



Bible Believers' Bulletin

Vol. 44 No. 8

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

August 2020

The Second Coming Of Elijah

By Brian Donovan

The prophet Elijah is one of the greatest characters in all of the Bible. He burst onto the scene out of the wilderness of Gilead, and his first recorded act was to point his finger and preach at king Ahab, a type of the antichrist (I Kings 17:1). His ministry continued through the next seven chapters of the two books of the Kings, when he evaporated from the scene as quickly as he entered (II Kings 2:11).

In between those two events, Elijah is presented as a great man of faith, yet a lonely, melancholy personality who experienced some real loneliness and depression. James later tells us that Elijah “**was a man subject to like passions as we are**” (James 5:17), and this great prophet of God came to know the same highs and lows felt by today’s servants of the Lord.

The lessons we can learn from

In This Bulletin

The Second Coming of Elijah.....	1
The Eighth Commandment.....	2
The Ultimate Shock	23

the life of Elijah are as current now, as they were when he lived some two thousand nine hundred and forty years ago. As soon as Elijah delivered his sermon to Ahab of the coming drought, he was told to go hide himself by the brook Cherith while it slowly dried up over the next six months (I Kings 17:3,7). Every child of God who decides to dedicate himself to serve the Saviour, must at some point, sit by the brook Cherith. In that lonely position, the Christian will watch the Lord dry up all his self-supporting plans and ideas, until the brook is down to a trickle and then bone dry. Yet during this time, the faithful servant will find that the Lord has never left him and will supply all his “**need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus**” (Phil. 4:19), even if it means those needs will be met using Heckle and Jeckle (I Kings 17:4,6).

God’s faithful servant must be where the Lord directs him in order to experience this life of faith. Had Elijah not gone to sit by Cherith for six months, he never would have experienced the Lord’s miraculous

Continued on 12

The Eighth Commandment

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

“Thou shalt not steal” (Exod. 20:15).

The eighth commandment is against stealing; the one who steals is called a “thief.” What is a thief? A thief is someone who takes something and doesn’t leave an adequate return for it. Technically speaking, if I took a watch worth \$2,000 from you and left you \$2,000 for it, that wouldn’t be stealing because I left you the value of the watch in cash.

It is possible to rob anyone of something. Those Old Testament Jews stole from God by not paying their tithes (Mal. 3:8). I have known preachers to steal from their own churches. One of the preachers before me at the Brent Baptist Church ran off with tens of thousands of dollars in “bearer bonds.” There have been deacons who have taken money out of the offering to set aside for the day when they split the church and went down the road a couple of miles to start their own “work.”

The leading fundamental and conservative schools in this country steal the tuition money of their students. They advertise to teach you the Bible if you come to their school, and when you get there, you find out they have no Bible to teach you. They only have “reliable” and “unreliable” texts and translations. The only “Bible” they believe was **“given by inspiration”** (2 Tim. 3:16) was the “originals” which no one has seen for over 1,900 years (three quarters of them for over 2,300 years). That’s not only lying, it’s *stealing* because they don’t give you that for which you paid.

You see, stealing doesn’t just

involve stealing cars, robbing liquor stores, breaking into “automatic teller machines,” shoplifting, “knocking over” banks, pick pocketing, embezzling, and purse snatching. It comes in all kinds of sizes.

Now there have been great thefts in history. Perhaps the greatest was that of the Hope Diamond. According to the legend that became attached to the diamond, a Frenchman stole a large blue diamond (115.16 carat) from the eye of a Hindu statue, whereupon the priests put a curse on whoever possessed it. Supposedly the Frenchman was torn apart by wild dogs (although more historical accounts have him dying at the age of 84).

The large blue diamond was sold to Louis XIV of France (the “Sun King”), who suffered from terrible ailments and died of gangrene. Louis XVI was beheaded in the French Revolution. The large blue diamond was stolen in the Revolution, was cut into smaller diamonds, and a 45.52 carat gem from it resurfaced in England in 1812. Of the people who owned the diamond, one shot his wife to death and later was stabbed to death himself, another one drove his car off a cliff killing himself and his whole family, and another lost his mother, two servants, and his ten-year-old boy to death, while he ended up in a mental hospital and his wife went broke and died a lush. It’s in the Smithsonian Institute today, and it can stay there. “Leroy say he don’t want de ball.”

When Hitler was in power, he

Continued on 3

The Eighth Commandment

Continued from 2

plundered Europe and stole great works of art, jewelry, and gold bullion. The looting was valued at \$25 million in stolen art, \$700 million in gold bullion, and \$850 million in cash, jewelry, furs, etc.

In January of 1976, the Muslim Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), in alliance with the Lebanese "Christian Phalange" and Corsican mob, over a one-week period, robbed the British Bank of the Middle East of \$210 million (by today's standards) in currency, gold bullion, stocks and bonds, and valuables from safety deposit boxes (jewelry, rare coins, etc.). They then made another \$50 million selling items back to their owners.

It is instructive to note that the very first movie Hollywood ever put out was "The Great Train Robbery" (1903). That shows you where Hollywood is at. It has been murder, theft, and sex ever since.

Then there was the "Great Brink's Robbery" of 1950 in Boston, Massachusetts. Up until 1972, it was the largest robbery that had ever been carried out in the United States. Eleven men stole \$2.775 million in 35 minutes. It was surpassed in 1972 by the "United California Bank Robbery," where seven men stole nine million dollars in cash and other valuables.

According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the greatest theft from a government was by President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines, who, between 1965 and 1986, managed to take \$860.8 million from the coffers of his own government. The greatest bank robbery in history was in Fortaleza, Brazil, where ten men made off with \$69.8 million in one

heist.

Of course, no normal bank robber can compete with a computer when it comes to theft. The first computer-based fraud was committed by the Equity Funding Corporation of America, which, between 1964 and 1973, used its computer to create 64,000 phony insurance policies to steal two *billion* dollars.

Lack of education has nothing to do with becoming a thief. In fact, the smarter one is, the more he can steal. The largest computer fraud ever perpetrated was by a computer consultant named Stanley Rifkin. In 1978, he used his position as a computer technician to gain access to the bank's fund transfer code. He then used that code to steal \$10.2 million. He only got eight years in prison for what was at that time the world's biggest bank fraud. In the end, the bank got back every penny plus some because Rifkin had converted some of the money into diamonds which were worth more here in the United States than in Europe where he had purchased them.

But if you are going to talk about the biggest thief in the world (or at least here in the United States), it is the federal government. As anyone knows, a personal income tax is unconstitutional to start with, so the government robs you in that way. But in addition to that, the government prints *counterfeit money*. The government used to issue what was known as "silver certificates"; in other words, every dollar bill could be converted, if you wanted, into an actual dollar's worth of silver. Not anymore! That dollar bill you have in your billfold

Continued on 4

The Eighth Commandment

Continued from 3

is now a “Federal Reserve note.” It isn’t worth a full dollar in any metal. It *may* be worth *seven cents if the pennies are made of copper* (which they aren’t—they’re now mostly *zinc*). Your modern dollar is only as good as the faith you have in the American government, and the moment a substantial amount of people lose faith in that government is when the bottom will fall out. That’s why that dollar bill is counterfeit: it’s not worth the paper on which it is printed.

The government steals *land* by “imminent domain.” In other words, if the government decides it needs your land for any reason, it will make you an offer—whether it is what the land is worth or not. If you don’t accept its offer for whatever reason, it will simply take the land from you and throw you off. That’s theft. “STOP THIEF!”

The government has taken several of the large national parks and turned them over to the United Nations as “international biospheres.” That means the United States will no longer control what goes on on land that is supposed to be *public* land; the UN does. That’s robbery.

If you send your child to public school, you don’t get an adequate return: you’ve been ripped off. Your tax money goes into supposedly educating children, and every year the public schools turn out over a million “functional illiterates”—adults who cannot read and write sufficiently to function in society (like reading signs, schedules, labels, etc.). That’s why a lot of people are sending their kids to private, Christian, home, and charter schools.

My grandson Gus was working

with law enforcement up in Louisville, Kentucky, trying to get his Master’s degree. He said he talked to sheriffs who told him that it was important to hire people with college educations so they would be grounded in reading, writing, and arithmetic. Gus laughed and said, “I thought that was supposed to be taken care of in middle school.” Why would a person need a college education to be able to read, write, and do basic math unless he was being *cheated* in grade school and high school?

Now, what are the *things that can be stolen*? Well, the first one, of course, is *money*. In World War II, an SS agent named Alfred Naujocks was put in charge of an operation to produce and circulate enough counterfeit British five-pound notes to collapse England’s economy. He produced three million pounds in phoney notes, most of which were never used.

Then there are pickpockets who work a crowd to take billfolds and money from pockets and purses. The world’s greatest pickpocket is a guy named Apollo Robbins. After successfully pickpocketing several items from a Secret Service agent protecting President Jimmy Carter (including the president’s itinerary and the keys to the car transporting the president), he was hired to train law-enforcement agencies on how to guard against *people like him*.

And of course there are the *bank robbers*, like John Dillinger, “Pretty Boy” Floyd, Bonnie and Clyde, “Baby Face” Nelson, “Machine-Gun” Kelly, et al. Those were my “role models” growing up. I always liked those guys

Continued on 5

The Eighth Commandment

Continued from 4

because I instinctively thought the banks were crooked. Being saved now, my role models have changed, but not my opinion of the banks. I still think they are as crooked as a dog's hind leg.

But not only can one steal money, he can also steal *time*. When you "kill time," that is stealing because time belongs to *God*. You are commanded to *redeem* the time (Eph. 5:16), not "kill" it or waste it.

I hope you give your boss forty hours of work for forty hours of pay. If you goof off an hour, then you have stolen an hour's worth of salary from your employer.

The government can steal your "rights." As an American citizen, you are supposed to have the right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness"; you are supposed to have specifically enumerated rights spelled out in the Bill of Rights. Ever since Woodrow Wilson and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the government has sought to take away whatever rights it can from its citizens. If Congress can't pass a bill to do it, then the district court judges, the appellate court judges, and the Supreme Court judges will make "rulings" to do it. And if the legislature and the judiciary can't do it, then the executive branch will with "executive orders," regulations, and "agencies."

No Christian has a "right" to get up in a public school and pray or read the Bible or teach "creationism" or tell teenagers it is a sin against God to fornicate like a pack of wild animals; but it is perfectly all right to teach them about condoms and sex perversion and crossdressing and

Marxism and that they came from apes and how to be a Mohammedan. That despite the "freedom of religion" guaranteed in the First Amendment.

ABC, NBC, and CBS gave *eighty hours* over a twelve-month period to get rid of your guns, but only thirty minutes to the National Rifle Association to make its case for the Second Amendment. They censored all the material from "The Armed Citizen". The only periodical to which I subscribe is *The American Rifleman* (sent to lifetime members of the NRA). Every issue has a series of articles each month called "The Armed Citizen". "The Armed Citizen" gives accounts of people who have saved their own lives or the life of someone else by having a loaded weapon on their person. Fire arms handled responsibly save more lives in a month than police departments do in five years. The news media didn't put that material on air so that they could *steal* your right to protect yourself.

Your congressmen and senators are supposed to represent *you*. Many times they are just thieves there to steal whatever they can from the American people. "Stop thief! Stop!"

Do you know what happened in those "Rodney King" riots out in Los Angeles? There were a lot of Korean immigrants there with businesses being looted. When those shop owners called "911," they were told, "The police can't make it to you; *you will have to protect yourselves*." So they did: they got on the rooftops of their stores with guns and shot anyone trying to break in. Afterwards the police came in and confiscated all the

Continued on 6

The Eighth Commandment

Continued from 5

weapons from those Koreans so that the next time they couldn't protect their livelihoods. The government out there in Los Angeles took away the rights of law-abiding citizens to protect themselves from mobs looting and vandalizing their property. THIEF!

Out in California, they make the public school students learn about Islam. Those kids are forced to wear Muslim dress to class and to learn Muslim prayers for tests. Do you think those same schools make them learn the Bible and Christian prayers? Not on your life; that would be mixing "church and state" (although Bible reading and prayer are not a "church"). The government is stealing the rights of your children to believe and practice the Bible at school to pacify a bunch of Mohammedans. "STOP THIEF!"

When I was a kid, most burglars broke into homes at night, many times through the second story of the house (hence the expression "second-story man"). Now the thieves come in broad daylight and back a van up to the door and empty the house. But that's nothing compared to what the federal government can do. Under the Homeland Security Act (passed under President *George W. Bush*), the government has the right to search and seizure of property, trespassing, and breaking and entering your house without warrant or trial. All the government has to do is suspect you of being a terrorist. Well, do you know some of the people who were suspected of being terrorists back under Bill Clinton and Janet Reno? *Any fundamental Christian*

who believed in the rapture of the church.

There are all kinds of things you can steal. Men, did you ever steal the bloom of purity off a young girl's cheeks? That's robbery. Did you ever steal ten years off your mother's life by living like the devil? "STOP THIEF."

You can steal the *credit* due to someone else and take it for yourself. I was at a Bible conference up in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, years ago and went by a book table with John R. Rice's books on it. One of those books said, "These sermons won 10,000 people to Christ." Let me tell you something, preacher—you will never preach a sermon that leads anybody to Christ. The *Holy Spirit* is the one who brings a sinner to Christ. Of course, He may use your sermon, but neither you nor the sermon is doing it. I have preached a sermon where a bunch of people have come down the aisle and gotten saved, but the next time I preached the same sermon, no one budged. So it's not the sermon; it's *God*.

When Jack Hyles had Gail Ripplinger in to speak on the King James Bible at a pastor's conference, he spent a half hour trying to get her to say he was the author of the King James movement, and she wouldn't say it. I know how Hyles got on his King James "kick." A buddy of mine out in California named Roland Rasmussen took my book on *The Christian's Handbook of Manuscript Evidence* and sat down with Hyles and went over the material in that book. When they got through, Hyles was "converted." The credit for Hy-

Continued on 7

The Eighth Commandment

Continued from 6

les' stand on the King James Bible should go to Roland Rasmussen.

Every Christmas there is a mass campaign to rob God of His glory. You will hear "Peace on earth, good will to men" ad nauseam with no reference at all to the first part of the statement: "**GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, and on earth peace, good will toward men**" (Luke 2:14). That's man trying to take the credit for bringing peace on earth. Don't you brag about peace and good will if you are not going to give God the credit for it.

These modern Bible translators and revisers rob God of His *honor* in regards to the Book—and they use *Scripture* as an excuse to do it.

"Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine" (1 Tim. 5:17).

They want you to honor *them* for making the word of God "clearer" and "more accurate" for you. That's because "**Diotrephes . . . loveth to have the preeminence**" (3 John 9).

Why, they're not Bible teachers or preachers. They're backslidden, apostate, Laodicean hypocrites. They are destructive Bible critics. They can't stand the King James translators getting credit through Christians who love the Book (AV 1611) and honor it as the very words of God in English, so they try to steal the honor for themselves by changing what God said. "STOP THIEF!"

I guess one of the greatest examples of a man trying to steal the honor that belongs to God and His Son alone is a sex-obsessed, murderous, seventh-century raghead

camel jockey who wanted everyone to think he was God's final prophet. As a "prophet," he would make a good *dishwasher*. Christian, do you know where you are going when you die (1 John 5:13)? *Mohammed didn't* (Hadith, Bukhari, Vol. I, no. 266). Why, that egotistical jackass didn't even know when or how he would die. *Jesus did* (Matt. 20:18–19). What do you mean, "There's only one God, and I'm his prophet"?

I know someone who is a more conceited ass than that. I know a man who will let men bow down to him and kiss his ring. That egomaniac will actually steal the title of God the Father from John 17:11. He will steal the position of God the Son (the "Vicar of Christ") and the responsibility of God the Holy Spirit to declare sound doctrine (from John 16:13). I wonder, oh I wonder, who that could be?

You can steal *property*. Hitler and the Nazis only enslaved Germany and Western Europe for about six years; Stalin and the Communists enslaved Eastern Europe for over *seventy*. Churchill and Roosevelt and Truman sat down with Stalin at Yalta and Potsdam and gave away half of Europe to the Communists without anyone in those countries voting on anything. Somebody was a thieving crook.

Now what are the *causes* of stealing? Number one—*laziness*. None of the Englishmen, Frenchmen, Germans, Italians, Spaniards, Portuguese, Jews, Swedes, or Russians who came over to this country ever lived on "welfare." A lot of those immigrants from Europe worked day-labor

Continued on 8

The Eighth Commandment

Continued from 7

jobs and put their kids through college to become doctors and lawyers without any guaranteed income, welfare, insurance, Social Security, food stamps, or anything given to them by the government. Whoever is coming into this country today is not of the same "stripe."

A fellow messes around with another woman because he is too lazy to take care of his own wife. A pastor is too lazy to build his own church, so he steals another pastor's members. Do you know why some of you students don't have a job? Because you don't like the ones available to you: the work is too hard. You aren't about to get out in the summer heat and work construction or mix concrete or "cut line" for a surveyor or clean toilets, etc. The work is "beneath you."

Necessity is a cause for stealing. Some folks have to steal to stay alive. That's true of any third-world country: the folks are so poor that if they don't have something, stealing is the only way they are going to get it.

The Bible says, "**Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry; But if he be found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the substance of his house**" (Prov. 6:30-31).

In other words, if you steal because you're starving, folks will understand and sympathize with you, but you will still have to pay the consequences if you are caught. The problem is, people create "needs" they wouldn't otherwise have. If a person has a drug habit, sooner or later he will have to steal to get the money for his next "fix." If you get in

debt to the Mob for any reason (like gambling), you are either going to steal to pay your debt, or they will take it out of your hide.

And that brings me to the next cause of stealing: *debt*. If you run up a debt so big that your normal income won't pay for it, then you steal to get the money to pay it. That's how the government operates. At the time of this sermon, the government is *three trillion* dollars in debt (editor's note: it skyrocketed to sixteen trillion under Obama). Well, the government doesn't do anything to generate income, so they steal it from people through taxation.

E. J. Pace, who used to draw cartoons for the *Sunday School Times*, had a picture of a man at the bottom of a stairway. There are four steps altogether, with him sitting on the bottom step staring into hell. From top to bottom, the steps are: *debt, lying, stealing, and killing*. The man is sitting on the step that says, "Killing," and he is saying, "I'll not go a step further."

That's true. If you get in debt, the first thing you will be tempted to do is *lie*. It could be anything from lying to your creditors about the payment to lying to your loved ones so they won't know that you're in debt or the nature of the debt.

When lying is no longer sufficient, the next temptation is to steal to get the money to pay the debt. And if that won't work, the final temptation is to kill someone to get the money or to kill the one to whom you owe the money. That is "standard fare" for TV cop shows and for "radio dramas" before them. The reason is, that is the

Continued on 9

The Eighth Commandment

Continued from 8

universal, natural progression, common to anybody, any organization, or any government on the planet: debt, lying, stealing, killing.

Now we will close this study with a look at some famous thieves in the Bible. The first is *Absalom*. Absalom didn't steal money; he stole *hearts*: "**so Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel**" (2 Sam. 15:6). How did he do it? By smooth talking, handshakes, kisses, and flattery. He was "nice," but he would steal a man's heart away.

Ahab stole the vineyard of Naboth. Ahab wanted that piece of property so badly that he let his wife have Naboth murdered to get it. According to Jesus Christ in Matthew 21:33–38, that is the motive of every sinner on the face of the earth for rejecting Christ as Saviour. They look at the creation around them, and they want it for themselves, so they steal it from the One who made it. That's what Darwin said: "God didn't create anything; it all came up naturally; so it is all ours because we are the pinnacle of evolution." "STOP THIEF IN THE NAME OF THE LAW!"

Gehazi stole clothes, and he did it in such a way that no one could accuse him of breaking the eighth commandment. *But he did*. Naaman wanted to give Elisha a little "offering" for healing him of his leprosy, but Elisha turned Naaman down so he wouldn't think that Israel's prophets were in the ministry for the money (like modern TV evangelists). But after Naaman left, Gehazi wasn't about to let him get away with any "free gift" from God, so he ran after Naaman and lied to him to get a couple of new

suits and some "spending money." Gehazi took what didn't belong to him, and he paid for it by having Naaman's leprosy put on him.

Judas Iscariot was a thief. When Mary anointed Christ's feet with that spikenard from the alabaster box, Judas led the way in complaining about it not being spent on the poor. The Holy Spirit's comment on that was:

"This he [i.e., Judas] said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a THIEF, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein" (John 12:6).

Finally, there is the greatest thief of all in the Bible: *Jesus Christ*. He was *arrested* like a thief. He said to the soldiers who came to arrest Him: "**Are ye come out, as against a THIEF . . . to take me?**" (Mark 14:48).

He was *tried* as a thief. The council asked Him: "**Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?**" (Mark 14:61). The Lord said, "**I am**" (Mark 14:62). Why? Because He "**thought it not ROBBERY to be equal with God**" (Phil. 2:6). He didn't, but those Sadducees and Pharisees sure did (John 10:33).

He was *executed* as a thief. He was crucified between two thieves (Mark 15:27), and "**he was numbered with the transgressors**" (Mark 15:28). Christ takes the place of "**a robber**" on the cross (John 18:40). That's a profound thought. It means you can't get saved unless you take your place with thieves and crooks, because you can't "come to Christ" without lining up with the crooks.

And of course, that is not all. When

Continued on 10

The Eighth Commandment

Continued from 9

Jesus Christ returns, He comes back **“as a thief in the night”** (1 Thess. 5:2; Rev. 16:15; Matt. 24:42–44). When a thief breaks into a house, he takes the most valuable things in it. One day, the Lord Jesus Christ will come back and take the most valuable things on this earth: *the saved people*. You talk about all hell breaking loose, it will then. If you think things are bad now, just wait until all the saved people leave. You ain't seen nothing yet.

Back when the Moravians ran Herrnhut, Germany, the “town crier” would make his nightly rounds and cry out the following admonitions, in verse, every hour:

Midnight: “Ye brethren, hear the midnight clock is humming; At midnight our great Bridegroom will be coming.”

One o'clock: “Past one o'clock the day breaks out of darkness; Morning star appear and break our hardness.”

Two o'clock: “'Tis two, on Jesus wait this silent season; Ye two, so near related—will and reason.”

Three o'clock: “The clock is three, the Blessed Three doth merit the best of praise from body, soul, and spirit.”

Four o'clock: “This four o'clock, when three make supplication, The Lord will be the fourth on that occasion.”

Five o'clock: “Five is the clock. Five virgins were discarded, When five with wedding garments were rewarded.”

Six o'clock: “The clock is six. I go off my station; Now, brethren, watch your selves for your salvation.”

That's the watchman being prepared for the “Thief.” Are you ready? Have you taken your place with Him?

Bad Attitude Baptist Blowout

— **September 17–20** —

Speakers for this Blowout:

- Dennis Miles
- David Peacock
- Paul Sherrouse

Evening Services—6 P.M.

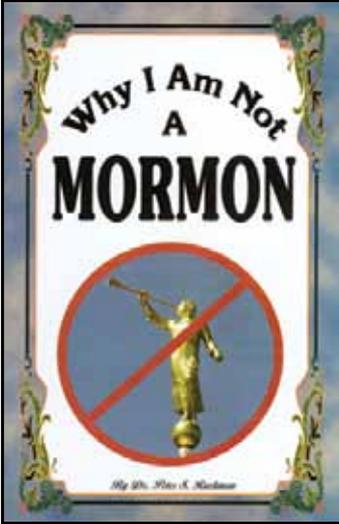
Morning Services (Beginning Fri.)—10 A.M.

Bible Baptist Church

1175 Jo Jo Road Pensacola, FL 32514

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

Why I Am Not A Mormon



RK-120

\$8⁹⁵

89 Pages Paperback

(Plus postage — see page 18)

Of the religions today that profess to be “Christian,” the fastest-growing one is the cult of Mormonism. That is because there is no shortage of self-righteous hypocrites trying to get to heaven on their own “worthiness.” Some will even sacrifice their reason and good judgment to do so and allow themselves to be taken in by a religious con artist who claimed to receive “revelations” from God by *divination*; in his case, staring at a “peep stone” in a top hat. I am not a Mormon because its church is not Christian, its founder was not a prophet, and its books are not holy scripture.

JUNE'S SERMONS

Brian Donovan

The Light of the World
The Desert Shall Blossom
A Good Father
Now I See
The Unsearchable God
Watch With Me

Zack Colvin

The Riches of God's Grace
Get Out of Moab

DC-2006 **\$12.95**

All of June's sermons on one MP3

The Second Coming Of Elijah

Continued from 1

provision.

Walking by faith includes trusting God daily as the circumstances around you fall apart. Elijah had to watch the brook slowly dry up, till **“after a while”** (I Kings 17:7), he finally received his next marching orders. It is often the **“after a while”** of daily life that causes a Christian to quit serving God and return to his own ways.

Elijah received no more instructions until the very day that the brook was dried, and from there, he was told his next step (verses 8-9). Yet even here, the next step hardly seemed like an improvement, as he was told to go into Jezebel's homeland of Zidon (I Kings 16:31), the same witch who would later threaten his life (I Kings 19:2), besides the fact that he would now have to sit with a widow woman for the next three years, who was about to “scrape the bottom of the barrel” and prepare her last meal before she and her son expected to die (I Kings 17:12). The Lord Jesus later used this widow's act of faith as an example to the Jews in Luke 4:25-26.

Elijah first told the widow not to worry because the Lord was going to make the barrel of meal last throughout the remainder of the three-year drought (verse 14), and he proclaimed this only by faith in the word of the Lord. All Elijah had was **“thus saith the Lord”**, and he walked in that strength alone. In the

midst of this perfect obedience of faith, Elijah is tested with the death of the widow's son (verse 17), and by his reaction, the reader can tell that Elijah did not know what would happen next (verse 19-20). This is another great lesson in the walk of faith, namely, that the life of faith is not ever going to be void of tragedies and real problems. Elijah's faith was that he always saw his life as standing before the Lord, no matter what he was doing (I Kings 17:1), and that his Lord saw everything that was going on.

Finally, after three and one-half years of drought and famine, Elijah received his next instruction (I Kings 18:1). While walking by faith, the child of God will soon realize that there is no laid out plan to follow, but single steps are given, and only when there is obedience to the last step given. Until another order is given by the word of the Lord, the Christian is to continue obeying the last order he was given. Often, we want to see the whole trip laid out and where it is leading, but the life of faith is never that way, and the Lord knows we could not handle it, even if He showed it (John 16:12). Elijah must 1) show himself to Ahab, 2) then go hide at Cherith, 3) then go to Zidon to the widow woman and 4) then show himself to Ahab again. Nowhere during any of these steps is Elijah shown the great victory that was about to take place at Mt.

Continued on 13

The Second Coming Of Elijah

Continued from 12

Carmel with fire falling from Heaven. Yet he never could have experienced that great day without the **“after a while”** of six months at Cherith, and the **“many days”** of the three more years at Zarephath.

The great victory on Mt. Carmel and the vindication of his prophetic office, standing against all the false prophets of Baal, is the event that many Christians wish to see in their own lives, yet they want it without the obedient steps that lead up to it. Elijah's confidence and faith on Mt. Carmel are very evident to most, but his great faith and confidence do not want to be recognized in the daily grind of life at Cherith and Zarephath. Our faith must grow and be strengthened in the daily labour of our lives as we walk with the Lord. There is as much a victory of faith in raising children for the Lord, showing up for work each day, doing the laundry, and scraping the bottom of the barrel (I Kings 17:12), as there is on Mt. Carmel.

Finally, when the three-and-one-half years are about over, Elijah is told to confront Ahab and the prophets of Baal. The great spiritual contest took place on Mt. Carmel, and the fire of God fell on the sacrifice, proving to everyone who the true God really was (I Kings 18:38-39). All of Israel found out that the Lord God of Israel was superior, and that Elijah was His prophet, even backing up his prophecy with the rain falling. When

Ahab returned home to tell the witch Jezebel what happened to her prophets, she exploded and threatened the life of Elijah (I Kings 19:1-2). Here, the man **“subject to like passions as we are”**, got depressed and ran for his life. Elijah missed a great opportunity to lead those in Israel, who previously were halting **“between two opinions”** (I Kings 18:21), but now saw the truth. But he instead looked at the circumstances, forgot all that just happened, dwelt on his own feelings, and descended into a self-pity of wishing he were dead (I Kings 19:3-4).

Elijah was tired, emotionally exhausted, and strained physically almost to the breaking point. Typical of the Lord's mercies at this point, He sent an angel to give His servant the food and rest that he needed (verses 5-6). **“It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed”** (Lam. 3:22). After getting nourishment and rest, the angel appeared again and gave even more food and rest, and the Lord sustained Elijah supernaturally on that meal over the next forty days (verse 8).

Unfortunately, Elijah continued in his pitiful, depressed, and lonely state as he entered into the cave to lodge. The Lord again showed up gently and asked, **“What doest thou here, Elijah?”**, in an attempt to bring him out of his condition. The answer shows how depression works in our lives. It first tends to think highly of

Continued on 14

The Second Coming Of Elijah

Continued from 13

self (“**I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts**”), then it compares itself to others (“**for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars. . .**”), and then exaggerates self-importance (“**I, even I only, am left**”). The Lord still does not chastise and rebuke, but instead gently tries to show Elijah that He is right there in a “**still small voice**” (verse 12). It was not in the hurricane, nor in the earthquake, nor in the fire, but within the pages of the King James Bible in the early, quiet morning. The Lord asked the same question to see if Elijah got the message in the still small voice, but Elijah remained in his pitiful state.

Sometimes, the child of God will actually enjoy feeling sorry for self and ignore the blessed promises of the still small voice of God in the scriptures (“**I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. . . , all things work together for good to them that love God. . . , For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared to the glory which shall be revealed in us. . . , For our light affliction, which is but for a moment. . . , Casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you. . . , But I am poor and needy, yet the Lord thinketh upon me. . . , The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart. . .**”). The Lord has much more for Elijah to do, but he must come out of his

melancholy, depressed, and selfish thinking. When he didn't, the Lord told him to go and anoint another man “**to be prophet in thy room**” (I Kings 19:16).

In his bitterness, Elijah literally threw his mantle upon Elisha (verse 19) and continued on his own way. Another prophet must be used in chapter twenty to give Ahab the truth, as Elijah is not found anywhere in the chapter. Elijah appears again in chapter twenty-one to rebuke Ahab, and then again to call fire down twice on two sets of fifty soldiers with their captains (II Kings 1).

The day then comes that the Lord reveals that He is about to take Elijah up into Heaven in a rapture. Those who are spending time in the word of the Lord, all have this event revealed to them before it happens (II Kings 2:1,3,5). Elijah's ministry is cut short by three-and-one-half years at this point, but he is going to get all of that time back and see a lot more action later on.

First, he returns in spirit and power to dwell in John the Baptist (Luke 1:17). As promised in Malachi 3:1, the Lord would send His messenger to prepare the way before Him. John's ministry was to manifest the Messiah to Israel (John 1:31). Israel was presented with their Messiah, and had they received it, John was Elijah (Matt. 11:14). John the Baptist possessed the same spirit that drove Elijah to depression in the cave, after

Continued on 15

The Second Coming Of Elijah

Continued from 14

great victory in his ministry. Jesus himself said that **“Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist”** (Matt. 11:11). Yet, with all that victory, John sat in a prison cell and began to doubt (Matt. 11:2-3). This was the same Christ he saw anointed from Heaven when he baptized Him in the Jordan (John 1:34). The Lord’s answer to John’s messengers was to remind him that the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, and the dead are raised (Matt. 11:4-5). Jesus then reminded a lonely and depressed John (in a still small voice as He did with Elijah in the cave years ago) that **“blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me”** (verse 6).

As shown in the gospels, and in history, the Jews rejected the Lord Jesus Christ as their Messiah, so Elijah will return again to fulfill the prophecy of Malachi 4:5, before the great and dreadful day of the Lord at the Second Advent. Elijah gets his three and one-half years back during his tribulation ministry (Rev. 11:3), and he will be back in his element, calling down fire (verse 5) and preventing the rain (verse 6). He will once again be pointing his finger at a wicked king (the antichrist) and faithfully preaching **“thus saith the Lord”**. This time his ministry ends with his beheading (Rev. 11:7-9), after tormenting his enemies with Bible preaching (verse 10), and the

world will be ecstatic to see him dead.

Every Bible-believing preacher ought to consider whether or not his preaching is a “torment” to anyone. As a pastor, he should also consider whether or not he is a stinking savour (II Cor. 2:16) to the community in which he lives and ministers. There is a great desire among the Laodicean Christians to be well-liked and held in high esteem by the mayors, councilmen, politicians, and newscasters. When this whole country went into their virus scare, the newscasters in our area, praised the pastors who immediately shut down and folded to their wishes.

One of the marks of a Bible-believing church (as taught by Dr. Ruckman for fifty years and still taught today at the Pensacola Bible Institute), is to be a “stink” in their community. Among a number of others, those marks include separation and non-conformity with the spirit of the age, opposition from “Christian” educators as well as the Roman Catholic Church, freedom and liberty within the congregation leading to power and joy, looking for the rapture and Heaven, and a desire to reach the lost souls around them.

Elijah was one of the great characters in all of the Bible, and his failure does little to diminish his great example. He was a stink in his day, and he will be a stink in his return. He will not be heralded by Channel 3 News as a great pastor, but they

Continued on 16

The Second Coming Of Elijah

Continued from 15

will be out there rejoicing with their cameras to show his dead body lying in the street (Rev. 11:9-10). They will remind their viewers how "uncaring" he was, when everyone else saw no problem going along with the cashless society and then gladly received their tracking devices. They will show pictures of how Elijah refused to care about other people's lives as he preached against the efforts of the Center for Disease Control when "they were only trying to save lives in the midst of all these plagues." They will show how many others saw nothing wrong with "live streaming" their positive messages, while Elijah refused and took to the streets and open air. In the end, they finally get to kill this hated prophet, but it is the Lord who gets the last laugh as their jaws drop, and great fear falls upon them (Rev. 11:11) when Elijah rises from the dead and ascends into Heaven, right on camera.

Elijah is coming again. His ex-

ample of preaching was so great that when the Lord Jesus Himself showed up and preached, many mistook Him for that same Elijah and John the Baptist (Matt. 16:14). The only other prophet specifically named was Jeremiah, who also put up a decent stink in the land when he preached against his own wicked people and nation, taking the Lord's side with scripture against all the positive soothsayers, who kept insisting their nation was just fine (Jer. 6:14). **"Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the Lord"** (Jer. 23:16). Today, these same dreamers are trying to put a generation of Americans at ease with their lies, as they deceive themselves and those who listen, that America is God's friend and that He takes her filthy, political side on issues. Elijah did NOT do that in his first coming, nor will he do that in his second coming.

Bro. Donovan's Meeting Schedule

August 21-23

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

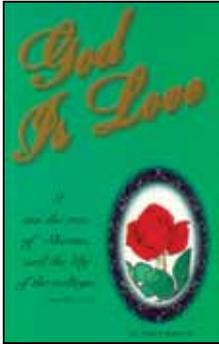
September 11-13

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

October 9-11

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

God Is Love



What is this thing called "LOVE"?

***An encouraging and uplifting look at
the One that the Bible says "IS LOVE".***

Life "begins" with Jesus Christ. It is everlasting life, going beyond the grave into eternity, because it is based on an eternal God's love for sinners—like YOU.

130 Pages Gluebound

\$10⁹⁵
RK-108

(Plus postage — see page 18)

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.)

Expedited Rates

Please call for a quote.

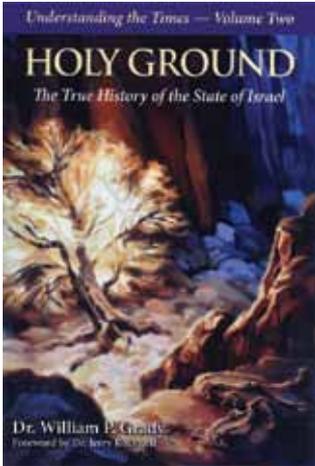
International Rates

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.

HOLY GROUND

The True History of the State of Israel



This book offers three specific benefits. It is a comprehensive line-upon-line history of the State of Israel; the text represents a rare combination of thorough scholarship (3,000 endnotes and 750 bibliography entries), while maintaining an intriguing readability (enhanced by 200 photographs and maps.)

911 Pages

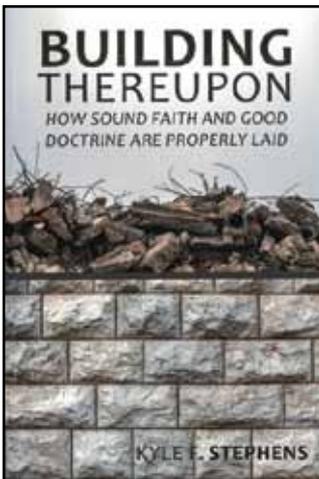
\$29⁹⁵

GN-9430

(Plus Postage—see page 18)

BUILDING THEREUPON

HOW SOUND FAITH AND GOOD DOCTRINE ARE PROPERLY LAID



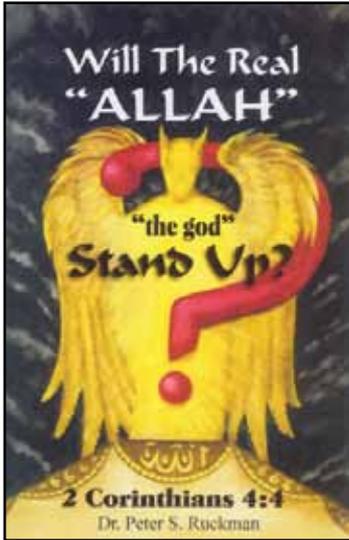
Building Thereupon presents a convincing validation to earnest Bible believers, demonstrating that the body of correct Christian theology need not be rife with obscurity, contradiction, and inconsistencies. The great Biblical truths flow together, fit seamlessly, and fall into order when doctrine is believingly laid precept upon precept and line upon line.

641 Pages

(Plus postage—see page 18)

GN 9443

\$34⁹⁹



Will the Real “Allah” Please Stand Up?

Here are two Gods, the God of the Christians and “the God” (Allah) of the Muslims.

This book puts these two Gods alongside one another to see if they are the *same God*?

\$9⁹⁵ RK-139

(Plus postage—see pg. 18)

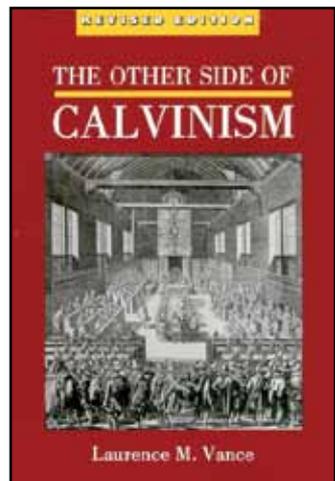
THE OTHER SIDE OF CALVINISM

by Dr. Laurence M. Vance

Extensively enlarged and completely rewritten, this new revised edition of *The Other Side of Calvinism* is a detailed historical examination and critical biblical analysis of the philosophical speculations and theological implications of Calvinism. Extensively documented from Calvinistic authorities, this book presents the other side to the over 400-year-old debate over the doctrines of Calvinism.

CL-3002

788 pages **\$29⁹⁵** hardcover



(Plus postage — see page 18)

What's New at the Bookstore?

MP3

June Sermons at Bible Baptist (2020)..... DC-2006 \$12.95
 The Development of the Roman Catholic Harlot (Donovan)..DD RCC \$10.95
 First Kings (Sunday School Studies) Brian DonovanDD 11-2 \$42.95

BIBLE

Allan's Oxford Wide-Margin Ref. Bible Black Goatskin
 Gold Gilded EdgeBL 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 GoatskinNV 1470 \$45.00

BOOK

Building Thereupon (Kyle Stephens)..... GN 9443 \$34.99

MISCELLANEOUS

Scripture Card Wallet (Holds 2" by 3½" cards)..... NV SCW 50¢

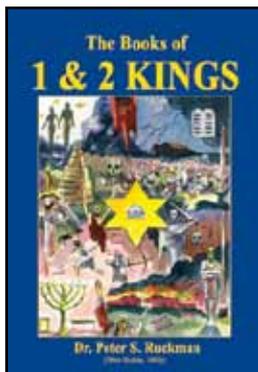
20% Off

These 3 Items Only During August



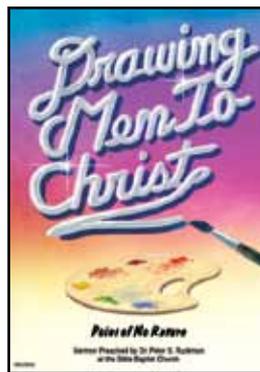
Gluebound (RK-113)
Regular \$14.95

Sale Price **\$11.96**



MP3 (DB 11-12-1)
Regular \$24.95

Sale Price **\$19.96**



DVD Video (DEV-0034)
Regular \$9.95

Sale Price **\$7.96**

Prices valid for these items only, from 8/1/2020 to 8/31/2020
 Cannot be used with any other discount.

(Plus postage — see page 18)

Restoration Of Israel

A series of messages on the physical and spiritual restoration promised to the nation of Israel in the Scriptures.

36 Pages

\$4.50

RK-2550

(Plus postage—see page 18)



LICENSE PLATES

Sublimation process produces rich deep colors / Order by product number. Can be seen on website: www.kjv1611.org

\$7.99 ea.

NV LP-Israel



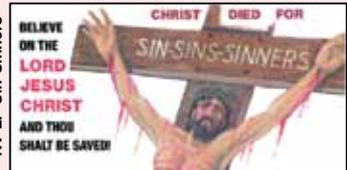
NV LP-Profit



NV LP-Jesus Saves



NV LP-Sin-Sinners



NV LP-In Christ



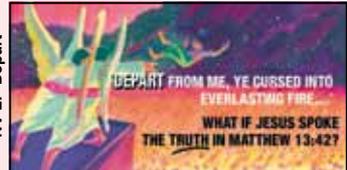
NV LP-Fear



NV LP-Heaven-Hell



NV LP-Depart



The Ultimate Shock!

By Robert Militello

“And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments” (Luke 16:23).

In this life, we find ourselves, at times, in situations that catch us by surprise. Such experiences can be embarrassing, shameful, or even fearful. There is no possible way to prepare for any eventuality that may come your way. Yet, thank God, you can prepare your soul for what is to come when it leaves your body. No need to discover that your fully conscious soul, the real you, is now writhing in pain, burning in a flame. Did that possibility even remotely cross your mind while going about your business in routine, daily fashion?

Being able to speak only for myself on this matter, I find that as I grow older (we all will), I don't necessarily appreciate surprises. Senior moments pop up, and you feel awkward. For example, I get to the checkout counter at the local Walmart and reach for my wallet, but it's not where it should be. Apologizing profusely, I rush to my vehicle, praying earnestly that my wallet is in the car somewhere.

These situations are not good for a heart that has already been pumping for 74 years without a major mishap (thank God!). Forgetting where I put my keys or my cell phone, or your car dying unexpectedly—all these situations should teach every Christian how pathetically vulnerable we are and how badly we need God's grace to hold us up continually.

We are not normally sensitive to the unpredictability of life. Sometimes it takes a certain situation for us to realize our frailty. David, on the run from Saul, said, **“there is but a step between me and death”** (1 Sam.

20:3). Fear brought this awareness to David that we hang by a thread, but this fear should be in every saint every day we wake up.

This rich man in Luke 16 who dropped dead and went to Hell may have been feeling very secure; after all, he was rich. That can blind you to how fleeting your life really is and how vain your thoughts are. He may have had plans and things to do the day he died. Death can be a most unwelcome, surprise visitor. There's nothing wrong with planning and preparing for how we will make our way in this world. Nevertheless, prayer is necessary. It's like travel insurance. Things can go wrong and often do.

Another rich man in Luke 12 had carefully planned for his retirement. The situation he saw in front of him looked good. He had started a building program to accommodate the new wealth he was sure to acquire. Today, we admire men like that. They are positive thinkers. This man may have read Joel Osteen's, *Your Best Life Now*—why not? **“But God said unto him, THOU FOOL, this night thy soul shall be required of thee”** (Luke 12:20).

You've got to read and study God's word to see just how foolish people are. Egypt is a type of the world in the word of God, and there have been all kinds of books and documentaries lauding the skill and science of ancient Egypt.

A *National Geographic* special on the glory of Egypt under the Pharaohs made it sound as though their civilization was unequalled in the ancient world and that the pursuit of knowledge made them

Continued on 24

The Ultimate Shock!

Continued from 23

great. After all, the world's biggest library was in Alexandria, Egypt. But how brilliant could the Pharaohs and nobles be when they arranged for their worldly treasures to be stored in their extravagant tombs? They really believed that their possessions were going to go with them into the next life. What kind of knowledge is that?

We laugh at that stuff today. Man's wisdom is nonsense to God. It's not hard to see how crazy it is to believe that your possessions will somehow become eternally yours. But there are millions in our nation who live as though they were in agreement with the Egyptian mindset. Covetousness and the love of treasure is a powerful drive in many and is not easily resisted. To see it on full display in our time, visit the home of the world's largest deposit of art—Vatican City. It will all go up in smoke one day, according to Revelation 19:2–3. Let the pope install sprinkler systems if he thinks he can save his church's wealth, amen?

There is an experience of horror and dread awaiting a certain class of people snared by religion, but having no real relation to God. Millions of professing Christians who believe in the virgin birth, the deity of Christ, and His resurrection and ascension into Heaven, will die in their sins, strangers to the new birth.

“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven” (Matt. 7:21).

Jesus said you **“MUST be born again”** (John 3:7). That is the will of God, whether you knew that or not. Belief in the fundamentals of the faith,

allegiance to your church, loyalty to your pastor, baptism, the Lord's Supper, and a good testimony to all who know you, avail nothing. Nothing you can do will move God to make an exception for you and reverse the damnation decreed upon your soul because you believed in your self-made robe of righteousness. **“But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags”** (Isa. 64:6).

A blind man clothes himself so he can go about unashamed. Yet, he cannot see that the garments he put on are badly stained. He shows up at a wedding feast that he was invited to, but is refused entry. He needed a particular wedding garment to be seated, but no one at church told him. What this man needed most was not made available to him. He thought God loved him, or so he was told by his pastor. Does he get a second chance? Is it right for a loving God to damn such a soul? If you believe what God wrote, you tell a sinner that the new birth is what gets you a clean garment, **“and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin”** (1 John 1:7).

From September 1968 to June 1973, I taught at St. Thomas Aquinas Elementary School in Park Slope, Brooklyn. When the principal hired me, she said I would be the only male teacher in a company of nuns and women wanna-be nuns. This was the price I had to pay in order to get a draft deferment and avoid being sent to Vietnam. Naturally, in front of my coworkers, I appeared as St. Robert, but the Lord knew me better. You are reading this today because God's grace alone spared me from spiritual

Continued on 25

The Ultimate Shock!

Continued from 24
death by religious suffocation.

Please understand that these women were the sweetest, kindest, most gentle souls you could ever meet, but they were all under condemnation like me. It's painful to think that these ladies may have died without knowing the Lord.

Almost all Catholics who hear that they must be born again will think about dead loved ones who never heard this. The idea that these family members are burning in Hell is too much for them to bear. It sounds cruel to say the Lord makes no exceptions. That's because the holiness of God is so foreign to us. Heaven cannot be stained by even one tiny, unwashed sin.

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15).

The belief that a lost soul will drop into Hell at death is supposed to give an urgency to every born-again believer that otherwise would not be evident in our speech and behavior. We are peculiar people. We strive with those we believe are outside of Christ. If we lose this urgency (God forbid), we join the lost and are consumed by the vanities of life. Every believer has been recruited by the Holy Spirit to labor in the Lord's EMS unit. If we could hear for a minute, the screams and shrieks of the damned in Hell, our minds would be ill-affected for the rest of our days.

There was a book I read some time ago by J. M. Humphrey, published in 1912. He wrote on Hell and its finality. Humphrey said, “Death, which is a monster on earth, would be an angel in Hell. If death could function there,

all the damned would fall down and worship him.” This is not a book for positive thinkers. Every preacher should have it readily available and read it as often as he needs a refresher course on why he was called to preach.

You see, in Humphrey's day, before radio, TV, cell phones, Internet, and social media, Christians were much more apt to meditate on eternal things. Their attention spans were greater as youngsters than most adults of our day. Now, in the Laodicean church period, the doctrine of a literal, burning hell has received a makeover, thanks to the late Billy Graham and others. Separation from God sounds so much better than **“for I am tormented in this flame”** (Luke 16:24).

Imagine if that lost soul was granted a reprieve and allowed to leave Hell and return to earth; then he could easily become a tireless and sold-out missionary. He would first have gone straight to his father's house. **“For I have five brethren . . . lest they also come into this place of torment”** (Luke 16:28). In Hell, all wishful thinking dies. Everyone there is bound in chains with the word *“Forever”* stamped upon them.

A soul leaving a physical body at death goes up or down, depending on one issue alone: What did that soul believe regarding Jesus Christ? The grave is the ultimate communist. It levels the playing field for all. Rich, poor, black, white, male, female, atheist, believer, famous, and unknown—all go back to dust and ashes. Men everywhere seek to live on.

Science busies itself with finding
Continued on 26

The Ultimate Shock!

Continued from 25

a way for folks to live and keep living, somehow imagining that the aging process can be halted or even reversed. That's where positive thinking wants to go—a place where all will live eternally. The aging process is the result of sin. No matter how much money is spent on scientific research, God's word is ignored—**“the wages of sin is death”** (Rom. 6:23). Sin explains the mystery of gravity.

Isaac Newton read his Bible frequently. He supposedly discovered gravity. Actually, he labeled something he knew existed, but could not understand. Sin pulls you down—physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. There is an unseen weight in sin, and that “spiritual gravity” puts a soul in Hell unless that soul was redeemed by Christ's blood.

“I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins” (John 8:24).

You'll never read this on the obituary page of any newspaper: “So-and-so died in his sins.” According to what I read in my Bible, folks either die in Christ (rising up and negating gravity) or die in their sins, falling down into Hell. Three times in John 8, once in verse 21 and twice in verse 24, you read the phrase, **“shall die in your sins.”**

No doctor, no scientist, no educator, or no philosopher can look upon a body dying, and determine whether that person is expiring forgiven of sin or not. God knows, and others may know who have the witness of the Holy Spirit. Sometimes, it is clear that the dying person is in Christ and headed for glory, but often it is not

clear. Often, those dying in their sins may have a certain look of horror or fear upon their faces. That's an awful thing to see, although it can be used of the Lord to lead souls to Himself.

Today, because of the effects of medication, it does not make it easy to conclude that one died in faith or died eternally lost. There will be surprises in Heaven, but we will have to wait until we get there to know for certain that So-and-so made it or died lost. No one should die lost, because the Lord is **“not willing that any should perish”** (2 Pet. 3:9). We are obliged to tell a lost soul that he or she *must* be born again because simply saying, “Let Christ come into your life,” may mean whatever you want it to mean. Why should Scripture be bypassed for smiley-face slogans that are irritant free and easy to digest?

“Thou hast dealt well with thy servant, O LORD, according unto thy word” (Psa. 119:65).

It has been so, and will always be so, that the most difficult issue Americans have to deal with is death. For some years now, there has been an explosion of interest in college courses dealing with death. You don't hear about these things because we have become a society determined to wish away all negativity.

At Temple University, “Death and Dying” is a three-credit course which has no trouble attracting registrants. Amy Defibaugh, who teaches the course, says, “Death is very real, very emotional, and very stressful—why not wrap your head around it?” Dear professor, open a King James Bible and forget about “wrapping your head” around any man's viewpoint on

Continued on 27

The Ultimate Shock!

Continued from 26

death, no matter how educated he may be. A Bible believer knows what goes on when death comes.

“I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation” (Psa. 119:99).

What each student really needs, rather than sitting in a college classroom listening to humanistic garbage on how to face your pitiful end, is to get a copy of Dr. Ruckman's classic *Where Do The Dead Go?*.

At the University of Oklahoma, no minor institution, the class “Death and Dying” gives you a good reason as to why this subject is capturing the attention of so many. “Not too long ago, people generally died at home while being cared for by family members. Children interacted with the dying in the course of daily life and were not shielded from death. Over time, death became more institutionalized. Instead of dying at home, people died in nursing homes or hospitals. As the dying were hidden away from the healthy, death became a taboo subject.”

Interesting, but all the death and dying courses do nothing to prepare you for what you will face if you die in your sins. I wonder if any of these courses mention the fact that years ago, most dying Americans were attached to churches and had pastors who comforted them. In those days, your clergyman was part of your extended family. Today, undertakers will tell you that the deceased and the family of the deceased had no church connection in most cases, and if a clergyman is requested, it will be someone from “Rent-a-Priest.” Funeral directors do have listings to refer to if the situation requires

“comforting words from a man of the cloth.” It's amazing how quickly we learn to adjust and smooth over awkward situations. God Bless America, amen?

Well, now that many colleges are trying to accommodate this rise in interest concerning the death experience, the devil quickly found a way to capitalize on this desire to examine death and peek into the unknown. The Bible (KJV) is the only book that doesn't offer speculation as to what happens at death. All other books present to the reader a compilation of legends, dreams, fantasies, and old wives tales passed down through the ages.

To one who has rejected what God has to say about death and Hell, the devil sells his own brand of spiritual cocaine. This is done to numb the reader into a state of confusion from which there is no escape. So journey to a well-stocked bookstore and note how many books there are on after-death experiences.

Even so-called Christian bookstores offer their customers books on the afterlife that go beyond what the Bible teaches. You'll see stuff about who spent a day in Heaven and Hell briefly and returned to tell folks the Bible is true. Folks, this stuff sells. You have books telling about how the soul was drawn to a brilliant light and felt an overwhelming sense of peace and love. In the mix, you'll see books on reincarnation and the occult, and you can embrace any belief that appeals to you.

Nevertheless, one doctrine must be continually scoffed at, and that is the belief that a fiery place of torment awaits the soul that left this

Continued on 28

The Ultimate Shock!

Continued from 27
world without the new birth. That's fear-mongering, so let's pretend Hell doesn't exist and leave others to discover for themselves that God was right and they were wrong.

Some time ago, I spoke with a woman who said she believed in God but not everything the Bible teaches. The idea of a soul being sent to Hell to be tormented forever was antithetical to the nature of God. I said, "How so?" "Well, if God is love, you just can't believe in a place where misery, suffering, and pain never cease." This thinking has gained much ground since the new "Bibles" found their way into thousands of churches.

God's holiness and eternal hatred of sin get watered down every time you choose to ignore His demand for repentance, and the necessity of the new birth. To get into a theological argument with someone whose mind has been molded by wishful thinking and not God's word is a waste of time in most cases. There are ways of dealing with spiritually blind people that can open the door of reason that has been locked for a long time.

Here's how you can approach a situation like this if you find yourself in something similar. People need to think about why they believe the things they say they believe. I asked this lady if she paid taxes. That doesn't sound like a question that can clear the mind concerning the existence of Hell, but it is. She said that she pays too much in taxes. So I asked her if the state and county have the right to spend money on jails, prisons, and correction officers. "Yes," she replied. Then I asked if she was OK with the practice of locking up lawbreakers and protecting the community. "Sure."

How then do you justify your granting the authorities a right that you believe God should not have? If God's love means that all who die go to be with Him, then Heaven would be like this world—then what?

The bottom line is this—God has rights, and humankind wishes to deny Him those rights. We have one right and one right alone—the right to die because of our sins. All our other so-called "rights" are the product of an overactive imagination. "Human rights" is a term used by politicians and sociologists to make folks feel entitled—as if God owed us something rather than we owing Him.

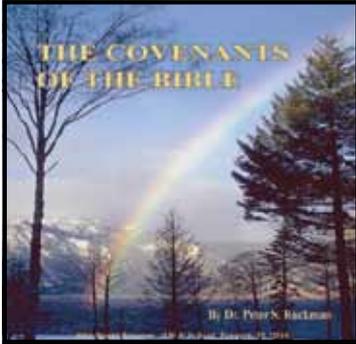
"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:15).

The Jew who saved your soul and mine is a very meticulous bookkeeper. Those who rejected His offer of mercy and forgiveness get thrown in the ash heap. Their great miscalculation was to esteem the blood of God's Son as a light matter. There are multitudes walking the earth right now who are about to fall into a pit. Christians are called to be rescue workers; it's our Father's business.

More Americans will take their lives this year than ever before. Drugs will help usher them into the next world long before they were prepared to leave this one. Depressed people will hear a voice in their heads. "Life is not worth living; put an end to your misery and make it go away for good." How convincing the Devil sounds when you are at your weakest. He knows there are no tracts in Hell to read, and no way to tell your loved ones and friends that Hell is very, very real.

Continued on 30

The Covenants Of the Bible



A detailed study from the Sunday School of Bible Baptist Church on the Biblical covenants that form the foundation of dispensational theology. In this series, Dr. Ruckman teaches on how God deals with mankind throughout history by establishing seven covenants with the representatives of humanity, races, and nations. As in all of his teachings, Dr. Ruckman “rightly divides” the word so you will know what parts of those covenants are still binding on us today, what parts have already been fulfilled, and what parts await fulfillment in the future. (Nearly 18 hours of teaching.)

DS 120080

MP3 CD

\$22⁹⁵

(Plus postage—see page 18)

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.

The Ultimate Shock!

Continued from 28

Once, I was approached while street-corner preaching in Brooklyn on a pleasant Saturday afternoon. The man said he was saved, but was curious as to why I felt the need to carry on the way I was. So I asked that if he saw a man about to collapse, would he not try to help that man. Living in New York City with eight million people in it and another eight million in the suburbs can numb your awareness of how fragile life is, and that's dangerous.

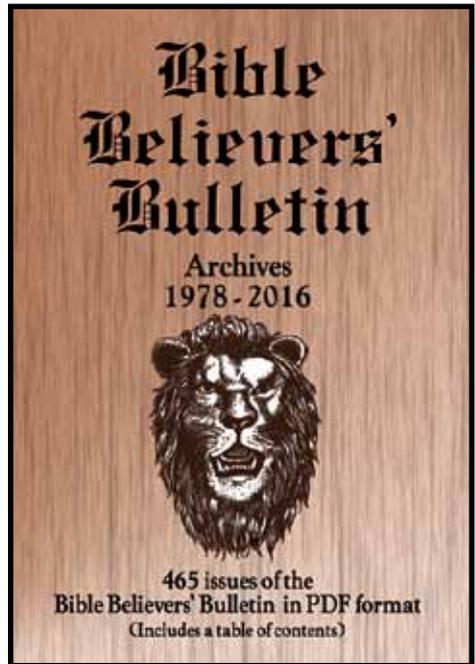
That guy that spoke to me that day

believed himself to be saved. You can't help but sometimes wonder who might be in for the shock of his or her life. I want to take people at their word, but that has become more difficult in these last days. All men are liars: some are saved liars, and others are lost liars. Thank God, the day will soon be here when the wheat and the tares will not coexist. Our God is a divider. He doesn't believe in melting pots. That's not good news for New York City. Nevertheless, the Lord found me there in 1978. Thank God, He did!

BBB Archive Collection

A complete collection of every issue published from its inception in 1978 to 2016. You will not only find articles on the defense of the *Authorized Version* and exposés of the false, corrupted modern versions of the Bible, you will also find material on the Great Apostasy, the Roman Catholic Church, the advances of the homosexual movement and Islam, and essays on many theological and Biblical topics. Any *Bulletin* from any year can be readily accessed and viewed. Have the entire publication history of the *Bible Believers' Bulletin* at your fingertips.

1 disc containing 442 pdf files.



CD-BBB **\$40⁰⁰** each



CK 1071



CK 272



CK 1080

Tracts from Chick Publications

\$4²⁵

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)

The Gap Fact

By Perry Demopoulos

271 Pages—Gluebound

RF 1675 **\$13⁹⁵**

(Plus postage—see page 18)

This work is not a representation of the “creation (or theistic)—evolutionistic” position, that God created (Gen. 1:1) and after that, things began to evolve for millions of years. The young-earth “creation” movement makes an overanxious attempt to reject theistic evolution, unfortunately at the expense of sound Bible doctrine. With the simple methods of Biblical interpretation—repetition, comparison, and division of the words of the *King James* text—the scriptures themselves prove without any help of outward references the plain truths of the doctrine of the gap fact in Genesis 1:2.

There is more scriptural evidence for the gap fact—much more than modern “Christian science” (cf. 1 Tim. 6:20) would have you to believe (Luke 11:52). Scripturally, there is no worthy challenge to *THE GAP FACT*.