



# Bible Believers' Bulletin

Vol. 43 No. 11 "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17) November 2019

## Preserving the Beast

By Brian Donovan

The prophet Daniel is treated by the Lord God to the most comprehensive forward view of the world kingdoms that can be found anywhere in written history. In his interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream (given to him by the Lord after a prayer meeting with his three friends in Daniel 2:17-19), the image that the king saw in his dream, portrays the only four world empires that matter, from 606 B.C., until the fifth and final satanic, one world empire of the last days. These Gentile kingdoms are Babylon (606 B.C.), Persia (536 B.C.), Greece (330 B.C.), and Rome (100 B.C.), and no matter how much they tried, men such as Charlemagne, Attila, Napoleon, and Hitler, (and more recently the D.C. rally round the flag, Tea Party "Christians") all have failed to establish that fifth world empire.

The Bible believer is treated to some great insight (but only if he pays attention to the Book instead of some self-proclaimed "patriots") regarding the Lord's view of the Gentile kingdoms of this world, not only in the book of

Daniel but throughout the scriptures. If only some of these preachers would lay aside their female emotions for a moment, they might be able to see how the Lord views their "great and powerful and Christian" USA, that they continue to put ahead of the Bible. The Lord pictures the finest and the most powerful of the Gentile kingdoms as BEASTS. In Daniel chapters 7 and 8, the world powers are pictured as a lion, a bear, a leopard, a dreadful and terrible fourth beast, a ram, and an he goat. The dream of Nebuchadnezzar in chapter 2, also pictures these kingdoms as degenerating from gold, to silver, to brass, to iron, and finally to part iron, part clay. On top of all that, the scripture informs us that it is the Lord Himself that "**removeth kings and setteth up kings**" (Daniel 2:21), and then defines those rulers which He sets up, as "**the basest of men**" (Daniel 4:25). Despite the egotistic claims of Limbaugh and Hannity, they are not responsible for getting a president elected. The world rulers might get in by the ballot, or they might get in by the sword, but it is still the Lord that both removes and sets them up.

Probably the thing that is the most eye-opening is the fact that the prophecy of the scriptures com-

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# A Sacrifice of Thanksgiving

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

**“Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name” (Psa. 100:4).**

**“Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing” (Psa. 107:21–22).**

**“By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name” (Heb. 13:15).**

Thanksgiving is mentioned in both Testaments. In 1 Thessalonians 5:18, Paul commands the Christian to **“give thanks”** because it is God’s will for him to do so. Giving thanks is called a sacrifice because many times being thankful in certain situations can *hurt you*. If you haven’t learned it already, you will: there are times when it is difficult to thank God.

Ever since FDR’s “New Deal,” Americans have been an ungrateful people. A welfare state where the government takes care of you tends to breed an attitude of *entitlement*: “the world owes me a living.” With Bible reading and prayer out of the schools, and evolution and sex education in, Americans no longer see **“Every good gift”** as coming from God (James 1:17).

That’s the reason this country has been overrun by faggots, queers, dykes, lesbians, and crossdressers. You are told in Romans 1:21–28 that

when a nation ceases to be thankful, that God turns the people **“over to a reprobate mind”** and **“vile affections”** to the point where men are fornicating with men and women with women.

When this country started out as a nation, the cry was: “Give me liberty or give me death!” After World War I, it changed to: “Give me liberty!” By time the 60s rolled around, it was just: “Give me!” Nevertheless, the Christian is to be thankful for certain things regardless of how the lost world thinks.

First of all, a Christian should thank God he can **“Serve the LORD with gladness”** (Psa. 100:2). It is not always easy to serve your employer with gladness. It is certainly not easy to serve the government with gladness. Once the personal income tax and the Federal Reserve Act got foisted on the American people, and once the Civil Rights Act got shoved through, Americans have been forced to support things with their tax money they wouldn’t support if they had a choice and to associate with people with whom they don’t want to associate. You have lost the freedom of association in this country.

It’s not easy to serve an outfit like that, but you can **“Serve the LORD with gladness.”** Any good thing about this country isn’t because of capitalism or the form of government. It’s because there are still Christians that love the Lord, believe the Book, and pray. You folks that have illusions about why this country is still a great

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country in which to live haven't done much traveling. God takes those countries that are filled with idols; and He wipes out the crops with drought, with monsoons, with typhoons, with earthquakes, with floods, with volcanoes, etc. Those people don't have the Bible readily available to them; Bibles are hard to get. The saved people in those countries make up a staggering *minority*. I'm not talking about churches that have a sign up with Mary saying, "*Come unto ME, all ye that labor and are heavy laden*" (a blasphemous misappropriation of Matt. 11:28) or with statues of Mary standing with her foot on the head of the serpent (a perversion of Gen. 3:15 and Rom. 16:20). That's an idolatrous church; it's not a church of saved people.

When Donald Grey Barnhouse was over in Japan, he asked a Japanese young lady who waited on him, "What religion do you follow?" The girl said, "I follow Buddha." "And do you love Buddha?" asked Barnhouse. The girl gave a perplexed look and replied, "I don't know. I've never thought of love in connection with religion."

You're going to get the world together around "love," are you? Why, these people talking about "love, love, love," don't even know what love is. Moslems know nothing about love; all they know is *sex and killing*.

I have given this illustration before, but it is worth repeating. I had a Moslem back in my office one time, and I asked him what his "prophet"—Mohammed—ever did for him. "He gave

me the truth," he said. "I didn't ask you that," I told him; "I asked you what did he do *for* you?" "I don't understand," he said. I replied, "My Prophet loved me enough to *die for me*. What did your 'prophet' ever do for you?" The guy didn't say anything because his "prophet" did *nothing* for him.

I have told that story in many a prison where the Black Muslims were working over the black Christians in that place to get them to convert. When I did, the light went on for those colored brethren. They "got it" because they knew something about love that no Black Muslim knows.

**"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins"** (1 John 4:10).

How are you going to talk to folks about "love" when you don't know anyone who loved you enough to die for you?

**"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends"** (John 15:13).

Do you know anyone who loved you enough to die for you? Who was it? Not Mohammed. Not Buddha. Not Mary. The Lord I serve loved me enough to die for me when I wasn't even His friend (Rom. 5:6–10); the same goes for *you*. When you have a Boss who loved you enough to die for you, are you going to have a hard time working for Him? I don't think so.

Second, you can thank God *you are not the product of evolution*. **"It is HE [i.e., God] that hath made us, and not we ourselves"** (Psa. 100:3).

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There are no monkeys in my “family tree”; if there are in yours, that’s your problem.

“I am not the product of amoeba and sod,

Or a shuttle thread in the loom of fate;

But a born-again son of the living God

With eternity for my vast estate.

“I’m not the action of cosmic night

Or a thing of chance that turned into man;

But a deathless soul, an upward flight,

And an heir to my Father’s perfect plan.”

If I can’t thank God for anything, I can thank Him for that. It always amazes me the fit some people make when a certain group of people are called “apes” or “gorillas” or “monkeys.” Why, that is what the government teaches them they are in the public schools—just advanced chimpanzees. Well, if that be the case, why do you object to them (or anyone else for that matter) being called what they are? People have a fit when I call the pope a “monkey man.” Well, that’s what he is if “Genesis is a myth” like he says (John Paul II). The current position of the Catholic Church is that Genesis 1–11 has to be interpreted in light of evolutionary theory. If that is so, then the whole lot of them from the popes to the cardinals, bishops, and priests are all monkey men. Why? *Because that’s what they said*

*they believe.*

People are justifying their adultery, fornication, and sex perversion on the fact that *animals do those things*. Well, if all you are is an evolved animal, I guess you have a point. *Animals eat their young too*, in some instances. Are you going to do that? They do in China: they have restaurants that serve meat from aborted babies. There is your “evolved animal”: he’s right back in the jungle with the *cannibals*.

Listen, if evolution is true, why would you need science or education to “progress”? No amoeba needed science or education to crawl out of the “primordial ooze.” No fish had to have science or education to walk out of the ocean onto land. No ape needed to be educated or advance scientifically to become a man. If evolution is automatic, why would you need science or education to move on up to the next level?

Why would you assume “change” is “progress”? Why would you think man’s mind is getting better instead of worse? After all, it has been wrong before. I can find every dirty, rotten thing any man has ever thought or practiced justified by someone else in writing; even sadism and masochism. You call that “progress,” do you? Nietzsche did. He taught you need to get rid of all morality and all restraint to become a “superman.” Hitler killed twelve million people trying to become the “master race.” Stalin killed twenty million; Mao killed 45 million. *They all believed in evolution.*

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In 1991, scientists digging around in Africa found a jawbone they claimed belonged to a transitional animal between apes and men; that is, IF the dating held up, it MIGHT represent the sort of animal that MAY have been the transition between apes and men. That's what the monkey men who monkeyed around in the dirt said about the bones they were monkeying with. Thank God I don't have to rely on ifs, mights, and maybes that *change* once the scientists find out they were *wrong*. Thank God I know who made me, and it wasn't Gaia or "Mother Nature."

Think about it for a minute: what is the goal or objective in life if everything is just *random chance*. If there is no *purpose* behind you being here (and there is none if everything is the product of a cosmic explosion in which random atoms just happened to assemble into the universe as we know it) what are you doing? Everything's an accident: success, failure, looks, health, sickness, poverty, wealth, peace, violence. There's no rhyme nor reason to anything; it's nothing but a cosmic "crap shoot."

Evolutionists are as sharp as a pound of wet liver. "Men are superior to the animals because we lost all our useless appendages." Why, animals are far superior to man in many ways. Wouldn't you like to be able to stay under water for a long time; wouldn't that make fishing a lot easier than SCUBA tanks or deep-diving suits? Wouldn't you like to be able to fly? Wouldn't that make getting places a

lot faster than running or walking? If you had kept your fur, you wouldn't have to wear coats, and you would be warmer in the winter. Evolution is one of the most convoluted explanations of how you got here the way you are that you will ever read.

In the Bible, the thing that sets you apart from the animals is that man was originally created in the image of God (Gen. 1:26–27), and even in his fallen state where that image has been marred, he still bears God's "**similitude**" (James 3:9). You can thank God for that.

Next, you can thank God that you have a Good Shepherd: "**we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture**" (Psa. 100:3). "**The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want**" (Psa. 23:1). I have a Shepherd who knows me personally (John 10:14) and loved me enough to die for me (John 10:11). Buddha wouldn't die for any of his followers; he wouldn't even work to support his own wife. He stopped working and went out and sat under a Bo tree for twenty years and let his family go to pieces. When I wander out of the way, a Shepherd's crook gently draws me back; I don't have someone of my own religion waiting to kill me like the Moslems do.

I have never met someone who could *honestly* say he was sorry the Good Shepherd found him. Of course, nowadays with just about everyone being in the sorry moral condition they are, you might have someone stupid enough to try it, but I guarantee you, he would be one of the biggest *liars*

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you ever met. In my 62 years in the ministry, I have never met a man, woman, or child who was saved say, "I have a bad Shepherd, and I regret trusting Christ as my Saviour." I have never heard anyone say it under the worst of circumstances; not even when God took the person's children or burned down his house.

The Good Shepherd provides for His sheep. He's the one who bakes the biscuits and makes the gravy: **"Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies"** (Psa. 23:5).

If you can't get to sleep at night, don't count sheep; talk to the Shepherd. When I go to bed, I let the Shepherd talk to me: I have the Bible on CD, and I play it and fall asleep listening to it.

And that brings me to this point: you can thank God for *His word*. Psalm 100:5 says, **"his truth endureth to all generations."** What is God's **"truth"** that endures **"to all generations"**? It's *His word*.

**"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth"** (John 17:17).

**"For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you"** (1 Pet. 1:24–25).

I thank God that when this universe is a smoldering ember (2 Pet. 3:10–12), the Book will still be around

(Matt. 24:35).

Do you own a copy of the Book? Then you had better thank God for it. There are at least 52 countries where the Bible is either banned completely or made difficult by the government to obtain. Bibles are banned completely in Saudi Arabia. The Moslem government of Iran shut down the Bible society in that country. In Afghanistan, the U.S. military will *burn Bibles* sent to our boys who are Christians and want to witness to the Afghans; the Moslems will *burn you* if they catch you translating or distributing the Bible.

In China, during the "Cultural Revolution," the communists came to take one woman's Bible away from her, and that sister clutched it so tightly that one soldier had to *stomp* it out of her hand to make her let go. Her hand never did heal right. She went through the rest of her life with a deformed hand because that Book was the most precious thing she owned. Do you have a Bible? You had better read it and cherish it and thank God for it while you still can. The day will come when the Marxists in this country will come to take it from you like they did that sister.

Right now, the government doesn't want you reading it at school; it doesn't want you exposed to it in public buildings. The atheists are trying to get rid of it in the hotel rooms. There have even been instances on college campuses where Bibles have been removed from Christian chapels. Well, if the government and the Marxists and the atheists are go-

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ing to take our Bibles from us, what better book are they going to give us in its place? *Origin of Species*? *The Communist Manifesto*? *Das Kapital*? Don't be funny. None of those books give the solution to sin, death, or the afterlife. In the systems of Darwin and Marx, all you are is an advanced animal clawing your way up the evolutionary or economic ladder by tooth and claw—the law of the jungle. According to Nietzsche, you are either master or slave.

I thank God I have a Book that tells me who the real Master is and how I can be *His* slave. I had rather serve Jesus Christ than some bum like Marx, Darwin, Nietzsche, Lincoln, Stalin, Hitler, Pope John Paul II, Lenin, Pol Pot, FDR, JFK, Mandela, “Slick Willie,” “Winnie-the-Pooh” Churchill, or Obama.

A fellow said to me once in an argument, “Ruckman, you believe that Bible because you don't know any better.” AMEN! That's right. I don't know any better. Up until the time my eyes were giving me problems due to macular degeneration, I had read a book a day since I was ten years old. I never read any other book that was like the Bible. If you know one, give it to me, I'll check it out. I'm open-minded, man, unlike some people. Some people's minds are shut tight with the lock rusted and the key thrown away.

I'll give up this blessed Book when I have no sins to confess. I'll give it up when I no longer have griefs to go through. I'll give it up when I have no more needs, and not one day before.

The Book is a pillow fit for a king to die on. I read about some redneck up in Valdosta, Georgia whom the doctors gave two years to live. He stuffed his pillowcase with torn-out pages of used Bibles and used that for his pillow. He ended up living four years more than the doctors expected. How's that for “superstition”?

The infidel Bob Ingersoll said, “What has religion to do with facts or science? Nothing but hindered delay and embarrassment. I want to free the schools and politicians from religion. Christ was an infidel in His time.” That's a God-hating, Bible-denying infidel fashioning a “Jesus Christ” after his own likeness.

Here's the atheist woman who got prayer and Bible reading out of the public schools—Madalyn Murray O'Hair: “This day I led religious America out of belief in God to the promised land of atheism.” The son she used in the court cases against Bible reading and prayer in the schools ended up getting saved and left her. She ended up being murdered by one of the employees in her atheist organization. Some “promised land” there, huh?

Atheism is about as useful as a parachute in a submarine. When the time comes for you to die, what good is it going to do you to believe there is no God? Be practical about the matter: what comfort or satisfaction is it to die believing God doesn't exist? It didn't do someone like Voltaire any good. He was an atheist, but when it came time to die, he said to the attending physician, “I am abandoned

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by God and man. I will give you half of what I am worth if you will give me six months of life. Then I shall go to hell, and you will go with me. Oh, Christ! Oh, Jesus Christ!" That fellow found out too late that his atheism was *worthless*.

The only book for which there is any universal demand is the Bible. Over a *billion* copies of the King James Bible were distributed before 1960; the NIV and ESV couldn't compete, even if they did top the sales charts in a single year. Some part of the Bible has been translated in over 2,200 languages; the Koran couldn't come close. There is no universal demand for the Koran. If it weren't for an oil-rich country like Saudi Arabia financing its distribution, it would be practically a dead book outside of the Islamic religion. Over in Pakistan, the Moslems think so little of their "holy book" that the excess pages from the printers are thrown into the town's *sewer system*.

Of the world's most expensive books, five of them are connected with the Bible: the St. Cuthbert Gospel—\$14.3 million, the Bay Psalm Book—\$14.2 million, the Gospels of Henry the Lion—\$11.7 million, the Gutenberg Bible—\$4.9 million, the "Pauper's Bible"—\$2.42 million. Over in China, Christians have been known to *sell their house* to get a copy of the Bible. And in the Dark Ages and the Reformation (and in many places around the world today), Christians have given their *lives* to possess a Bible. Do you have one? Then thank

God for it.

Finally, you can thank God that you have a God worth *singing* about: "**come before his presence with singing**" (Psa. 100:2). It is the *lack of songs* that mark out dead religions. You can always tell a worthless deity by the size of his songbook. Martin Luther King was like Jesus Christ, was he? Where are the songs about him? Someone tried it with Obama when he got elected president: some dumb, stupid public school teacher had her class chanting some praise song to Obama. It went over like a lead balloon, and you never heard it again.

No Moslem sings about Allah or Mohammed. I have repeated that claim several times, and someone finally told me there was some song about Mohammed. Only one?! He's Allah's final "prophet" and the perfect example for all men, and there's only *one* song about him? Why, I have a hymn book with 500 in it (if you don't count the patriotic songs) about Jesus Christ. I could produce four more that have an additional 100 not found in the first one. That's 600 about Jesus Christ and only one about Mohammed. Moslems must not think much of their "prophet"; he must not have done anything for them worthy of song.

Be thankful! I had a friend named Joe Voxx. Joe was a German who came over here after World War II and joined the American Army and fought over in Korea to get his U.S. citizenship. It was Christmas time, and Joe's

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unit was out in that freezing weather. The unit got canned turkey for Christmas dinner, and the guys were having to hack the cans open with their bayonets and then hack the meat out as well because it was frozen by the weather. The captain came around checking on his men. Most of them were bellyaching about something. He came to Joe who was hacking out a drumstick with his bayonet.

"How you doing, Joe?" said the captain.

"Aw, captain," said Joe, "this is the best food a soldier ever had. We never ate like this back in Germany. This is great! Merry Christmas, captain!"

That captain just beamed. He slapped Joe on the back and said, "God bless you, Joe. I wish I had 200 more just like you."

Christian, wouldn't you like the Lord to feel that way about you? Well, it takes a thankful heart in the worst of circumstances to generate that kind of praise from your Captain (Heb. 2:10). Anyone can be thankful when everything's going great and his belly is full and he's in good health and all the bills are paid. Can you thank the Lord when the kids are sick, the electric company is about to turn off the lights, the car needs a major repair, the diagnosis is cancer, all there is to go on the table is black-eyed peas, etc.? That's the time to praise the Lord; that shows Him that you love *Him* and not just the *things* He gives you.

There was a sister here in a nursing home in Pensacola; her name was

Mrs. Salter. She was flat on her back in bed for 25 years. I never visited her when she didn't have the victory. I would say, "Mrs. Salter, let me hear you praise the Lord." She would say at the top of her lungs, as loudly as she could, "PRAISE THE LORD!" She said it a lot louder than some of you do, walking around on two good feet and playing sports. "God bless you, Mrs. Salter. I wish I had 200 more just like you." That's the business.

Christian, if you have nothing else for which to thank God, you can thank Him that *you're not going to hell*. That's something, isn't it? Aren't you glad you won't spend eternity burning? I sure am, brother.

When I got saved, I thanked God for the first time that I wasn't headed for hell. That's all I knew. It never occurred to me that I was now headed for heaven. When I found that out, it was like icing on the cake and whipped cream on the sundae. No hell, and heaven too! WELL GLORY!

"Year ago, when I  
Was just a little lad.  
An' after school used to work  
Around the farm with Dad,  
I used to be so wearied out  
When eventide was come,  
That I got kind of anxious-like  
About the journey home;  
But, Dad, he used to lead the way,  
An' once in awhile turn round an'  
say,

So cheerin' like, so tender, 'Come!  
Come on, my son, you're nearly  
home!'

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That always used to help me  
some;  
An' so I followed Father home.

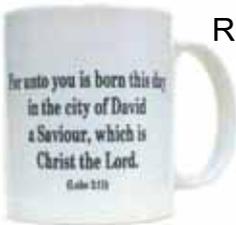
"I'm old an' gray an' feeble now,  
An' trembly at the knee.  
But life seems just the same today  
As then it seemed to me.  
For while I am still so wearied out  
When eventide is come,  
An' still get kinder anxious-like  
About the journey home,

But still my Father leads the way,  
An' once in awhile I hear Him say,  
So cheerin' like, so tender, 'Come!  
Come on, my son, you're nearly  
home!'

An' same as then, that helps me  
some,  
And so I'm following Father home."  
"Following Father Home," by John  
Talman

Thank God I know where I'm going,  
and I know who's taking me there.

## Holiday Mug



Reverse Side



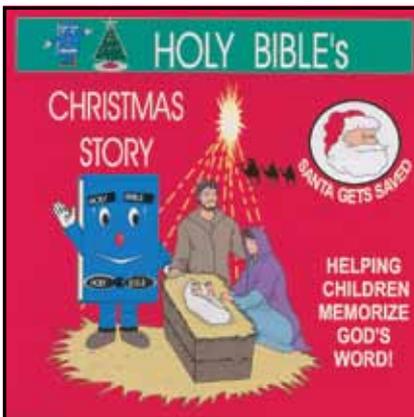
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Scripture songs and adventure. Helping children learn how to become a Christian and grow in the Lord.

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pletely ignores the nations during the Church Age (America, China, Japan, Germany, England, Russia, etc.), and jumps from Rome's kingdom at the first coming of Christ, to the Roman antichrist setup, just prior to the second coming of Christ. This should be very instructive to the Bible believer in that the Lord puts zero emphasis on political kingdoms during this present Church Age. The Church Age is only concerned with the spiritual kingdom of God, and the Lord's only interest in political kingdoms during this time, has to do with how He uses them as pawns in His plans for Israel. The prophecy goes from the iron kingdom of Rome at the first coming of Christ, to the ten toed, part iron, part clay, Roman kingdom that will be present at the second coming of Christ. You mean no mention of your great USA? No scripture backing for MAGA? No prophecy of the Trumpster giving Christians their "last chance"? Sorry, there are no operators that can answer your call at this time, please try again later. But do thyself no harm, there are a couple of references to America between the first and second coming and they are found in Isaiah 40:15,17 ("**the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance...All nations before him are as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity**").

The reader should go back and carefully reread those last two verses... and pray. Armed with scripture where he can find, "**thus saith the Lord**", the Bible believer can be ready for the political media onslaught that will begin

in the coming months, and continue day and night for the next year, as if nothing could be more important than who the next American president will be. The conservative, right-wing, Republican, talk radio and TV hosts who prostitute their names to make millions of dollars selling anything from Snapple to pillows, laugh all the way to the bank at the suckers who listen and believe them. The saddest thing is that during the next twelve months, while fake Fox News (Roman Catholic) will be touting Trump, and fake CNN will be touting Biden and Bernie, there will be hundreds of preachers who will turn over their pulpits to this political orgy, spouting that they are also trying to "save America". In the minds of these Laodicean preachers, a revival is defined by Trump getting re-elected. Their "patient", who supposedly died when Obama got in, has been resurrected, ever since Trump got elected, and they are again working on keeping her alive (at least until the next time the political climate changes). The "ministry" that these last days hirelings have chosen, is to work hard at preserving and pampering a BEAST. The scripture pictures the USA, at least in type, as a leopard, matching the "iron" kingdom of Rome in Nebuchadnezzar's image dream. The Lord pictures the four kingdoms that "**shall arise**" (Daniel 7:17) after Babylon, as a lion (Persia, in type matching England), a bear (Greece, in type matching Russia), a leopard (Rome, in type matching USA), and then jumps to the end times kingdom of the antichrist, pictured as a beast that is "**dreadful and terrible...and**

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**it had great iron teeth... and it had ten horns"** (Daniel 7:7). We realize that the study of types does not determine doctrine, but even without the types, it still remains the political picture that the scripture gives of the nations. This is the LORD'S view of the political scene involving the nations. And these are the beasts that these "patriot" preachers are wasting their time with, as they go about trying to "save" America. Now it may be difficult at this point, but try to fight off those rising female hormones for a minute and instead have your senses exercised to discern both good and evil. We realize how good it makes you feel to be a proud, patriotic American, but how about taking the Lord's view of your country as a Bible believer?

The book of Daniel is paired with the book of Revelation in a way that gives the Christian a scriptural view of world history. Daniel is the bridge between the Old and New Testaments and is written with some of the information purposely hidden until the "**end**" (Daniel 12:9). Even the companion book of Revelation has not yet "unveiled" all of the hidden things in Daniel's prophecy. Yet even with some of the information remaining hidden to this day, there is still much prophecy that is revealed, and it is that very thing that sets the Bible apart from the pagan books of man's religions. The very specific, historical prophecies that are given in the book of Daniel cannot be found in the religious writings of the Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists, or any of the fake "new age avatars" (Nostradamus, Edgar Cayce, Dixon, Musk, Gates, etc.). The critics recognize this problem and

attack the book of Daniel nonstop. The Jews accepted its inspiration as scripture, but removed it from among the section of "the Prophets", and placed it in the section of books called "the Writings" (Job, Song of Solomon, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, Esther, then Daniel), and they did this most likely due to the emphasis in the book regarding the Gentile kingdoms.

The Jewish historian Josephus (33-100 A.D.) showed that the canon of the Old Testament scripture was settled and closed by the Jewish people before 200 B.C. and that the books which made up the list of the Tanakh, were all written by 400 B.C. The book of Daniel has always been included in that list of preserved scripture, and since "**unto them (Jews) were committed the oracles of God**" (Romans 3:2), Christians accept the Old Testament Jewish canon. Notice that this is not a religious belief, but are facts of history. This means that Daniel wrote of a Grecian king (the he goat) that would rise up and become the next world power by defeating the Persians (the ram), at a time when they had no king and were no more than a group of federated states. This is akin to someone today predicting that the tiny island of Nauru in the Pacific Ocean, is going to band together with some other islands and defeat the USA within the next two hundred years. Would anyone care to bank their soul on that coming to pass? Only someone interested in stealing the glory from God would think of trying to change the date of the book of Daniel, to a date sometime after the events took place, thus removing its God-given prophetic details, besides

Continued on 13

# Preserving the Beast

Continued from 12  
denying the facts of history.

The "Christian" scholarly critics (Driver, Farrar, Montgomery, etc.), following the lead of the lost, Bible rejecting philosopher named Porphyry (295 A.D.), attempt to relegate it to a much later writing, claiming that it must have been written somewhere around 200-150 B.C., and not by the prophet Daniel. This, of course, is an effort to deprive the book of its Divine authorship, since no man is able to give historical facts before they happen with the one hundred percent accuracy and detail that Daniel does in his book. Daniel writes that the Persian kingdom would be destroyed by the "**king of Grecia**" (Daniel 8:3-8;20-21), and this did not happen till at least one hundred and seventy-five years after he wrote the book. Even better, there was no "king of Grecia", or even an existing kingdom of Greece when Daniel was writing in 500 B.C. The end of the Persians as a world power did not come about until Alexander (outnumbered by over 2 to 1) defeated the Persian forces, led by Darius III, at Issus in 331 B.C.

Listen to Daniel describe world history, prophetically, well before the events took place: **"And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth...And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram**

**out of his hand...The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia. And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king"** (Daniel 8:5,7,20-21). Just as Daniel predicted, the king of Grecia rammed into and destroyed the Median-Persian empire, some one hundred and seventy years after the writing. Over the next eight years, it was Alexander's conquests across the Mediterranean, North Africa, Palestine, then continuing west across the Arabian desert, all the way to India, that turned Greece into the world empire that was prophesied by Daniel almost two hundred years earlier (the third kingdom of brass pictured in Nebuchadnezzar's dream).

The scripture details of history, written in advance, continue with such stunning accuracy, it is no wonder the devil attacks the book continuously. In the first year of the Medo-Persian king Darius (538 B.C.), Daniel writes in chapter 11, **"Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia** (history records them as Cambyses, Smerdis, Darius Hystaspis, the Ahasuerus of the book of Esther); **and the fourth** (Xerxes I, who in 480 B.C. invaded Greece without victory) **shall be far richer than they all: and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia."** The prediction is showing the rise of Greece, along with the beginning of the fall of Persia. When Daniel jumps to the "**mighty king**" that shall stand up (verse 3), it is a reference to Alexander, and even goes further to tell exactly what would take place

Continued on 14

# Preserving the Beast

Continued from 13  
when he died, **“his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven”**, matching his previous account regarding the demise of the he goat in Daniel 8:8, **“Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.”** This detail is repeated in Daniel 11:4 saying, **“And when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity...”**

Once again, secular history verifies the very minute and precise details of scripture as we learn that when Alexander died, his only known seed was an infant son who was murdered, so that the Grecian kingdom was left **“not to his posterity”**, but instead to be **“divided toward the four winds of heaven”** (Daniel 11:4). World history confirms that Lysimachus inherited the Northern section called Thrace, Ptolemy took over the Southern part in Egypt, Seleucus the Eastern portion in Syria, and Cassander the Western section called Macedonia. Meaning that the great Greek empire of Alexander was divided to **“the four winds of heaven”**, and **“not to his posterity”**, matching the details that the Author of history said would happen.

The Lord is the author of all of this history, as He sets up and removes kings and kingdoms in His plans. In the case of Greece and Alexander, the Lord prepared the way for His Son to enter a world that had one main language (Greek), under one main kingdom (Rome), led by one main

ruler (Caesar). The Lord remains the author of modern history as well, as He prepares for the second coming of His Son into a world that now has one main language (English), is beginning to form under one main kingdom (Rome), and soon to be taken over and led by one main ruler (Antichrist).

No Bible believer who spends time reading the New Testament can come to the conclusion that he should be trying to make a beast (America) great. Spending time reading and obeying the scriptures leads to the conclusion that our calling is NOT political, but spiritual, and we are to be followers of Paul (I Corinthians 11:1), who did not spend a solitary moment attempting to make either Jerusalem or Rome great again, but rather went about preaching and teaching the scriptures, while cheerfully taking any form of persecution that came with it. Neither Paul nor the apostles who preceded him spent any of their time trying to tame or bathe or coddle the **“leopard”**. Each time that the leopard's claws and fangs came out against them, they continued to preach the Cross of the Lord Jesus Christ and took the punishment as sheep to the slaughter. The flagpole, Republican, American Christians need to wake up and obey the King James Bible that they profess to believe. Over the next twelve months, the majority of backslidden, carnally minded Christians are going to stay completely tuned in to the political news orgy, while the lost souls around them go to hell. They will not pass out tracts or preach on the streets of their country, but they will spend their time, money, and conversation on coddling and preserving a BEAST.

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# The Two Natures In the Fundamentalist

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

The greatest Christian who ever lived was accused of “heresy” because he believed all the scriptures literally (Acts 24:14). There was no question as to Paul’s *dedication* to the Lord (Acts 20:24). But listen to what he had to say about conflicting authorities in the believer:

**“I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members . . . . So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin”** (Rom. 7:21–23, 25).

Observe the schism in the child of God: he has two natures. One nature is *flesh* and has “works”; they are listed in Galatians 5:19–21. The other is *spirit* and brings forth “fruit,” and you can read about that in Galatians 5:22–23. These two natures disagree and war against each other according to Galatians 5:17.

Now no Christian is exempt; not even “good, godly” fundamentalists. The old nature in Robert Sumner, Doug Kutilek, James Price, Bob Jones III, Fred Afman, and Stewart Custer is exactly like the old nature in Rick Warren, Ed Young, Joel Osteen, Robert Schuller, and Rob Bell. There is not a particle of difference between the old nature in D. L. Moody, R. A. Torrey, and J. Frank Norris and that of J. Gresham Ma-

chen, A. T. Robertson, F. F. Bruce, and Dean Luther Weigle. The old nature of R. L. Hymers and Shelton Smith is a matchmeet for the one in Paul Crouch, Jim Bakker, and T. D. Jakes. It is a sound New Testament doctrine that applies to every child of God. The old nature in me is exactly like that of any of the 320 men I listed in *The Christian Liar’s Library*.

The amazing thing we see, though, is the fundamentalists who believe their old nature is not active when it comes to *attacking the Authorized Version*. It must have been “eradicated” or something, because they profess to be *sinless* when they *correct what God said*. Of course, they will deny that and whine and cry about “slander” and “misrepresentation,” but then, all babies act alike. They would swear on a stack of NASVs and ESVs that changing and correcting what God said in the AV is a sign of their “goodness” and “godliness,” not their old, sinful, Adamic nature that wants to be in charge.

When it comes to this anti-biblical position, their greatest argument for it is not the Greek and Hebrew manuscripts; it is not the need for English versions “in the language of the common man”; nor is it “historic positions.” No, their greatest ally is *Adam*—the old man in their friends, peers, associates, mentors, and teachers. To illustrate my point, I will give you two “takes” on statements. The “first “take” is the *new man* speaking: it is the nature which

Continued on 18



# The Two Natures In the Fundamentalist

Continued from 16  
exalts the Scriptures God gave it and submits to its authority. The second "take" is *old man Adam* talking: it is the nature which desires to be "**wise**" and "**be as gods, knowing good and evil**" (Gen. 3:5-6). You can find both natures in Rice, DeHaan, Graham, Jones, Sunday, Moody, Torrey, Epp, Scofield, Spurgeon, Gaebelein, English, Fuller, Wesley, Waite, Pentecost, Larkin,

Pember, Lindsey, Kirban, LaHaye, Swindoll, McGee, Rogers, Kennedy, Hutson, Smith, Wemp, Willmington, Falwell, et al. Observe and learn. The next time one of these apostates shows up with his "facts," "logic," "reasons," "arguments," and "proofs," remember the *source*.

1. New man: "The Bible IS the word of God."

Old man: "It contains errors and

Continued on 19

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# The Two Natures In the Fundamentalist

Continued from 18  
contradictions.”

2. New man: “The Bible IS the inspired word of God.”

Old man: “Only the original autographs were inspired; no translation is inspired.”

3. New man: “This Book I hold in my hands Is God’s holy word.”

Old man: “God’s holy word (the original autographs) was lost many centuries ago, but you can take our word for it that the Greek manuscripts we have are fairly accurate.”

4. New man: “The Bible IS the

holy scriptures.”

Old man: “It contains many unfortunate renderings and misleading translations.”

5. New man: “The Bible does not contain the word of God; it IS the word of God.”

Old man: “Translations are the words of men, but the one we have contains all the fundamentals.”

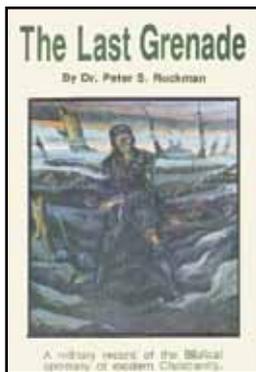
6. New man: “I believe every word in this blessed Book.”

Old man: “. . . with the exception of fifty mistranslated words in the

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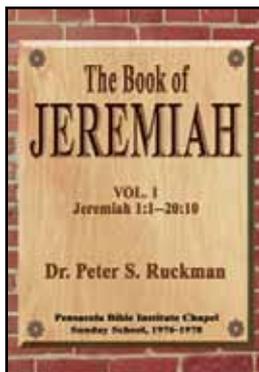
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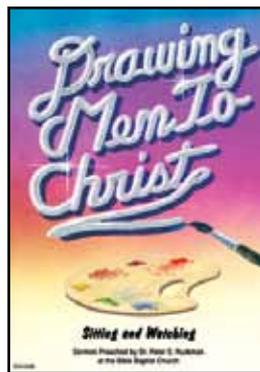
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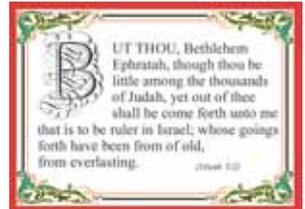
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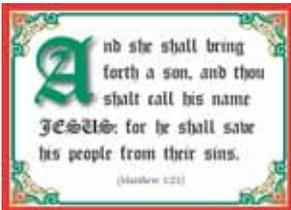
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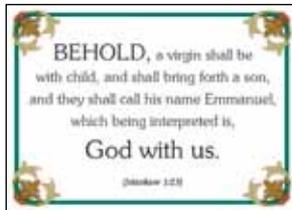
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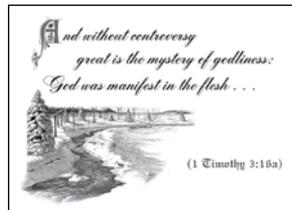
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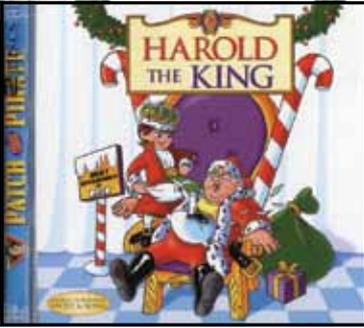
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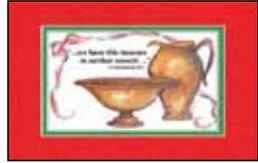


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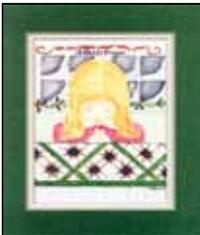
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# The Two Natures In the Fundamentalist

Continued from 19  
Old Testament and 200 in the New  
Testament.”

7. New man “Don’t tamper with  
this Book; this is God’s book.”

Old man: “A better translation  
would be....”

8. New man: “I believe the Bible  
is the final authority in all matters  
of faith and practice for the child of  
God.”

Old man: “I have been trained to  
freely alter it to meet *my own stan-  
dards of authority.*”

9. New man: “We judge every-  
thing *by this Book.*”

Old man: “*I judge the Book* by  
what I was taught at BJU, Tennes-  
see Temple, Dallas, Liberty, BBC,  
etc.”

10. New man: “*I believe* this  
Book I preach is the word of God,  
because I was told to **‘preach the  
word.’**”

Old man: “*I use* this Book be-  
cause ignorant people *think* it is the  
word of God.”

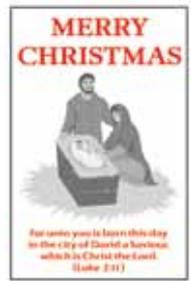
Do you see the difference? The  
contrast between those statements  
will show you exactly *which nature*  
is being displayed by the saved sin-  
ner doing the talking. No *education*  
is needed to understand anything  
you just read. No *special mental  
abilities* are needed, nor any par-  
ticular amount of *spiritual discern-  
ment*. It is so transparent that any-  
one could spot an unclean spirit the  
moment a scholar opens his yap.

All of the sophistry, all of the ca-  
suistry, all of the appeals to “historic  
positions,” all of the citations from  
“good, godly” men, and all of the

pious professions cannot cover up  
the stinking dead humus of ADAM  
leering through the “vessel of clay.”  
Old man Adam is marked by “*me  
first; God next.*” The new man in  
Christ (Col. 3:10, 2 Cor. 5:17) is  
concerned with: “**that in all things  
HE might have the preeminence**”  
(Col.1:18) and exalting the word of  
God just as high as God Almighty  
Himself exalted it (Psa. 138:2).

Now do you “get it”? Do you “read  
me”? Do you understand? *Every  
Fundamentalist has two natures.*  
When you hear one of these birds  
correcting your Bible and telling  
you about “unfortunate renderings,”  
that’s old man Adam talking. When  
you hear that same person bragging  
about the Bible, that’s his new nature  
talking. That’s all there is to it. It’s just  
that simple (2 Cor. 11:3).

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# A Sore Wound

By Robert Militello

**“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you”** (1 Thess. 5:18).

Teaching children the importance of saying “Thank you” was a duty every parent understood. A thank you from a child puts a smile on the face of every adult who receives one. Failing to show appreciation for a kindness given us warps our souls in ways which are not at first noticeable. This serious deficiency in character development is clear evidence that our society has been sickened by a prevailing attitude of entitlement. Our willingness to consider the idea that God has a claim on our lives is not popular.

Paul was told how things would be just before the body of Christ goes up (Tit. 2:13): **“For men shall be lovers of their own selves”** (2 Tim. 3:2). No surprise here because self desires to rule the heart alone. The apostle to the Gentiles lists eighteen characteristics of social degeneration, and the seventh on his list is **“unthankful.”** That trait is sandwiched between **“disobedient to parents”** and **“unholy.”** From this, it is easy to see how rebellion in a child left uncorrected spawns unthankfulness and later, unholiness. Don't expect any of this to be explained in child psychology textbooks or courses on sociology. Our educational system dumped the word of God a long time ago.

Unthankful and evil people experience God's kindness according to Luke 6:35, but unless that kindness is a narrow escape from injury or death, few bother to say “Thank you, Lord.” Thanksgiving may be the only time of the year when millions who have

enjoyed the bounty of this nation will offer up a prayer of gratitude. A rare sight today is a grateful soul praying before eating in a restaurant. It should bring conviction to those who don't pray, but don't count on it. Abundance has spoiled America. We have never experienced famine; therefore, every day is a thanksgiving day for those who had parents that taught them to say, “Thank you.”

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

Good question, amen? Well, the answer is obvious—service! If you have been put in Christ's body, you have a sacred obligation to help nourish that body. To render holy service to the Lord, you first need to put something on the altar of sacrifice.

**“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service”** (Rom. 12:1).

In light of what was done for you personally at Calvary is the Lord asking too much? With words, we profess to love God, but our deeds too often make our words vain. It's no easy thing for a Christian to live with a bad conscience. Don't expect the Holy Spirit to give you the peace that **“passeth all understanding”** (Phil. 4:7) without surrendering to His control. Much for what we often pray is kept back from us because of our refusal to submit.

**“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me”** (Psa. 66:18).

I don't believe that verse needs to be understood in any way other than

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# A Sore Wound

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what it plainly states. A servant with dirty hands should not be waiting on tables. Amen?

**“And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at his feet, GIVING HIM THANKS: and he was a Samaritan. And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but WHERE ARE THE NINE?”** (Luke 17:15–17).

The one leper who was obviously raised right was given something the other nine who disappeared were not.

**“And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole”** (Luke 17:19).

Thankfulness made this man whole—body, soul, and spirit. That's what real gratitude does for a Christian. It sanctifies him, enabling him to render quality service to his benefactor. Isn't that what we strive for?

A leper's body is like a rotting corpse. It stinks and appears grotesque in its later stages. No one wants to go near the body of a leper because it is contagious. Sin in our hearts has made us lepers in the eyes of God. God's holiness is repelled by the putrefying sores in our soul. **“Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity”** (Hab. 1:13). Sinners in America lead hopeless lives cut off from the love of God. How can they know this unless a faithful witness shows them the scripture? Religion is no cure for the leprosy of the soul. A leopard can't change his spots (Jer. 13:23) unless a miracle occurs. The new birth is such a miracle. It takes us from the leper colony of sinners to a

place at the Lord's table. When meditating upon this truth, the heart of a Christian ought to burst with gratitude. Does it, brother?

Lost sinners have experienced God's mercies countless times, even before entering into the adult world. They know that much of their devilment has gone unpunished. Sadly, this often emboldens the sinner to continue on a course of rebellion. This leads eventually to a disastrous loss of the fear of God. What will the end result of this be? It could be myriad health issues, jail time, or early death; sin has consequences.

**“Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, NEITHER WERE THANKFUL, but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened”** (Rom. 1:21).

We know there is a God because creation testifies to His existence. What we do not see at first is His holiness.

**“And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not”** (John 1:5).

As our God-given conscience begins to work in our hearts and minds, we come to a fork in the road. How will we react to a God who now reveals Himself not just as the Creator, but also as a moral being? Are we thankful for a God that has clear lines of right and wrong? If not, you begin to understand why there are so many perverts and sexual deviants in these last days.

**“And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are**

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# A Sore Wound

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**not convenient**" (Rom. 1:28).

How thankful I am for a Book God gave me to better understand how and why this world I live in has become so corrupt. How does a Christian justify keeping that Book closed day after day while clutching a smartphone that he or she cannot now be without? What kind of intense interrogation will we be subjected to at the Lord's judgment seat? That thought should terrify you, and if it doesn't, you don't really own the phone that is in your pocket or purse. It owns you!

**"Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways"** (Hag. 1:5).

And for slow learners, the Lord repeats this exhortation again in verse 7. Consider how thankful we ought to be in light of what we have in the person of Jesus Christ.

**"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and FORGET NOT ALL HIS BENEFITS"** (Psa. 103:2).

**"It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because HIS COMPASSIONS FAIL NOT. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness"** (Lam. 3:22-23).

We get a fresh supply of grace every day we wake up. Our God doesn't serve His children leftovers, and yesterday's prayer of thanksgiving is not sufficient for today.

It pleased the Holy Spirit to close out Paul's letters to Christians with a lesson on indebtedness. Paul leans on Philemon, a rich Christian in Colosse, to do the right thing regarding Onesimus. Paul, while in jail, led Onesimus to the Lord and wanted Philemon to take him back after Onesimus had quit on his employer. Paul was happy

to report that a rebel was now a brother in the Lord. Christians ought to rejoice over a conversion regardless of how they might feel personally toward a new brother or sister who may have wounded them in the past. When you nourish your hurts, you open the door to bitterness, and your walk with the Lord becomes a chore and not a joy.

Paul expected Philemon to be more than a hearer of the word, but a doer also. **"Having confidence in thy obedience I wrote unto thee"** (Phile. 21). Paul could have exercised his authority and commanded obedience on Philemon's part, but he judged otherwise.

**"Wherefore, though I might be much bold in Christ to ENJOIN THEE THAT WHICH IS CONVENIENT, Yet for LOVE'S SAKE I rather beseech thee, being such an one as Paul the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ"** (Phile. 8-9).

Paul prefers beseeching over commanding, as shown in Romans 12:1 regarding how we are to serve the Lord. Nevertheless, in other places (see 2 Thess. 3:6-14 for example), the apostle to the Gentiles doesn't hesitate to pull rank. See Luke 6:46 for more light regarding our duty.

We are debtors, and because of the flesh, we need to be reminded as to who owes whom and how much we owe. Paul tactfully reminds Philemon, **"If thou count me therefore a partner, receive him as myself"** (Phile. 17). He doesn't stop there. **"If he hath wronged thee, or oweth thee ought, put that on mine account"** (Phile. 18). Then in verse 19, Paul the aged (Phile. 9), uses the knife that a plain-

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# A Sore Wound

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speaking Jew resorts to when dealing with a Gentile who may be slow in sizing up the situation: **"I Paul have written it with mine own hand, I will repay it: ALBEIT I DO NOT SAY TO THEE HOW THOU OWEST UNTO ME EVEN THINE OWN SELF BESIDES."** In other words, "Pay up, or I will put you down in my little black book—O.K.?"

We can never repay the Lord for our salvation, and He knows that. Nevertheless, our lives must be a continual thank offering in order to avoid the entitlement mentality that affects the society around us, more so now than ever before.

What the Lord has, which we do not have because of sin, is a limitless capacity to forgive.

**"Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven"** (Matt. 18:21–22).

How would you have reacted to that admonishment? Readiness to forgive is a clear manifestation of the beauty of the Holy Spirit within a believer. Would to God we see more of that in these last days. If thanksgiving is not demonstrated by deeds, what good are the words "Thank you, Lord"? There is much a child can do to grieve a loving parent. Children disobey, lie at times, refuse to apologize, and possess an aversion to sharing which can make parenting extremely challenging. If you have raised children, you understand this. Still, what wounds a parent worst of all is a child spoiled by the parents' failure to

teach the value of gratitude. Parents who raise their children without ever teaching them why Jesus came from heaven to suffer and die are building a house without a foundation. Later, to their regret, some will see the damage done by their neglect. Christians who lament the Supreme Court decisions to outlaw prayer and Bible reading in the public schools did not see that the Lord was using the court to fix responsibility on the parents and not the state. The Holy Spirit within us is our teacher, but if a parent won't open the Bible, the Lord's textbook, what will he or she teach from?

To help cultivate a spirit of genuine thanksgiving, there are some verses that should be memorized.

**"He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities"** (Psa. 103:10).

How's that for a starter? We like to be thanked by those to whom we show special favor. Is there a greater gift than salvation? We did nothing to earn God's favor, yet here we are already seated **"in heavenly places"** according to Ephesians 2:6. We have God's promise that we shall escape the horrible judgments that will come upon the world in the great tribulation. Imagine a violent tornado smashing everything around your home and yet miraculously missing your house. You would be talking about the mercy God showed you for the rest of your life, and who could blame you? Today, folks have become so self-absorbed that the mercies of God are quickly forgotten, but the tendency to complain when things don't go well seems to abound more and more.

Sometimes, not always, the Lord

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# A Sore Wound

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lets you see the wisdom of giving thanks in everything (1 Thess. 5:18), especially when your faith needs a boost. Some years ago, a Christian man saved for only a short time had an experience that brought him to his knees thanking God for sparing him. This man was about to start a new job that he had prayed for many days and nights. Like a child on Christmas morning, he awoke early, giving himself ample time to catch his commuter train—such was his excitement. While driving to the “Park-and-Ride” at the railroad station, he realized that he forgot a personnel form that he needed to hand in. He drove back to his house, picked up his paper, and not heeding the speed limit, returned to the station, parked, and ran to the platform. The train had just arrived, and the doors were closing. He missed his train by no more than a half a minute. To say he was crushed is an understatement. The Lord who had answered his prayer and put a song of praise in his heart, didn't help him to make his train. Why?

He cried to God, begging for an explanation. Would you have been thanking God if you were that man? Well, he waited for the next train to the city, expecting it to arrive in fifteen minutes. A half hour went by with no train and the platform was now jammed with anxious and complaining commuters. About forty minutes after the last train had departed, the station master made an announcement. Power on the line was turned off and was not likely to be restored for quite a while. Radios were tuned to the local news station. There was a derailment on the line. Scores were

injured, and in one passenger car, a dozen commuters suffered severe injuries. Ambulances were on the scene. It so happens that the car that was most badly mangled was the car our Christian brother would have been sitting in. How many times has the Lord graciously detoured us away from danger, and we didn't know that He did. This Christian needed this experience to grow in faith and learn why we are told to give thanks in everything.

I'm certain that when we get home to glory, we will see all the remarkable deliverances we were granted by a loving and caring Father. Sometimes, the Lord lets us see those mercies while we are here, but for each one we see, there may be thousands that were unknown to us. The care the Lord exercises over His saints cannot be fathomed by our finite minds. It's wicked to question His great love for us. Look at the butchered Lamb of God hanging on that cross for you and me; then question His dealings with you. What do we really know about God's love? Very, very little, I dare say.

What bedeviled the Jews in the wilderness after being rescued from the cruelty of the Pharaoh? The Red Sea opened for them, and they were saved. Our new birth is a miracle no less spectacular than what God did through Moses. Our “Pharaoh” was told by the Holy Ghost to release us, and the new life in Christ began. Our sins had purchased for us a ticket to a place of everlasting torment and fire. The Lord took that ticket and nailed it to a tree on a hill that looked like a skull. Moses was a good pastor, but

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he could not stop the Jews from murmuring and complaining. In Exodus chapter 15, the Jews start looking back. It is a high priority of the Devil to stop a mouth that praises God and turn thanksgiving into complaining. Often, the transition is so smooth that you are slow to realize what has happened to you. It can be a difficult habit to break, as there is now so much in our society that disgusts us. **“Set a**

**watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips”** (Psa. 141:3).

God knows the troubles that come our way. If our Lord tarries still, there will be more to come. Through our trials and tribulations we are given an opportunity to offer what are called **“the sacrifices of thanksgiving”**—see Psalm 107:22.

Job got hit as hard as any man  
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## THE CREED OF THE ALEXANDRIAN CULT

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

This is the Creed of the Alexandrian Cult.

# A Sore Wound

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can: **“For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me”** (Job 3:25). After getting the news that all his children were killed, he held his peace and did not charge **“God foolishly”** (Job 1:22). What troubles can befall us that would keep us from praising God and offering to Him the sacrifice of thanksgiving. We enjoy His bounty every day, yet when affliction arises, and not for our sins, our countenance falls, and we forget that we were not promised sunny days continually. Remember Job.

**“Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall the fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation”** (Hab. 3:17–18).

Godly contentment is hard to preach today in America. Amen? Brethren, the day is fast approaching when our tongues will be silent.

**“So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom”** (Psa. 90:12).

Our duty is to find out what the Lord would have us do and then pray for the grace and strength to do it. Thank God, the Lord has not left us without instruction. We have a Book that this world finds distasteful and threatening,

but we see it as precious. If you allow the cares of this life to keep you from that Book, the Thanksgiving Day meal will do nothing more than add to your weight and force your heart to work harder. Consider what Job had to say about eating: **“I have esteemed the words of his mouth MORE THAN MY NECESSARY FOOD”** (Job. 23:12). That should bring a good dose of conviction to every believer prepared to stuff his face over turkey, all the trimmings, and whatever else will be lifted from table to mouth.

Each year, millions of Americans who profess belief in Jesus Christ will sit at a table with loved ones, relatives, friends, and neighbors enjoying the national holiday, and for many, the long weekend that follows. At a holiday table, we can taste and see that the Lord is good. Still, it was at a table where Jesus sat that the Devil entered into Judas. Though there be many who appear to be on the Lord's side, we were told that the tares grow alongside the stalks of wheat. They look alike. When the trump of God sounds and the saints leave for glory, there will be many empty seats. But many, many more will remain occupied by those who believed in Jesus, but remained lost, never having been born again. What a surprise it would be for America if the Lord took His bride home on Thanksgiving Day.



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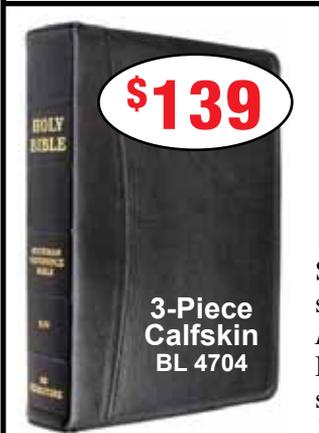
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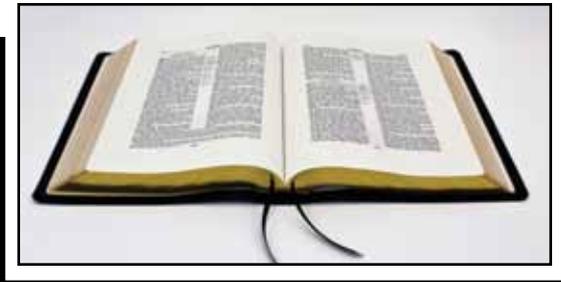
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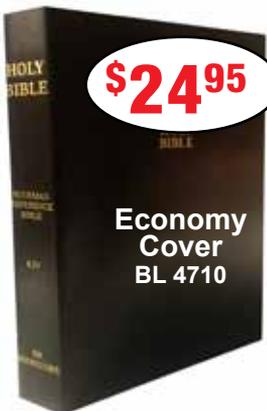


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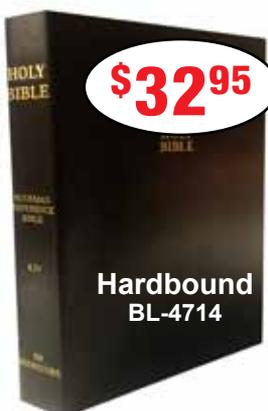


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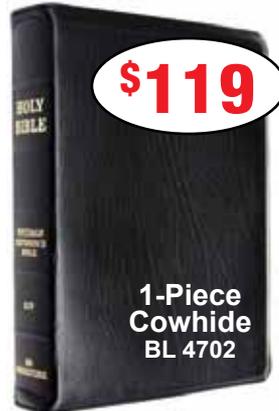
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