



# Bible Believers' Bulletin

Vol. 44 No. 7

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

July 2020

## The Ninth and Tenth of Av

By Brian Donovan

The fifth month of the Jewish calendar is named Av (a name not found in the Hebrew scriptures), corresponding to July-August on the Gentile calendar. The Jewish people consider the ninth to the tenth day of the month (in 2020, the date is July 29-30) a very ominous and terrible date, remembering it as the day when the Babylonians, under Nebuchadnezzar, destroyed Solomon's temple for good. They not only looted its gold and precious metals, the vessels used in its service, the brasen sea, and the twelve brasen oxen that made up its base, but they burnt the house of the Lord to the ground. This destruction is described in detail in II Kings 25 and Jeremiah 52, and the Bible history shows that this was the culmination of a two-year siege that cost thousands of Jewish lives, with thousands more being led to Babylon as slaves. This all happened when Nebuchadnezzar came into Jerusalem for the final time in 586

B.C., after beginning their captivity in 606 B.C. The Jews would not return from this horrible captivity until 536 B.C., when the Persian King Cyrus allowed their return after he defeated the Babylonian kingdom. All of these events were written in prophecy at least one hundred years in advance, beginning with Isaiah 39. Jeremiah 25 prophesied of the captivity lasting seventy years, and Isaiah 44 predicted that it would be a man who was not even born yet (Cyrus), who would be used by the Lord to fulfill His words and eventually allow the Jews to return from Babylon.

The Jewish sages and rabbis have added much by way of their traditions (Mark 7) when it comes to the ninth of Av, claiming that this was the date when the ten spies returned from Canaan and convinced the nation of Israel that they could not conquer the land because of the giants. This rebellion cost that whole generation their entrance into the land, as over the next forty years, the Lord killed off all those who were over forty years of age (excepting Joshua and Caleb). The Bible does not say that this was

Continued on 12

### *In This Bulletin*

The Ninth and Tenth of Av .....	1
The Seventh Commandment.....	2
Cement Shoes.....	23

# The Seventh Commandment

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

**“Thou shalt not commit adultery” (Exod. 20:14).**

**“For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and re-proofs of instruction are the way of life: To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman. Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids. For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life. Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? So he that goeth into his neighbour’s wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent. Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry . . . But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul. A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away. For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance” (Prov. 6:23–34).**

The seventh commandment forbids adultery, and the Bible has a lot to say about it.

Paul said in Hebrews 13:4, **“Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.”**

Israel turning away from God is likened to an adulterous woman in Ezekiel 16 and 23. I can understand why a woman messing around with that sin doesn’t read much Bible. There are whole chapters and passages

in that Bible (especially in Proverbs) aimed at adulterous women.

Of course, men can be guilty of adultery too. God goes into great detail on David’s act of adultery. Men are more prone to adultery than women are. Historically, men have practiced polygamy; they had “harems” if they were rich and powerful. The women who practiced “polyandry” (more than one husband) are less than 1% (.47%), and when it is practiced, it is usually within a family (such as all the brothers of a family share the same wife).

The first man in that Bible to have more than one wife was a descendant of *Cain* (you might have known): his name was *Lamech* (Gen. 4:19). As far as the record goes, Solomon had the most with 700 wives and 300 concubines (1 Kings 11:3). He learned the practice from Daddy (David—2 Sam. 5:13). God forbade the practice under the law because it would turn the king’s heart away from following God (Deut. 17:17), and that is exactly what happened (1 Kings 11:1–3).

Not having an original thought in his head, Mohammed copied the practice because he couldn’t control his gonads. Although Mohammed would only allow his followers four wives at a time (copying Jacob: Gen. 29–30), “Allah” gave him a “special dispensation” (don’t you know!), and Mohammed had fourteen wives, plus however many young slave girls he wanted. Mohammed was one of the most filthy, depraved men that ever lived. Mohammed had the morals of an alley cat.

Continued on 3

# The Seventh Commandment

Continued from 2

Jerry Falwell said something one time against Mohammed, and all the Muslims got up in arms and called for him to be killed for detracting from the dignity of Mohammed. *You couldn't detract from Mohammed's dignity.* You couldn't reach down low enough to pick the sucker up. The guy was a filthy pig who lusted after his adopted son's wife and abolished the practice of adoption in Islam just so he could take her himself. He was such a pervert that he took his best friend's six-year-old daughter as his wife and took her to bed with him when she was nine. He was 56 when he did that. He was a "dirty old man" who was guilty of child molestation and taught all his male followers to be the same. You couldn't possibly detract from the "dignity" of a filthy, immoral pig like that.

That sex-obsessed military dictator taught his men that if they were apart from their wives more than 24 hours that they could take "temporary wives" as long as they compensated the women for their "services." Outside of Islam those kind of women are called prostitutes, hustlers, "call girls," "streetwalkers," hookers, bimbos, and *whores*. In the Bible, men who avail themselves of such "working women" are called *whoremongers*, and that Bible says, "**whoremongers and adulterers GOD WILL JUDGE**" (Heb. 13:4). By any standards laid down in the Ten Commandments, Mohammed was a *demon-possessed reprobate*.

To avoid criticism of their "prophet" and religion, you will hear Muslims say, "We don't believe in speaking against anyone's religion." Oh yes,

you do! Every Muslim in this country or any other country calls my Saviour a *liar*. Jesus said that He was God's Son and that God was His Father, and every Muslim that walks and breathes says that's a *lie*. That's all the conservative ones, all the "liberal" ones, all the ecumenical ones, all the Western ones—ALL OF THEM! Well, what's good for the goose is good for the gander. If you can't take any criticism of your religion, then shut up saying things against someone else's religion. If you can't take it, then don't dish it out.

One "darkie" was talking to another one about one of their buddies, and he said, "They done got him down deah in de jail for polygamy because he married *three* wives." The dark friend replied, "Man, dat ain't polygamy; that am *trigonometry*."

I read the account of a Yugoslavian salesman who managed to keep up *fifty* wives and their families for a while—none of the women knew about any of the other wives. If you know how a man is able to do that, you let me know, and I'll know more than I do right now.

When everything finally caught up with him and all fifty of those women found out what was going on, he had been arrested for polygamy, and he begged to stay in jail so he would not have to face his wives. I mean, "hell hath no fury like a woman scorned." No woman wants to feel like she's one in a harem; she wants to be the "O-A-O" (one and only).

Now what are the *causes of adultery*? Well, one of the biggest causes of adultery is an *unhappy marriage*. Most unhappy marriages are the

Continued on 4

# The Seventh Commandment

Continued from 3  
 result of *getting started wrong*. Some young men are ready to “tie the knot” after only a month; that’s not long enough to get to know a girl. That Bible says the husband is to dwell with his wife “**according to knowledge**” (1 Pet. 3:7). There’s more to a good marriage than just what goes on in the bedroom, and if you don’t find out some things about the girl you plan on marrying, you are going to have a rough go of it.

Another cause for an unhappy marriage is that one or both parties in the relationship are of *poor character*. Contrary to what you hear about me from some of the brethren, *I don’t believe in divorce*. You say, “Haven’t you been divorced twice, Ruckman?” Yeah, I have, but in neither case did I sue the woman for a divorce. I have never put away a wife, contrary to what the professors at the leading fundamental Christian colleges and universities say. I believe when you say “For better, or for worse, till death do us part,” that you had better mean “For better, or for worse, till death do you part.” And believe me, brother, sister, *it can get worse*.

I have no complaints about Pam; as far as I’m concerned, she’s the best wife in the world. I’ve been married to her for fifteen years now, and I’m not used to things yet. I’m used to a good “running gun battle” once every two weeks that lasts for at least three days. I’m used to suicide attempts, my wedding ring being mailed back to me while I’m at a meeting, pictures being knocked off the easel, script for the *Bulletin* being ripped out of the typewriter, threats to kill the dogs, etc. That’s what I

went through with the two previous spouses. I’m not used to things running as smoothly as they have for the last fifteen years.

The problem arises when one of the parties figures he or she can do what he or she cotton-picking well pleases, and when things get too bad, he or she just leaves. That’s what you’ve got in America these days—young people with no character. The average marriage in America these days is only two years long.

Another cause of unhappy marriages is *television* and *magazines*. Watching all these programs where everyone is going to bed with everyone else, it’s no wonder so many marriages end in divorce. One “old timer” said, “I watched television grow from infancy to *adultery*.” That’s *true*. Television has gone from where a married couple couldn’t be shown in the same bed together to two unmarried people “in the act.” The magazines are not better. You ladies sit around reading a bunch of junk that makes you dissatisfied with your husband and glamorizes stepping out on him. You men look at a bunch of half-naked glamor models and wonder why your wife is not like that.

Now some divorces are “extenuating circumstances.” What made David’s adultery with Bathsheba so terrible is that there wasn’t any *need*. God gave David Saul’s house, Saul’s wives, both “houses” of the nation of Israel (Israel and Judah), and He would have given David anything he asked (2 Sam. 12:8); but David sacrificed his fellowship with God on the altar of his lust. David had no “extenuating circumstances.”

Continued on 5

# The Seventh Commandment

Continued from 4

Of course, I am not justifying anyone's sin, but some people have it rough, did you know that? There was many a G.I. overseas in World War II who got a "Dear John" letter from his wife saying she was going to divorce him. Some of those men were gone as long as *two years* off fighting overseas. That's a long time for a wife to be alone, sometimes raising a kid or kids by herself. Some of those men got taken captive by the Germans and the Japanese, and they never saw their wives or families back home for *38 months*.

One of my jobs when I got over to the Philippines after the war was to process the POW's to return home. One of those men in line to go home was shaking in fear from head to foot. He kept saying, "I can't go home; I can't go home." "Why not?" I asked. He said, "I've been over here too long." That fellow had been tortured and starved by the Japanese until he was about half out of his mind.

There are women who are married to chronic drunks. The husband loses his job because he drinks. He loses his driver's license because he drinks. The wife has to work to support the family, and the husband steals her money to buy more liquor. What does a woman do with a mess like that? Drunkenness is not a grounds for divorce in the Bible.

What is a woman supposed to do in a marriage where her husband abuses her all the time? He slaps her around, beats her, and threatens to kill her—none of those things are reasons for divorce in the word of God. What is she supposed to do—stay in a marriage like that until she's

put in the hospital permanently or in a coffin? Some people have some real problems, did you know that?

What about some woman or man married to a paraplegic? I don't have any sympathy with these preachers who have no idea of what goes on in the real world outside of an air-conditioned office. Everything's not positive and beautiful all the time. Some cases are rough. I've had a woman call me up in the middle of the night long distance: "I can't tell you who I am, Bro. Ruckman, but my husband and I are both saved and Bible believers. He's had hardening of the arteries at 35, and we haven't had marital relations in ten years. I've been trying to live right and stay clean. I don't want to sin against God, but a guy I work with has started showing interest in me. I feel like something's going to happen if things don't change. What am I going to do?" Do you care to counsel that sister? Like one colored fellow said in a football game after his buddy Leroy had been tackled about five times in a row: "Leroy say he don't want de ball."

One time two fashionable women met for lunch in downtown London. They both bragged about what a wonderful man their husbands were, but when they both pulled out a picture of their husband to show to the other, *it turned out to be the same man*. They found out later that he was already married when he married them. You talk about an "extenuating circumstance" for a divorce—*polygamy* is it, man.

Next, there is the *curse* of adultery. One of the curses is *illegitimate children*. At one time 71% of the girls un-

Continued on 6

# The Seventh Commandment

Continued from 5

der twenty in New Jersey gave birth to illegitimate children. Illegitimate births in the United States went up 300% after the passage of the Civil Rights Act in 1964. The population didn't even go up to 100%, but illegitimate births went up 300%.

*Venereal disease* is another curse of adultery: human papilloma virus, chlamydia, herpes, gonorrhea, syphilis, HIV (AIDS). Since "sex education" (SEICUS) was introduced into the public schools, venereal disease has gone up 80 % while the population only increased 30%. Someone doesn't know what he is doing. The VD rate is higher in North America right now than it is in Europe or Asia; the only continent with a higher VD rate is *Africa*.

And another curse of adultery is obviously *divorce*. All of that comes from fooling around with sex outside of the bounds of marriage between a *man and a woman* (you have to say that these days) which God Almighty set for it.

Families are busting up at a rate better than one out of two. There are families with three or four kids, and every kid has a different last name because the momma messed around with a different man for each kid. One boy got a prize during a parent-teacher meeting for bringing the most parents—he had *six* there.

If you want to destroy a nation and set up a communist dictatorship where the government runs everyone and everything, the first thing that has to go is the home, and the way to destroy the home is to destroy marriage. That's why the queers and crossdressers want "marital rights."

Once you get rid of the divine plan of God for a man and a woman, then anything goes: two men, two women, two transvestites, polygamy, "polyamorous" (a group of men and women all living together and copulating like a pack of wild animals), incest, pederasty and pedophilia (sex with children just like old Mohammed practiced and taught his followers to practice), and *bestiality*. If you have the right to "love" (i.e., *fornicate*—Jude 7) anyone (or *anything*) you want, then there is no such thing as marriage, because God said, "**For this cause shall a MAN leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his WIFE**" (Matt. 19:5). There is no "**wife**" with two faggots even if one of them is a "sissy," and there is no "**man**" with two dykes even if one of them is a "butch." The Bible calls such things "**abomination**" (Lev. 18:22, 20:13) and "**confusion**" (Lev. 18:23, 20:12). A country is defiled by those practices and *vomits* out its inhabitants for them (Lev. 18:25).

The Greek philosopher Plato is best known for his work called *The Republic*. In that book, Plato advocates for a communistic state where the government controls all education, all religion, all property, and all reproduction. The state church is basically *atheistic*, with the government controlling what it can and cannot teach and preach. There are *no families*. All wives and children are owned by the *state* and are "communal." The state raises and educates the kids while momma and daddy work at the jobs assigned to them by the state.

That is exactly where America is headed. Unless the parents have

Continued on 7

# The Seventh Commandment

Continued from 6

enough money and time, the children are forced to go to government indoctrination centers (“public schools”) where there can be no mention of God, Jesus Christ, the Bible, prayer, etc. The beliefs of the parents regarding those things are either mocked or marginalized by “change agents” (the NEA teachers). Between Congress and “court rulings,” the morals and teachings of Scripture are restricted, and the economy is left in such a shambles that both parents have to work to “make ends meet.” When it comes to things like homosexuality, lesbianism, crossdressing, and abortion, it is the goal of the state-run schools to indoctrinate the children contrary to the beliefs and morals of the parents, and preferably without their knowledge.

One of the tools used to bust up homes in America is “no-fault” divorce: anyone can get a divorce from his or her spouse for any reason or no reason. That makes divorce easy, and divorce is never good for the children.

You teenage girls that are going to be looking for a husband are going to be up against a wall, I kid you not. The average young man, these days, is not taught to love kids or how to raise kids or to be responsible with kids. And you young men looking for a wife are going to have problems too. There’s many a girl in America today who doesn’t know how to cook or sew or clean, or who through “women’s lib” has been taught that such things are “beneath her.” Well, if you don’t have the skills to run a family, how are you going to keep it together?

Divorce has become so commonplace that couples enter a marriage *expecting* it to bust up. They sign “prenuptial agreements.” A prenuptial agreement is a contract entered into before marriage that says when the couple gets divorced, here is what each party gets. It used to be something only the very rich used to protect themselves from someone only marrying them for their money. You must admit that a couple of years of marriage is not much to go through in order to get a few million dollars in a divorce settlement. But nowadays there are average middle-class couples signing “prenups” because they expect the marriage to fail. Sure enough, the marriages fail: one out of two.

Now there are different kinds of adultery. There is *desire*, *physical*, and *spiritual*. The most common one spoken of throughout the Bible is, of course, *physical*. This generation has a way of “telling it like it *ain’t*.” They call adultery “cheating,” “swinging,” and “adult consent.” The text I read you in Proverbs 6:32 says that if you commit “**ADULTERY with a woman**” that you lack understanding and destroy your own soul. It’s *adultery*, from the word *adulterate*; i.e., “to make *impure* by the addition of a foreign or inferior substance.” Men, if you add a woman to your body that is not your wife; ladies, if you add a man to your body that is not your husband, you have adulterated your marriage—you have made it impure with a person foreign to it.

**“Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ,**

Continued on 8

# The Seventh Commandment

Continued from 7

**and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid. What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh**" (1 Cor. 6:15–16).

**"Moreover thou shalt not lie carnally with thy neighbour's wife, to defile thyself with her"** (Lev. 18:20).

**"Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge"** (Heb. 13:4).

Joseph was faced with the temptation and opportunity for physical adultery. Potiphar's wife kept putting the pressure on him until one day she had him alone in the house and seized him by the coat. He got out of there double quick and left his coat in her hands. Lester Roloff used to say, "Joseph lost his coat but kept his character." Some of you young people need to learn how to **"Flee also youthful lusts"** (2 Tim. 2:22).

Then there is *desire*: that is adultery of the heart and mind that may or may not find outward expression.

Jesus said, **"Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, that whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart"** (Matt. 5:27–28).

The reason some men don't commit physical adultery is because *they've never had the opportunity*, and another reason some men don't commit physical adultery is because *they don't have the guts to do it*. Sure, man, you never know what some folks' motives are.

These fundamentalists are always talking about "twice-married preachers" being adulterers (see our comments on Matt. 19:9 in that commentary). I know some good twice-married preachers that are much better preachers, much better husbands, and much better *men* than some of the once-married ones. Preachers can get hung up on sex, did you know that? I'm suspicious of any preacher who spends too much time on what women wear. I don't think a man notices what women wear unless he takes time to study what women wear. He must be spending a lot of time *looking*.

I was taught in the Catholic Church that adultery was a *mortal* sin: a sin for which God would *kill* you. If that were true, you could walk from New York to Los Angeles on dead corpses and never set your foot on the ground. That's because the average American male is exposed to women showing him their bodies *constantly* on TV, the movies, billboards, magazines, newspapers; not to mention the mall, the grocery store, the beach, walking down the street, etc. When a woman dresses (or *undresses*) to draw the attention of a man to her body, that Bible says he has **"committed adultery WITH HER,"** sister. You are just as guilty as he is. That's why you ought to be careful about what you wear, ladies.

The standard "comeback" to that is, "Well, I can't help what men think." Oh come on, who you trying to kid? Don't try to kid an old dog like me. If a woman wants attention, she will wear anything (or nothing!) to get it. Men, you need to watch at what you look,

Continued on 9

# The Seventh Commandment

Continued from 8

but ladies, you need to watch what you wear to get a man to look at you.

Then there is *spiritual* adultery. Solomon's sin was far greater than just messing with a thousand women. He began worshipping their gods, and the Lord took the kingdom from him and split it in two. David had to pay for his adultery with Bathsheba, but God didn't judge him as harshly as He judged Solomon for his idolatry. David died "**full of days, riches, and honour**" (1 Chron. 29:28). Solomon died with everything beginning to fall apart before his eyes (read 1 Kings 11).

Of spiritual adultery, Paul said, "**I had not known LUST, except the law had said, Thou shalt not COVET**" (Rom. 7:7), and "**COVETOUSNESS, . . . is IDOLATRY**" (Col. 3:5). The lust doesn't have to be after women; it can be after anything. Some preachers commit spiritual adultery by coveting money. These "televangelists" rake in, literally, tens of millions of dollars from Christian suckers every year. They have more money than they know what to do with. Jim and Tammy Bakker bought an air-conditioned dog house for their mutt. Kenneth Copeland owns two jet planes, and he's asking for money to buy a third one. Do you know how much of that money goes to world missions? Not one dime. It goes to fly him from one meeting to another where he can sell books, take up offerings, and con a bunch of suckers out of their last red cent, if he can.

Other preachers covet land. There was a Bob Jones graduate who was out to get the land the old Brent Baptist Church sat on. He wanted it

to build a bigger kiddie school than the one he had already. As long as I pastored Brent, he couldn't get the land. Before he built himself a college and went into competition with BJU, he used to get Bob Jones Jr. to write me and tell me I didn't qualify for the ministry because I was divorced and a pastor had to be "**the husband of one wife**" (1 Tim. 3:2). So I wrote him back and said, "All right, I will get married so I qualify." He wrote me back and said, "No, because then you would be the husband of two living wives." In my last letter to him, I said, "You are the only university president I know that thinks  $0+1=2$ ."

Some of these Christian college professors covet the recognition of their academic peers. The head of the Bible department at Bob Jones University (Stewart Custer) wanted to make a name for himself by taking down the big, bad "Ruckman," so he wrote a little booklet called *The Truth about the King James Version Controversy*. Custer makes it clear in that work that *he* is qualified to declare who is and is not qualified for the ministry. He says no church should have "Ruckman" in for a meeting because "Ruckman" doesn't qualify for the ministry because of his divorce.

In the very verse that says a "**bishop . . . must be . . . the husband of one wife**" (1 Tim. 3:2), it also says he must be "**apt to teach**." That bird couldn't defend his own position from Scripture and couldn't prove one verse I gave for my position was wrong. Old "Stew baby" couldn't even handle the Book he was supposed to teach. He thinks he's spiritual; he's just as carnal as the Devil.

Continued on 10

# The Seventh Commandment

Continued from 9

Listen, if you are called to preach, what are you going to do if your wife walks out on you because she doesn't want to be a preacher's wife? When my first wife left me, I was planning to get out of the ministry and go into teaching, but John Rawlings said something to me that kept me in the ministry. He asked me, "Did God call you to preach?" "Yes," I said. "Did He call your wife to preach?" he asked. "No," I replied. "*Then why are you going to quit just because she quit.*"

Good question. You don't read anything in that Book that tells a preacher to quit the ministry if his wife left him. A young preacher who had graduated from Hyles-Anderson called me up one night crying. He had gone through a thing where his wife had left him for no scriptural reason, and he had gotten out of the ministry, even though his congregation knew the woman was at fault and they stood behind their pastor. I gave him what John Rawlings gave me. That young preacher said, "But Jack Hyles said that if my wife left me I wasn't fit for the ministry." I said to him, "You can tell Jack Hyles to *jam it*, in that case." Jack Hyles didn't know about what he was talking.

I was out at a Bible Baptist Fellowship camp up in the redwoods of California. A bunch of the preachers were at dinner one night fellowshiping. Suddenly everything got quiet at the table, and I thought to myself, "Uh oh, a bomb is about to drop." A pastor and his wife were sitting across the table, and he said to me, "Bro. Ruckman, do you think a preacher who gets a divorce should stay in the ministry?" I said, "What did you

say?" I do that to give myself time to send up one of those "Nehemiah" prayers for the answer (Neh. 2:4-5). The others kept on with their meal, but everyone's eyes were on me to see what I would say.

So I said, "Well, look at it this way. Maybe your wife will get tired of you one day and leave. Are you going to quit just because she leaves?" When I said that, the wife lowered her head, and that preacher turned beet red. Evidently I had "touched a nerve."

I went on: "Have you been called to preach?" "Yes." "Has she been called to preach?" "No." "Well, you can't quit just because she does." He said, "I never thought about that." I said, "Well, think about it; please pass the salt."

Now what is the *cure* for adultery? Job said, "**I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?**" (Job 31:1). So the first thing is *not to look too long in the wrong place*. That was David's problem with Bathsheba. It wasn't the first look or the accidental look. Men, these days you can't avoid seeing something wrong, but you don't have to give it a second look or keep looking at it. Avoid the section of the magazine rack with the magazines that have the pornographic stuff; that goes for the bikinis and the "swim suit issues" too.

Second, have *love* in the home and not just *sex or lust*. The foundation of your marriage and your home has to be love, because the lust burns out and the sex dies down. The old song says, "The old gray mare just ain't what she used to be many long years ago." That's true, so you

Continued on 11

# The Seventh Commandment

Continued from 10  
have to have a bond that's more than physical.

Bob Jones Sr. used to describe the break up of an American home this way. Before you leave for work in the morning, you have a fight with your wife and go to work mad with her and she with you. At work this woman with whom you work is in the same state you are. (Oh yeah, man. If you put men and women together in the work place, sooner or later, two and two will make four.) She shows you attention because her husband doesn't understand her. You get to talking with her and let her know that your wife doesn't understand you, and you both come to an agreement that that is the problem with your marriages. At that point, your conscience will either get the better of you, and you will go home and make up with your wife; or you will continue to find solace in that other woman and bust up your home.

Third, you need *prayer* in the home, *not provocation*. Instead of fighting over a problem, pray about it.

And finally, *spend time in the Book*.

**“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word”** (Psa. 119:9).

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

**“Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you”** (John 15:3).

We teach the kids in vacation Bible school: “This Book will keep me from my sins, or my sins will keep me from this Book.” When you're not right with the Lord, you instinctively avoid the

Book, even if you do believe it. Of course, you don't plan it that way; it's just how it comes out. You have to force yourself to spend time in the Book because the Book is contrary to your sinful Adamic nature, and if you don't, the Adamic nature will have its way.

In John 8, a woman caught in adultery was brought to Jesus. According to the law, she was to be stoned to death. Those Pharisees say to Jesus; “Moses said stone her. What do you say?” Jesus didn't say anything; He just wrote something in the sand. The Scripture doesn't say what He wrote, but I have a good idea. He probably wrote out the very law they were pulling on Him: **“the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death”** (Lev. 20:10). If the woman was caught in the act, where was the *man*? But those Jews didn't “get the message,” so Jesus stoops down again and wrote something. Jesus didn't have to ask where was the man or who was the man; those Jews began to leave one by one from the eldest to the youngest (John 8:9). There's no doubt in my mind that Jesus began to write the names of everyone in that crowd who had set that woman up.

When Jesus finally looks up, only that woman is standing there. “Where are your accusers?” He asks. “They're gone,” she says. So Jesus says, **“Neither do I condemn thee: go, and SIN NO MORE”** (John 8:11).

The best message the adulterer can ever hear is: **“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit”** (Rom. 8:1).

# The Ninth and Tenth of Av

Continued from 1

the ninth of Av, but only that it was **“the time of the firstripe grapes”** (Num. 13:20). That corresponds with the general time period of July to August, but does not mean that it was on the ninth of Av. The next time that the Jews recognize the date is the Roman destruction of the rebuilt temple in 70 A.D. under Titus. Josephus, the lost Jewish historian, who lived from 33-100 A.D., wrote in his *Antiquities* that the burning of the temple began on the evening of the ninth of Av, and continued throughout the tenth. After another sixty years passed, a revolt was led by Simon bar Kochba in 132 A.D., but the Romans defeated bar Kochba and his men in a butchery that Jewish tradition again says was on the ninth of Av, although there is no historical proof that this was the date.

In their vain traditions, the Jews have made this date a day of fasting and mourning, and it is recognized even to this day in Jerusalem. They refrain from smiling, laughing and foolish talk, bathing, and wearing makeup or leather shoes, as they fast in a manner that the Lord never required or asked (Isa. 58:5 **“Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? . . . wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the Lord?”**). Due to their delight in following their rabbinic traditions, even at the expense of rejecting their own scriptures, the Jews have created a modern state that is completely apostate. Her only fix will be when she is regenerated and reborn in a day (Isa. 66:7-10) by being reconciled to the very Messiah whom they rejected

when they crucified Him at Calvary in 33 A.D. God made Himself manifest in the flesh in history as a Jewish man named Jesus, and this same Jesus will soon return to take by force the kingdoms of this world (Rev. 11:15), while at the same time He will save a small remnant of the Jewish people in order to keep the promises of the Old Testament scriptures, and remake the Jewish nation. The difference is that this time, the Jews will recognize Jesus as the LORD, and they will **“look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son”** (Zech. 12:10). The restored nation of Israel will then receive Him as their Judge, Lawgiver, and King (Isa. 33:22; Isa. 9:6-7), and David will serve as a prince and a king (Eze. 34:24, 37:24) under the KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS (Rev. 19:16).

During this one-thousand-year reign of the Lord Jesus over Jerusalem, Israel, and the world, He will have rebuilt a temple, and only He and His prince will be allowed to enter through the eastern gate of the city (Eze. 44:2-3). This is the same one that He will first open, upon His return to Earth. The Muslims closed this gate in the 800's, then it was reopened by the Roman Catholic crusaders in 1102, then walled up by the Muslim leader, Saladin, in 1187, after they defeated the pagan Catholics. Sultan Suleiman sealed the gate doubly shut in 1541, fearing the prophecy of Ezekiel 44, that the Jewish King and Messiah would one day come through this gate. The pagan Muslims have even placed a cemetery

Continued on 13

# The Ninth and Tenth of Av

Continued from 12

outside this gate, thinking that no Jew would think of desecrating a burial site. There will be no hesitation when this KING returns, as His white horse will not only stomp over their graveyard, but will also stomp their living, until the blood runs to the horse bridles for sixteen hundred furlongs (or 200 miles), according to Revelation 14:20.

In the meantime, the Jewish people as a whole, have been cast aside in blindness during this present Church Age of two days (Hos. 6:2, Rom. 11:25-27), even as they are hated by the Gentile world. Some years back, while sitting in the midst of the United Nations Assembly, one of Israel's prime ministers (Golda Meir) once asked herself, "... we have no family here. . . Israel is entirely alone here, less than popular and certainly misunderstood... why should that be? Why? Why?" The poor woman, a secular Jew who was born in Ukraine and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, conferred neither with her Jewish prophet, Moses, of the Old Testament, nor her Jewish Messiah of the New Testament for the answer. She was instead left in the dark, and she never found an answer to her crucial question.

Elected as Levi Eshkol's successor in 1969, Meir would attempt to guide the Israeli nation through the massacre of eleven Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics in 1972. After it was over, Golda and her people's only recourse, was after the fact, to send Mossad agents to track down and kill the Arab terrorists who called themselves Black September. Yet the greatest challenge of her tenure would

be the Yom Kippur War of October in 1973. With everything shut down in Israel for the Day of Atonement, Sadat sent his Egyptian Army with their tanks, across the Suez and into the Sinai Peninsula, while the Syrians attacked the Golan Heights at the same time from the north. From a place that became known as The Vale of Tears after a devastating loss in Golan, Meir sat with her General, Moshe Dayan, and contemplated what would not be an easy and quick victory after being taken by such a great surprise. At one point, Dayan even considered a surrender in order to gain a ceasefire and save what was left of the nation. But by the end of October, it would be the Arabs asking for a ceasefire as the IDF drove back two Egyptian armies, crossed the Suez Canal and surrounded the Third Army, while at the same time on the northern front, were almost to Damascus, Syria.

President Richard Nixon and his Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger, would then pressure the Jews to back off, saving Egypt and Syria from total annihilation. Kissinger, the political Jew with no love for the homeland of Israel, lied to Golda Meir, claiming that Russia would start a Third World War if the Jews did not back off immediately. Despite being taken by complete surprise, and at the cost of over two thousand six hundred Jewish lives, the eventual victory would add to the legend of the invincibility of the IDF in the Jewish mindset, though Meir would be grilled for an answer as to why the nation was taken by such complete surprise.

Continued on 14

# The Ninth and Tenth of Av

Continued from 13

Despite the fact that the modern Israeli nation has been able to defeat superior numbers of Muslim enemies repeatedly (the 1948 War of Independence, the 1956 Sinai Peninsular War, the 1967 Six-Day War, and the 1973 Yom Kippur War), they still refuse to look to their Maker or to consult His words. As a result, with possibly one exception, they get no answers and remain in the dark when it comes to the reason for their position in the world.

In 1977, just prior to visiting Jimmy Carter, Prime Minister Menachem Begin held his usual Bible study in his home. The passage being studied just coincidentally was Numbers 22-24, and Begin became particularly interested in Numbers 23:9, asking for clarification on **“the people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations.”** After getting some tripe from a “Bible scholar” and another “professor” about the “Hebrew reflexive form” and what the words “should have said”, Begin stood at the end and concluded (since it was his own house) that the Jews are a special people, and that if they ever “cease dwelling alone, then we cease to exist.” Begin got the answer that Golda never did, namely, that the Jews will never be accepted into the worldwide community of nations, and that they can never be a “normal” people.

The Bible makes it plain that right from the beginning of the history of them becoming a nation when they were first called out of Egypt (Ex. 19:1-6), the children of Israel must be a **“peculiar treasure. . .above all people”**, a **“kingdom of priests, and**

**an holy nation”**. Their existence as a nation begins with the religious and the political being inseparable, with both called to be under submission and obedience to the words which the Lord gave unto them. Only Israel is an holy nation (Ex. 19:6), with a holy sabbath (Ex. 16:23), with a holy city (Isa. 52:1), with a holy place (Lev. 16:17), on a holy mountain (Isa. 56:7), all on holy ground (Josh. 5:15), being led by the holy scriptures (II Tim. 3:15).

Imagine trying to compare the USA with Israel? Who in their right mind would think that Washington D.C. is a holy city, the White House a holy place, and the U.S. Constitution or the Declaration of Independence are to be equated with holy commandments? One document begins with the favorite communist expression, “We the people. . .”, and the other states that the rebels who were dissolving their political bands with England, believed that “all men are created equal” (while they owned black slaves), and that all men have been endowed by their Creator with the rights to “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness”. Find anything close to this in the holy scriptures, por favor.

Menachem Begin came to meet the Southern Baptist U.S. President, Jimmy Carter, armed with the knowledge of the Jewish people’s uniqueness and peculiarity, that he found in the holy scriptures. He would be dealing with the double-tongued, lying, U.S. politician from Georgia who would publicly say to Rabin in early 1977, “I wish to reassure you at the outset, Mr. Prime Minister, that the United States

Continued on 15

# The Ninth and Tenth of Av

Continued from 14

is deeply committed to the security and welfare of Israel." Then privately in a meeting later that same year with Begin, would tell him that the Jews must withdraw from "occupied" territories to "new" borders that would leave Israel as safe as a sheep in a den of lions.

In this meeting, Begin's advisor, Dr. Samuel Katz, would attempt to educate the American entourage of Carter of the true history of the so-called "Palestinian homeland". Katz called Arafat's 1974 visit and speech to the United Nations a big lie, in that he said it was Palestinian land for thousands of years that they farmed and developed culturally. When the Arab-loving, ignorant U.S. Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, asked what was wrong with that, Katz pulled out a page from Mark Twain's *The Innocents Abroad* from 1867, where he showed that there was not a single village in upper Galilee for thirty miles, with nothing more than two or three clusters of Bedouin tents, with "silence and death brooding with reptiles sunning themselves on the rocks". That was an eyewitness account of the state of the land in 1867. Katz then added that Palestine was never a homeland for any Arabs and that they were never interested in the land until the Jews were restored to their ancient homeland. Carter's Polack Roman Catholic National Security Advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski, then half mockingly asked, "Is that so? Please tell us more!" American politicians have never been known to be able to deal with the truth.

Remembering the fate of his people

through the Holocaust, Menachem Begin told Carter that he would never again allow the Jews to be put into a position where they had to turn their children over to be killed without a defense.

Later, in 1982, Begin would have to deal with the darling of the American right, Ronald Reagan, who accused Israel of "invading" Lebanon, and made accusations in a private meeting that were all based on false media reports. After being corrected by Begin, Reagan asked him to brief his staff on those same facts, with Roman Catholic Secretary of State, Alexander Haig, and the extremely anti-Israeli, Episcopal Defense Secretary, Caspar Weinberger, finally getting to hear the truth about the Israeli-Lebanese War. The Jewish civilians were being attacked and killed by the PLO from Lebanon, and the Jews went after the killers to protect their own population. Reagan's answer was to militarily arm Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Oman, in order to "create more friends for Israel like Egypt".

Begin then had to educate Reagan and his men on the so-called "friendship" of Saudi Arabia, after Weinberger credited the Saudis with creating a ceasefire with the PLO in Lebanon. Begin informed them that the PLO agreed to a temporary ceasefire, only after the Saudis put \$20 million into Arafat's personal bank account. Warning Reagan that Saudi Arabia was one of Israel's most fanatical enemies, Reagan's response was, "You have to trust us, Menachem" (We would guess like Naboth could trust Ahab). Though

Continued on 16

# The Ninth and Tenth of Av

Continued from 15

Reagan always remained in favor of protecting Israel, he was a victim of his own Cabinet and false "intelligence" (media) reports, and the results for Israel turned out no different with him than with Nixon, Carter, both Bushes, Clinton, Obama, and now, Trump.

This summer, from July 29-30, over two thousand and six hundred years after the Babylonians destroyed Solomon's Temple, and nineteen hundred and fifty years after the Romans destroyed their rebuilt temple, Israelis will acknowledge another period of mourning over their losses that took place on the ninth and tenth of Av, but it will be a useless time that the Lord did not ask for, nor does He recognize. When the Jews returned from seventy years in Babylonian captivity, the Lord told them through their prophet Zechariah, "**When ye fasted and mourned in the fifth (that is Av) and seventh month, even those seventy years, did ye at all fast unto me, even to me? And when ye did eat, and when ye did drink, did not ye eat for yourselves, and drink for yourselves?**" (Zech. 7:5,6). When Israel goes to their Wailing Wall this July 29-30, their mourning will not be recognized by the Lord God, as it is not a day of fasting and prayer that He desires.

The real loss that the Jews are suffering is not even being considered, namely, the way to obtain an atonement for their souls. The Jews were warned not to offer a blood sacrifice for their atonement on the high places (Lev. 26:30), but only at one altar, in the place that the Lord chose

(Lev. 17:11). That altar has long been destroyed, and the Jews today have gone "**many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice. . .**" (Hos. 3:4). Once the Jews rejected their Messiah on that horrible day of Passover in 33 A.D., they left themselves with no atonement for their sins. The Lord made this fact visibly evident when He tore the thick, fifteen-foot high veil of their temple from top to bottom (Matt. 27:51) just as the Lord Jesus Christ cried out, "**It is finished**" (Matt. 27:50, John 19:30). This showed that there was no longer the need for an annual day of atonement, but that it could only be achieved by faith "**through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement**" (Rom. 5:11).

Because the nation of Israel rejects the only true Messiah, a false one is about to arrive on the scene. Though the antichrist is of the seed of Satan and a devil (John 6:70), he was born as a human Jew, with Assyrian blood from outside the land. Judas was literally a "man of Kerioth" (Iscariot), and will rise from "**his own place**" (Acts 1:25), to receive the worship and praise of the world for three-and-one-half years. He will "**come in his own name**" (John 5:43) and yet still will be welcomed as the "**man of sin**" and the "**son of perdition**" (II Thess. 2:3, John 17:12). This Assyrian Jew is about to come into the land of Israel (Mic. 5:5), and he will be used as "**the rod of mine anger**" (Isa. 10:5) to punish this people. Just as in days past, when the Jews were under the

Continued on 18



# The Ninth and Tenth of Av

Continued from 16  
Assyrian Pharaoh in Egypt (Isa. 52:4), so the **“Assyrian shall be his king”** in the tribulation period (Hos. 11:5), until the right man of peace (Shiloh — Gen. 49:10) shows up to destroy this false Christ and **“thus shall he deliver us from the Assyrian”** (Mic. 5:6). The mourning of the Jews at that time will not be a useless ritual as on the ninth and tenth of Av, but will be genuine mourning, with repentance and acceptance of the right MAN

(Zech. 12:10). This MAN **“shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock [I Cor. 10:4, Matt. 16:18] in a weary land”** (Isa. 32:2). Oh, Israel, **“if thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong to thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes”** (Luke 19:42). And instead of peace, **“Behold, your house is left unto you desolate”** (Matt. 23:38).

## ORDERING INFORMATION

### HOURS

Mon.-Fri. 8:15 A.M.–4:15 P.M. Central Time  
Closed Weekends & Holidays

### MAIL ORDERING

*Please print clearly and include your phone number. Most orders are shipped within 2 business days. Please give a shipping address! Allow from 1 to 3 weeks delivery time. Foreign orders should allow from 6 to 12 weeks delivery time.*

### SHIPPING CHARGES

#### Domestic Rates

\$00.01-\$10.00.....add \$5.00  
\$10.01-\$30.00.....add \$11.00  
\$30.01-\$60.00.....add \$15.00  
\$60.01-\$100.00.....add \$19.00  
Over \$100.00.....add 20%  
(Please note that these are general rates. We will choose the best service available for your order based on content, location, and amount included for shipping. If you want a more accurate quote, or would like to specify a carrier or service, please call or check our website [www.kjv1611.org](http://www.kjv1611.org).)

#### Expedited Rates

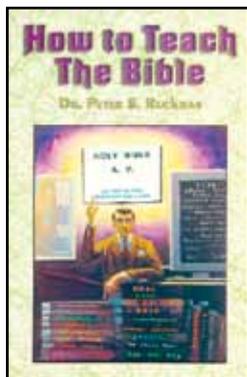
Please call for a quote.

#### International Rates

Please call for a quote or check our website.

No part of this publication or other materials authored by Dr. Ruckman (written, recorded, or drawn) may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage, retrieval system, multimedia, or Internet system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

# "HOW TO" SERIES



## How to Teach the Bible

Dr. Ruckman outlines what he considers essentials for a Bible teacher called to teach THE BOOK. Subjects included are The Mechanics, The Theme of the Bible, Some Problems, Topics, The Teacher's Library, Some Right Divisions, Use of Reference Materials, The Seven Sevens, and other helpful subjects.

89 pages

RK-2330

**\$9<sup>95</sup>**

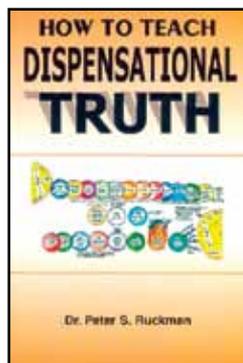
## How to Teach Dispensational Truth

A detailed study and analysis of the differences between "Dispensationalism," "Hyperdispensationalism," and "Moderate Dispensationalism."

111 pages

RK-103

**\$9<sup>95</sup>**



## How to Teach The "Original" Greek

How to teach Greek and how not to teach it. The two techniques are laid side by side, showing why one produced soulwinning, Bible-believing street preachers and the other produced smooth, slick, amateur critics of the Bible.

132 pages

RK-102

**\$11<sup>95</sup>**

(Plus Postage—see page 18)

# MAY'S SERMONS

*Brian Donovan*

A Time Of Thy Visitation  
The Valleys Of Life  
A Mother In Israel  
The Example of Paul  
Preparation For Death  
The Praying Christ

Search The Scriptures  
Bible Numerics  
Happiness  
The Sacrifice Of Praise

DC-2005 **\$14.95**

All of May's sermons on one MP3

# The Death of Biblical Doctrine



In this work, Dr. Ruckman shows how modern Christianity has departed from several sound, biblical doctrines and has substituted for them the false doctrines of tradition and apostate scholarship.

Covers attacks on the doctrines of the scriptures, eternal security, the rapture of the church, the difference between Old and New Testament salvation, the difference between the universal body of Christ and the local church, the difference between salvation and discipleship, spiritual circumcision, the difference between remission of sins and redemption from sin, the difference between the kingdom of God and the kingdom of heaven, the difference between the nation of Israel and the body of Christ, and how peace will finally be brought to this earth.

**RK-138**

114 pages

**\$9.95**

(Plus postage—see page 18)

# What's New at the Bookstore?

## MP3

- May Sermons at Bible Baptist (2020)..... DC-2005 \$14.95  
 First Kings (Sunday School Studies) Brian Donovan ..... DD 11-2 \$42.95

## BIBLE

- Allan's Oxford Wide-Margin Ref. Bible Black Goatskin  
 Gold Gilded Edge.....BL 4231 \$245.95  
 Silver Gilded Edge..... BL 4231SL \$258.95  
 Allan's Oxford Wide-Margin Ref. Bible Navy Goatskin  
 Gold Gilded Edge..... BL 4231B \$245.95  
 Allan's Journal, Black Goatskin .....NV 1470 \$45.00  
 Church Bible Publishers, Wide Margin Classic Bible  
 Ironed Calfskin, Burgundy..... BL 4540BG \$105.00  
 Broadman & Holman, Compact, Brown Leather Touch.....BL 4532 \$12.99

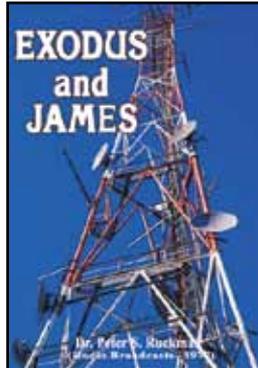
# 20% Off

# These 3 Items Only During July



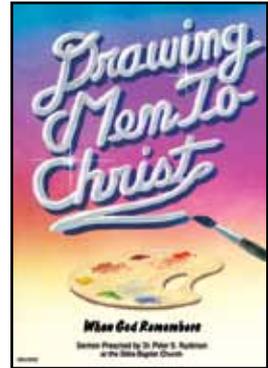
**Gluebound (RK-99)**  
Regular \$11.95

Sale Price **\$9<sup>56</sup>**



**MP3 (DB ISSH-2-59-1)**  
Regular \$10.95

Sale Price **\$8<sup>76</sup>**

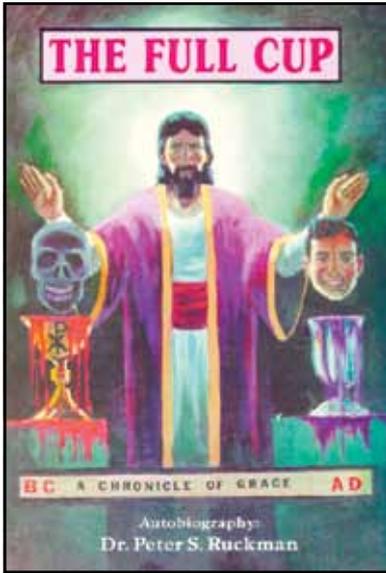


**DVD Video (DEV-0022)**  
Regular \$9.95

Sale Price **\$7<sup>96</sup>**

Prices valid for these items only, from 7/1/2020 to 7/31/2020  
 Cannot be used with any other discount.

(Plus postage — see page 18)



# The Full Cup

(A Chronicle of Grace)  
Autobiography of  
Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

He lived 27 years alone “**having no hope, and without God in the world**” (Eph. 2:12). Then, after being “**accepted in the beloved**” (Eph. 1:6), he went another 43 years as the Lord’s “junk yard dog,” a sentinel placed at the doors of the *Authorized Version* of the Holy Bible to take the seat of the britches out of “godly” scavengers who used the Book with which to make a living when they didn’t BELIEVE it!

429 Pages **\$16<sup>95</sup>**  
RK-101

(Plus Postage—see page 18)



IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU!

CK 1048



I SEE YOU

CK 1169



HEART TROUBLE ?

CK 1034

## Tracts from Chick Publications

**\$4<sup>25</sup>**

per pack of 25 of the SAME TITLE

These three tracts all present the Lord Jesus Christ coming to save sinners. They are especially well received by young people of all ages. Use this time of year as an open door for evangelism.

**Chick tracts get read.**

(Plus postage—see page 18)

# Cement Shoes

By Robert Militello

**“To day if ye will hear his voice”** (Psa. 95:7). Note that little word, “if”. Would it shock you to hear a Christian say, “I don’t choose to hear from God”? In Revelation 2 and 3, John wrote to seven churches, and each ended in the same way (**“He that hath an ear, LET HIM HEAR what the Spirit saith unto the churches. . . .”**). Wax building up in your ears can, over time, cause serious problems. The wax this world and its vanities secrete into our minds and hearts will lead to spiritual deafness and then to a disaster at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Never has any society in history approached the level of noise now permeating our nation in 2020. The clamour for entertainment and pleasure, the frenzied pursuit of vanity, and the hostility toward real Bible preaching are producing a kind of spiritual cancer that can’t be checked. There is no revival to look forward to. Only the Lord knows for sure how much time we have left before long-delayed judgment breaks forth like the collapse of a gigantic dam. **“My heart panted, fearfulness afflicted me: the night of my pleasure hath he turned into fear unto me”** (Isa. 21:4). Things can change in a moment. Is it not so, brethren?

Now, what every believer ought to be hearing from the Lord in these very last days is, “Get going!” The gospel begins with “go”. Salvation calls you to detach from this world and begin journeying toward a home in heaven. No sooner does a soul get saved that the enemy of

truth begins to fit that new believer with cement shoes. All kinds of devilish plots are employed to keep a Christian stuck in situations that will effectively choke the word. The effort to free oneself from the devil’s snares is exhaustive work. Many throw in the towel soon after realizing that cement shoes are hard to step out of.

Why is it that many who receive the Lord by faith never seem to get going? Dr. Ruckman said that a new convert can be taught the Bible, but not spirituality. What makes one zealous for the Lord and another not so much? Matthew 13:20–21 offers some insight into this matter. In verse 20, you read that the seed was received into **“stony places”**. Then verse 21 tells you that the one who received the good news in a stony place had no root in himself and fell away because trouble resulted from believing the word. James 1:8 reads, **“A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.”** How often in life do we say, “I’ve changed my mind”? To bear fruit for the Lord, one must be focused. “Focus” is a much-used word today. Often, you’ll hear it said that so and so can’t seem to focus. Goals are set, plans are made, and nothing comes to fruition. Jews see Gentiles that way. I know that from living and going to school with them.

In Matthew 6:25–34, the Lord gives His disciples a lesson on what it means to be focused. **“But seek ye first the kingdom of God . . .”** (Vs. 33). If you focus on the things of this world, you lose the

Continued on 24

# Cement Shoes

Continued from 23

idea of what it means to be a Jew. **“(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek . . .)”** (vs. 32). How about that? The Lord is reinforcing here the idea of Jewish superiority and exceptionalism. Antisemites can find many things in God’s word to feed their hatred of Jews. Growing up in Brooklyn, surrounded by Jews, it was apparent that as a race, they were much more willing to sacrifice in order to get ahead. I admired this about them, and in conversation with them, I admitted that my Gentile friends were all too often not willing to put in the time and effort needed to excel. One Jew told me how the refusal of the Jews to go into the promised land under Moses was a national disgrace, but that a profound lesson was learned from that experience.

In discussing this event in Jewish history, I asked a Jew if he thought that Moses could have persuaded his kinsmen to enter into the land of Canaan, disregarding the evil report brought back by ten of the spies sent out to search the land. Was he not the instrument of God to deliver his people from the Iron Furnace—Egypt? As the George Washington of his nation, did he lack the will to rally his people to go forward and take on the giants described by the faithless ten spies? My Jewish acquaintance then told me that the God of Israel was determined to show His people that disobedience and failure to trust in the power of the Almighty leaves you in a desert of shame and regret. Are not many saints in that same place today because of their refusal to step out

on faith and face their fears before they are called into the presence of the Lord? Laodicean churches today represent the desert of Sinai, and Christians that assemble there wander endlessly until death comes ending with disgrace a life that mirrored a barren fig tree. The Lord looked for fruit and found none—how sad!

**“Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition . . .”** (1 Cor. 10:11). It was necessary that the Lord show His people that leaving Egypt physically does not mean your affections were left there also. Many in America who claim to be saved hardly leave Egypt. If they go to church, it will be a place where feelings won’t get hurt, and the cross of Christ will not get in the way of your “Best Life Now”. Please note, Jews are Shemites, and a Shemite does a lot better at self-denial than the children of Japheth. Now that’s a general rule, and you should know that some Orthodox Jews will cheat and eat Chinese roast pork when no one is looking. If you believe Catholics should abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent (Ash Wednesday–Easter), you are thinking of Catholics who attended Mass regularly and believed their church back in the fifties and sixties. Those days are gone. I use to think that eating fish on Friday during Lent made you spiritual. Fish markets in Italian neighborhoods in Brooklyn did a booming business during Lent. After Easter, it was back to Italian

Continued on 25

# Cement Shoes

Continued from 24

sausage and meatballs—such was life back then.

Jews have a fear of failure built into their DNA. All the adults that wandered in the wilderness died. Moses became so exasperated that he struck the rock he was told to speak to and lost his chance to lead his nation into Canaan. Paul wanted his Gentile converts to imitate the Jews' zeal and aggressiveness. **"I PRESS toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus"** (Phil. 3:14). He abhorred defeatism. In Acts 15:36–39, he refuses to allow John Mark to accompany Barnabas and himself on another missionary journey. John Mark had thrown in the towel during the first journey. In the wilderness, the Jews got homesick for Egypt. They got tired of eating manna every day and wanted a menu with other options. When the Lord puts you in His classroom of spiritual instruction, you are going to learn some things the hard way. You may discover some things about yourself that make you feel ashamed—that's good! You should want to learn. **"It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I MIGHT LEARN THY STATUTES"** (Psa. 119:71).

"Get the lead out of your pants and move." My dad was a sergeant in World War II, and he understood how staying alive was tied to moving with fear. **"By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, MOVED with fear . . ."** (Heb. 11:7). We know what's coming upon this unbelieving world. The Book of Revelation is a horror

movie that we know is literal and not fictional. How many preachers still believe that preaching on hell is mandatory and not optional? You can preach "God loves you" all you want, but that truth did not move me to get saved. Believing that my soul would burn forever moved me with fear and put me on my knees. My generation (seventy-plus years) is dying off. Believing in a literal hell after death is fading fast. Believers with cement shoes forget that the gospel which saved them begins with the letters "g" and "o". The man who led me to saving faith went and left Catholicism. He was told to go and help lost Catholics see their need. He told me how the Lord expected me to GO and do likewise. Are we ready to obey the Lord who mercifully saved us?

Now, what are the stony places of Matthew 13:20? When seed (the word of God) falls there, the soul that it fell upon sets out to follow truth, then stumbles and falls away. Many come to the Lord with hearts badly damaged by life's circumstances. Not one of us really knows the extent of the depravity of his own heart. Maybe we don't want to know—that's understandable. To a holy God, our hearts look and smell like a rotting corpse. Our Lord is the greatest of all cardiologists. He treats the worst of cases, yet sometimes the damage is so great, there is little chance for a full recovery. Thank God for heart bypass surgery. Many are alive today because of that procedure. Prayer, Bible reading, and fellowship with Christians that fear

Continued on 26

# Cement Shoes

Continued from 25

God in deed and not in word only can serve as a spiritual pacemaker in the souls of those longing for God's peace. That heavenly peace should rule our hearts, but for many, that never happens because stones of bitterness, envy, and pride have not been removed. Big rocks are hard to lift.

**“Who can understand his errors? Cleanse thou me from secret faults”** (Psa. 19:12). Note the word is **“faults”** and not **“sins”**. **“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed”** (James 5:16). Don't underestimate the curative power of godly fellowship with a brother or sister who loves you enough to tell you the truth. Many sweet saints never get the peace they so desire because they don't have a Nathan in their lives. Because of the modern-day distortion of God's love, reproof and rebuke can no longer be received in the right spirit. Hypersensitivity is a plague in the Laodicean church age that muzzles the mouths of those who forsake boldness for fear of losing someone's goodwill. We need truth more than friendliness. My one true friend is Jesus. If I need a Nathan to read me the riot act, I trust the Lord to send me one. The available pool of real men ready to carry out such unpleasant assignments is dwindling badly. There ought to be more spiritual plumbers in the Lord's church, but there are not. **“The fear of man bringeth a snare”** (Prov. 29:25).

It's impossible to profile a new

believer. Does that newborn child of God have the “right stuff”? Will he or she become a faithful disciple or remain a spiritual baby? When I see a baby in a crib, that child is where a baby must be for a while. If I come back forty years later and that child never grew up and stayed in the crib—that child is not cute anymore. He or she has become hideous. What stunted the child's growth? We don't know for sure, but the word of God can fall on stony hearts. Science now tells us why it is possible for normal size parents to produce a dwarf. We know how genes and DNA affect the physical formation of a fetus. Yet, only God knows the heart. **“But the LORD said unto Samuel, LOOK NOT on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, BUT THE LORD LOOKETH ON THE HEART”** (1 Sam. 16:7).

Pastoring a small church in Brooklyn for fifteen years gave me insights into human behavior that cannot be learned in college. Life in Brooklyn and New York City can wound you in many ways. Many who find the Lord there are already psychologically and emotionally crippled. It's like being brought to the emergency room after surviving a very bad car wreck. The Holy Spirit works intensely to stop the bleeding and fix the order of treatment. It's called Triage. From the operating room, you go into intensive care. Many saints will remain there

Continued on 27

# Cement Shoes

Continued from 26

until they see Jesus. It's very sad. Actually, we all remain in God's care and thank God for that. Some become outpatients, and others get strengthened enough to see the doctor maybe once or twice a year. Getting well will largely depend on how seriously you obey the doctor's orders. God gave us real medicine. His word is a super, spiritual antibiotic. A closed Bible means you are not serious about getting well. "Take your medicine. Take your medicine!" You shouldn't have to say that to responsible adults. Still, because many fail to grow, and remain children, they have to be reminded continually—"Open the Book." What will happen at the Judgment Seat of Christ when the Lord shows you a chart showing how many hours you were on the phone and how many hours your eyes were fastened upon God's words?

When you get saved, you walk out of a tomb. You were buried in grave clothes—the ways of this world. Your sins put you in the grave. The New Birth has made you a new creature, and you need to put on new clothes. Now the Lord raised Lazarus, whose body was already rotting in his grave clothes. Lazarus came out of that tomb bound hand and foot. Did he float out? Friends of Lazarus and his sisters had gone to the tomb with Jesus. They were standing around watching what only the power of God can do. Jesus could have loosed Lazarus. He didn't. **"Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go"** (John 11:44).

That's the church ministering to the new believer. Christians must grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ if they are to minister effectively. We are all one body. So many join that body each year. They need to have their grave clothes removed. A Bible-believing church is an ER and a rehab facility. Years ago, we identified these facilities as hospitals. Notice how today they are referred to as Medical Centers. Years ago, you went to a college, but if various degrees were offered, that place became a university. Things around us are temporary and subject to change at any time. Nevertheless, your Saviour's love and care for you never vary. It's good to know Someone not given to change—Amen?

Thank God, the Lord has made salvation easy and simple. Being made whole and having stones removed from your heart is another matter. Luke 17:11–19 clearly shows how a thankful spirit helps bring about a complete recovery from leprosy. Ten lepers begged the Lord for mercy in Luke 17:13. Jesus tells them what to do in verse 14, and they were cleansed. The Holy Spirit told me that I needed the New Birth. I asked the Lord to make that happen for me, and my sins were washed away. I didn't realize how bad a leper I was because I had religion. When the Lord sends a Nathan to you to straighten you out, you better listen! **"And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed"** (vs. 14). Obey and then watch the Lord work. God commands men everywhere

Continued on 28

# Cement Shoes

Continued from 27

to believe the gospel if they want eternal life. After the cleansing, one of them, only one, turns back and, with a loud voice, glorifies God (vs. 15).

That one thankful soul falls down on his face at the Lord's feet giving thanks, and the scripture adds that, "**he was a Samaritan**" (vs. 16). How about that? Samaritans are considered strangers who are outside the promises of God. Salvation is of the Jews, and the Jews hated Samaritans. When you are considered a dirty dog and hear it spoken of you repeatedly, you have no sense of entitlement. Jews felt entitled. They had the promises of God. A sense of entitlement is a heavy stone hard to remove from someone's heart. It can quickly neutralize the effectiveness of a new Christian. Thankfulness—heartfelt gratitude over the smile you have gotten from a merciful God, that puts you on the road to real spiritual recovery. That's not happening much today. "**Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?**" (vs. 17). I suppose they went home to watch TV, or to go out shopping. Only God knows what happened to the many millions in America who said the "Sinner's Prayer" or took an altar call, and may have belonged to a church youth group. In New York City, it was easy to melt away in the crowd, enjoy the pleasures of sin, and go to hell when the fun ended. Lost people don't have the Holy Spirit reminding them that they were bought with a price. The nine lepers that took the cleansing

and rejoined the society that had shunned them probably never went on to find the joy and peace God wanted them to experience. So many saved souls today are walking around discontented, confused, and unable to stop complaining or feeling sorry for themselves because they so quickly forgot what a bloody Savior did for them. This world has a peculiar way of helping you forget things you badly need to remember.

Walking by faith has its challenges. When you sign on to follow the Lord, you don't know where He'll take you. Stones of fear in your heart show themselves quickly when you determine to go against the course of this world. You may even begin to charge the Lord with folly, or worse. Look what the Jews said to Moses in Numbers 14:3. "**And wherefore hath the LORD brought us into this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt?**" "**For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world**" (2 Tim. 4:10). Egypt is the devil's octopus.

Laodicean pastors and churches have found the secret of success. Big works have been built, and it takes money to keep these "ministries" going. How do you get folks to come back each Sunday and finance the work? You talk like a salesman. "We have exciting things happening around here, be a part of it!" You avoid certain topics like the Judgment Seat of Christ or the cost of discipleship. Also, you

Continued on 30

## Bro. Donovan's Meeting Schedule

### July 10–12

Faith Baptist Church  
1302 Independence St.  
Ft. Smith, AR 72901  
Pastor Paul Sherrouse  
(479) 650-4028

### September 11–13

Temple Baptist Church  
2295 Downer St.  
Baldwinsville, NY 13027  
Pastor Kevin Griffin  
(315) 638-1159

### August 21-23

For His Glory Bible Bapt. Ch.  
92 Butler Rd.  
Union, ME 04862  
Pastor Mike Kee  
(207) 975-5571

### October 9–11

Bible Baptist Church  
114 Hall Lane  
Rickman, TN 38580  
Pastor Tim Wilson  
(931) 498-2898

## 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.

# Cement Shoes

Continued from 28  
stress the importance of building positive relationships. A crossless Christ will relax carnal believers and will keep the checkbooks from closing down. You preach to people who walk, but not toward the cross. **“For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ...”** (Phil. 3:18). Note, not enemies of Christ, but of His cross. If the devil cannot stop you from getting saved, he'll quickly find a way to fit you with cement shoes. If you walk to the cross and put the Lord on the throne of your heart, you become a threat to the adversary's kingdom of darkness.

Where cement shoe Christians gather on Sunday, you can bet you won't hear, “Onward Christian

Soldiers marching as to war, with the cross of Jesus going on before.” There is no talk of war in these assemblies; that doesn't fit in well with the “love Gospel.” We have Paul as an ensample to follow. He ran. **“Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? SO RUN, that ye may obtain”** (1 Cor. 9:24). Paul was a tentmaker, but he may have been the first Jew to see there was a need for running shoes. Cement shoes are the devil's work, and those who make them, La Cosa Nostra, or Mafia, fit them for their enemies. You don't live in Brooklyn for over fifty years and not know these things—amen?

So what to do, Lord? **“I will RUN the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart”** (Psa. 119:32).

## Bad Attitude Baptist Blowout

— **September 17-20** —

*Speakers for this Blowout:*

- Dennis Miles      ● David Peacock
- Paul Sherrouse

Evening Services—6 P.M.

Morning Services (Beginning Fri.)—10 A.M.

**Bible Baptist Church**

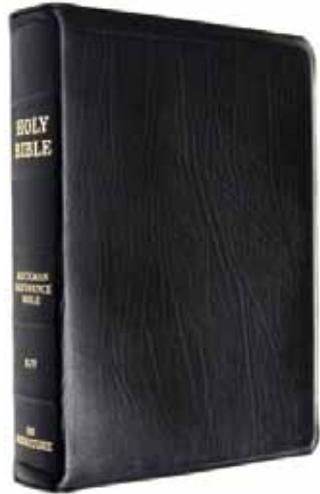
1175 Jo Jo Road Pensacola, FL 32514

For more information call (850) 477-8812 / 476-2945



# Ruckman Reference Bibles

Sixty years of Dr. Ruckman’s personal Bible study in one volume! The Ruckman Reference Bible contains the notes and references from Dr. Ruckman’s personal Bible. This is one of the only study Bibles that does not change the King James Version—in note or in text.



## **Standard Size** 6.375" x 9.25" (page size)

- Economy .....BL 4710 **\$24.95**
- Hardback.....BL 4714 **\$32.95**
- Cowhide .....BL 4702 **\$119.00**
- 3-Piece Calfskin .....BL 4704 **\$139.00**

## **Wide Margin** 7.25 "x 10" (page size)

- Calfskin .....BL 4708 **\$159.00**
- Lambskin.....BL 4707 **\$159.00**

## **Handsize** 5.5 "x 8" (page size)

- Economy .....BL 4715 **\$19.95**
- Calfskin (black)..... BL-4716 **\$129.00**
- Calfskin (blue)..... BL-4716B. **\$129.00**
- Calfskin (burgundy)..... BL-4716BG. **\$129.00**

(Plus postage — see page 18)