



Bible Believers' Bulletin

Vol. 42 No. 9 "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17) September 2018

HALLOWED, YET COMMON BREAD

By Brian Donovan

As David was being anointed by Samuel (1 Samuel 16) to be the next king of Israel, Saul picked up an unclean spirit that drove him to such jealousy, that he tried to kill the young shepherd boy (1 Samuel 18:8-11). Saul's sin of jealousy kept him from responding the right way whenever he was given the truth. In 1 Samuel 13:14, Samuel told him that his kingdom would not continue and that the Lord sought him a man after his own heart to replace him. Rather than handing over the crown and pleasing God, Saul continued in his own ways and in chapter 15, he was again told that his kingdom was taken and given to another that was better than he. Saul knew this truth and admitted the same in 1 Samuel 26:25, when he confessed that David would **"both do great things, and also prevail"**, but once again, he continued in his way until his

life ended up in total confusion, without any light from the Lord, and instead sought an answer from unclean spirits through a witch (1 Samuel 28). A great lesson from this for the child of God is that our responses to the word of God are even more important than our sins and failures. The saint that the Lord will use is not the sinless one, but the repentant one. David sinned and then afterwards responded the correct way in repentance, while Saul sinned and tried to force his own will and continued in his own ways.

In the midst of all this, avoiding two separate attempts of Saul to kill him (1 Samuel 18:11, 19:10), David ran for his life into the Judean wilderness, until he found himself at Nob, one of the priestly cities of Benjamin. Tired and hungry, David and his young followers asked for some food, and Ahimelech the priest let him know that he only had the shewbread from the tabernacle, saying, **"There is no common bread under mine hand, but there is hallowed bread"** (1 Samuel 21:4). David claimed that **"though it were sanctified"**, it was still **"in a manner common"** (verse 5). Thus David and his men were allowed to eat it. When the Lord Jesus Christ rebuked the

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Some Things I Have Not Seen

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

“I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread” (Psa. 37:25).

In all the years I have lived, I have seen a lot of things, but there are still some things I have not seen. I've never seen Palestine; I've never seen the state of Maine. I've never seen Africa or Australia or Spain or Italy or France. I have seen Canada, Nova Scotia, Mexico, Hawaii, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, India, the Ukraine, Germany, Liechtenstein, and Austria. Out of fifty states in America, I have seen all but five of them.

But from a *worldly* standpoint, there are some things I have not seen. First, in the years I have been alive on this earth, I have never seen *science cure one major problem mankind ever had*. The main problems of mankind have been disease, war, poverty, crime, disunity, sin, and death. Science never solved any of them.

You take the problem of disease: science never solved that problem. The time it takes care of two or three of them, two or three more pop up it can't handle. God is going to find ways to kill people through disease no matter what science does. There are just as many incurable diseases today as there were a hundred years ago.

In my lifetime, I have never known *a president who did not raise taxes and push international socialism of some kind*. Out of all the presidents I have lived through, only one tried

to do what he said he would do—Ronald Reagan, and he didn't make it. The reason Reagan couldn't do everything he said he would do was because the news media was against him. But no president would dare leave the UN or get rid of the Federal Reserve Bank.

In the whole time I have lived, I have never seen *a conservative congressman who didn't become liberal when he became a senator*. Jesse Helms was a conservative senator, but he wasn't a congressman first. There is something about the switch over that causes them all to go left.

I have never seen *a clean daily newspaper in any town of over 50,000 people*. A city with a population over 50,000 people has a dirty rag for a newspaper with filth all the way through it.

Now from the standpoint of a *Christian*, there are some things I have never seen. To begin with, in my entire ministry, I have never seen *any sinner who trusted Jesus Christ for salvation regret getting saved*. I have talked to saved sinners in India, Korea, the Philippines, Mexico, the Ukraine, Canada, Germany, Austria, and the United States. I have never met any saved sinner who was ever sorry he got saved. That is something to consider. That is “100% satisfaction.” That's a sure deal.

Aren't men strange? Isn't it peculiar that there is only one thing on this earth that is totally free and is the greatest thing you can get, and yet people don't want it. There is some-

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thing about human nature that is very perverse. God offers the sinner free eternal life for nothing, and the sinner wants to run from it and not take it. Yet he will go after some “gift offer” out in the world with a “hook” in it, or try to gamble or enter some sweepstakes to get something for nothing. Men are unreasonable when it comes to the offer of free salvation through Jesus Christ.

You never met a saved sinner, no matter his condition, even if he is committing suicide, who repented of receiving Christ. You can't be sorry you received Christ no matter what happens to you. You may regret a lot of things you have done in life, but that won't be one of them. You may be a sorry excuse for a Christian, but I have never met a sorry Christian who was sorry he became a Christian.

Next, I have never seen a *really “on-fire” Christian who regularly missed prayer meeting*. I know there are exceptions where people get sick. I know there are exceptions overseas where there is persecution. But I never met a dedicated Christian who missed prayer meeting year after year if he could make it at all.

The old saying is: “You can tell how popular a *church* is by the attendance Sunday morning; you can tell how popular a *preacher* is by the attendance in the evening service; but you can tell how popular *God* is by the attendance at prayer meeting.” Prayer meeting is when people begin to drop out.

When a Christian begins to get in

trouble spiritually, the first thing he drops is prayer meeting. After that comes the Sunday evening service and, finally, the Sunday morning service. It is kind of a domino effect.

Do you know why prayer meeting is so important? Because it is a “pain in the neck.” It is an interruption in the middle of the week. It costs you another drive back and forth to church. It costs you time and comfort during the work week.

Brethren, if the Lord tarries and things get worse—as they are bound to get (2 Tim. 3:1)—if you don't go out of your way to come to *prayer meeting now*, what makes you think you'll take *torture and death for Christ then*? If you can't inconvenience yourself for one service in the middle of the week, you may be a Christian, but you certainly aren't a “red-hot” one. You're a little “cool” there.

When you start skipping services, you find the cares of the world start descending on you like a cloud of mosquitoes. Pretty soon, you have so much to do out in the world that you can't make it to church at all.

When I was a D.I. in Corregidor in the Philippines, I and my men used to cut down bamboo to make bunks and things around the camp. That bamboo was so thick, you had to have your machete sharpened like a razor just to cut through the bamboo in three “whacks.” We'd be out there in that tropical heat and humidity, and the sweat would soak our shirts in a matter of a few minutes, so we took them off. Of course, that's when the

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mosquitoes would come for a free “lunch buffet.” We found they would bother us the most when we stopped swinging the machete. When we were *working*, we could handle them, but when we *stopped working*, that’s when they came down on us. That’s the way Christians are with church.

I’ll tell you something else I have not seen: I have never seen a *Christian who was joyful if he wasn’t trying to win someone to Jesus Christ*. All the *genuinely happy* Christians I have known (not the ones trying to fake it) have been the ones trying to win somebody to the Lord.

I have had men come to me depressed that they haven’t been able to lead a soul to Christ in a couple of weeks. I sympathize with that; I know that feeling. If I go four months without leading a grown man to Jesus Christ, I get depressed. Leading a sinner to the Saviour brings joy (Luke 15:7, 10), and that Bible says, **“the joy of the LORD is your strength”** (Neh. 8:10).

A Bible teacher will dry up if he is not evangelistic. It never fails. No matter how good a Bible teacher he may be, if he is not actively engaged in trying to win lost sinners to Jesus Christ, the teaching will be dead.

Years ago at Bob Jones University, the man who saved my ministry (and unfortunately, it was not in a “positive” way) was a Greek teacher named William Brunner. The man was a genius. He had studied as a private pupil under Dr. A. T. Robertson of Louisville Seminary, the man who

wrote the monumental Greek grammar by which all the “Greek boys” operate. Brunner had memorized all 5,000 vocabulary words used in the Greek New Testament.

Brunner was my faculty adviser when it came time to start my graduate work. He met with me on a cold winter day there in Greenville. The window of his office looked out on Paris Mountain.

He said, “Mr. Ruckman, do you intend to be a teacher or an evangelist?”

At the time, I had seen how many people were getting saved at Billy Graham’s meetings, and I wanted to lead grown men to Jesus Christ, so I said, “An evangelist.”

“If I were you, then,” he said, “I would major in something else besides Greek.”

That surprised me. “I’ve been making good grades in Greek, haven’t I?” I asked.

“Yes,” he said, “you do very well, but you should major in theology instead if you are not going to be a teacher.”

I said, “OK.”

Then he turned around and stared out the window. He seemed to be talking to himself as he spoke.

“Mr. Ruckman, years ago I fell under the spell of that great Greek grammarian, Dr. A. T. Robertson of Louisville. By the time I had sat under him for eight years, I could see nothing in the New Testament but Greek grammar and syntax. But Mr. Ruckman, I am 55 years old, and I have

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never led a soul to Jesus Christ. I've tried. Why, just this last week I was out in a field dealing with a farmer about his soul. I was trying to show him out of the Greek New Testament that there was a literal hell. After talking to him, he said to me, "You know what your problem is, fella? You know too much."

I heard that, and I said, "Sign me up for theology."

That old boy may have been brilliant academically, but he was a dumb thump in God's eyes. "**He that winneth souls is wise**" (Prov. 11:30).

You can teach soulwinning and not lead souls to Christ. You can hear seminars on soulwinning and not lead souls to Christ. It's like lifeguards training on the beach to save lives while watching a fellow drowning out in the water.

Next, I have never seen a *disobedient saint get away with sin*. That Book says, "**be sure your sin will find you out**" (Num. 32:23). Sometimes it takes a long time for the ship to come in, but it eventually comes in. I was paying for sins in my seventies that I had committed in my twenties.

If the Bible did nothing else, it would show you that you can't get away with sin. Lot pays for his covetousness by getting drunk in a cave and committing incest with his two daughters. Abraham pays for his impatience and lack of faith by bearing "**a wild man**" by his Egyptian slave Hagar (Gen. 16:12). The children from those illicit relationships are causing trouble for the United Nations

here in the twenty-first century.

Jacob lies and cheats his way through and winds up "gimp" the rest of his life, with his boys plotting to kill his favorite son, Joseph. Samson whored around till he ends up blind and a suicide. Solomon can't control his lusts, so he loses the kingdom. David commits adultery with Bathsheba and has her husband killed in battle to cover it up, so the Lord takes three of his sons in death as payment. Jonah had to go to "whale-belly college" for running from God. Disobedient saints don't get away with sin.

There was a fellow that came to school here who fooled with drugs and tried to hide it from people. One day he was out making a drug deal, and he got shot in the leg. He got out of it that time by lying to the police that some black guy had shot him in a robbery. Finally, what he was doing came out, and we had to drop him. Then he got in a hotel room on drugs, and when the police raided his room, he tried to shoot the police and got shot dead himself. That fellow was just as saved as anybody I have ever met in my life.

I know how most pastors think: they think someone like that couldn't even be saved. They think if you don't come to every service, drive a church bus, or teach a Sunday school class, you're lost. They think if you smoke, drink, or do drugs, you're going to hell. I don't think that for a minute.

Brethren, all you have to do is put down that Bible, stop praying, stop coming to church, and you can wind

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up committing any sin an unsaved person commits. The problem is, you will reap what you sow.

I'll tell you something else I've never seen: I've never seen a *griper who didn't hurt a church's testimony*. People, there are unsaved people watching you like a hawk. I must admit, I do a good bit of griping myself, but I am careful that when I do, there are no unsaved people within ear-shot. If you're going to gripe, do it in private where no one can hear you.

Listening to a griping, bellyaching Christian is like listening to the devil describe New Jerusalem. You reckon he would describe it in glowing terms to make you want to go there? I don't think so.

A griper will hurt a church's testimony in a way no one else can. He will only present a work in the worst light possible and make unsaved people want to stay away from it. They think, "If it isn't any good for you (meaning the griper), then it sure isn't any good for me."

Unsaved people and backslidden Christians look at you, Christian, to see how you take bad situations. I had more preachers look at me when a woman deserted me than I had at any other time in my life. When I was going through that mess, I told my preacher friend Bob Ware that I was getting out of the ministry. He said, "You can't. Preachers all over this country are watching you right now. If you fall out, there are going to be about 500 of them fall out with you." I stayed in.

Never trust some touchy, disgruntled backslider to give you a decent report on a meeting or class. Christians give up their liquor, tobacco, and running around; and then *they make up for it with their big, fat mouths*.

Something else I've never seen is a *Christian who is too poor to tithe*. Paul said "**the churches of Macedonia**" gave out of "**their deep poverty**" (2 Cor. 8:1-2). That widow woman who put in the two mites at the temple put "**in all the living that she had**" (Luke 21:2-4). The rich folks didn't put in that much. A woman that poor surely couldn't afford to tithe, but she was giving above and beyond the tithe.

The Bible Baptist Church supports a poor Mexican pastor in Tampico. That fellow has a wife and a couple of kids and doesn't make more than a couple of hundred dollars a month in U.S. currency. They live in a tin shack, but I have never met that fellow when he wasn't dressed immaculately. His wife washes and irons all his clothes, and she makes sure he looks dressed well for a pastor.

A widow woman gave him a piece of land that isn't even half the size of our auditorium on which to build a church, and he now has a church building on that land. That widow has a crippled daughter. When I was down there for a meeting, that widow cooked the meals for everyone who came. She didn't charge the church for anything; she did it for nothing. After the meeting was over, I had a few pesos in my pocket, so I took

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her in the back room and gave them to her and thanked her for what she had done. She didn't want to take them, but I insisted. She was crying to think anyone would do that for her. She was just as poor as Job's turkey. Bless God, if she can give like that, I guess you can too, Christian.

If all you give is the tithe, what have you given? The Book says, **"the tithe . . . is the LORD'S"** (Lev. 27:30). You aren't really giving until you give more than what is already His.

This ministry gets money sent in by Christians in prison. It never is very much, but it is all they can give. I tried at first to send the money back, but the prisoners would mail it back to me saying I was preventing them from getting a blessing. What can you say to something like that? Not a thing, man, so I took the money. They only make about \$50.00 a month, but they tithe on it and send a check for \$5.00.

There are rich folks out there who have no more idea what to do with their money than the man in the moon. There was some rich fellow building a house over in Gulf Breeze who paid \$50,000 for a bathroom made in France and had it shipped over here for \$5,000. That was \$55,000 flushed down the toilet, nearly literally. There are Christians involved in that kind of stuff while there are churches to be planted, missionaries to be supported, Bibles and tracts to be printed, radio broadcasts to be sponsored, etc. There will be hell to pay at the Judgment Seat of

Christ, I kid you not. "Poverty hath slain her thousands, but wealth her ten thousands."

Giving is an expression of faith; it shows you have so much confidence in God that you not only trust your soul with Him, but your billfold as well. If you are in a soulwinning church, giving shows you have a concern for souls. Giving is a challenge to greater growth in the Christian life; the more you give, the easier it gets to give.

There is no such thing as two absolute owners of a thing. When it comes to the body of a Christian, he may live in his own body, but he is not the *owner* of it.

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Cor. 6:19-20).

The atheist thinks his body got here accidentally. The agnostic professes not to know how it got here. The deist thinks the Contractor built it and then left. But the truth of the matter is, this body is on loan from the Builder, and every person's epitaph at death should be: **"give account of thy stewardship; for thou mayest be no longer steward"** (Luke 16:2). Anything you have in this life is loaned to you and entrusted to you *temporarily*. The only thing you will take with you when you go is what you send ahead to the other side

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before you go (Matt. 6:19–21). “Only one life; ‘twill soon be past. Only what’s done for Christ will last.”

Finally, I’ve never seen a *sinner God wouldn’t save*. I’ve dealt with all kinds, including double-lifers and triple-lifers. I know of KGB agents, who tortured and killed Christians, who got saved.

One of those Communist jailers got saved by a little girl bringing him flowers every month. When he asked her why she did it, she replied, “My mother is serving a life sentence for being a Christian, and she told me to overcome evil with good.” That got to him, and he got saved.

Paul was an evil man. He tortured Christians **“and compelled them to blaspheme”** (Acts 26:11). God saved him and called him to preach. Hitler’s right-hand man, Field Marshall Wilhelm Keitel, got saved while he was in prison awaiting execution. The man who led the Japanese bombing raid on Pearl Harbor, Mitsuo Fuchido, got saved after the war and became an evangelist.

I don’t care how rotten of a sinner you are, no one is excluded from salvation but the one who excludes himself. If you aren’t saved, it is because *you don’t want to be saved*. If you wanted to be saved badly enough, you would come to Christ in faith and be saved.

One of my kinfolk by marriage up in Alabama was an atheist named Carl Penyard; I saw him get saved. One of the rescue mission superintendents with whom I worked at the

Star Gospel Mission in Charleston, South Carolina had been a drunk and ended up on a chain gang in prison before he got saved. Rahab was a whore; she got saved. Mary Magdalene was demon possessed; she got saved. The Lord doesn’t exclude anybody.

The problem is *you and your will*: **“ye WILL NOT come to me, that ye might have life”** (John 5:40).

David Berkowitz, the “Son of Sam” killer, got saved. Susan Atkins, the member of the Charles Manson “Family” who killed Sharon Tate, got saved in prison. Salvation is **“whosoever will”** (Rev. 22:17). You can’t get too rough, too bad, too mean, or too rotten for God to save you.

Jesus said, **“I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance”** (Luke 5:32).

Back in 1880, D. L. Moody held a series of evangelistic meetings in St. Louis, Missouri. All his sermons during those meetings were being printed by the local newspaper.

In the jail there in St. Louis was a “career” burglar named Valentine Burke. He got a copy of the newspaper one day with the headline “How the Jailer of Philippi Was Caught,” and he thought it was about the jailer in Philippi, Illinois, where he had served some time. When he found out it was a sermon, he threw the newspaper down, but not having anything else to do in jail, he picked it up and read Moody’s sermon on Acts 16:31. As a result, Valentine Burke got saved.

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When Burke's case came to court, he was released on a technicality. Now that he was saved, Burke "went straight." He traveled all the way to New York City to find an honest job, but in six months, he never found a job, so he went back to St. Louis. When he did, the sheriff called him in. Burke decided ahead of time that he would plead guilty to whatever charge was brought against him if he were guilty.

But when Burke came into the sheriff's office, that sheriff told him he had had him followed while he was in New York. The sheriff figured Burke had only gotten "jailhouse religion" and would be back to his old ways when he was back on the streets. But after having Burke followed for six months, the sheriff had come to the conclusion that Burke was a real Christian and had called him in to offer him a job as a deputy. When Moody met Burke in person, the deputy was guarding a bag of diamonds; that's how much he was trusted.

Nicky Cruz was a Puerto Rican street thug in New York City. He liked to beat up cripples and little children. He became a leader in a street gang called the Mau Maus. He didn't want to become the leader at first because he liked to fight. Sometimes in a fight, he would get so "involved" that he would hit his own gang members because he didn't know what he was doing. In one fight, he stabbed sixteen people with a knife. When he was sixteen years old, his older brother threw him out of the house

with only the clothes on his back and a pistol. He robbed a candy store and killed two people. He was arrested twelve times.

One time, the Mau Maus were going to fight another street gang called the Bishops, but the police showed up and that never happened. But as another gang called the Chaplains showed up, two street preachers got out of a car. They had an American flag and a trumpet. Of course, those gang members cussed the street preachers and made fun of them, but when they got through, the leader of the black gang and one of his buddies got down on their knees crying like babies and got saved. Dave Wilkerson, the main street preacher, came up to Nicky to shake his hand and tell him he loved him. Nicky threatened to kill Wilkerson if he came around again.

But Wilkerson did come around again. He got him a store front in which to hold church and invited Nicky and the other gang members in for a service. Wilkerson held a full church service with singing, a "special," and an offering. He had Nicky take up the collection. Nicky thought Wilkerson was crazy for doing that, but he figured if the preacher were nuts enough to let him collect money, that he would take it and run. But when he got to the back, instead of giving the signal to his other gang member to run off with the collection, it struck him that Wilkerson *trusted* him. Nobody had ever trusted him in his life. When Nicky took the money

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back up to Wilkerson, the preacher *thanked* him, and nobody had ever done that to Nicky in his life.

The preacher got up and talked about being filled with the Holy Spirit and living a clean life. Nicky wanted a clean life so badly he couldn't stand it. When the preacher gave the invitation, the main leader of the Mau Maus, a black guy named Israel, got up and said the whole gang was going down to get saved.

Nicky went down and got on his knees and prayed, "God, I'm the dirtiest sinner in New York. I don't think you want me, but if you want me, you can have me. As bad as I've been, I just want to be that good for Jesus." Nicky Cruz got saved and became a

preacher.

A couple of weeks after Nicky got saved, a member of another gang came up to him on the street and said, "Nicky, is it true you don't carry a weapon anymore?" "That's right," said Nicky, and that guy took out a ten-inch blade to stab Nicky. Nicky was able to deflect the blade with his hand and take it away from the other guy. That kid stared in terror at Nicky, sure he would stab him in revenge, but he didn't.

As the guy ran off, Nicky saw his hand had been cut. Before he was saved, the sight of blood would make Nicky laugh hysterically. Now all he could think was: "**the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin**" (1 John 1:7).

Bad Attitude Baptist Blowout

— **September 20–23** —

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- Gabriel Cochran
- David Peacock

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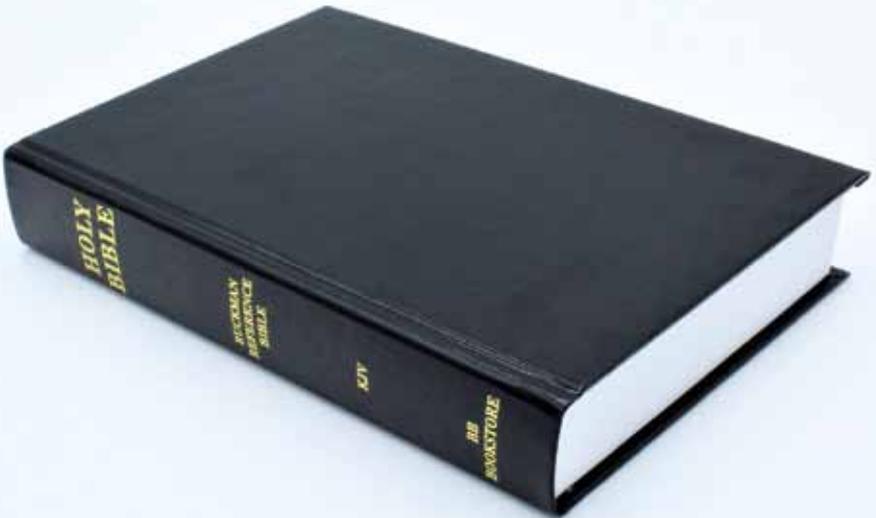
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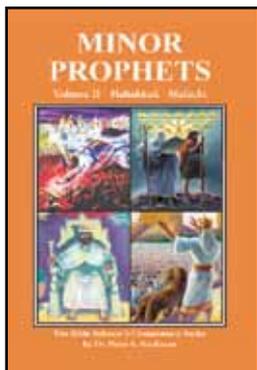
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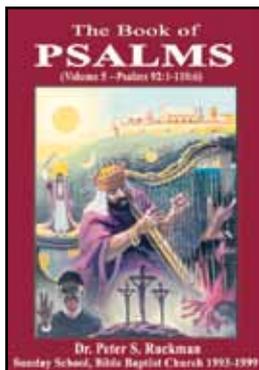
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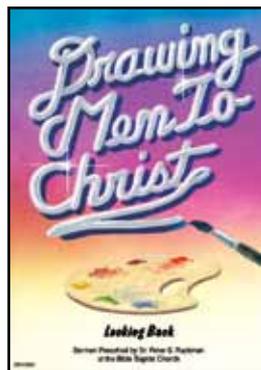
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nitpicking Pharisees, who found fault with the disciples plucking corn on the sabbath to satisfy their hunger, He answered them with the account of David taking the shewbread. The Lord referred to the event to show that neither David (verse 3), nor the Levitical priests in the temple on the sabbath days (verse 5), nor his own disciples (verse 7) were at fault. The Pharisees accused the disciples of breaking the law, which only said that they were not to work. The disciples were not working, nor did they **“move a sickle”** to their neighbor’s corn (as prohibited in Deuteronomy 23:24-25); they were only satisfying their need for food at the moment. The event is recorded in Matthew 12, Mark 6, and Luke 6 as it was used by Jesus to teach that he is more interested in mercy than sacrifice (quoted from Hosea 6); just as Saul was shown that obedience was better than sacrifice (I Samuel 15:22). Had the Pharisees learned that, they would have quit looking around to condemn and would have seen that even the sabbath law was not to be something to harm man, but instead was made for his good (Mark 2:27).

The passage in I Samuel 21 is also a great type of the Lord’s mercies in giving us hallowed, yet common bread, as found in the King James 1611. Though the scriptures are **“holy”** (II Timothy 3:15), and thy word **“very pure”** (Psalm 12:6, Psalm 119:140), they have been preserved and handed to us, that is **“in a manner common”**, as found in the KJV, in the common

worldwide language for common sinners for these last days and all of time. The King James English, supposedly archaic and out of date for today’s reader, retains a common vocabulary that a child can understand, yet not a vulgar, dirty street language that would defile its hallowed status. The modern reader will find power in the word of a king (Ecclesiastes 8:4) that is missing from the corrupt translations on the shelves today, as they are constantly changing and losing any chance of possessing any power. Unless it is **“given by inspiration”**, it is not hallowed, and as long as it is an attempt to display someone’s scholarship, it is not common.

The stamp of the **“inspiration of God”** is evident, among other ways, in the fact that the KJV is hallowed, yet common. In the English language, it began with John Wycliffe (1382), the “morning star of the Reformation”, who took the scriptures out of the hands of the dead Latin scholars, while training outdoor preachers, who were insultingly called Lollards, as they tore up England’s countryside with the gospel. After the Lord saw fit to finish using John, he fell on sleep through a stroke, even as he was preaching. This common man’s preacher was so hated by the Anglican and Roman Catholic priests, by the decree of Pope Martin V, they dug up his remains some forty plus years after he was buried and had them burned. The Roman Catholic killers might have burned him at the stake before he died, had they not been tem-

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porarily distracted by their own problems of a papal schism, which resulted in two popes being elected, with each infallibly declaring the other illegitimate. John Wycliffe declared, "I always knew that the Pope was cloven tongued, but now he is cloven headed." Wycliffe's efforts of translation were purified by William Tyndale in 1525, who, after being told by a pompous clergyman that "we had better be without God's law than the pope's law", answered, that if he had his way, he would see to it that the ploughboy would know more of the scriptures than the Roman Catholic clergy. Tyndale's was the first English Bible to be translated from the Hebrew in the Old Testament, and the Greek in the New Testament. His was also the first English Bible to come off the printing press, a relatively recent invention by Gutenberg. His work cost him his life in 1536 when he was tied to a stake and strangled before his dead body was burned. The last five steps of purification were continued with Coverdale in 1535, the Great Bible in 1539, the Geneva Bible in 1560, the Bishop's Bible in 1568, and the "**purified seven times**" (Psalm 12:6-7) was completed by the KJV in 1611.

In spite of the constant attacks and attempts to rid themselves of this hated Book, the modern scholars must live with the fact of the eternal continuance of the hallowed, yet common bread of the powerful King James Bible. Making ridiculous claims that "it can no longer be understood", and "today's reader gets hopelessly bogged down with

archaic words that require a dictionary", and "the words of 1611 no longer have the same meaning today", the critics give pitifully weak examples of a few cases where a word has slowly changed in usage and meaning. Their favorites include the word "suffer", as used in Matthew 19:14, "**But Jesus said, Suffer little children...**". Crying that we no longer use the word to mean "allow", KJV critics expose their ignorance of the English language, since it most certainly still is used to mean "allow" in modern vocabulary. The Merriam-Webster dictionary gives a fourth definition of "suffer" as "allow", while Florida's Department of Labor writes, "suffer or permit to work means that if an employer requires or **ALLOWS** employees to work..." Do we hear cries against the Florida Department of Labor for using "archaic, hard to understand language"? I trow not. Not only that, but had the critics simply finished reading Matthew 19:14, they would have seen the definition right in the verse! Jesus said, "**Suffer little children, AND FORBID THEM NOT...**" If you tell me that the word "suffer" in that verse is too hard for you to understand, I pray that you don't ever attempt to teach a five-year-old children's Sunday school class, let alone try to stand in judgment of the King James translators' work. Another favorite attack of the KJV critics is the use of the word "prevent", as found in I Thessalonians 4:15... "**that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are**

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asleep". Modern dictionaries give the "archaic" definition of prevent as "to precede", or "go before". Yet even in the examples given of the modern definition as "to keep from happening", the context implies doing something in time "before" something else happens. When the rapture occurs, those who are alive will not prevent those who are dead (go before the dead in time). Besides that, what is wrong with looking up a word in scripture, as well as the dictionary to expand your vocabulary? David said "**Mine eyes prevent the night watches**" (Psalm 119:148). Comparing scripture with scripture, as well as breaking the word down, the reader can figure out that it means "pre" (before) "event". David's eyes did not stop, in that sense of prevent, the night from coming on, but he took some action before the night watches began. The critics whine that a Bible reader should not have to look a word up in the dictionary, yet at the same time telling the students that if they studied in the Hebrew or Greek, they would learn what it meant. Are you suggesting that the Bible reader should look to something as archaic and out of date as Greek and Hebrew, while telling us the word "prevent" is too difficult to understand? They don't mind looking up "CAD, metafile, broadband, cookie, firewall, URL, CD-ROM, flash drive, BIOS, emoji, iOS", and on and on and on. Someone is showing a hatred for the pure words of God so that instead of taking heed to them, somehow have a desire to correct them.

Even as the critics of the King James Bible continue to attack, they are hit with the fact that the modern English speaker continues to use "archaic" and "out of date expressions", in their daily vocabulary that come directly from the 1611, while ignoring the modern corruptions. For instance, when was the last time you heard someone use the expression "the goat chosen for Azazel", as found in the Good News translation? The archaic KJV says "**scapegoat**", and its everyday use is common to all English speaking people. A recent article I saw reads, "it does no one any good to scapegoat the victims". The readers understand what was meant and there was no concern for "updating" it to read "Azazel the victims". A common expression in today's English is "**eat, drink and be merry**", from the KJV of Ecclesiastes 8:15, and is not ever heard on the street as "eat, drink and be joyful", as the corrupt ESV. The phrase is sometimes incorrectly attributed to Epicurus, the philosopher who founded a school at Athens, but he was merely mimicking a six-hundred-year-old phrase used by Solomon around 975 B.C. since Epicurus did not show up until 300 B.C. Has the reader ever heard anyone use the NIV phrase, "that is up to the authorities that exist" lately? Of course not, they use the KJV word for word "**powers that be**" (Romans 13:1), and even the modern Cambridge English Dictionary uses it in a sentence as, "that is up to the powers that be to decide what should be done next". Another common English expression

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that remains in everyday use is **“in the twinkling of an eye”**, from the KJV in I Corinthians 15:52. You will have to wait quite awhile to hear the common man instead say, “faster than an eye can blink”, as the International Standard corruption. A recent memoir by a science fiction writer named Aldiss is titled, “In the Twinkling of an Eye or My Life as an Englishman”. It is doubtful that the old boy even read the Bible, even as he is quoting its antiquated figure of speech. From a book written over 3500 years ago, we still repeat the expression **“the root of the matter”** (Job 19:28 KJV), and no one uses the corruptions put out by the NASB or the Roman Catholic Douay-Rheims “pretext for a case” or “occasion of word”.

The expressions used by the common, everyday English speaker that come from the KJV1611 are too numerous to list, from **“a den of thieves”** (Matthew 21:13), **“a law unto themselves”** (Romans 2:14), **“a thorn in the flesh”** (II Corinthians 12:7), **“my brother’s keeper”** (Genesis 4:9), **“twoedged sword”** (Hebrews 4:12), **“the fattened calf”** (Luke 15:23), and on and on. The Christian in these last days of Laodicea has been handed common, yet hallowed bread in the pure words of the King James Bible and it is a sad fact that it is being thrown away and ignored by both pulpit and pew. It is not a matter of just being unknowingly used by the general public in their everyday speech, but that the saint of God has been given a twoedged sword that alone has the power to change his life, and reveal

not only the will of God, but the Lord God himself to his child. These words are so powerful, man can do nothing to stop any of it from coming to pass. The Lord mockingly tells the nations to assemble themselves together for war against Israel (Joel 3:9-11), and that is what they must do. With the whole world against that one tiny nation, they are told that they still cannot wipe them out. The hallowed, common words of God tell them that in order to wipe out Israel, they must first stop the sun from rising in the morning and the moon from coming out in the night sky (Jeremiah 33:15-20). The whole earth is told to hear the word of the Lord’s prophecy that, due to their disobedience in 606 B.C., Judah cannot put another of their own seed on the throne of David (Jeremiah 22:29-30). Ever since Nebuchadnezzar came in and destroyed Jerusalem, the temple, and the nation, the Jews have been unable to set up David’s throne. The prophecy is also proof of both the virgin birth and the divinity of Jesus Christ, as he could not be born of the literal seed of Judah and then still sit on the throne, as he will one day (Luke 1:31-32). The Bible believer is impressed with the power found in these hallowed, yet common words.

When the child Samuel was trying to minister in the temple during the time of the foolishness of Eli’s wicked priestly sons, the Bible says that **“Samuel did not yet know the LORD”** and the reason is given as **“neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him”** (I Samuel 3:7). To know the Lord is to

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know his words. Your walk with the Lord and the knowledge of his ways can only come from this blessed Book, the KJV 1611. As poor beggars, we have been handed hallowed, yet common bread in

our beloved English Bible. Were it not for that hallowed, yet common bread provided that day, there is no telling where David and his men might have ended up. The same can be said of the Bible believing Christian today.

Bro. Donovan's Meeting Schedule

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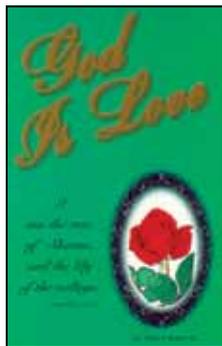
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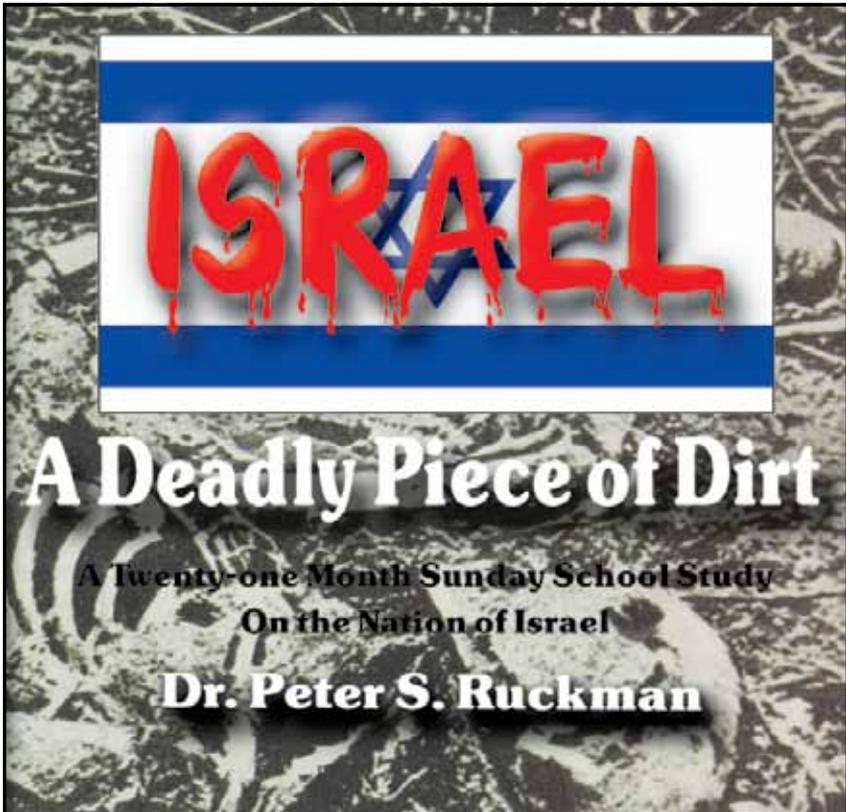
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“The Church in the Wilderness”

By Zack Colvin
(Part 2 of 2)

As Israel departs Elim and enters into the wilderness of Sin between Elim and Sinai, we find them once again murmuring. But this time, it's not over a lack of good water but over the lack of food. How soon the children of Israel forgot God's goodness! The human mind seems notoriously forgetful when it comes to God's goodness. The flesh and the devil continually work at trying to charge God with everything negative (in our eyes) and make us think that all of the pleasures and “good times” are back in Egypt.

The lesson here is found in Proverbs 4:23—**“Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.”**

Unless the heart is kept with all diligence on a daily basis, it will only be a matter of a few days before it is once again murmuring to the Lord. Murmuring is really a sign of something deeper in the heart, like bitterness or discontent, and is often just the first step toward outright rebellion if it's not kept in check.

Maybe it's because I live in America, but I've never heard a people complain more than Americans. The little bit of traveling I've done has exposed me to at least a few other countries where I didn't hear the amount of complaining that I do from Americans. It ought be the other way around, considering the mercy and goodness that God has shown this country in spite of its sin and rejection of Him, but it seems they that have the most tend to complain the most toward those who have given the most.

Notice that the Lord ends up giving the people quails to eat that night, and the manna shows up the next morning to miraculously feed the people. It's

worth noting that the Lord did this in spite of their complaining. So I can't help but think that He would have provided for them if they had simply asked for it instead of complaining. Often that's how it is with us. We murmur about things before asking for them, and the Lord still mercifully provides them. The fix is to keep your heart with all diligence so that when you're tempted to murmur, you'll count your blessings instead. When the heart is kept **“with all diligence,”** it will turn to the Lord. **“Casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you”** (1 Pet. 5:7)

The feeding of the manna which follows in Exodus 16 is a miraculous dispensing of bread to the children of Israel. There is much that could be said about this “manna,” but in keeping to the practical application of the journeys of the children of Israel to the New Testament church, this represents the miraculous bread from heaven upon which we feed our souls - the precious words of God. Of course, it can also represent Jesus Christ Himself, but for now we'll make mention of the words of God. Jesus said in Matthew 4:4 that **“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”** There is a miraculous transaction that takes place when a man sits down and allows his eyes to read the words of God. **“The light of the body is the eye”** (Matt. 6:22), so when a man reads the Bible, words of spirit and life (John 6:63) are entering into the eyes and down into the very soul of that man. The result is a spiritual filling that leaves the man satisfied and with sufficient spiritual nutrients to carry him through the day. I can't explain it any more than the children of Israel

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Continued from 20 could explain the manna, which is why they called it what they did. The word *manna* simply means, “What is it?” (see Exod. 16:15). It couldn’t be explained at that time, but there’s no doubt that it fell from heaven miraculously, and it was sufficient for their hunger.

Such is the King James Bible to us. I can’t fully understand the transaction that takes place as I pore over those holy words and feed my soul with a spiritual diet, but I know it takes place, and I know I’m satisfied when I’m finished.

The mention of some of the people gathering more and some gathering less is interesting, because it shows that no matter how much or how little of the words of God you are able to understand or assimilate, it will be sufficient to meet your need. What a comfort! You don’t need to worry about all of the things you don’t understand. You simply need to take in the things

you do understand and obey them until God decides to increase your diet a little more. Just remember that attention to details in the words of God matters just as the details mattered to the children of Israel, even though they didn’t really think it did. The Lord gave them specific instructions about the way the manna was to be gathered, especially on the sixth and seventh days. But they thought the details wouldn’t matter so long as they obeyed the general idea. This can be dangerous in the Christian’s walk with the Lord and can cause the Lord to get angry (Exod. 16:28). When the Lord gives specific instructions, obey them to the best of your ability.

As the children of Israel depart from the wilderness of Sin and come to Rephidim, there is no indication that they antagonize the Amalekites at all. They are minding their own business on their way to Mount Sinai so that

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“The Church in the Wilderness”

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the Lord can give them His law and up pops the Amalekites who begin to fight against Israel. Such is the way our spiritual enemies attack very often. There is no warning. Amalek is a type of the flesh, so he represents those battles with the flesh that often come upon the spirit without a moment's warning. But even though the darts and spears start flying out of nowhere, we don't have to be defeated, just as the Israelites were not defeated. In order to “discomfit” the flesh though, there are three things that must be in place.

First, Joshua must be in command. Joshua is a type of Christ, and he goes out and leads the battle against the Amalekites. So the only way to win the battle against the flesh is for Jesus Christ to be in command. This means that the Christian's fellowship must be maintained daily, since the attacks from the flesh will be daily. This also means that the battles against the flesh can't be won by us simply strengthening ourselves and facing the fight, though there is some need for that. We must ask the Lord Jesus Christ for his help and instructions. Ephesians 6:10 says, “**...be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.**”

Secondly, notice the way that Joshua defeats Amalek in Exodus 17:13 - It is “**with the edge of the sword.**” Your weapon must be “**the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God**” (Eph. 6:17). Although many Bible believers know this to be true, they still don't spend time getting familiar with their weapon. Memorization of the scripture is the only way to be prepared to fight the battle against the flesh when it attacks without notice. There will seldom be opportunity to look up a verse at the

time of temptation. So it's no wonder many Christians fall to the flesh, since they have spent their time memorizing story lines from movies, music lyrics, and just about anything but the scripture.

Thirdly, the banner which the children fought under was the Lord. Exodus 17:15 says that “**Moses built an altar, and called the name of it Jehovah-nissi,**” which means “The Lord is my banner.” So the purpose of their fighting was for the glory of the Lord. This is important because the battle against the flesh pleases the Lord and should be fought for His pleasure and glory. No doubt when the victories are won there is satisfaction in us, and we know that there will be less to reap in the future as a result, but ultimately it's the Lord's pleasure that really matters. The battle against the flesh will be a lifelong battle, as indicated in Exodus 17:16, so you can't ignore it and hope that it will just go away. With these three things applied, there can be victories over the flesh instead of a pattern of defeats throughout your Christian life.

When the battle against Amalek is ended, right away Moses gets a visit from his father-in-law, Jethro, who brings Moses' wife and two sons with him. What follows on the next day is Moses sitting to judge the people and Jethro's observation of how this is done. Jethro notices that this is a lot of work for Moses and proceeds to “give counsel” to Moses on how to do things differently. There isn't space to go into every detail, but a few should suffice. Jethro says, “**The thing that thou doest is not good. Thou wilt surely wear away...this thing is too heavy for thee**” (Exod. 18:17–18). He proceeds to give Moses counsel on how to choose out some men

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and to make it easier for himself. None of Jethro's observations or his advice have anything to do with what the Lord wants for Moses. They are simply the suggestions of a priest of Midian who obviously is living his life in such a way that things are most comfortable to himself first, and he thinks that is the way Moses should be living.

The lesson here is that Satan can very easily get an advantage over the Christian if the Christian is ignorant of Satan's devices (2 Cor. 2:11). Jethro very likely didn't even mean to cause Moses to do anything wrong, but the devil used Jethro to be an ego-boost to Moses at a time when, humanly speaking, he could really use it. Of course, the danger in all of this was that Moses never asked counsel at the mouth of the Lord, even when the Lord had been speaking to Moses face to face. Moses obeys Jethro's advice to choose out men, and this doesn't work out well at all for Moses, considering the amount of rebellion that comes later, especially with Korah and his followers (Num. 16). The Lord has to fix Moses' mistake later by putting His spirit into seventy men and letting them bear the burden with Moses (Num. 11:16–25).

In Numbers 10:29–31, we see how this whole scenario caused Moses to take his eyes off the Lord and put his trust in Jethro. Moses didn't need Jethro to be to them **“instead of eyes.”** The people had the Lord leading them through the wilderness. Satan will look for any way possible to get the Christian's eyes off the Lord in our wilderness journey as **“strangers and pilgrims”** (1 Pet. 2:10), and it seems he often succeeds by finding ways for Christians to make their lives easier for

themselves. There may be a need for someone to delegate certain jobs and get help from other people to lighten the load, but sometimes the Lord wants you to continue on even though things seem unbearable and let Him sustain you. But don't make the same mistake that Moses made and fail to ask the Lord what He thinks. Asking the Lord's counsel will save you from being taken advantage of by the devil.

Sometime after the children of Israel depart mount Sinai, Miriam and Aaron get envious of Moses' position as their leader. They see a mistake he's made in his life by marrying an Ethiopian woman, and they feel that God should speak to them and through them just as well as He has with Moses. Of course, this is not the way the Lord feels at all, and we learn that in Numbers 12. The Lord gives Miriam leprosy as a result of her envy and pride.

The lesson here is that the Christian needs to watch out for envy as he travels on his way to the promised land. Envy is a sign of a carnal, immature baby according to Paul in 1 Corinthians 3:1–2. In Job 5:2, Eliphaz says, **“For wrath killeth the foolish man, and envy slayeth the silly one.”** Envy in a Christian's heart is extremely dangerous and will eventually kill him spiritually as it almost killed Miriam physically.

Proverbs 14:30 says, **“A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones.”**

Paul says in Galatians 5:26, **“Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.”**

Paul knew that when there is envy in the body of Christ, the work of the Lord can't be done because there will always

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“The Church in the Wilderness”

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be strife and divisions, and according to James, **“confusion and every evil work”** (James 3:16). Envy can keep a local congregation from spiritual progress due to the strife and divisions, and the damage those things cause in a “called-out assembly” of believers. Notice this is indicated by the halt in progress with the children of Israel in Numbers 12. The whole congregation has to wait seven days in order for Miriam to finish the days of her purification. It wasn't until the judgement upon her envy was fully accomplished that the children of Israel could move forward. The body of Christ and a local assembly of believers comes to the same halt in spiritual progress when there is envy among its members.

When the children of Israel begin their journey again, they come to Kadesh-barnea, the place where the Lord instructs Moses to send men into the Promised Land to spy out the land. This should have been the end of their wilderness journey. But the events that follow show the incredible lack of trust in the Lord by the leaders in Israel. The spies go in and take of the fruit, and spy out the land for forty days, and then bring back **“an evil report”** (Num. 13:32). The result is that the children of Israel don't go into the land and instead go back into the wilderness for forty years in order for the Lord to kill off the rebels in Israel.

The lesson here is what is written for us in Proverbs 3:5, which says, **“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”** According to Numbers 13:2, the land of Canaan was already given to the children of Israel, which is what Moses told the spies before they went into the land. The Lord didn't need them to spy

out the land before they went in, but He was testing them to see if they would trust Him or not. The Lord was fed up with their lack of trust and gave them one more chance to prove themselves. When they go to spy out the land, the circumstances seem to be totally against them and completely contrary to what they heard from Moses in the pre-reconnaissance briefing. They allow the circumstances to take precedence over what God already promised.

Christian, you can't allow present circumstances to keep you from trusting in what the Lord already said. You must go on the last order the Lord gave you no matter what the circumstances become thereafter. Caleb and Joshua were the only two men that understood this and put their trust in the Lord. That's why they were so adamant about going in and taking the land - they knew it was already theirs and that the Canaanites' defense was departed from them. It didn't matter how big and strong the Canaanites were, because the Lord already went before His people and somehow took away the Canaanites' ability to defend themselves. So even if it means you stand with a small minority, trust the Lord in spite of the circumstances. You might save yourself from forty years of heartache and trials if you will simply trust the Lord. The majority is always going the wrong direction anyway.

Very soon our Joshua, Jesus Christ, will come and lead us into the promised land. But until then, we have a journey through the wilderness to complete. May the Lord help you not to make some of the same mistakes that the children of Israel did, but through the example of their lives may you find admonition (1 Cor. 10:11).

Deadly Diseases in the Body of Christ

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

(Part Four of Six)

This is the fourth installment in a list of cases where professing Christian scholars, Bible teachers, Bible revisers, and Bible critics (some saved, some lost) have inserted into the text of the Holy Bible (AV 1611) deadly spiritual viruses and bacteria which they then call the "Word of God" (a neoorthodox designation that never refers to the actual words of the scriptures). You will find a list of these infectious killers in the appendix to our work entitled *The Christian Liar's Library* published back in 1997. We continue with these cases of deadly diseases brought into Christ's Body here in America.

36) *Acts 8:37*. The verse caused such a "reaction" in the diseased men who put together the Greek texts underlying the new versions (Hort, Nestle, Aland, Metzger, et al.) that they deleted the whole verse from the text. Nevertheless, those whom they infected still printed it in their English editions so that their "Bibles" would sell. That is, the dirty, God-forsaken reprobates had to correct the very Greek texts by which they swore. You will find the same blatant hypocrisy displayed with the last twelve verses of Mark 16. The verse gave them the "chills and fever" because it not only exalted the deity of Christ, but it also made it clear that baptism followed salvation, which was by *faith in Christ*. Moreover, it obliterated any form of *infant baptism*. Guess for whom they were "beating the drum."

37 & 38) *Acts 9:5-6*. A couple of other siblings given spiritual GRID by the reviser who "delivered" them. Pick up any one of the 323-plus pieces of putrid, rotting "better and clearer" translations put out from "older and better manuscripts" and see if you can find all 63 words that are in the Authorized text of 1611. No? Some green monkey has been monkeying with the text and transmitting spiritual GRID.

Someone has omitted more words here from what God said than *Eve* did in Genesis 3:2 and than the *devil* did in Luke 4:10. Someone was snatching salvation from a sinner's mouth the moment he was getting saved, exactly as he did in Acts 8:37 and Luke 23:42.

39 & 40) *Acts 17:22-23*. A reinfection of the same virus or bacteria that they picked up in Acts 4:13. The apostate egomaniacs are trying to make the stench from their open, oozing sores smell like perfume when they stink like a squashed skunk in the middle of the highway. This time, though, it is not a God-called apostle to whom they are comparing themselves; it is *highly intellectual Greek scholars who seek for wisdom* (1 Cor. 1:21-22).

"Oh my God! Those philosophers in Athens couldn't possibly be **'superstitious'**" (vs. 22) or *ignorant* (vs. 23). Heavens to Betsy, NO! What a way to describe *your Greek professor*. Horrors! The AV has to be mistaken here, because Paul is dealing with two *Greek teachers* (Zeno and

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Epicurus!)” So all the fickle Greek teachers and those who studied after them (Acts 17:21) were not **“superstitious”** at all; they were only **“very religious.”** And they didn’t **“ignorantly worship”** anything; they just worshiped **“as unknown”** (see the readings of the *ESV* in those verses).

Beautiful cover-up. You have to take your hat off to these filthy, Bible-denying, Bible-ignoring, Bible-rejecting, Bible-correcting apostates when it comes to *covering up their sins*.

In verse 23, Jesus Christ is excised with surgical precision. Paul’s message, *in the Holy Bible* (AV 1611), was said to be declaring **“THE UNKNOWN GOD.”** See the end of the verse? **“Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.”** Jesus Christ was not just one of several gods on the “god shelf,” as the modern translations would have you believe—**“AN UNKNOWN GOD.”** He was **“THE UNKNOWN GOD,”** separate from the bunch the Athenians knew because it was THE GOD who made the world and will someday judge it (vss. 24–31).

Mohammed didn’t know that God, so he took a moon god and called him “the God” (that is what *Allah* means). Allah’s real name is *unknown*: he never gave it to Mohammed or any other Moslem in fourteen centuries. Allah is AN unknown God, but he is certainly not **“THE UNKNOWN GOD.”** The new “Bibles” provide a beautiful cover-up for Mohammed, don’t you think? What marvelous up-to-date translations of which you can

avail yourself; what wonderful “scientific editions” of the “original autographs.”

41) *Acts 17:26*. Here is a verse so terrifying to every clergyman in the NCCC, and every faculty member at Bob Jones University, Tennessee Temple University, Pensacola Christian College, Liberty University, and Moody Bible Institute, as well as the leaders of the Institute for Creation Research and Answers in Genesis. As far back as 1950/51, on “Town Hall Tonight” (a national one-hour network radio broadcast), Billy Graham didn’t dare finish quoting the verse; no preacher since has dared quote it.

The first thing 100% of the “Christian ministers” did was remove the word **“blood”** from the verse so it would *contradict Deuteronomy 32:8*. To promote interracial marriages, all of them had to pretend that the racial characteristics were in the *blood*; if they got rid of the **“blood”** from the verse, they could prove that all human beings should *ignore* racial distinctions.

All men may get their *blood* from one source—Adam—but the racial characteristics don’t come from the blood. They came from the *genes and chromosomes*. But to “save face” with the news media, all the Christian ministers *pushed integration*. Having done that, though, they found they were *unable to finish Acts 17:26*. The rest of the verse *set boundaries* (see Deut. 32:8), and God did that to give men a better chance of getting saved

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(Acts 17:27).

Thus, all the way back to 1950, all of the Christian ministers—100% of them—who dealt with the passage had to put the Bible “to the stake” in order to *preserve their own images and reputations*. Where the Holy Bible (AV 1611) crossed their egos, they preserved their egos and put that part of the Bible in the trash can from which they had pulled Tischendorf’s Sinaiticus.

The old German Reformer Martin Luther centuries ago (1520) said, “Cursed be that love for whose sake the Bible is put to the stake.” Your love for “God,” your family, yourself, other human beings, animals, the environment, etc., should be DAMNED if you have to change or ignore *the Book* to exercise your “love.”

Do you see how alien such a statement is to a bunch of Twenty-first-Century cloned robots infected from head to foot with spiritual GRID, gonorrhoea, and syphilis? It doesn’t sound sane, does it, let alone “Christian”? That is because American Christianity is so “love sick” with spiritual VD that *they have no love for the truth*.

42) *Acts 20:28*. This time the infection is not as wide spread as many of our other cases; but if you have an RSV, an NRSV, a New Century Version, Good News for Modern Man, or a Contemporary English Version, you have a GRID version that matches the Jehovah’s Witnesses’ New World Translation. In a King James 1611 AV, God purchased His

Church “**WITH HIS OWN BLOOD,**” but in the versions infected with spiritual GRID, God is not allowed to have any blood, only Jesus. You can always spot a GRID version in this passage because it changes “**with his own blood**” to “*the blood of his own Son.*” God would not have any blood because He was never incarnated in the flesh (see these “sick-os” treatment of 1 Tim. 3:16). That’s enough infection to kill you dead if you expose yourself to it.

43) *Revelation 22:14*. Here, the Holy Spirit has recorded that someone has a “**right to the tree of life**” if he does some “**commandments.**” Since this obviously makes *works* a part of someone’s salvation at some time, the verse has to be altered by the Baptists and the Presbyterians to match their theology. You see, all Reformed and Presbyterians are five-point Calvinists who believe in *salvation by election without faith or works*—the “elect” get faith AFTER their new birth, which is a *blatant lie* (see 1 Pet. 1:21–23). All Baptists (at least the ones who judge the Bible by what they were taught in Bible college or seminary) believe that everyone in both Testaments is saved by grace through faith *apart from any works*, which is *another blatant lie* for anyone not in the body of Christ in the church age (see Matt. 25:31–46; Psa. 24:3–5, 15:1–5; Rom. 2:6–9; James 2:24; Rev. 12:17, 14:12—and REVELATION 22:14!).

To suit the whimsical fancy of these diseased Bible critics, the “**blessed**”

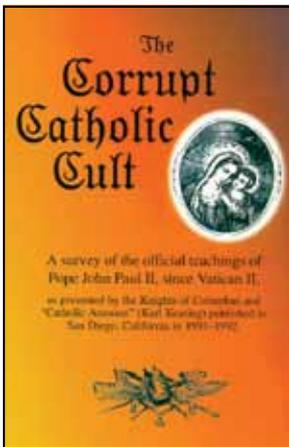
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 ones of Revelation 22:14 don't **“do”** any **“commandments”**; they *“wash their robes.”* That was a reading plagiarized from Revelation 7:14, which had no more to do with the church age than it did with the Ice Age or the Bronze Age. Revelation 22:14 is a reference to *Tribulation* saints (Matt. 24–25) and *millennial* saints (Isa. 2,

11, 65; Psa. 122, 147; Rev. 20). The GRID carriers wanted you to ignore the right divisions of God's word (2 Tim. 2:15) and accept their man-made philosophical speculations as “scripture.” Call for the undertaker: you're headed six feet under.

We'll continue our examination in next month's *Bible Believer's Bulletin*.



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World's Greatest Tragedy

By Robert Militello

“And thou shalt become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword, among all nations whither the LORD shall lead thee” (Deut. 28:37).

In the Ruckman Reference Bible, this heading appears over Deuteronomy 28: “The most terrible chapter in the Bible.” At sundown on September 9 in Israel, the shofar (ram’s horn) will be blown, and the Feast of Trumpets will inaugurate a ten-day period known as “Days of Awe.” This culminates with the Day of Atonement, or Yom Kippur. The Jew has his own calendar. A Gentile calendar does not tell him repeatedly that he is set apart from all others. The Jew is God’s chosen, and he has that branded into his DNA.

A Jew in New York once said to me, “What’s good about being chosen, seeing it has gotten us nothing but trouble?” There’s truth in that comment, but also blindness. God is not finished with the Jew. He has a glorious future for sure. History begins with Genesis 1:1, but the calling out of Abraham in Genesis 12 begins the fascinating story of God’s special care for a special people.

In a literary work (if the Bible is not the world’s greatest literature, tell me what is), a tragedy is a story in which the main character is brought to ruin or suffers extreme sorrow. The Jew is the ultimate tragic figure in the story of man’s dealings with his Creator. He has the mark of Cain on him. He slew his innocent brother whose blood cries out from the ground. God’s justice requires a payment for sin. Such a payment

was made when God’s Lamb went to the slaughter, but the Jewish leadership and their blind sycophants despised the innocent blood.

“Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us and on our children” (Matt. 27:25).

That response to Pilate’s attempt to release Jesus earned for the Jewish nation a chastening known as **“the time of Jacob’s trouble”** (Jer. 30:7). The prophet foresaw this coming disaster over 600 years before God’s Lamb was born.

When you mention **“the time of Jacob’s trouble”** to a Jew (I have done so when a door was opened to me), the response is insightful. Some refuse to believe what is written and brush you off as an anti-Semite. Some believe that time probably passed with Hitler’s death. Others seem perplexed and may try hiding a deep-seated foreboding that the future will turn very dark yet once again. This world’s hatred for the Jew and the State of Israel is by no means in abeyance. The Jew is too perceptive not to know this. Yet what can he do? His fruitbasket religion (Gen. 4:3) gives him no real spiritual comfort. Not having a bloody sacrifice to make peace with God leaves him fully exposed to a holy wrath that he hopes will somehow not materialize. But sin has consequences, and the national sin of murdering your Deliverer promised to you by your prophets calls for the most unimaginable chastenings.

Paul knew this and went on to describe his condition this way: **“That**

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I have great heaviness and CONTINUAL SORROW IN MY HEART" (Rom. 9:2). This from the man who wrote: **"Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice"** (Phil. 4:4).

Can you walk around with a broken heart and yet have the joy of the Lord sustain you? Certainly, and if your mind is made up to put Jesus Christ first in your life, joy and sorrow will follow you to glory. Thank God the sorrows and griefs of this life melt completely away as your soul leaves your body. Then and only then, we shall have the **"fulness of joy"** (Psa. 16:11) that none of us have come close to knowing in this world.

Who among us has such a deep love for his nation and ancestry that he would want God to put him in hell in place of his people? This is what Paul desired and put in writing for all to see and marvel at.

"For I could wish that myself were ACCURSED FROM CHRIST for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh" (Rom. 9:3).

That man wanted to see his nation saved. We also want all our loved ones saved. Am I willing to go to hell and burn for all eternity to save those dear to me? I'm sorry, but Paul set the bar too high for me. What about you?

Pity the Jew. He is the central figure in the eventual collapse of the present world system. By God's grace alone, the Jew survived Hitler's holocaust. Enough of them were spared to help birth the modern State of Israel. What is coming,

whether the Jew wishes to dismiss it or not, is a genocide so terrible that only a pitiful remnant of Jews will be left in Israel. Today, there are approximately 6.6 million Jews there. In the U.S., there are about 5.7 million. Worldwide, there are some fifteen million of them. The Lord told Elijah that a remnant of 7,000 were still around in his day. What a price in blood will be paid by Israelis who fail to come to Christ while the door remains open.

When the church leaves (Tit. 2:13), a door closes, but 144,000 Jewish evangelists will testify to the Lord's desire to save the nation. Moses and Elijah will leave heaven for earth and, in Jerusalem, work miracles to convince Jews to receive the real Jesus as Messiah. The **"Shepherd of Israel"** (Psa. 80:1) is not willing that one Jew should be lost. Nevertheless, a stiffnecked, stubborn, and rebellious people would, for the most part, rather die than embrace a Gentile god, the god of the *goyim* (Gentile dogs). Sad, isn't it?

There was a great sigh of relief for Jews everywhere when the modern State of Israel was born in May, 1948. At last, the Jews had a sure place of refuge. American Jews were in a position to help the new state financially. Wealthy Jews contributed generously to the Democratic Party and made sure that U.S. policy toward Israel would be highly supportive. Nevertheless, it was obvious to all Jews that Israel was not going to be the much desired haven of rest. Muslim nations

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saw Israel as a cancer in their midst. Ishmael's descendants were furious with the West and the UN for allowing the sons and daughters of Jacob to "steal" a piece of Allah's land. Pope Pius XII made sure that Catholics everywhere knew what Rome's feelings towards the Jew were. The pope did all he could to thwart the recognition of the State of Israel. Pius managed to line up the U.S. Department of State to oppose President Harry Truman who wanted to recognize the new state. No pope genuinely cares about what is good for America. If you want to know who is behind the continuing illegal immigration from Mexico and Central America, study the statements put out by the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops. If you think FOX TV will point out the role the Church of Rome plays, you are badly deceived as to Rome's behind-the-scenes influence. The harlot of Revelation 17 has many bed partners—FOX News included.

Essentially, what really opened the door for the Jews to have their own state was the guilt produced by Hitler's holocaust. While the world stood by, six million Jews were shot, gassed, and cremated. President Roosevelt, when shown proof of the death camps, was asked by American Jews to bomb the rails leading to the camps. He refused. Only when Italy and Germany began losing and the allies had invaded Europe did Pope Pius XII make an anemic effort to save some Jews in Rome. Our God used this great moral failure and the sense of shame that ac-

companied it to work on the hearts of national governments. In effect, modern Israel was born in sorrow, carrying with it the memory of millions of murdered fellow Jews, many of these being women and children.

Is it past? Will the Gentile nations look after the Jews? Has **"the god of this world"** (2 Cor. 4:4) abandoned his plan to destroy that race of people? Pity the Jew; his hope is not in the only begotten Son of God. Jews really want to believe the worst is past and the conscience of humanity won't allow another holocaust. If anyone ought to know that there is no hope in unregenerate humanity, it is the Jew. Does he know what Jeremiah says about men, and if he read Jeremiah 17:9, would he really believe it?

Israel has prospered while in a state of siege for over seventy years. Imagine life in the United States if Canada and Mexico periodically launched rockets at American cities. No nation wants peace with its neighbors more than Israel. Still, Israelis will not commit national suicide by agreeing to a peace that compromises its security. Jews in Israel don't greet one another with "Hello." They say "Shalom"—peace, like Paul in his letters longing for God's peace to flourish in the hearts of converted Gentiles. The rabbis pray for peace at the Wailing Wall by the Temple Mount. They cry while swaying back and forth in prayer.

"My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God?" (Psa. 42:3).

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Prayers of panic and desperation were directed to the God of Israel by Jews being led to the gas chambers and the ovens of the death camps. Were they heard?

“I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten me? Why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?” (Psa. 42:9).

When your best friend turns against you and sets out to hurt you, tears will flow.

“He hath also kindled his wrath against me, and he counteth me unto him as one of his enemies” (Job 19:11).

Here's a nation whose father **“was called the Friend of God”** (James 2:23). Abraham's grandson, Jacob, had his name changed. Israel is a **“Prince with God.”** From friend and prince to enemy—history's greatest tragedy; and still, the worst is yet to come.

“Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me” (Job 19:21).

Zionist Christians have emerged in these last days as real friends of Israel. Through God's word, these Christians understand just how fearful will be the rod of God's wrath when it falls upon those Jews who welcome a false Christ. Israel's friends will shortly be called up to glory and then what? What will happen to the United States following the sudden disappearance of perhaps forty or fifty million born-again saints? Only the Lord knows how many in our nation have trusted Je-

sus Christ to save their sinful souls. No doubt, the USA will be devastated. To whom will Israel turn when the United States can no longer guarantee its security? A lost Jew knows nothing about the rapture of the true church. The idea of a United States with no power to set the international agenda would terrify them. Then and only then will Israel cry out to God to send the Messiah. The false Messiah will be received in his own name, and Israel will have made a **“covenant with death”** and hell—see Isaiah 28:18.

David Ben Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, believed his nation needed to be in the United Nations. That was the beginning of Israel's **“covenant with death.”** Numbers 23:9 told the Jews that they were not to **“be reckoned among the nations.”** The rabbis knew this, but Ben Gurion wanted Israel to have international legitimacy and to be respected by the Gentiles.

“Great men are not always wise: neither do the aged understand judgment” (Job 32:9).

When Israel left Egypt as a nation, the failure to believe Joshua and Caleb, and take possession of the Promised Land, marked the beginning of a national stubbornness that has continued to this day. There are consequences to rebellion. **“The meek shall he guide in judgment”** (Psa. 25:9), not the stubborn.

In June 1967, the **“Shepherd of Israel”** gave His lost sheep a great victory. Israel defeated Egypt, Syria, Jordan, and Iraq, and took possession of the Temple Mount. To the ut-

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ter amazement and complete horror of Israel's rabbis, the Israeli parliament (Knesset) voted to return the Temple Mount to the Muslim governing authority (Waqf). A gift from heaven was handed over to Israel's enemy. Yes, **"Great men are not always wise,"** and too often they show themselves to be jackasses. I heard a Jew say that next to the Jews failing to enter the Promised Land, and thereby forced to wander forty years, the failure to keep the Temple Mount was their greatest national blunder. Sadly, that Jew has no light and knows nothing of the reaping yet to come for the murder of their King. He thinks the sorrows the Jews have experienced and the lamentations Jeremiah recorded are past history.

"The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun" (Eccl. 1:9).

Outside of the Torah (Genesis–Deuteronomy), the average Jew knows next to nothing about the words God told them to record.

"And it shall come to pass, that as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good, and to multiply you; so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you, and to bring you to nought" (Deut. 28:63). Dr. Ruckman labeled this as the most terrible verse in the entire Bible. Nothing but the absolute holiness of God and His hatred of rebellion can explain that verse. We who have been saved by grace and receive the benefits and blessings of the Holy Spirit daily

cannot begin to grasp the enormity of the wrath that will be poured out upon the Jews in the great tribulation. What the priests and agents of Rome did to "heretics," the true body of Christ, in the Inquisition in Europe was a small display of the venomous hatred Satan has for those who will refuse his mark. God's wrath fell on His Son in a night and a day. That began with the Lord's arrest in Gethsemane and was finished with a six-hour ordeal being nailed helplessly to a Roman cross. Our Saviour drank from the cup of God's wrath, fully aware of why it was falling upon Him. The Jews will drink from this cup for three-and-one-half years with only a remnant knowing why God allowed it. Very, very sad! Pity the Jew.

"I will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh" (Prov. 1:26).

Put that alongside with **"so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you, and to bring you to nought"** (Deut. 28:63). **"God is love,"** right (1 John 4:8)? Tell that to a Jew if you get an opportunity to tell him what his Book says about what lies ahead for his nation.

The word **"wrath"** appears thirteen times in the book of Revelation. I suppose that's a coincidence. Who will execute this wrath? Someone most Jews do not believe exists—the devil.

"Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, HAVING GREAT WRATH, because he knoweth that he hath but a short

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time" (Rev. 12:12).

Isn't it amazing that the book God has given the Jews to read and believe contains a most thorough description of the being that is out to destroy them? That portrait of the evil one was put to writing before Moses wrote the Torah. It is found in Job 40 and 41, and hardly a Jew, even the orthodox, know anything about it. The devil's passion to kill and destroy cannot be comprehended by the human mind. Only God can know it. Knowing that his time is running out, Satan will come down upon this rebellious planet with a rage that has been somewhat restricted since the flood waters receded in the days of Noah.

What is about to come upon this world will not be allowed to destroy all.

"And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved" (Matt. 24:22). Those Jews that have gotten wealthy in this world, and were hated by Gentiles because of it, will swallow a bitter pill.

"Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days" (James 5:1-3).

Paper currency will fail—remember **"when money failed"** in Egypt in Joseph's time (Gen. 47:15)? That

golden calf that bewitched the Jews in the wilderness has had a hold on them for so long. The opportunities found in America helped tighten the hold that made wealth such an idol. **"For the love of money is the root of all evil"** (1 Tim. 6:10). For sure, the devil used the wealth of the Jews to stir up hatred among the Gentiles. Hitler masterfully capitalized on that hatred.

Lamentations is the twenty-fifth book in your Bible, and that's five times five. Death is a five-letter word, and so is Satan. Adam dies in Genesis 5:5. Lamentations has five chapters. Five times in the first chapter of Lamentations, you find the absence of the Comforter: vss. 2, 9, 16, 17, and 21). The Jews knew of no such person as the Comforter. Jesus had to reassure His apostles who were devastated by what He said was about to happen after the Last Supper.

"I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you" (John 14:18).

Orthodox Jews believe we are idolaters because we believe in three Gods, not one. They don't know the Son, although their scriptures clearly reveal Him. Also, they think you are grossly superstitious if you mention the Holy Ghost. When I think of what Jews will face after the church is removed, I can't imagine how such horror can be endured without a Comforter. Many will seek to die because God's wrath will be unbearable. Some will find the Lord, but not many. America will not save Israel from the Antichrist. His-

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tory's greatest tragedy is coming on the Jews like a freight train with no brakes. **"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem"** (Psa. 122:6).

Only two presidents really stood up for Israel. One was Harry Truman, and the other is Donald Trump. These men blessed the State of Israel when the world said not to. I thank God for a president unafraid to show his love for Israel. Actually, the best friend Israel has right now is the Zionist Christian. Those who cherish the scriptures and long to see Jews saved, believe what Paul wrote: **"I say then, Hath God cast away his people? GOD FORBID"** (Rom. 11:1). Remember Christian: **"For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief: Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy"** (Rom. 11:30–31).

Bible Baptist Church here sent forth a Jew to Jerusalem to witness to the truth of the gospel. He has labored and has had to deal with various forms of opposition. Not long ago, he helped get published a Hebrew New Testament based on the King James text. It's not easy to find an Israeli willing to read the New Testament. Nevertheless, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord, those Hebrew New Testaments will mean a lot to many Jews once the Lord takes His bride home. I'm certain that Jews who today will not look at a New Testament will be curious to know what it says about what will happen to Israel in the

days following the rapture.

We know that what John wrote in Revelation to seven churches in Asia are for our instruction, and thank God for those warnings. Still, after Revelation 3, the church goes up, and then what follows will be of immense importance to Jews willing to read the "Christian Book," as they call it. They'll see Revelation 18:4—**"Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."** Some will see and understand the terrible situation in which they are with the UN and the Church of Rome. Leading rabbis and learned Jewish thinkers will have been snared by the devil, who was much wiser than they. The tragedy of the Jews is their spiritual blindness. Worldly wisdom, Nobel prizes, graduate degrees, and the highest levels of scholarship profited them nothing in **"the time of Jacob's trouble"** (Jer. 30:7).

"Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; ALL IS VANITY" (Eccl. 1:2).

"The LORD hath done that which he devised; he hath fulfilled his word that he had commanded in the days of old: he hath thrown down, and hath not pitied: and he hath caused thine enemy to rejoice over thee, he hath set up the horn of thine adversaries" (Lam. 2:17).

I can understand a Jew wanting to believe this is history and the past is past. President Trump and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu may prefer to believe that Israel has a

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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.

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Continued from 36
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"My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; BUT IN DEED AND IN TRUTH" (1 John 3:18).



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