



Bible Believers' Bulletin

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

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The First Eight Verses

By Brian Donovan

The first eight verses of the scriptures cover the first two days in the time of universal history, introducing three subjects that are problems for any accredited scientist today and much more than he can deal with. Those three subjects are the Creation, Light, and the Firmament. Problem number one (Creation) is stated in the very first verse of the *King James Bible*, which says, “**In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.**”

That one irrefutable statement of fact is in opposition to the present world of theory that today’s cosmologists and physicists find themselves trying to work within. Problem number two (Light) is addressed in Genesis 1:3, which says, “**And God said, let there be light: and there was light.**” That light is the light of the Lord, and the scriptures have much to say about light, which we will show in addressing problem number two.

Problem number three shows up in Genesis 1:6, saying, “**And God**

said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.” The firmament is an enigma that remains a puzzle that has yet to be recognized by NASA, and we will look more at that problem later.

In their attempts to explain problem number one, modern science resorts to complete faith in a fantasy called, “The Big Bang”. It is the standard model of cosmology that attempts to explain the origin of the universe, while the theory of General Relativity attempts to explain the unknown forces that govern the laws of the matter within that universe. Neither of the theories are scientific, and both are merely attempts to do away with the Creator and the true science revealed in the scriptures. Beginning with the assumption that they can explain the origin of the physical universe without God or spirit, false science has invented an idea that they call a “quantum vacuum”. The teaching is that this vacuum contains invisible force fields with absolutely no matter, yet mysteriously are able to hiccup atomic particles from nothing.

“Quantum Physics” today is filled with unscientific theories in attempting

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The Wild Wild Wind

By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

“Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing. They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters; These see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep. For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof.” (Psa. 107:21-25)

This morning on the newscast, they said the waves out in the Gulf were twenty-five feet high. I've swum and surfed where they were fifteen feet up in Northeastern Delaware in the fall, but if they get over fifteen feet, I'd never get out to surf. I'd get halfway out and wind up on the beach with a mouth full of sand!

The passage says, **“which lifteth up the waves thereof”**. You get out there on a ship in fifteen-foot waves, and you go down in the trough; all you see is water over your head!

“They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble. They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end. Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses” (Psa 107:26-28)

In a hurricane, earthquake, cyclone, tidal wave, or tornado, the first thing to do is pray! Not get out of town, get a gas lantern, and tape

up your windows.

“He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven.” (Psa 107:29-30).

That's where that song comes from, “The Haven of Rest”.

When Camille hit Mississippi, the eye of that thing was nearly 200 miles an hour, and 256 people were killed. It started for Texas and turned and came back into Mississippi. We had church services that night. I think we had a kerosene lantern to go by, and we had about fifteen to twenty people come out. We had service anyway! Keep appointments! If the wind had been blowing eighty or ninety miles an hour and the rain coming down—well, I'd be here.

During one hurricane that came through on Wednesday night prayer meeting, Bro. Donovan and I were the only ones there. That's a shame. Keep your appointments for the Lord. Don't worry about that stuff. God will bless you more keeping your appointments in a dangerous situation than turning it down because you don't have faith in him. Christians in some parts of the world meet when they're under threat of death. They get baptized out in the winter when they have to break the ice to get baptized. They keep their appointments no matter what the trouble is. For some of them, it's

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going to cost them their lives.

Now I want to say a couple of things about the wind. Hurricanes, cyclones, typhoons, and tornadoes are types of the Holy Spirit. When Elijah is caught up to heaven, he is caught up in a whirlwind. When God appears to Job (a picture of the second advent), He appears in the whirlwind. When the Holy Spirit comes in Acts 2, **“there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind”** (Acts 2:2). It's all in there!

Christ says, **“The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit”** (John 3:8)

The wind is a type of the Holy Spirit. Now wind can be beneficial, or it can be destructive. A hurricane with winds of over 200 miles per hour has never killed as many people as cyclones have in Bangladesh. One cyclone killed over 500,000.

You don't always see the work or damage it's done—like the Holy Spirit. He said, **“thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh”**.

“As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, nor how the bones do grow in the womb of her that is with child: even so thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all” (Eccl. 11:5).

Many times in preaching, you may sense the presence of the Holy Spirit, and He may not even be working—you're just deceived. Sometimes you sense He isn't there,

and He is. When you fellows are called to preach, what you have to remember is, **“be instant in season, out of season”** (2 Tim. 4:2). You can't go off of your feelings.

I have preached many a message where people were throwing song-books around, falling off the back end of the pew. Kids were spitting, bawling, or going to the bathroom. The people were sitting there looking at me like a tree full of owls. I've been about to put away the Bible and go home. I gave the invitation, and five people got saved.

I've been in sermons where the power of the Holy Spirit was so powerful it was almost paralyzing. I give the invitation—five stanzas, and nobody makes a move. You can't always tell what the Lord is doing. Like the wind, you see the results sometimes, but you don't know what's going on.

I would preach up at Chautauqua every year for years. I remember one meeting in particular when there were only about ten kids at the altar, and there were about 800 of them there. Normally we would get forty or fifty a night. And I went to the back of that tabernacle there to deal with a big, tall Catholic boy that they had pointed out to me. They said he was unsaved and came from Indiana. He was about 6'3"—a young fellow about nineteen years old.

He gave me all kinds of alibis and excuses, and I left. I walked around dealing with people while they were singing the invitation. Three stanzas later, I got up on the platform and looked down, and there was that

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big fellow right down in front of me, just crying like a baby. I thought he wasn't even touched—he was hit hard! In that meeting, one night, we had thirty-seven saved. It didn't seem like anything was going on that night, but it was.

Winds are sent to try us. Jonah was out there, and the wind began to blow all over the place. They had to pitch him overboard. It was sent to try those mariners out there and show them they had a backslider aboard. The Germans say, "It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good." If you can't find some good done by a wind—it's a rough wind.

Locusts get a blessing from some wind! An east wind brought the locusts to Egypt, and they ate up all the crops. A big strong wind did the Jews some good—it brought them the quails to eat. You say, "How can you get a blessing out of a hurricane with 160 mph wind?". Well, you can get some conversions from it. After Camille was over, I was talking to my maid. Her preacher said, "I reckon the Lord sure did hear a bunch of strange voices last night!".

She had a brother over there in Mississippi who was out in the hurricane all night long. He never saw a light of any kind—just pitch black. And he was driven by wind of almost 180 mph. He would finally get up, and then it would blow him back down again. He would go around trying to crawl. He got through it that night. But don't you know he was praying?

I've been over in the Philippines in a typhoon. Everybody's had those

corrugated tin roofs. When those tin sheets start coming off, they go through the air at twenty and thirty mph! You want to look for a place to stay, or it will cut your head off—I mean literally!

After hearing a dynamite explosion, a little girl said, "Mama, folks that work in dynamite ought to be good folks, shouldn't they?". If you work in a factory, you might look at how you live! Folks who live on the Gulf Coast anywhere between New Orleans and Pensacola ought to be careful how they live! That's "hurricane alley"! In those places, they don't live right. Cursing, nudity, whores, blasphemy, wasted time, wasted money, casinos, gambling, bars—I mean wipe it out! You better thank God He is long-suffering! That is the only reason He hasn't wiped it out.

Winds are sent to oppose us or to turn us back. Sometimes the wind is there not to help you but to prevent or hinder you. God allows stuff like war, drug problems, taxes, and crime to warn America to stop. America isn't going to stop, but He sends us warnings. America is going through some things with the stock market, hurricanes, and droughts, to warn you. For years, what has happened to America is warning after warning. "Stop! You're going the wrong way!".

In Mark 4, Christ is crossing the sea of Galilee, and the wind and the storm came up.

"And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.

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And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.” (Mark 4:37-39)

Sometimes the wind comes so God can manifest Himself to you. We live in a time of “demonstrations”. Demonstrations will change nobody’s heart, conduct, or morals. They just make headline news the world over. What is needed is the **“demonstration of the Spirit and of power”** (1 Cor. 2:4). You need the power of the Holy Spirit. What’s it like? It’s like the wind.

The best news the world has ever seen is that Jesus Christ came **“to seek and to save that which was lost.”** That news has never been printed as the headline of one paper you ever saw. They’re not giving you the good news. There is only one message that will change the hearts and lives of individuals. Do you know what it is? It’s the gospel of Jesus Christ. It can move more than a hurricane can move.

One time a little boy was scared of the thunder. His mother said, “Are you saved, Honey?” He said, “yes’m.” She said, “Well, that’s your Father’s voice.” And the next time it hit, he was eagerly looking out the window saying, “Let her rip, daddy! Let her rip!” He’ll take care of it!

Winds are sent to soothe us and help us.

“And God remembered Noah,

and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters asswaged” (Gen. 8:1).

The whole earth was filled up with water, and to get rid of it, the Lord sent a wind over it. They’ve started to put those dryers in restrooms instead of paper towels to dry off your hands. The wind will dry it off. That’s why women put their clothes on the line, or at least they used to. They hang them out, and the wind dries them quicker than the sun. Do you ever get hot and sweaty working out in the yard? When you’re really soaked in sweat, to be able to go and sit down under a shady tree and have the wind blow on you is a luxury, man! It’s natural air conditioning! It doesn’t cost you a dime.

I know a blast of wrath from God that was unleashed on this earth one time that put all the hurricanes out of business. That was when He poured out His wrath on His son dying on the cross. He experienced what a man ought to experience in hell. That’s what was poured out on Jesus Christ if the Bible is right. The wrath of God fell upon Him, and **“it pleased the LORD to bruise him”**—to put your iniquities and your sins on Him. We have a sympathetic Saviour who can comfort us and help us because He has endured the blast of God’s wrath and drank the cup.

A boy with \$1.63 went to a pet shop to buy a dog, but the cheapest dog was \$10. Finally, a lady walked up and wanted to help the boy out. She showed him one dog who had

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five pups. The lady said, "I might be able to sell this one little pup to you for \$1.63, but you won't want him." He said, "Why?" She said, "He has a bad leg—he'll be crippled all of his life. I don't think you'll enjoy him." The boy lifted his pant leg and showed the store owner a brace on his leg. He said, "Well, I think I'm the one that should have him because he'll be needing some understanding for a while—I did." Christ has been through it—He can get you through the storm.

My Father's way may twist and turn,
 My heart may throb and ache,
 But in my soul I'm glad I know,
 He maketh no mistake.
 My cherished plans may go astray,
 My hopes may fade away,
 But still I'll trust my Lord to lead
 For He doth know the way.
 Though night be dark and it may
 seem
 That day will never break;
 I'll pin my faith, my all in Him,
 He maketh no mistake.
 There's so much now I cannot see,
 My eyesight's far too dim;
 But come what may, I'll simply trust
 And leave it all to Him.
 For by and by the mist will lift
 And plain it all He'll make,
 Through all the way, though dark to
 me,
 He made not one mistake.
 (by A. M. Overton)

Winds are sent to force you to seek refuge in a safe place.

"For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall." (Isa. 25:4)

Winds are made to force you to seek refuge in a safe place from the stormy winds and tempest.

A storm is a reminder that wrath is coming. You have no permanent home—not down here. Do you know what God will do with this planet someday according to 2 Peter 3? He's going to burn it. When that wind comes in, people look for a shelter. Isn't it strange how when you witness, pass out tracts, and preach to them on the street, they won't move to avoid the wrath of God? They won't move fifty feet! Then here comes the wind, and everybody goes crazy trying to get away from it. It's a strange thing.

When the wind comes, you're going to need a harbor. "I've anchored my soul in the haven of rest. I'll sail the wide seas no more. The tempest may sweep o'er the wide stormy deep, In Jesus, I'm safe evermore."

I've watched this sideshow for years (scientific advancements, computers, and the internet); you don't know what you're doing. When fire, wind, or water get loose, you can't do anything. Your best bet is God. All this science and education won't do you any good in a storm. You can run

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from a hurricane, but one time one came through, and they all ran in the wrong direction. They ran right smack into it, man! You can't even run from a tornado.

I was in a hotel taking a shower one time when one of those things hit, and all the lights went out. I finished taking my shower and went to the door. A fellow said, "Evacuate the building right away!" I said, "What for?". They said, "There may be a gas leak." I went out, and there were about 300 of us standing there at about 12 o'clock at night. They couldn't get the gas meter turned off, so the pastor had to go get his tools to help them out. By the end, there wasn't any gas leak. After about an hour out there, I said, "Boy, I've had enough of this; I'm going back and get some rest." So I went around the police tape and in the back. I went upstairs and went to sleep. That wasn't much of a thing—just a little wind.

When one of those cyclones or tornados comes in, you can't run from them because you don't know where they're going to land. Out in Kansas City, I was with a fellow who told me about his next-door neighbor. A tornado came down, and his neighbor got in his car and tried to run. By the time he got it in second gear, he looked out and saw the waterspout right outside his window. It took him on down about a quarter-mile and dumped him. He was in the hospital for about six months, but he lived.

When you get into something like that, tell me something, what

good is a college education going to do then? The Bible says, "**our sufficiency is of God**" (2 Cor. 3:5). It's not of our education or our training.

Jesus Christ controls the wind. Now I know that the world doesn't believe that, but you do if you're a Christian. Isn't it a great consolation to know that your Saviour is in charge of it?

I woke in the night
 The wind was pouring in my shutters
 With his wild prancing hoofs.
 The swishing of his tail
 Lashed the trees onto the roofs.
 The shriek of his neighing was as a
 siren
 Announcing all the fires of hell;
 The sound of the wind going was all
 the end
 Of the earth rushing to extinguish
 me.
 I cowered under my covers with
 wildly beating heart.
 Then the truth came to my mind
 God rode that wind from the start.
 He holds the rain by His arm of His
 might.
 He guides those poundings hoofs
 aright.
 The flying black Pegasus of the
 night
 Obeys God's voice in His
 untamed flight.
 I am safe in God's care.

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to explain the forces that move the atomic world of matter. When the student begins to listen to this incredible religion, he is baffled by statement after statement that are void of actual knowledge or demonstrable facts. The discipline of the branch of science called physics has left reality and resides somewhere in between Alice's Wonderland and Neverland.

Here is a sampling: "an atom can be simultaneously in many places at once...an electron can exist on both sides of a wall...the same electron can spin either clockwise or counterclockwise, depending on who is looking at it...a ray of light is both material (as a particle), and non-material (as a wave)...over 90% of the physical universe is invisible (as dark matter)...at the speed of light, time stops...empty space is full of subatomic particles that exist and don't exist at the same time...there must exist something outside our universe...life probably came to earth from a higher form of life that developed elsewhere in the universe".

The remarkable thing is that each of these statements have some truth to them, but only from the standpoint of the Bible-believing position that there exists both a physical world and a spiritual world at the same time. For instance, the "atom" that is everywhere at the same time is the Lord Himself.

"Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?" (Psa. 139:7) "Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the Lord. Do not I fill heaven and

earth?" (Jer. 23:24).

The ray of light that is both material and non-material is the Lord Jesus Christ, who at the same time is the true God, who is a non-material Spirit, and God manifest in material flesh (1 Tim. 3:16). The 90% of the universe that is invisible is made up of a mass called the firmament. The subatomic particles that exist and don't exist at the same time are the spiritual beings called "**principalities**", "**powers**", "**rulers of the darkness of this world**", and "**spiritual wickedness in high places**" (Eph. 6:12).

At the speed of light, time stops, which points to the "**high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy**" (Isa. 57:15), and he is always "**the same and thy years shall not fail**" (Heb. 1:12). When a soul enters eternity, he will find that there is no time, but this phenomenon cannot be found at Albert Einstein's train station. The problem with modern science is that it attempts to find eternal life without acknowledging the "**eternal God**" (Deut. 33:27) and tries to find an eternal condition in this temporal universe and world (2 Cor. 4:18).

When they put their theories about the origin of creation together, scientists are left with such disharmony in their mathematical equations, they can only resort to the possibility that there are an infinite number of universes. In other words, we cannot explain the one universe we know exists, so let's pretend that there are an infinite number of them and therefore an infinite amount of possibilities that can allow life to happen accidentally, from nothing,

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and without God.

As an example, over in merry old England resides an atheist astrophysicist named Martin Rees, who is Britain's Royal Astronomer. A few years back, he did a study to determine the possibility of life happening anywhere in the universe. He used six factors that required such precision, that in order for those six things to accidentally line up with the minute precision that the Lord did in his creation of life, the mathematical probability came to zero. His six numbers for the chances of life accidentally taking place were so impossible (the number 10 with 120 zeroes after it), that the world of physics is left with the dream that there must be an infinite number of universes. As one brilliant physicist claimed, "So it is possible that somewhere else in this larger structure that we call the multiverse, there are people like us."

That is today's "science". It says that for life to just happen accidentally, the mathematical probability is so impossible, we must imagine that there are an infinite number of universes. Somewhere out there within the infinite possibilities, life could happen. It is as laughable as the grade school student telling the teacher that his dog ate his homework. When confronted with the fact that he does not own a dog, he replies that on his back porch lies the possibility that he has an infinite number of dogs, able to pop up out of nothing at a moment's notice, though he has never seen a single one of them. Science falsely so called has come up with a total

blank in its efforts to handle the problem of creation.

Moving on to problem number two, science fiddles with the subject of light. After destroying the original heaven (singular) and earth (Gen. 1:2), by overflowing it with water (2 Pet. 3:6), the Lord created this present universe by his Spirit moving upon the face of the waters. He then spoke light into existence, and He separated it from the darkness (Gen. 1:3-4). This was not sunlight (as most teach) because the sun and stars were not created until the fourth day (Gen. 1:16).

Back in the 1660s, Isaac Newton said that light behaved as if it were made of material particles, but experiments in the 1800s showed that it behaved as if it were a wave. By 1905, a German-Jewish, Nobel Prize-winning knucklehead named Einstein, proposed that light was both material and a wave. However, just one year before he died, he claimed that after fifty years of study, he still had no clue what light actually was, and that anyone who said he knew, was only deceiving himself.

When the Bible believer looks into what the perfect Book has to say about light, he understands that, although he can pick up much more information than the theory of relativity can give, he is still left with light being something so far above his head, he can never fully understand light, for "**God is light, and in him is no darkness at all**" (1 John 1:5). So when we look into what the King James Bible has to reveal about light, we learn that it is both a material presence, for

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the Lord says, **“I form the light and create darkness”** (Isa. 45:7), and it possesses a spiritual quality (John 4:24—**“God is a Spirit”** Psa. 104:2—**“who coverest thyself with light as with a garment”**).

As far back as 1700 B.C., the scripture revealed that light travels (Job 38:19—**“Where is the way where light dwelleth?”**), while darkness has a place (Job 38:19—**“and as for darkness where is the place thereof”**). In the same book of Job, the Lord asked him if he knew **“by what way is the light parted”** (Job 38:24). That was over three thousand years before Isaac Newton’s famous experiment in 1666, proving that light can be parted. Newton showed that light can be parted into the seven colors of the rainbow (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet), though it was only one ray of light.

Since God is light, He manifests himself in seven ways (as wind—John 3, as a dove—John 1, as water—John 7, as breath—Ezek. 37, as wine—Eph. 5, as oil—Exod. 27, and as fire—Acts 2), yet remains one God. The Lord also manifests himself as seven spirits (Rev. 4:5), while remaining one Spirit (Eph. 4:4), and this is done as the spirit of the LORD, of wisdom, of understanding, of counsel, of might, of knowledge, and of fear (Isa. 11:2). Light also has seven properties in reflection, refraction, diffraction, polarization, dispersion, scattering, and interference.

Light can be visible (white light) as well as invisible (gamma, radio, microwave), so the Lord can be both

invisible (John 1:18—**“no man hath seen God at any time”**), and visible (John 14:9—**“he that hath seen me hath seen the Father”**). Light can actually transform into matter through the collision with a nucleus, so the Lord, who is a Spirit (John 4:24), became flesh (John 1:14) when he collided with his creation over two thousand years ago. This collision of light with darkness is the greatest single event in the history of mankind, namely, **“God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh”** (Rom. 8:3).

God, who is light, **“made him (Jesus Christ) to be sin for us, who knew no sin”** (2 Cor. 5:21). The shame of false science today is that they reject the spiritual, while the Lord blatantly shows it to them right in front of their eyes, using light, dark matter, curved space, and black holes. All of their theoretical theories require them to have faith in the supernatural, yet they continue to refuse to acknowledge the supernatural God. This leaves them **“without excuse: because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God”** (Rom. 1:20-21). Science today is in a position today so that **“the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen”** (Rom. 1:20), yet because of their refusal to acknowledge that what they are seeing is of God, **“they became fools”**.

Only the *King James Bible* says that the **“light is parted”** (Job 38:24), while the corrupt *NIV, ASV, Living, RSV, etc.*, all say it is distributed or dispersed. Light (God) has a

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direct effect on the east winds and weather. Hurricanes that form off the coast of Africa, as well as typhoons that form in the Pacific, are always **“east winds”**, moving east to west, and are connected to the solar activity of the Sun (light). Due to the rotating firmament and the Coriolis effect, they spin counterclockwise in the Northern hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern Hemisphere, but that is too much for modern science to handle right now.

Regardless of the ignorance of the meteorologists, it is the Lord God that controls and makes the weather as he **“directeth it under the whole heaven, and his lightning unto the ends of the earth”** (Job 37:3). The Lord gives frost by his breath (Job 37:10), turns the clouds by his commands (verses 11-12), and brings the weather **“for correction, or for his land, or for mercy”** (verse 13). The ancient book of Job claimed that lightning causes the thunder of God’s voice to come after it (Job 37:3-4), and science has found that when lightning comes, it disperses the air and creates a channel between the ground and the cloud so that when the air collapses back into the channel, it creates a sound wave. This convinces those **“professing themselves to be wise”** (Rom. 1:22) that God has no part of any of it.

The theoretical physicists are “seeing” the supernatural work of God, but refuse to believe in Him, claiming that they do not work by faith. Yet, almost everything they claim to believe in, is taken by faith without ever seeing the things they

speak of. Black holes, quarks, dark matter, curved spacetime, wormholes, multiverses, gluons, and the quantum vacuum, are all taken by complete faith without sight. In the meantime, they ridicule and scoff at the idea of a God since he cannot be seen. As a result, they remain in the dark when trying to explain light, the second problem raised in the first few verses of Genesis.

The third problem arises in Genesis 1:6, and that is the creation of the **“firmament”** which the Lord used to divide the waters of the universe. From a January 2021 science article, we read that “scientists have found more water in space than they ever knew possible”, and claim that a cloud of water vapor that is 140 trillion times bigger than the Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, and Arctic oceans combined has been located about 12 billion light-years away. This “remarkable discovery” of modern science has them all excited and brimming with the fantasy that there can be other life like ours out in the universe. They also believe that the water was present within 1.6 billion years after the Big Bang.

Ignoring the complete guesswork of their numbers, Bible believers know that there is a vast body of water between the earth and the third heaven, which is referred to as **“the deep”** (Gen. 1:2). The face of it is frozen (Job 38:30), so the child of God can only now see by faith **“through a glass darkly”**, but later **“face to face”** (1 Cor. 13:12). This deep is the present home of a spiritual being called “Leviathan” (Job 41:1), who is a dragon (Rev. 12)

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that breathes fire (verse 19), and makes a luminescent path as he travels through it so that **“one would think the deep to be hoary”** (vs. 32). Science will never catch up to the actual truth as long as they reject the Book.

Let's return to the problem of the firmament, which is the word of the Lord for our material universe, or what science calls the vacuum of space, or aether, or plenum, or “the element through which light travels”. It is within this firmament that the Lord placed the sun, moon, stars, planets, and all the galaxies (Gen. 1:14-19). The movement of all of these objects is within the motion of this firmament.

General Relativity attempts to explain the motions of these objects, using the dubious law of gravity. At the same time, quantum physics makes a feeble attempt to account for three other forces that they have named “weak, strong, and electromagnetism”. By complete faith, physicists accept that there is an unknown and unseen force within the atom that keeps it from blowing apart. There is no explanation for why the helium atom does not explode since it contains two protons (positive charges) and two neutrons (neutral charge) within its nucleus. Since like charges repel, the two positive protons should not be able to remain together. The answer from the religion of science is that there must be a “strong force” (discovered in 1908 though no one has proven it exists, other than “they are held together so it must be present”) that holds it together. The Bible believer

knows that the answer is found in Colossians 1:17, and the “strong force” is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ.

The firmament is the answer to the main problems of the world of astronomy and physics today. They call the problem “the missing mass problem” because none of their calculations can account for what is going on in the motions of the universe. Their mathematical formulas do not make sense. They simply fudge the results with an unseen, hypothetical form of material they call “dark matter” and an unseen, hypothetical energy they call “dark energy”. Their religious fervor allows them to continue to teach their mistakes in the face of what they can actually see.

These two unknown forces supposedly make up over 90% of the whole universe. In other words, they believe by faith that there are unseen masses and unseen forces that drive the motions of the known universe, and they must put arbitrary figures on those forces to make the fantasy math of their religion work. Running from the scriptures and the mass called the firmament, every religious adherent to today's **“science falsely so called”** must swallow the idea that this universe came about without God and that the explanation can never be the hand of God, but a faith in a Standard Model of Cosmology that is completely incompatible with reality.

The use of the word **“firmament”** in the perfect, scientific King James Bible shows that space is not a vacuum, which physicists now fi-

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The First Eight Verses

Continued from 13

nally are starting to believe, and that it is an unseen material that explains why their “cosmological constants” and math equations will not make sense. The reader should be aware that the word is removed in the corrupt versions, which refer to it as an “expanse” (*NIV*), as “vapors” (*Living Bible*), a “dome” (*New American Bible*), and a “vault” (*ESV*), as well as a myriad of other perversions that could be listed.

Thanks to the revelation of the King James Bible (“**the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life**”—John 6:63), the believer has the discernment to see that there is a physical world, containing a spiritual world within it, through which devils and spirits and angels move. The so-called “subatomic particles” that “exist

and don’t exist simultaneously,” and “can show up at different parts of the universe at the same time”, and are able to “virtually appear on the other side of a wall without travel”, are recognized by the Bible believer as real entities that exist in the spirit world.

For instance, Jesus Christ went from visible to invisible (Luke 24:31), went from earth to the outside of the universe and back faster than the speed of light, without the need for a speculative “wormhole” (John 20:17). He came right through walls and closed doors as He appeared to the disciples in the room (John 20:26).

And so the *KJV1611* reveals three tremendous subjects within its first eight verses, and because modern science rejects it as revelation from God, it remains in the dark.

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June 10–12

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July 15–17

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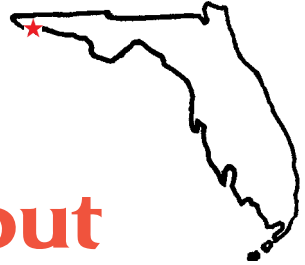
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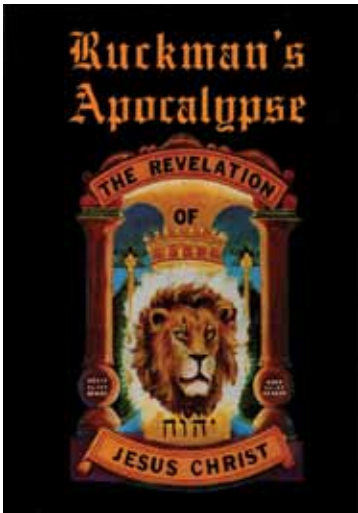
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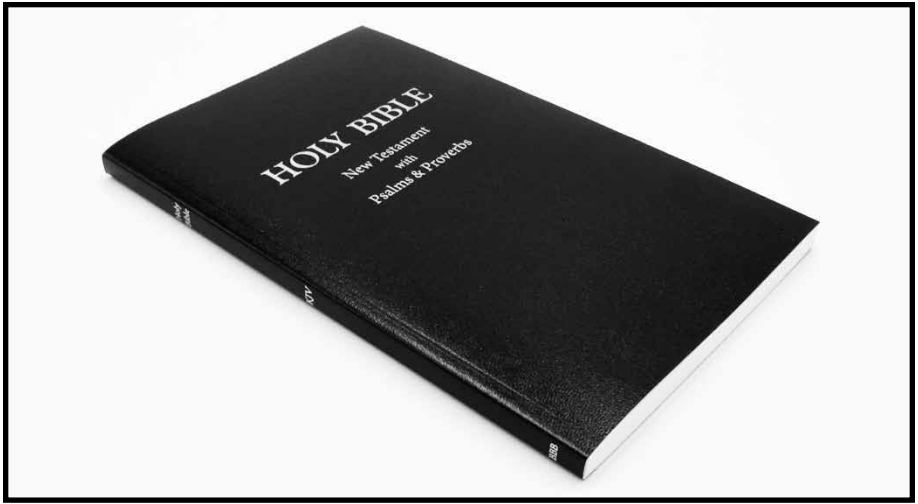
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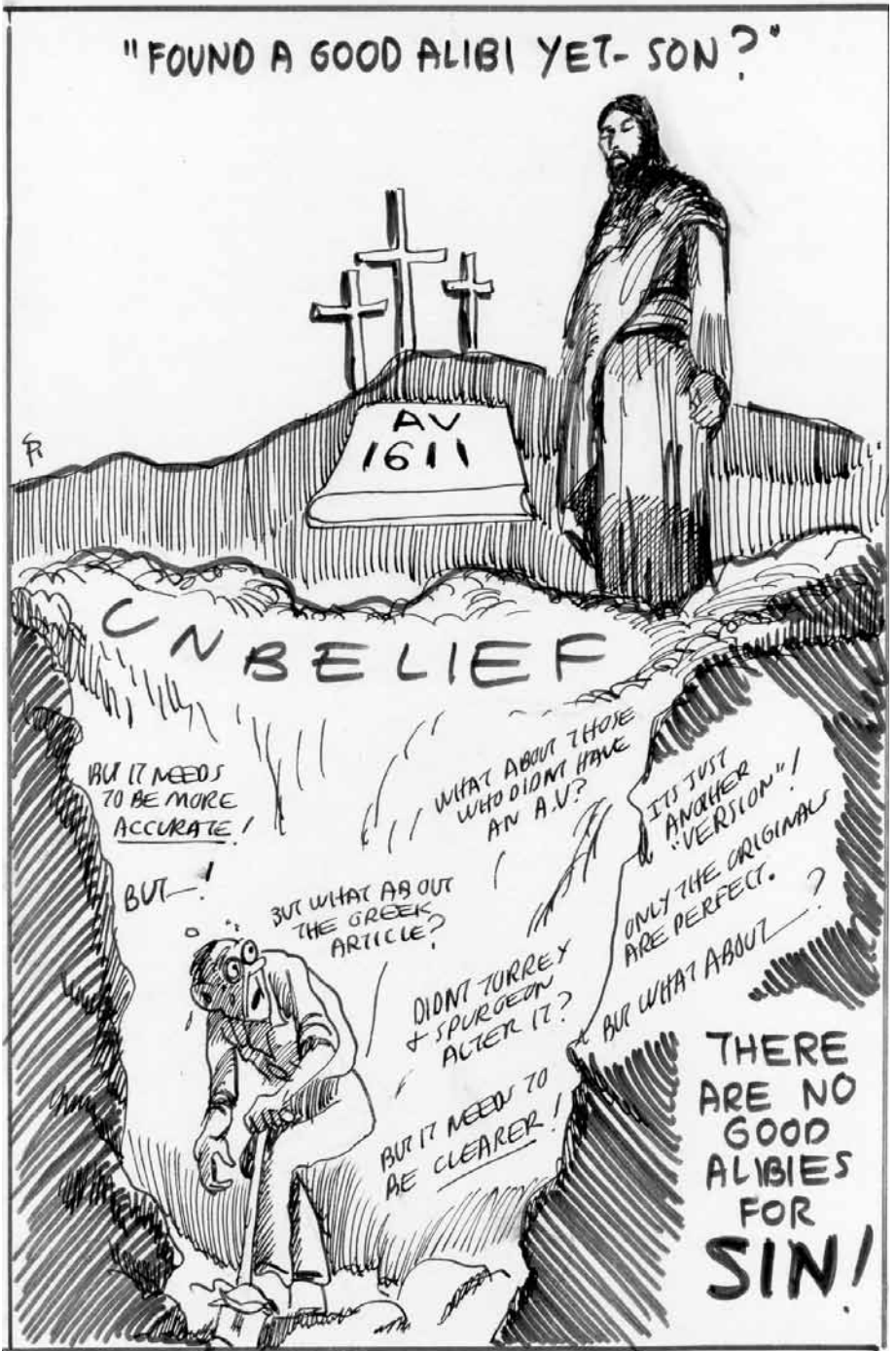
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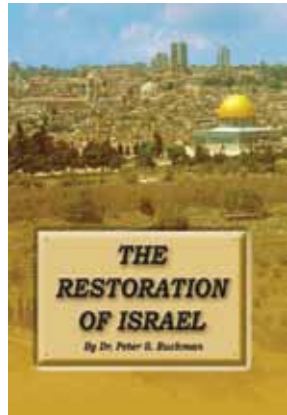
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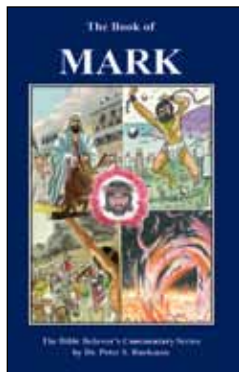
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Passing Time

By Robert Militello

“They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture” (Psa. 22:18).

David was shown a photograph of the Lord's crucifixion one thousand years before the event took place. Roman soldiers, like soldiers are wont to do anywhere they are stationed, look for ways to pass time. In John 19:23–24, we see four soldiers gambling, helping themselves to the worldly goods of a man dying for claiming to be a king. Such a man could be no friend of Caesar, so Pilate assented to his death. The Jewish religious establishment had manipulated the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, to do that which was politically expedient. Justice had nothing to do with Pilate's decision. It was all politics. Look around. Have things really changed much?

Here's the Son of God in agony, all the wrath of a holy God falling upon Him, and four soldiers beside the cross amusing themselves oblivious to history's most important event. Most folks dread boredom. They must find ways to entertain themselves. America has provided for most such a comfortable way of life that idleness left untreated can result in neurotic behavior and debilitating depression. We must go from distraction to distraction or run the risk of being alone with God. What might that lead to? Never in our 246 years of being a self-governing nation has Bible reading become the least desirable way of passing time. The Goliath of all leisure time activities

is now the moving of fingers on a cell phone.

“Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices” (Prov. 1:31).

In case you haven't noticed, we are living in a time when many of God's people are hung up on conspiracy theories. These theories appear on a menu the devil puts before a believer to keep that dear soul from staying in the word of God, which is real food. What the devil offers is genetically modified mush containing man's opinions with a few Bible verses sprinkled here and there like artificial coloring and flavor enhancers. You get sick from that stuff and pass on a form of spiritual Covid to those you communicate with. Paul said in 2 Corinthians 2:11 that we are not ignorant of the devil's devices. Would he say that again if he spent time visiting Laodicean churches?

There is one strategy of the enemy, which is far and away the mother of all conspiracy theories. Keeping the word of God from before your eyes is a necessity of the devil to maintain his kingdom of darkness and his power to damn souls. Devices and amusements that serve his purpose are promoted ceaselessly. These devices, video games, computers, and smartphones are marketed skillfully, even to the very young. Parents are pressured to introduce their offspring to the world of technology, and the schools do their part. They put pupils in front of

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Passing Time

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screens, and the printed page goes the way of the rotary phone. This is the way the wind is blowing, and it leads to a mark of some kind being placed on foreheads and hands so that economic survival depends on you being “plugged in.” The devil’s servant, Antichrist, will introduce a form of slavery new to the human race. There is only one book printed that will be able to show the way of escape from the darkness that technology is leading to.

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32). Where must one go to find the truth that dispels all spiritual darkness? **“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth”** (John 17:17).

A book not as widely read as it once was, the King James Bible will become a hot item once the body of Christ leaves (Tit. 2:13) and the darkness of Egypt (Exod. 10:21–23) falls on our society as just reward for mocking God’s word.

Some time ago, a dear brother passed away in Jerusalem. Leonard Fogel was a missionary to Israel supported by the Bible Baptist Mission Board. A few years ago, he was able to help produce the New Testament in Hebrew. The translation was from the *King James*. Leonard told me how difficult it was to get an Israeli to read the New Testament. But there was good reason to get these books printed because there is coming a day when the Book of Revelation in Hebrew will be read by thousands of Jews. Now, there is no desire to possess such a book, but that’s going to

change. Our labor for the Lord is never in vain, no matter how hard the devil tries to discourage God’s messengers. There’s a Book that will outlast this present heaven and earth. Do you pass enough time reading it?

“How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!” (Psa. 119:103).

Do you feel that way? Notice two exclamation marks in that one verse. Do you think David was being overly emphatic when he penned those words? There are lots of things we love in this world, but one only can make the passing of time profitable for all eternity. The other ways of passing time can’t make such a boast—they are temporal and become memories if they are worth remembering.

“As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more” (Psa. 103:15–16).

Few saints know how to pass time as profitably as those who live behind bars. Since 1996, I have written a Christian serving life for murder in Attica, New York. I visited Attica in 1997 to see this man and another brother who is free now after doing twenty-five years. Attica, the scene of America’s worst prison riot in 1971, is a place that makes the hair on your neck rise.

These two men talked about what it was like to be a Bible believer in a place where being evil was expected. Both men knew how to pass time and stay out of trouble.

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Passing Time

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God's word kept them sane. Most Christians in America will never have to deal with what happens there daily. There was only one other place I went to where an annex to Hell actually existed on earth.

In September 1995, I accompanied Dr. Ruckman to Rikers Island, New York, where I got permission for him to preach. Rikers is a New York City jail complex that is like the now-closed French prison, Devil's Island, located off the coast of French Guiana in South America. Dr. Ruckman's chalk talk that day was "Where Do the Dead Go?" It must have been difficult for those inmates listening to the preacher to think that there was a worse place than Rikers. Attica and Rikers have had breakouts, while Hell is escape-proof with no hope of parole. You would think many in prison would be open to the gospel and the promise of eternal life in a place of sweet bliss with uninterrupted happiness. Yet this is not the case. Man's depravity is incomprehensible, and scripture says so (see Jer. 17:9).

My brother Jack, now 68, has been looking forward to the Lord's return since losing his freedom in 1994. He knows about passing time, and because of where he is, the desire to depart and be with Christ (Phil. 1:23) is very real. That desire to leave this world which is far better than remaining, is not a living reality for most believers in America. It can't be because of our life here. Titus 2:13 to a believer in Jack's situation is a daily hope, not a once in a while thought, which is

the case with most of us.

I receive a letter each month from this man, over three hundred so far, and every letter has me thanking God profusely for the grace and kindness He has shown me. No doubt, Jack has been the Lord's singular instrument to keep me joyful and to remember in prayer those in the body whose season of heaviness (1 Pet. 1:6-8) never seems to go away.

Passing time without redeeming it, as we have been told in Ephesians 5:16, will no doubt be an issue at the Judgment Seat of Christ. That's why Paul wrote the Philipians to work out their own salvation with "**fear and trembling**" (Phil. 2:12). Time is precious. You shouldn't have to wait until you reach your sixties and seventies to take notice.

Bible students know that leisure time can open a door to trouble. King David found that out, and it cost him dearly. Open your Bible to 2 Samuel, chapter 11, and see how an innocent stroll on a rooftop led to unmitigated disaster for the king of Israel. Verse 1 tells you David tarried at Jerusalem when kings go forth to battle. This extended leave of absence from where he should have been led to adultery, murder, and the death of a baby born out of wedlock. Time belonging to the Lord's business (prayer, Bible study, witnessing), given to the devil, brings more than just your own spiritual slackness.

"Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD

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Passing Time

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to blaspheme” (2 Sam. 12:14).

Keeping your Bible on the shelf sets you up for a fall, and the devil will pounce on your neglect. He knows how to exploit an opening, even a very small one.

Years ago in Brooklyn, I noticed that young Jewish men who studied at the neighborhood Yeshiva (religious school) almost all wore glasses. These students had little or no leisure time because studying the Torah and the Talmud for hours on end was the focal point of their existence.

“For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge” (Rom. 10:2).

Yeshivas are sad places. Everyone is studying, and the Truth, the Shepherd of Israel, is unknown to them. Ever seeking and yet unable to come to a personal understanding and relationship with the God of their ancestors. It is pitiful and was a continual sorrow in Paul's heart. Yeshiva students are strangers to time passing amusements. They read commentary after commentary non-stop, pausing only to see to biological necessities. Good Jewish optometrists stay busy re-writing prescriptions for eyes that weaken much too soon in life. Staying up late to read is not a chore to these disciplined students. They know what David wrote in Psalm 119:148. **“Mine eyes prevent the night watches, that I might meditate in thy word.**

Do you think that's true of believers today? Opening the Bible for many who struggle with insomnia

will work better than a 10mg melatonin pill. Sleep will come quickly to those who are used to passing time watching TV and not to reading God's word. There was a time when reading before retiring was common. Will smartphones make other good habits obsolete?

“Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and ABUNDANCE OF IDLENESS” (Ezek. 16:49).

Has Sodom been reborn in the U.S.A. today? Idleness is the quality, state, or condition of being lazy, inactive, or idle. To combat personal boredom, the devil baked a cake called *Social Media*. Until Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram came along, few psychologists understood how great the need was for people to be connected. Boredom was something parents had to find solutions for when their children complained of being bored. What parent hasn't heard their darling, overindulged youngster say, “I'm bored.”

As children, we learn quickly how to fill time with toys and board games. Monopoly was always a favorite and gave us a foretaste of the covetousness that would guide our lives as adults without Christ. I learned to play chess at an early age and quickly learned that I was a bad loser. Winning has many fathers, while losing is an orphan. How badly we all need the New Birth. It's hard to ignore the obvious if you are honest with yourself—Amen?

“And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding

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Passing Time

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and answers” (Luke 2:47).

Here, the Holy Spirit gives us a glimpse of our Savior in action as a young Jewish boy. At thirteen, a Jewish male is introduced in the assembly of elders. The ceremony is called a Bar Mitzvah, and the young man must know some prayers and read Hebrew. Preparation for this initiation requires hours of study with a rabbi. Jesus was well on His way to gaining expertise in the Torah, as we can deduce from His encounter with learned doctors of the law in the temple (vs. 46). Was the Son of God given supernatural understanding by the time he was twelve to be able to debate with scholars and pose questions to them while answering theirs? I suspect this boy of twelve was able to read and write at an early age.

We know that the Lord's stepfather worked as a carpenter. Jesus, as the firstborn in an orthodox Jewish family, had to spend hours at his father's side learning the trade. How much free time did He have, and how was it used? Well, did the town of Nazareth have a library for Jewish boys to go to? No, they went for instruction to the synagogue where the rabbi, or a learned elder, taught what it meant to cleave to the God of Israel. Is it reasonable to assume that the Savior was an earnest student and what time He had was given to study?

A gifted Jewish male at twelve can be judged as scholarly and go before a panel of elders to demonstrate His scholarship in His chosen field. This practice of being able to expound your beliefs and

defend your thesis is what a candidate for a Master's degree has to do; at least, that was the case in 1971 when I earned such a degree at Queens College, New York.

Jews set a high bar when it comes to examining and being examined. That is why they wrote the scriptures, and we read them striving for the wisdom that comes from above. Jesus was an accomplished scholar at twelve, reading whenever He could, sharpening His mind through careful comprehension of what He was reading. Passing time to a Yeshiva student means reading and little else. How else do you explain this advice from Paul to Timothy, his son in the faith? **“Till I come, GIVE ATTENDANCE TO READING”** (1 Tim. 4:13).

We are all on the clock about our Father's business. Would you steal from the time He gives you to live for Him pursuing your own vanities?

“And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come. (Luke 19:13).

The wicked servant who received a pound like the others did nothing with it. He was inactive (lazy) and thought he was OK because he put the pound in the bank and received interest. Many saints who wish to believe they are OK with the Lord will be shocked at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Reading scripture is hearing from your Lord. All seven letters to the churches in Revelation 2 and 3 end the same way. **“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto**

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Passing Time

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the churches.”

Eleven times in the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, you see the Lord posing this question to His critics. **“Have ye not read...?”** Obviously, He put high priority on knowing the word. The elders and doctors of the law were presumed by the people to be experts in scripture. They were not, and Jesus exposed them. **“And have ye not**

read this scripture...?”. Jesus refers them to Psalm 118:22. Do you ask God for light on what you are reading, or are you content with running a stream of words before your eyes?

Winters in Brooklyn seemed too long for me when I was in grade school. After a while, you get bored with board games, but going outside to play with your friends had

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THE CREED OF THE ALEXANDRIAN CULT

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

This is the Creed of the Alexandrian Cult.

Passing Time

Continued from 29

to wait for spring. My mom would urge me to go to the library, which was a short distance from my house. She was a voracious reader, and inactivity was inexcusable.

Some parents raise children without ever grasping the enormous value in reading. "Readers are leaders" is generally true, but America has been so dumbed down now that jackasses have multiplied like rabbits. Watch TV and cable news and see if this is an exaggeration. It is not. Knowing what God has to say in His word is the best way to discover whether you are being lied to. You would think folks would resent being deceived time and time again, but they are not. Reading the Bible scares them, but not the smartphone.

There is a book in heaven that no man is worthy to open or read. We will be there when the "**the Lion of the tribe of Juda**" steps forward to take the book (Rev. 5:5-7) and open the seals of judgment upon a world that hated His word.

There are lots of books for men to read to educate themselves, but one has little appeal.

"And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh" (Eccl. 12:12).

After reading many books, I was saved by only one, and I'll gladly read and study that one glorious book until it's time to leave here. Thank God for the *1611 KJV*. If there is a better way of passing time than by reading that book—let me know!

Bro. Colvin's Meeting Schedule

April 21-24

Bible Believer's Baptist Church
7676 County Road 200
Joplin, MO 64801
Pastor Brad Friesen
(417) 673-8077

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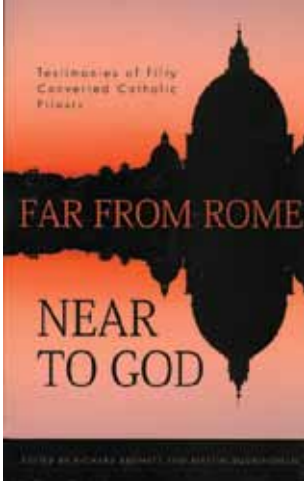
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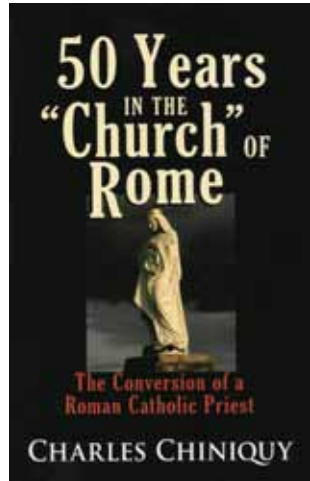


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