

The BEREAN SEARCHLIGHT™

Studying God's Word, Rightly Divided

January 2026



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This month's cover features Nauset Beach Light in Eastham, Massachusetts.

The **Purpose** of the *Berean Bible Society* is to help you understand, enjoy, and apply the Bible. The **Mission** of BBS is to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ by proclaiming the whole counsel of God according to the revelation of the Mystery. Our **Goals** are to *evangelize* the lost, to *educate* the saved in “rightly dividing the Word of truth” (2 Tim. 2:15), to *energize* the transformation of the Christian life, and to *encourage* the local church.

BBS is a faith-based ministry dependent on the gifts of God's people.
We are thankful for your gifts of support.

The *Berean Searchlight* is the official organ of the
Berean Bible Society and is sent free of charge to any who request it.

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The *Berean Searchlight* (ISSN 0005-8890), January 2026. Vol. 86, Number 10.

The *Berean Searchlight* is published monthly (except July) at no subscription price, by *Berean Bible Society*, N112 W17761 Mequon Rd., Germantown, WI 53022. Periodical postage paid at Germantown, WI. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Berean Searchlight*, N112 W17761 Mequon Rd., Germantown, WI 53022 and additional mailing offices.

A Note From the President

Dear Friends in Christ,

“Houston, we have a problem.” It’s a praise that our Grace Study Bible sold out so quickly. On the other hand it’s a problem because many have been disappointed to learn that our study Bible is already out of stock and that they must wait for the second printing to get their copy.

We greatly underestimated the interest and excitement for our Grace Study Bible. No other item in BBS history has had such demand, and we have never experienced anything like it. Orders furiously came in online during the first days in which it was available for pre-order. Our phones were ringing off the hook on Monday, November 3. Then the mail orders began stacking up from our Autumn Communique. We ordered a quantity for the first printing that we felt would last for close to a year. It lasted one week!

The plan was to order enough for nearly a year, collect any corrections that might come up during that time, make the corrections, and then do the second printing. “The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry” applies to our situation, meaning that even plans made most carefully can fail due to unexpected circumstances. We did not expect the volume of orders, and our plan did not work as we had envisioned. We do apologize for the inconvenience, and we appreciate your patience.

The board of directors held an emergency Zoom meeting to discuss the next steps. We have asked the printer to put a rush on a second printing which will be a larger quantity than the first printing and we have the printer on speed dial if this second printing starts selling fast! The projected completion time is in early spring. Both the regular and large print editions will be back in stock at that time. The delay until spring is due to the printer needing to order special Bible paper, which takes time to arrive. Then there is the month it takes to produce the Bible, followed by the time needed to ship it.

When the second printing is in stock, it will be clearly posted on our website homepage and Facebook page. As spring nears, you can always email or call us to get an update on availability. In the meantime, as before, you can still place an order by phone, mail, or through our website.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Kevin J. Sadler



Pastor Kevin J. Sadler has been serving as president since 2016. He appears on *Transformed by Grace*, a daily television program that airs nationally. In addition, he is the editor of the *Berean Searchlight*, authors grace literature, and is a Bible conference speaker.

Why Produce a GRACE STUDY BIBLE?

The stated purpose of the *Berean Bible Society* over the past 85 years has been “to help you understand, enjoy, and apply the Bible.” We have done so primarily through the printed page. Through writings on biblical subjects, God has used this ministry to be a blessing to tens of thousands around the world. But why produce a Grace Study Bible? The answer is that we are following several biblical imperatives.

Acts 8:30 highlights the need for a Grace Study Bible. When the Lord sent Philip down to meet an Ethiopian eunuch who was reading the Scriptures, “the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot” (Acts 8:29). When Philip asked, “Understandest thou what thou readest?” his response was, “How can I, except some man should guide me” (vv. 30-31). “Then Philip opened his mouth...and preached unto him Jesus” (v. 35). Like Philip, when Ezra led the Israelites to refocus on God’s Word, he intentionally “caused the people to understand the law...” (Neh. 8:7). How did he do this? “So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading” (v. 8). Over and over in the epistles of the Apostle Paul we are told that he went many places to “preach the gospel” (1 Cor. 9:14,16,18) or to “preach Christ crucified” (1 Cor. 1:23). Once established in the faith, those who trusted in the Lord Jesus were to embrace the mission to help “all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery” (Eph. 3:9), God’s new program of grace kept secret until revealed to the Apostle Paul. Paul then urged many to “preach the Word” (2 Tim. 4:2) and not simply take in the Scriptures, but to “teach others also” (2 Tim. 2:2).

The *Berean Bible Society* chose to carefully produce the Grace Study Bible as a labor of love and to be obedient to these biblical instructions. All of us, regardless of our knowledge of the Word, can grow in our understanding of the Holy Scriptures when others who rightly divide the Word of truth share their insights. The written Word is an extension of preaching the Scriptures. The content in the Grace Study Bible will help many to better understand their Bible by the emphasis on the clear gospel of the grace of God. It will also lead others to see for the first time God’s mystery dispensation of grace through a consistent presentation of these truths. Finally, the Grace Study Bible seeks to go beyond giving only academic information by going further to encourage each reader to properly apply sound doctrine to their daily lives, and therein be transformed by the renewing of their minds.

Please pray with us that God would greatly use the Grace Study Bible to glorify His name, exalt His truths, clear up confusion over doctrinal issues, and produce spiritual growth in genuine godliness.

The Berean Bible Society Board of Directors



THE UNITY

of the Spirit

(Taken from episode #380
of *Transformed by Grace*)

PASTOR KEVIN J. **SADLER**
BBS President/Editor

Pastor A. W. Tozer (1897-1963) wrote the following: “Has it ever occurred to you that one hundred pianos all tuned to the same fork are automatically tuned to each other? They are of one accord by being tuned, not to each other, but to another standard to which each one must individually bow. So one hundred worshipers met together, each one looking away to Christ, are in heart nearer to each other than they could possibly be, were they to become ‘unity’ conscious and turn their eyes away from God to strive for closer fellowship.”¹

The unity of the Spirit is manifested in the Church when we look to our “one Lord” (Eph. 4:5). God desires, and the Apostle Paul consequently beseeches (Eph. 4:1), that we look to the standard of the unity of the Spirit and those truths to bind

our hearts together. In doing so, this unity of truth unites us according to what God is doing today under grace. The unity of the Spirit is God’s foundational truth for the oneness in the Body of Christ.

Guard the Doctrine

“Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Eph. 4:3).

The term, “Endeavouring,” in the original Greek, means to make every effort, to labor, to be earnest and diligent. Thus, the Church is beseeched to make every effort in earnest “to *keep* the unity of the Spirit.” Paul does not teach the Church to *create* or *make* unity amongst its members but to *keep* the unity of the Spirit which has been graciously given.

The term “keep” means to guard, to preserve, to give

careful attention to. The unity of the Spirit is a doctrinal unity. Doctrine, the proper understanding of God's Word, is what is to unite the Church and bind it together. Paul exhorts the Body of Christ to make every effort to guard and stand fast in the seven foundational doctrines necessary for the unity of the Spirit. Preservation of this unity of the Spirit is to be the diligent and earnest concern of the members of the Church.

It is the unity "of the Spirit" because it is truth from His Word, the Word that the Spirit inspired. It is the Spirit Who enlightens us to these truths and, under them, it is He Who can bring the hearts of believers together.

We are to earnestly labor to guard this unity "in the bond of peace." The unity of doctrine has its origin in the Holy Spirit; believers who bond by guarding and uniting under the Spirit's truths do so in the peace of the Spirit and by His enablement (Col. 3:15).

One Body

"There is one body..." (Eph. 4:4a).

To preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, we need to know the truths that are

to unite us in the Church, and to understand them according to the mystery revealed to Paul for the current dispensation of grace (3:2). There are seven "ones" in verses 4 through 6 that are true of all believers under grace. The unity of the Spirit is a unit; it is seven, yet one. All seven of its planks dovetail seamlessly with each other.

First, Paul wrote that there is "one body." The "one body" is defined in Ephesians 1:22-23, "And hath put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be the Head over all things to the Church, Which is His body..." There are many different churches and denominations in this world, but there is only one true Church. That one Church is the "one body," the Church, the Body of Christ.

The Body of Christ is a living, spiritual organism, made up of members who are in Christ and have life eternal in Him. From Paul forward, all who have trusted the gospel of grace, that Christ died for our sins and rose again (1 Cor. 15:3-4) are members of the one Body. The "one body" is made up of believing Jews and believing Gentiles who are one in the one Body (Eph. 2:14-16).

ONE **One Body**

The one *Body* is unique to the epistles of Paul. No other writer of Scripture mentions the Church, the Body of Christ. It was a truth unknown before Paul. The “one body” is the Church of the present dispensation of grace.



As we read through the seven points of the unity, we find that Satan has attacked it at each point. As for the one Body, we find that many confuse Israel with the one Body, making us “spiritual Israel” and so claiming her promises, rather than recognizing the uniqueness of the Church and our own promises in Christ.

One Spirit

“...and one Spirit...” (Eph. 4:4b).

for the Church. The one Spirit, the same Holy Spirit, indwells every member of the Church (1 Cor. 6:19), which is the one body, and that makes us one (Eph. 2:22).

At the moment of salvation, the one Spirit baptizes, or He identifies us as a member of the one body (1 Cor. 12:12-13). The Spirit is also the seal of all who believe the gospel of grace. He is the seal of all in the Church (Eph. 1:13). Thus, He joins us to the Church and makes us members of the one body and members of one another forever (Rom. 12:5).

Along with strengthening our inner man (Eph. 3:16), empowering our service, and producing His fruit in our lives (5:9), the “one Spirit” enlightens us to His Word (1 Cor. 2:9-14) and what it means to our lives. He can illuminate in detail what the unity of the Spirit means in each of its seven elements.

Here too, Satan has attacked the doctrine concerning the one Spirit. Beliefs concerning His working today are the source

ONE One Spirit

Second, Paul wrote that there is “one Spirit.” The truth of the “one Spirit” and His *current* working in the dispensation of grace is to be a unifying doctrine

of much division and disunity. Although His working has changed, many attempt to perform the miraculous sign gifts of the Spirit during the Acts

period, signs and miracles that were part of the early Church and Israel's program.

One Hope

“...even as ye are called in one hope of your calling” (Eph. 4:4c).

Third, Paul wrote that there is “one hope of your calling.”

their King ruling over them. However, for the one body, Ephesians 2:6 informs the Church that God “hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in HEAVENLY places in Christ Jesus” (cf. Col. 1:5). Our one hope and calling is to live and reign in Christ in the glories of heaven forever.

ONE **One Hope**

We are members of the same Church, the one body, and we each are indwelt by the same Spirit, and all of us in the Church have the same hope. Every member of the Body of Christ is called to one sure destiny: heaven.



Under the prophesied program of Scripture, Israel has an earthly hope and calling: a promised land and a glorious kingdom on earth with Christ

Satan has attacked this part of the unity of the Spirit as well, because many are confused about their future hope. There are many who think our hope and calling is God's kingdom on the earth. There are others who think we'll go to heaven for a while and then come back for the Kingdom. Still others believe we will live in the new Jerusalem on the new earth for the eternal state.

However, God wants His Church joined in heart and mind in understanding the “one hope of *your* calling,” not *their* calling, the calling that is for post-Tribulation, believing Israel on the earth. God wants “The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know *what is the hope of His calling*” (Eph. 1:18) for the Church, which is an eternal home in heaven.

One Lord

“One Lord...” (Eph. 4:5a).

Fourth, Paul wrote that there is “one Lord.” Our one Lord is the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. Lordship

and now we are His. He has the right to rule over us as our Lord and Savior (2 Cor. 5:15). Spiritual oneness in the Church results when we put focus and praise upon our one Lord.

ONE One Lord

indicates authority. Christ is the truest and highest Authority of all (Phil. 2:9-11; 1 Tim. 6:15). He is our Sovereign Master and Ruler. The same Lord is over all the one body (Eph. 1:20-23).

Ephesians 5:23 states that “Christ is the Head of the Church: and He is the Saviour of the body.” The “one Lord” is our living Head. Today, in His exaltation, He has sovereign authority over the one body, the Church. He rules and reigns supreme over it. As our Head, He leads, guides, and governs it, infusing it with His life, power, and wisdom (1 Cor. 1:30). Regarding our Lord, Paul wrote, “In Whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace” (Eph. 1:7). Our Lord is our Savior Who redeemed us by His shed blood,

The unity of the Spirit as it relates to our “one Lord” is to follow and obey Him according to what He is doing today in the dispensation of grace. Satan has attacked the doctrine of the “one Lord” as He ministers today in that so many attempt to follow the Lord according to His teachings for Israel under the law with the earthly kingdom “at hand” (Matt. 4:17; 10:7). “One Lord” in the unity of the Spirit means the Lord in His current, heavenly ministry under grace. The Church is led by the “one Lord” as we follow and apply His instructions for the Church, under grace, which He has revealed in the pages of Paul’s epistles.

One Faith

“...one faith...” (Eph. 4:5b).

Fifth, Paul wrote that there is “one faith.” The one faith is

ONE One Faith

the body of truth for this current dispensation of grace (3:2). This faith explains each plank of the unity of the Spirit. The faith is that which Paul calls “the revelation of the mystery” (Rom. 16:25 cf. Eph. 3:9), and it had “been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to His saints” (Col. 1:26).



This faith explains the truth of the “one body,” the Church under grace made up of all who have trusted the gospel of the grace of God, both Jew and Gentile without distinction. This “one faith” explains how the “one Spirit” works and operates under grace, and the Holy Spirit, in turn, enlightens believers to the “one faith” in His Word. The “one faith” also explains the “one hope,” the hope of heaven for the one body. The “one faith” teaches us about the “one Lord” as well and His ministry at God’s

right hand as the Head of the Church, and the one faith is His direct will that He revealed for the Body of Christ. The “one faith” is the body of grace truth found in the letters of Paul, and the Church is called to unite under the “one faith” for this age.

The “one faith” reveals the gospel of salvation for the current dispensation of grace: the gospel of the grace of God (Acts 20:24). This gospel for today is faith alone in Christ (Eph. 2:8-9), that He died for our sins, was buried, and rose again. At the moment of salvation, of personal faith in the “one Lord,” the “one Spirit” by the “one baptism” places believers into the “one body” and gives them the “one hope” of heaven.

Satan hates the “one faith” and has viciously attacked it. The works gospel of the kingdom is often mixed with the gospel of the grace of God. And the faith for the Church is often confused with what Israel was called to believed and the teachings concerning the law and the earthly kingdom.

One Baptism

“...one baptism” (Eph. 4:5c).

Sixth, Paul wrote that there is “one baptism.” The word

ONE **One Baptism**

“baptism” refers to thorough and complete identification. It means to be identified with, joined to, and united perfectly with.

In Paul’s epistles, we often see the prepositional phrase of “in Christ” and “in Him” (Eph. 1:1,3,4,10). It is through the one baptism that a person is placed into Christ and spiritually united with Him, and is so thoroughly and completely identified with Him that the Word of God says that we are actually and truly, in all reality, “in Christ.”

It is the “one Spirit” Who carries out the one baptism under grace. Every believer in the gospel of grace has experienced the one baptism. Although we don’t see or feel it, the moment we trust Christ as our personal Savior, we are baptized by the Holy Spirit into Christ. Through the one spiritual baptism, the believer is identified completely with and united eternally to Christ and is placed into the one body. As 1 Corinthians 12:13 says, “For by *one Spirit* are we all *baptized* into *one Body*, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free....”

The “one faith” teaches that the “one baptism” by the “one Spirit” places us into the “one body,” and joins us eternally to

the “one Lord.” Due to that irreversible, inseparable union, we have “one [heavenly] hope” and an eternal relationship with the “One God and Father of all.”

This one glorious, divine baptism unites us with Christ *and* with His finished work. Paul teaches in Romans 6:3, “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death?” The moment we believe the gospel of grace, the Holy Spirit unites us with Christ and with His death, burial, and resurrection. This being so, we have newness of life in Christ (v. 4), and we are complete in Him (Col. 2:10).

We can clearly see how Satan has attacked the subject of baptism. Probably more than any other thing, baptism has divided the Church. However, God would have the Church united by the one spiritual baptism into Christ. To rectify the confusion and arrive at the truth regarding the one baptism, we must look to the “one faith” for today to define it.

One God and Father

“One God and Father of all, Who is above all, and through all, and in you all” (Eph. 4:6).

Seventh, Paul wrote that there is “One God and Father.”

ONE **One God and Father**

In the unity of the Spirit, Paul has taught that there is “one Spirit,” or God the Holy Spirit, and there is “one Lord,” or God the Son. Completing the Trinity in the unity of the Spirit, Paul tells us there is “One God and Father of all.” The unity of the Spirit involves all three members of the Godhead and the working of God under grace.

Verse 6 refers to God the Father and His relationship to all the “one body.” The “all” in this verse refers to “all” the


The unity of the Spirit teaches us that we are all part of the same Church, which is the one body, and the one Spirit dwells in every member of that one body. Every member of the one body has the same heavenly hope, and we each have one Lord. We all have one faith to stand for and live by, and we are joined to the body, to each other, and to Christ and His finished work by the same glorious baptism. And in that one body, we all alike bow in worship and have a relationship

One Body
One Spirit
One Hope
One Lord
One Faith
One Baptism
One God and Father

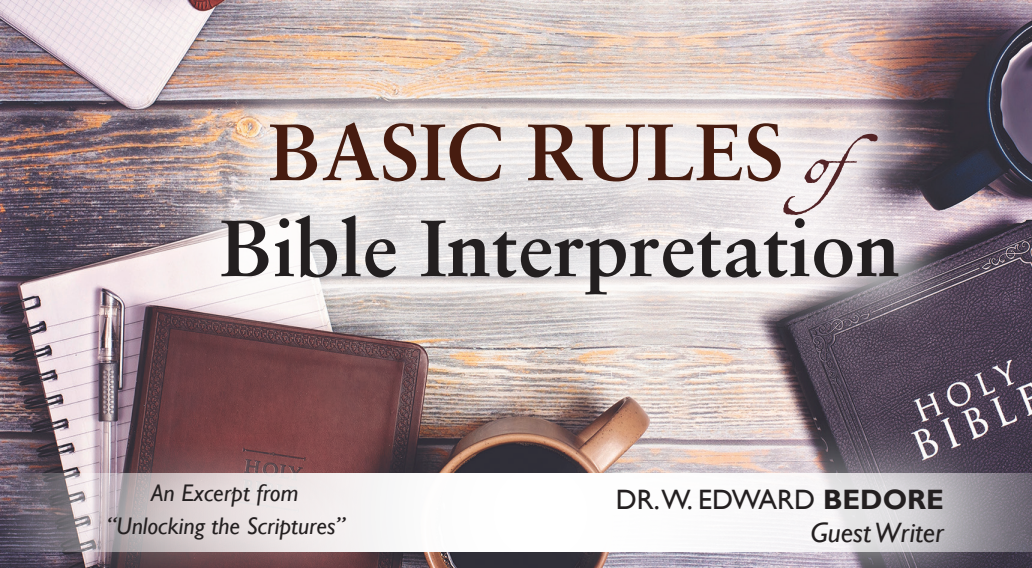
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body; it is what is common to all the Church. That is, God is the Father “of all” the Church. As believers, God is our Father, and such is our personal relationship with Him. God is “above all” and over the Church; we are one people under one Sovereign. God works “through all” the Church (Phil. 2:13), and He dwells “in...all” the members of the one body.

with the one God and Father, Who is above us all, through us all, and in us all.

May each of us retain an abiding understanding and awareness of “Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” 

1. Quoted from A.W. Tozer, *The Pursuit of God: The Human Thirst for the Divine*, Goodreads, accessed November 29, 2025, <https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/369949-has-it-ever-occurred-to-you-that-one-hundred-pianos>.



BASIC RULES *of* Bible Interpretation

An Excerpt from
“Unlocking the Scriptures”

DR. W. EDWARD BEDORE
Guest Writer

- The Bible is inerrant and our **first** and **final** authority: God’s Word is our **only source** for what we are to believe and how we are to live.
- Scripture has but one meaning: Each passage of Scripture has a definite meaning of its own. If Scripture has more than one meaning, we can never be certain of its meaning. It should be understood to mean what it meant to those it was originally addressed to. “Each book of the Bible was written for some specific and immediate purpose.” (*Heart of Hebrew History* by H.I. Hester, p. 6, Broadman Press).
- Scripture explains Scripture: In Bible study let the Bible speak for itself. Compare Scripture with Scripture and don’t add to or subtract from it. Often difficult passages of Scripture become clear when they are connected to other portions of God’s Word.
- Pay attention to context: Give careful consideration not only to the preceding and following passages of Scripture, but also to the context of the overall teachings of Scripture.
- Pay attention to dispensational distinctives: Prophecy and Mystery must be recognized as separate programs of God concerning different people in different periods of history.
- Always keep in mind that the Lord Jesus Christ is the focal point of all Scripture: Everything in the Bible is in some way related to the Person of Jesus Christ and God’s overall plan and purpose of the redemption of sinners. It is important to remember that, although Jesus Christ is the one and only Savior, there are dispensational aspects of His ministry that

need to be recognized. For instance, today the Lord Jesus Christ is seated at the Father's right hand in heaven and "*maketh intercession for us*" (Rom. 8:33-34; Eph. 1:14-20; 1 Tim. 2:5-6). However, at some future point of time, Jesus Christ will return to earth to judge His enemies (Jude 1:14-15; Matt. 24:29-30; 25:31-33; Rev. 19:11-21; Jer. 23:5-6).

- Rely on the Holy Spirit to give you understanding (1 Cor. 2:11-16; Eph. 1:15-19). Human intellect alone is able to learn many facts and details of God's Word, but it cannot grasp the true and full significance of the spiritual truth expressed therein. To truly understand the Bible, a person must be regenerated by the Holy Spirit through faith in Jesus Christ (Titus 3:5-7; 1 Cor. 2:11-16).

GOD'S PURPOSE IN BIBLE STUDY

- God wants us to be lifelong learners of His truth (2 Tim. 2:15).
- God wants us to be faithful to the truth (2 Tim. 4:2).
- God wants us to teach others the truth (2 Tim. 2:1-2).



REQUIREMENTS FOR A PROPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE BIBLE

- Regeneration (1 Cor. 2:10,14).
- A desire to learn (Acts 13:42).
- Reverence for God and His Word and its priority (2 Tim. 3:16-17).
- A willingness to test all teaching by the Scriptures (Acts 17:11).
- A willingness to submit to the truth of God's Word (1 Thes. 2:13).
- Reliance on the Holy Spirit to help understand God's Word (1 Cor. 2:10-11).



ARRIVING AT CONCLUSIONS

How we understand the Bible will determine our understanding of what the Bible teaches (doctrine). In other words, our interpretation of Scripture will define our theology (what we believe about God). The use of the proper rules of hermeneutics is vital

in this area, as a correct theology can only be gained by a correct understanding of Scripture.

IMPORTANT: A “logical system of theology” must **not** be allowed to determine our interpretation of Scripture. What may seem “logical” may not be Scriptural at all. Logic is based on man’s reasoning powers, but Scripture is what God has revealed to man. Therefore, interpretation of Scripture, not logical deduction must be the final factor in establishing Bible doctrine (theology). Many theological works are built on a philosophical base. This is wrong. A proper theology must be Bible based with Scripture alone as the only authoritative and reliable source of truth (2 Tim. 3:16-17). The believer’s worldview is to be Bible based. If it is not, it will be built on philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men (Col. 2:8-10).

EFFORT REQUIRED



Like all worthwhile endeavors, real Bible study requires serious effort. You will only get out of Bible study what you are willing to put into it. Time spent in learning the proper methods of hermeneutics is an investment that will pay off in eternal dividends when they are put to practice in the


future. The more you use them the more fruitful your study time will become.

The treasures found in God’s Word are greater in value than any of the riches to be found in the world. The most important treasure, the greatest riches, indeed the abundant wealth of God is found in the One Who is the centerpiece of Scripture, **the Lord Jesus Christ** (Eph. 1:7; 2:4-7; Col. 1:27; 2:2-3).

- Jesus Christ is the focal point of the Bible.
- Real and absolute wealth is found in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- The most valuable riches to be found in all the universe are found in the Person of Jesus Christ (Col. 1:27; 2:2-3).

The study of the Bible is a life-long endeavor for the believer, an endeavor that is more than worth the time and effort put into

it. The dividends are eternal. Hard work in Bible study is more than worth the labor invested in it.

- Be determined to learn.
- Be eager to learn.
- Be regular in study.
- Be prayerful before, during, and after study.
- Be willing to sacrifice time and energy to study. 

Question Box



"I believe that all believing Old Testament and Pentecostal assembly (church) believers are 'in Christ,' but are not in the Body of Christ and will not be included in the Rapture, but will be resurrected in Revelation 20:4. Am I right or wrong and what Scripture location will give me some kind of assurance of my thinking?"

You are correct regarding the Old Testament saints and those saved under the Kingdom program in the early chapters of Acts. They are "in Christ" but not in the Body of Christ. No matter the dispensation, any person must be "in Christ" to be saved. The Apostle Paul wrote about those saints in Romans 16:7, "Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellowprisoners, who are of note among the apostles, **who also were in Christ before me.**" These saints would've been saved under the ministry of Peter and the eleven apostles.

Old Testament and Pentecostal saints, though "in Christ," have a different hope and will be resurrected to enter the Millennial Kingdom when the Lord Jesus Christ returns to rule on the earth (Rev. 20:4 cf. Dan. 12:2). Our hope, as members of the Body of Christ, will take place at the Rapture. This resurrection is our "blessed hope," at which time we will meet the Lord in the air; He will change our bodies to be like His, and we'll forever be with Him (1 Thes. 4:13-18; Titus 2:13 cf. Rom. 8:23; Phil. 3:20-21). What a day that will be!

—*Pastor Jim Tollar*



The BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON

PASTOR JOHN **FREDERICKSEN**

BBS Board Member

One of the most decisive battles of WWII was D-Day. On June 6, 1944, Allied forces landed on five beaches in France, marking the beginning of the liberation of Europe from Nazi occupation.

In the future, Satan will gather the nations of the world in another world war to assault Jerusalem with a multitude of military forces. Satan will amass "...the whole world together them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty... into a place called...Armageddon" (Rev. 16:14,16). This battle will mark the liberation of the world from Satan's reign on earth through the Antichrist during the coming seven years of tribulation.

When this battle takes place is specified in several passages.

Revelation 19:11-16 describes the Second Coming of Christ at

the end of the seven years of tribulation. This comes after the emergence of the Antichrist (2 Thes. 2:9), and after his treaty of peace with Israel that he will break after three and a half years by demanding that everyone worship the Antichrist (Dan. 9:27). Armageddon will take place after intense persecution of Jews who trust in Christ for eternal salvation (Matt. 24:9-10). It will also come after the pouring out of God's wrath upon mankind to punish their sinfulness, therein humbling the lost and giving them opportunity to turn to Christ in saving faith (Rev. 16:1-12). Immediately following our Lord's return in the Battle of Armageddon, His 1000 reign on earth will begin (Rev. 20:4).

Where the Battle of Armageddon takes place is the land of Israel.

Satan's human armies will be "gathered...together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon" (Rev. 16:16). "Armageddon" means *"the mountain of Megiddo."* It is located west of the Jordan River in north central Israel, 10 miles south of Nazareth and 15 miles from the Mediterranean Sea. However, this battle will be so large that it will include other specified locations. Joel 3:2,12 refers to "the valley of Jehoshaphat," which is east of Jerusalem. Isaiah 63:1 states that the Lord comes in judgment from "Edom," which is south of Jerusalem. Ezekiel 38:9,16 reveals the armies that amass against Israel will be "like a cloud to cover the land," meaning the entire land of Israel, or roughly 180 miles from north to south. Modern weapons of war will be used but NOT nuclear bombs because Satan wants to occupy Jerusalem as the center where he seeks the worship of the entire world.

Why the Battle of Armageddon will take place.

This battle will take place because Satan wants the worship of all the world. Isaiah 14:12-14 describes the fall of Satan into sin because he wanted to exalt his throne into heaven and "be like the most High." 2 Thessalonians 2:4 states that Satan's man of sin, the Antichrist, will "opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or

that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God [in Jerusalem], shewing himself that he is God." Revelation 13:2,4 reveals that Satan gives his power to the Antichrist to demand to be "worshipped." But this worship belongs only to the Lord Jesus Christ and will be realized in His Millennial Kingdom.



Armageddon will take place because Satan hates Israel and her Messiah so much that he will seek to exterminate all the Jews. The Lord Jesus warned that in the seven years of tribulation, "ye shall be hated of all men for My name's sake" (Matt. 10:22). During this time, many Jews who trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for eternal life will be "beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the Word of God..." (Rev. 20:4; see also 6:9-11). Like Hitler's campaign to kill all Jews, it will be even worse in the Tribulation. It will be a satanic-empowered campaign to make "war with the saints" (Dan. 7:21) to rid the world of all Jewish people in a futile attempt to thwart

people from coming to saving faith and worshipping the Lord Jesus Christ. We derive this concept from Revelation 16:14 where the word “polemous,” or *campaign*, is used to describe the process of Satan persecuting believing Jews and gathering “the whole world...to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.”

The Anti-Defamation League surveyed more than 58,000 adults from 103 countries and territories representing 94% of the world’s adult population. A fifth of the respondents hadn’t heard of the Holocaust, during which six million Jews were killed, while 21% believe it has either been exaggerated by historians or it never happened.¹ With disregard for the documented historical facts of the Holocaust, and growing present-day hatred and attacks against Jewish people, it is understandable that the Antichrist will be able to incite horrible persecution against all Jews in the days ahead.

Armageddon will occur because God will supernaturally draw the armies of Satan to this great battle. In Ezekiel 38:4,

God predicts that He will “put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring...all thine armies” to this great battle. In Zechariah 14:2, God confirms this by promising “For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle.” This does NOT mean that God causes these lost ones to hate Israel, sinfully persecute believers, or participate in efforts to annihilate all Jews. This is what Satan will do through a campaign of lies. God drawing these armies that hate Israel, simply means that He will bring them to a place of judgment and defeat.

Armageddon will take place because God will unleash His fury on the lost who will persecute and martyr those who trust in Christ for eternal life. Ezekiel 38:18 describes God’s wrath being released by saying, “And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog [the leader of Russia] shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, that My fury shall come up in My face.” No longer will the Lord restrain His wrath from falling on lost souls who reject His Son as their Savior. Those who participate in persecuting



believing Jews unto death during the Tribulation will be slain by the Savior.

What will happen at Armageddon is summarized by 9 major events.

1. Preceding the actual battle of Armageddon, *Satan will amass innumerable armies to assault Israel*. The Devil will use men who will have “the spirits of devils [or demons], working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty” (Rev. 16:14). These armies will overrun Jerusalem. “The houses [will be] rifled, and the women ravished...” (Zech. 14:2). Then massive earthquakes will take



place. Ezekiel 38:19-20 describes the fire of God's wrath being unleashed with “a great shaking in the land...all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at My presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down...and every wall shall fall to the ground.”

2. *God will cause confusion in the armies of the Antichrist so that they turn on one another and slay their own fellow soldiers*. Ezekiel 38:21 says, “I will call for a sword against him throughout all My mountains, saith the Lord God; every man's sword shall be against his brother.” Rather than continuing to kill believing Jews, the human armies of Satan will slay one another.

3. *God will send devastating rain and hail*. Revelation 16 predicts that when the armies of the Antichrist are “gathered... together into a place called...Armageddon” (v. 16), that “there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent...” (v. 21). Many will be crushed by the hail because the weight of “a talent” is estimated to be over 75 pounds. It will be as in the days of Joshua when “the LORD cast down great stones from heaven upon [Israel's enemies]...and they died...” (Josh. 10:11). Ezekiel 38:22 also promises His judgment upon the world “with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, [with] an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.” “The bands” and “the many people” seem to refer to the armies of Satan at the Battle of Armageddon. Floods will sweep some away. Many will be devoured with fire (possibly

lightning) from heaven and brimstone (likely from volcanic eruptions). The Savior will use these things as instruments of destruction upon the lost at His Second Coming which ends the Battle of Armageddon.

4. *Suddenly, loudly, and majestically, the Lord Jesus will descend from heaven to the earth to vanquish the forces who come against Israel.* Prophetically viewing this event, the Apostle John described it saying, “I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war” (Rev. 19:11). Matthew 24:27 describes the coming conquering Savior saying, “For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be.” When Christ comes in the clouds, “every eye shall see Him...and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him” (Rev. 1:7). His presence will be amplified with eyes that are “as a flame of fire” (Rev. 19:12). His piercing gaze will likely make Satan’s army cower in fear and awe.

5. *Christ will triumphantly slay the lost hosts who have assembled with the Antichrist to attack Israel.* Isaiah 63:3 teaches that *only the Savior slays the lost* who assemble against Israel: “I have trodden the winepress alone...for I will tread them in Mine anger, and

trample them in My fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon My garments” Zechariah 14:3 specifies, “Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations...” and Isaiah 13:9 states it is “the LORD [Who]... shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it [the land].” When the Savior appears as the conquering King, “out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations...” (Rev. 19:15).



No human or angelic armies will be used of the Lord to fight against the lost who assemble against Israel at the Battle of Armageddon. “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS” (Rev. 19:16)—the Lord Jesus Christ alone will conquer these armies. Revelation 19:13 specifies that “He [the Savior] was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood.” This reference emphasizes the massive number of the ungodly who are properly slaughtered in this battle as the Lord Jesus Christ defends Israel.



6. *Birds will feed on the masses of slain bodies.* Revelation 19:17-18 describes an angel of God "...saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings...horses...and the flesh of all men...both small and great." Even with the aid of birds devouring those slain at Armageddon, it will take seven months to bury the dead and burn their instruments of war (Ezek. 39:11-15).

7. *"And the armies which were in heaven followed Him [the Lord Jesus Christ] upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean"* (Rev. 19:14). While Jewish saints are also described as being clothed in white linen, which represents "the righteousness of saints" (Rev. 19:8), it seems illogical for them to participate in the Battle of Armageddon until they are first judged and rewarded as they enter the Millennial Kingdom (2 Tim. 4:1). It also seems inconsistent for members of the Body of Christ to be included in Christ's army at

Armageddon because this is "the time of Jacob's [Israel's] trouble" (Jer. 30:7), and we have no clear verses to specify that believers today interact during this era.

We believe these accompanying armies will be angels because they are God's mighty agents, clothed in white, as when rolling the stone from the Savior's tomb (Matt. 28:1-4). However, the role of these angels is not to slay the lost who attack Israel; for the Savior "alone" (Isa. 63:3) is the one who vanquishes these armies. Matthew 24:31 tells us what this army of angels will do. God "shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect [believing Jews] from the four winds [of the earth]." These angels will facilitate the return of believing Jews to Israel to safely "possess" their promised land (Jer. 30:3).


8. *The Antichrist and false prophet will be thrust into eternal hell fire.* Revelation 19:20 states, "And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of

the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.” Like all the lost who will ultimately be sent to eternal punishment, they will never experience rest, escape, or pardon. They will forever be in eternal “torment” (Rev. 14:11).

9. *Satan will be bound in a bottomless pit for 1000 years.* The Apostle John writes: “And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years...and shut him up, and set a seal upon him...” (Rev. 20:1-3). Revelation 20 further explains that, after Christ reigns on earth for 1000 years, Satan will be released for a short while. Before being cast into the eternal Lake of Fire, Satan will again assemble lost souls

born during the Millennium for one last battle against Israel. However, Satan’s defeat at the Battle of Armageddon will mark 1000 years of liberation from his direct attacks upon mankind.

CONCLUSION

Based on the mercy of God and the authority of God’s Word, rightly divided, it is clear that those who trust in Christ now will be spared from, or not experience, these events. We will be taken to heaven before they occur (1 Thes. 4:14-18). 1 Thessalonians 1:10 promises that *we have been “delivered... from the wrath to come”* that will occur during the seven years of tribulation and in events surrounding the Battle of Armageddon. Believe this truth, rejoice in it, thank God for it, and never waver from this assurance. 

1. Bojsn Pancevski, “Nearly Half of Adults Worldwide Hold Antisemitic Views, Survey Finds,” The Wall Street Journal (1-14-25).

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP



The believer’s prayers are vital to the work of the Lord, but His gifts, as the fruit of the Spirit, are equally necessary. This is why it is so important to plan your giving, so that it may prove most effective in the work of the Lord and bring the most glory to Him. (This may take the form of wills, estates, life insurance policies, living trusts, stocks, charitable remainder trusts, etc.). When we receive a gift or are named in a will as a beneficiary, this allows us to keep printing and sending out the truth of the gospel for many years to come!

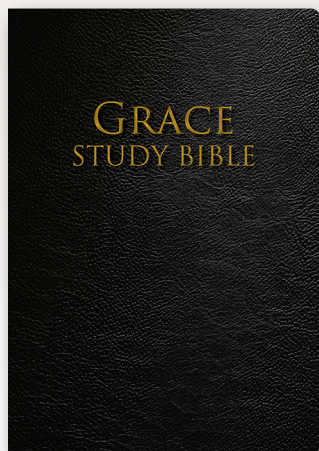
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1. "Biblical Creation," <https://www.facebook.com/1mill.creationist>.



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We were created to work, rest, and begin again. God's Word says we can find blessings in *all* aspects of our life, in the everyday things that He has provided for us.

We can find blessings in the opportunity to serve Him in our daily work: "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord" (Col. 3:23). "Always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Cor. 15:58). When we are doing what He has called us to do, and we do it unto the Lord, it changes our focus and our attitude.

No matter how rough a day is, one of the blessings that God gives us at the end of that day, is rest. We find blessings by resting in God, "Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him" (Psa. 37:7). "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28).

There is a blessing at the beginning of every new day in that He gives us the strength to begin again: "...His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness" (Lam. 3:22-23). "He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might He increaseth strength....But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles..." (Isa. 40:29,31).

We all have those areas where we wished we could've done better, areas that we wished we had more time, more energy, etc. God's Word gives us an answer to that as well, "But this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:13-14). We need to leave those things behind and not drag them forward with us. We need to lay those weights down, and "reach forth unto those things which are before" and then, we can choose to have a *new view* and live each day as unto the Lord.

—*Jessica Sadler*

BBS

Letter Excerpts



From YouTube:

(Responding to *Transformed by Grace*) “I’m an 80-year-old Christian and was so confused with Matthew, Hebrews, Acts, and James until I learned how to rightly divide the Word of TRUTH and about Dispensationism. My confusion was solved. Thank you. I enjoy reading my Bible again and especially Romans through Philemon!”

From YouTube:

(Responding to *Transformed by Grace*) “Wonderful message. Paul certainly had a burden for his brethren. I’m very glad to have found this channel! I wish that all Christians would see the significance and distinction of Paul’s letters and ministry to the Church, the Body of Christ for today. Thank you, Pastor Kevin, for boldly proclaiming it.”

From Wisconsin:

“Here is some monetary help for the printing of the Grace Study Bible. Thanks to all of you who have labored over this much needed work. We are so thankful for your faithfulness and diligence in completing this work.”

From New Mexico:

(Responding to *Two Minutes With The Bible* “Will We Also Go Away?”) “This was so sad for me to read. Cornelius Stam has become quite special in my heart. I so look forward to meeting him, and to worship with him in eternity will be a great honor. Our Father has written His law on my heart, and I pray that he will guard it and not allow me to wander.”

From Texas:

“I have the commentary of Thessalonians. It is fantastic, it is a blessing...Thank you all. Praise the Lord.”

From New Jersey:

(In response to the out-of-print booklet “The Dimensions of the Mystery”) “It’s opened my eyes, and I’m going to teach it!”

From Florida:

“Thank you all for your wonderful Bible presentations, which I value for spiritual growth... Pastor Kevin explains nicely...I love God’s Word as much as you also do. Thank you and may God bless all your endeavors in Jesus’ Mighty Name.”

From Our Mailbox:

(Responding to *Berean Searchlight*) “I have been receiving your publication for six or seven years. I have enjoyed the content of the *Searchlight*. I can tell that your intent is to present the truth of God’s Word in applicable ways. Sometimes the information is informative, sometimes it is profound, often times it is touching, but in all ways, it has helped lighten my understanding of the way that my life should be going, which is centered in Christ, heaven focused, and built upon the truth of God’s Word.”

From Pennsylvania:

(Responding to *Daily Transformation* “Readiness of Mind”) “I am eager to learn and know more about the Word of God, which is why I am constantly reading the Bible.”

From Georgia:

“You folks are such a blessing to us. Praise the Lord for the Body of Christ.”

From Our Mailbox:

“Pastor Kevin, thank you so much for sharing the wonderful grace of God with such enthusiasm and heart! Your *Transformed by Grace* segments/DVDs are full of truth, life, fun, and color, with the ability to reach everyone wanting to learn!”

From Pennsylvania:

(Responding to *Two Minutes with the Bible* “The Church Under Grace”) “Thank you very much for the explanation of the word ‘church.’”

From Uganda:

“Praise the Lord...for the powerful article about the art of distraction in the issue of January 2025. I am blessed to share this message with my church in our evening Bible studies as our reference guide going forward. It is good to learn that we should always be watchful and give ourselves to the study and meditation of God’s Word and prayer, in order to escape the devil’s tricks, and distractions he puts in our relationship with God, and the relationship between spouses... Thank you so much and keep sending me more, and may the Good Lord richly bless the *Berean Bible Society*.”

From North Carolina:

“I watch your program on YouTube. Your teaching has been such a blessing to me. There were many times that I thought the Bible was contradicting but that never stopped me from believing. Your teaching on rightly dividing the Word gave me so many answers to so many questions. Thank you and God bless you all!”

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—Acts 17:11—

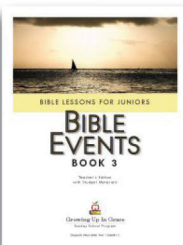
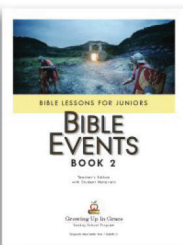
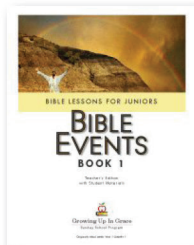
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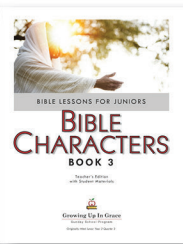
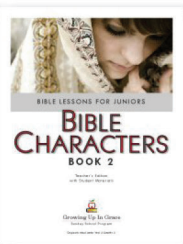
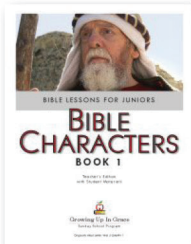


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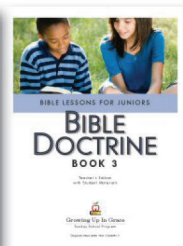
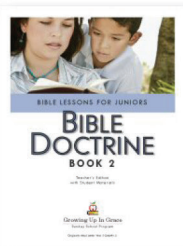
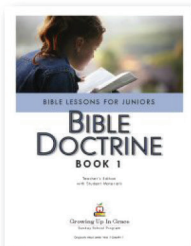


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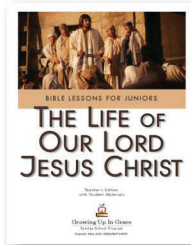
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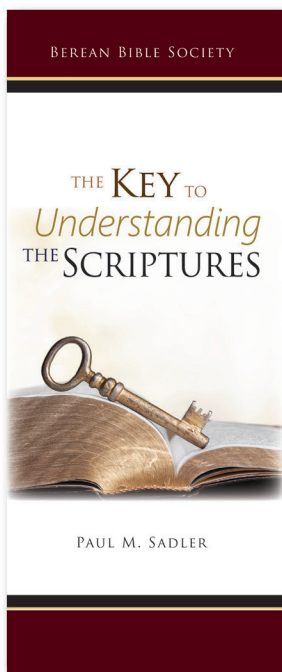
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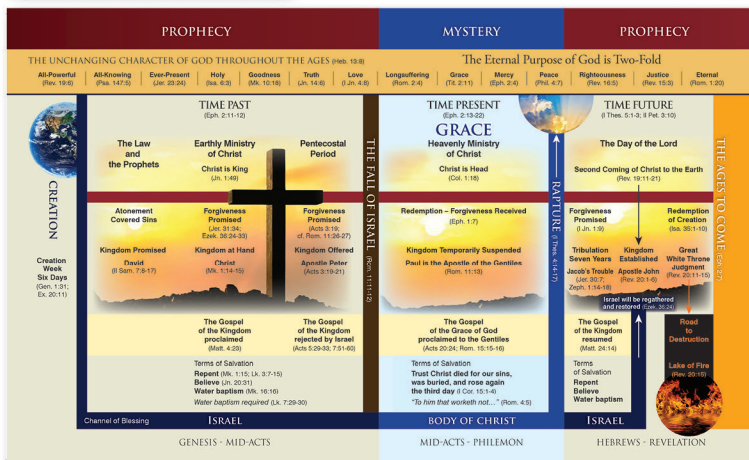
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News & Announcements



Sunday Meetings: On Sunday, January 11, *Berean Bible Society* President, Pastor Kevin Sadler, will be holding forth the Word of life at *Grace Bible Church* in West Allis, Wisconsin. The church is located at 2643 S. 117th Street. We would love to see you there! Also, on Sunday, February 1, Pastor Kevin will be sharing the Bread of life at *Faith Bible Church*, 560 E. Sauk Trail, Steger, Illinois. This is the special assembly where our former editor, Ricky Kurth, has served as pastor for over 40 years. The service will be followed by some good eating at a potluck dinner!

Prayer Requests: *Berean Bible Society* believes in the power of prayer to and through the living God. If you need someone to pray for you, please reach out to us with your prayer request. When we gather as a staff for our devotions, we go through the list of prayer requests that we receive through phone calls, emails, or snail mail, and we lift each one up individually before the throne of grace. Whatever your request, it would be our privilege to pray for you.



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Grace Bible Church
January 11, West Allis, WI

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February 1, Steger, IL



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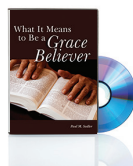
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2026

"Another year is dawning. Father, let it be.
In working or in waiting, another year with Thee;
Another year of progress, another year of praise,
Another year of proving. Thy presence all my days."

—Frances Ridley Havergal

TBG

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BEREAN BIBLE SOCIETY TV MINISTRY

Monday–Friday 6:00 pm ET:

Christian Television Network (CTN)

- DirecTV: Channel 376
- Dish Network: Channel 262
- Glory Star Satellite: Channel 117

TBG Network 24/7 streaming channel on
Roku, Apple TV, and Apple Fire TV

Also available on TBG YouTube, and the BBS website

