 1380 AM	6:30 P.M. Sat.	
LOUISIANA		
Alexandria-Lafayette-Lake Charles KWDF 840 AM	9:00 A.M. Sat.	
MICHIGAN		
Lupton WMSD 90.9 FM	8:15 P.M. Wed.	
MISSISSIPPI		
Tupelo WCPC 940 AM	10:00 A.M. Sat.	
NEBRASKA		
Omaha-Lincoln KLNK 1560 AM	6:00 P.M. Sat.	
NEW MEXICO		
Albuquerque-Santa Fe KXKS 1190 AM KKIM 1000 AM	11:00 A.M. Sat. 8:00 A.M. Sat.	
NORTH CAROLINA		
China Grove WRNA 1140 AM Kannapolis WRKB 1140 AM	2:30 P.M. Sun. 2:30 P.M. Sun.	
PENNSYLVANIA		
Wilkes-Barre/Scranton WITK 1550 AM	6:00 P.M. Sat.	
SOUTH CAROLINA		
Greenville WLFJ 660 AM	7:00 A.M. Sun.	
VIRGINIA		
Richmond WDZY 1290 AM WDZY 103.3 FM	9:00 A.M. Sat. 9:00 A.M. Sat.	
WYOMING		
Cody KOFG 91.1 FM International SS Hour 6:00 P.M. Sun. Theological Seminar of Air	10:30 A.M. Sun. 1:30 A.M. and 4:P.M. Sat. 2:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. Sat.	
CANADA		
Thompson, MB CHTM 6 Theo. Seminar of the Air	10 AM 9:30-10:00 A.M. Sun.	

TV & Satellite

ALABAMA		
Andalusia—Ch. 63 Covington Co.—Ch. 42 Opp—Ch. 59 UHF—Ch. 25		10:00 AM Sun. 10:00 AM Sun. 10:00 AM Sun. 10:00 AM Sun.
CALIFORNIA		
San Pedro—Cox Communications San Diego—Cox—Ch 24 & 18 San Diego—Time Warner—Ch 16		6:30 PM Fri. 4:00 PM Wed. Time varies
CONNECTICUT		
Willimantic—Charter Comm.—Ch 192		5:30 PM Tue.
IDAHO		
Pocatello—TCI Cable—Ch 12		1:00 PM Sun. 2:30 PM Tue.
IOWA		
Dubuque—Media Com—Ch 81		Times Vary
MASSACHUSETTS		
Springfield—Public Access—Ch 12		5 PM Mon.
MICHIGAN		
Battlecreek—Access Vision—Ch 11		3:00 PM Sat.
MONTANA		
Missoula—MCAT—Ch 12		2:00 PM Mon.
NEW YORK		
Broome—Time Warner—Ch 6 Buffalo—Public Access—Ch 20 Elmira—Coming—Ch 1 Farmington Time Warner—Ch 1 Mid-Hudson Cable—Ch 1 Lockport—Ch 20 LCTV		4 PM Mon. /6 PM Wed. 5:05 PM Sun. 9:00 AM Sun. 28:00 PM Sun. 13 PM Wed. 4:00 PM Mon. 10:30 AM Tues. 10:00 PM Fri. 12:30 PM Sun. 14:00 PM Fri.
Suffolk—Ch 20 Woodbury—Cable Vision—Ch 7		
NEW MEXICO		
Albuquerque Community Cable—Ch 27 Los Alamos—PAC 8		5:00 PM Mon. 6:00 PM Sun. 2:00 PM Tue.
NEW ZEALAND		
Mainland TV Nelson 9:00 AM Sun.		
OKLAHOMA		
Tulsa—Ch 47-2 (antenna) 6:00 PM Fri.		
PENNSYLVANIA		
York—York CATV—Ch 16		9:00 PM Mon. 3:00 PM Tue.
TENNESSEE		
Pikeville—S.E. Tenn. St. Regional Correctional Facility		Times Vary
TEXAS		
Abilene—KTXS—Ch 12 Brownwood—Ch 777-00 AM Sun. San Angelo—Ch 55		7:00 AM Sun. 7:00 AM Sun.

WIDE COVERAGE—DIRECT TV—SATELLITE—INTERNET

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 —METV 6 PM Sat. and 1 PM Sun.
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 —FETV 8 PM Fri. (GMT)
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