

“[The Bereans] . . . searched the scriptures daily,

[to see] whether those things were so.” —Acts 17:11

## The Wide Gate Is Booming — Part Two

T. A. McMahon

*Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.*

—MATTHEW 7:13-14

AS WE POINTED OUT in Part One, those who have chosen to enter through the “strait gate” are those who are born again, which can only take place by putting their faith in Jesus Christ, who paid the full penalty for their sin. Furthermore, “strait is the gate, and narrow is the [only] way which leads unto life.” That life, of course, is *eternal life*.

Nevertheless, “many” choose the wide gate and broad way “that leadeth to destruction,” which is basically a prelude to spending eternity in the Lake of Fire. There they shall be “tormented day and night for ever and ever” (Revelation 20:10). It was also noted in Part One that Satan has an End Times game plan for the destruction of humanity. That again is indicated in the “wide gate” of Matthew 7:13 and underscored in Revelation 12:12: “Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.” There’s little doubt that this short time period will involve an overwhelming and incredibly diverse flood of the Adversary’s wicked devices (2 Corinthians 11).

Having been, by God’s grace, involved in biblical apologetics for more than four decades, I can confirm Solomon’s teaching that there’s *nothing new under the sun*. That’s especially true when it comes to Satan’s devices and deceptions. They increase exponentially by modifications, adaptations, revised definitions, corruptions, and straight-out lies, albeit issuing forth *nothing new*. Psychological counseling is just one of hundreds of examples. It is the antithesis of counseling from the Scriptures, and the chief opposition to the *sufficiency* of God’s Word. It includes thousands of therapies and techniques, all of which are based on the same lie—whether they are promoted through so-called Christian psychology or some other humanistic pseudo-social science. They are all variations of the “man is as God” lie: the belief that he can fix his mental, emotional, and spiritual problems. Just as a leopard cannot change its spots, neither can man change his sinful nature.

We offer a book (see the back cover of this NL) written more than 120 years ago titled *Christianity and Anti-Christianity in Their Final Conflict (CATFC)*. The author, Samuel Andrews, simply searched the prophecies of the Scriptures to see if any of those verses were being fulfilled when he lived. The “*Anti-Christianity*” that abounded in his day came primarily through the many philosophers such as Kant, Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Emerson, Thoreau, and the like. It took decades for their beliefs in their own deity to slither down from academia and worm their way throughout society, leaving no facet of our lives unaffected by their self-deifying delusions.

CATFC spells out the basis for what we’re observing today and shows clearly where it’s all headed: godhood is the claimed destiny for humanity, and it’s reinforced by the lying signs and wonders of the man of lawlessness, the Antichrist. This belief won’t have its greatest acceptance until after the Antichrist himself is revealed—which takes place when the body of Christ is Raptured and the Holy Spirit ceases to restrain the evil in the world as He has historically through the church (2 Thessalonians 2:7). Although the lie of godhood has seduced multitudes through lying signs and wonders which have taken place over thousands of years, they are mostly pitiful wannabes of what’s coming. That’s going to change. Matthew 24:24 declares that what’s coming will be bolstered by *great* signs and wonders. That’s hardly an adjective that comes to mind when describing the spiritual embarrassment of the Toronto Airport Vineyard (rolling on the floor and producing animal-like sounds). Or more recently, we have seen the “signs and wonders” of Bill Johnson’s Bethel Church of Redding, CA featuring “Glory Clouds” (glitter and gold-colored smoke), readings from Christianized Tarot Cards, “spiritual” fire tunnels with participants convulsing, shaking, falling down, and screaming, all credited as a manifestation of the Holy Spirit.

We can see that Satan has been incrementally preparing the world from the time he deceived Eve in the Garden of Eden regarding her own potential “deity” (Genesis 3:5). “Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with *all power and signs and lying wonders*, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them *strong delusion*, that they should believe [the] lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness” (2 Thessalonians 2:9-12, emphasis added).

Not having a love for the truth of God’s Word is the determining factor that keeps humanity from Jesus. Satan has no truth. “Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it” (John 8:44). As humans opt for the “broad way,” they willingly “receive not the love of the truth” and are held accountable. They choose their father the Devil. Those are just a few of the more sobering, even alarming, statements found in God’s Word regarding what’s ahead as the return of Jesus draws near.

Taking a closer look at God’s Word concerning the future, I believe it involves good news and some not-so-good news. The good news is the Lord will return soon for His church. Nothing could be better than our being with Him! One of its additional blessings is that the Lord will remove His saints from the earth prior to His pouring out His wrath upon the world for its wickedness. “For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 5:9). The not-so-good news is that *prior to the Rapture*, the body of Christ will likely undergo spiritual warfare as never before in its history.

What makes me think so? The Scriptures! The response of Jesus to the questions asked by His disciples regarding the time

of His return indicates it will be characterized by *widespread deception*. He said, “Take heed that no man deceives you” (Matthew 24:4; Mark 13:5; Luke 21:8). It will include false prophets, false Christs, and, again, *great* signs and wonders. In reading Jude’s Epistle, one gets the sense that the Holy Spirit had him shift away from discussing the glory of our salvation to a more “needful” exhortation regarding contending for the faith: “Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 1:3). Contending for the faith surely indicates a spiritual battle that God enables his saints to wage. Jude further makes a point of the enormity of the sins of homosexuality and lesbianism, noting that God judged and destroyed those who perverted His natural order. “Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire” (Jude 1:7).

Is today’s church dealing with such issues? It seems more in line with the “could-not-care-less attitude” of the Laodicean church in Revelation 3:15-18: “I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.... I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.”

To what is the “Laodicean” church blinded? How about the consequences of “suffering the vengeance of eternal fire”—as in *forever*? The utter depravity of the sin of homosexuality notwithstanding, the thought of eternal consequences seems no longer a primary concern to the church. Rarely does evangelizing today go beyond the *temporal blessings* that are promoted to attract one to Jesus (which in actuality leads to drifting away from one’s first love, a believers’ true love of Jesus [Revelation 2:4]).

Let me summarize what’s been presented above by putting it in an eschatological framework. Scripture makes it clear that the days we are in are those of apostasy, underscoring the infiltration of apostates entering the church (Acts 20:29-31; Jude 1:4). Furthermore, we see a host of the church’s influential leaders being seduced by the apostasy’s compromising heresies. Examples abound, such as the many evangelical pastors/shepherds who are feeding God’s sheep from the Mormon-produced pasture known as *The Chosen*.

This is taking place now—*before* the Rapture and the Second Coming of our Lord and Savior. Also, prior to the Rapture, true believers in the Lord will face a tsunami of deceptions and heresies as Satan pours out his wickedness upon the earth, knowing that his time is near its end (Revelation 12:12). At the Rapture, the church will be removed from the earth, followed by God pouring out His wrath among those who practice and glory in wickedness. Varying degrees of tribulation will then take place until our Lord returns from heaven with His saints to destroy the Antichrist.

Again, there will be a historic spiritual battle believers have not thus far experienced, yet they (those who have a love of the truth) will be more than able by the power of the Holy Spirit to be fruitful as well as victorious. Even so, there are professing Christians who take the position that the prevailing condition of the church in the end times will be one of worldwide revival. To that they add that Christians must rule over the world in order for Jesus to return and set up His millennial reign on earth. That is one of the major false doctrines of the New Apostolic Reformation, Bethel Church and College of Redding, CA, The Send (a stadium conference of 50,000 young people), and multitudes of others, particularly among hyper-Charismatics. However, that teaching does not have one jot or tittle of biblical support.

I was told of a pastor who explained his eschatological position to his fellowship this way: “I’m pre-Trib...but I’m not pre-trouble!” In other words, the purpose of the Rapture for him is not an “escape from trouble” doctrine. I would concur with his position. Avoiding troublesome issues does nothing to strengthen a believer in the faith. Rather, it’s why Christianity is in a seriously weakened state in our day. Again, until the Lord returns for His church, Satan will galvanize his followers who have entered through the “wide gate/broad way.” Seemingly, that is the next level of spiritual warfare which is already upon us. Even so, God’s grace will cover us. “That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man...” (Ephesians 3:16). Better yet, we’re told, “Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall *find watching*: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them” (Luke 12:37, emphasis added). So, we are to watch and wait for our Savior who will strengthen us and “direct [our] hearts into the love of God...” (2 Thessalonians 3:5).

All of that takes us to what the Lord has put on our hearts here at The Berean Call regarding how we are to continue ministering as we wait for His return from heaven. It’s a more simplified approach to discernment as we minister to those who claim to be Christians. On the one hand, we at TBC have archives going back 40 years that include a host of apologetics addressing just about every notable false doctrine and practice that the Adversary has used to bewitch both the professing and confessing church in the last two generations. The Lord willing, our archives will be available as He makes them accessible. Researching apologetics archives, especially delving deeply into doctrinal errors, is not popular today. Nevertheless, our archives are available as a resource.

However, our more simplified approach has to do with simply establishing whether or not the person being addressed considers himself or herself to be a *biblical Christian*. The answer to that question is critical for recognizing *by what authority* the one who’s answering the question is basing his response. If the reader claims to be a biblical Christian, his response must be supported by Scripture. All the questions asked should be able to be answered clearly from a specific chapter and verse of the Bible.

For example, let’s say you’re talking to a person who thinks that Catholics believe in the same Jesus that you do. You ask the person if he or she is a biblical Christian. A “yes” answer is followed by “Is the Jesus as taught in Roman Catholicism the Jesus of the Bible?” The response would be “yes,” or the person believes so. The questioner then gives a definitive Bible verse that makes it clear that the Jesus that Catholics worship is not the biblical Jesus. For instance, Scripture states that Jesus was sacrificed *once*: “By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” Or, “Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people’s: for this *he did once*, when he offered up himself” (Hebrews 10:10; 7:27, emphasis added). A following question could be: “Is the Jesus who is sacrificed continually on Catholic altars throughout the world the same as the biblical Jesus?”

An objective of this simplified apologetic approach is to challenge a person’s presuppositions, especially if they claim to be biblical Christians. It’s also meant to stimulate conversation that centers on the authority of God’s Word. Few people realize that most who call themselves Christians are not biblical Christians. To name a few, the followers of Christian Science or the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints are not biblical Christians. The Roman Catholic Church has 1.378 billion members, yet it has an unbiblical gospel and myriad of dogmas, and that’s just the tip of the iceberg of the false Christianities. The “wide gate/broad way” entrants with their false beliefs and practices are so

numerous that they are practically beyond addressing each error with a comprehensive biblical apologetic. This is becoming increasingly apparent at a time in which the church seems to have little time or interest in enduring “sound doctrine” (2 Timothy 4:3-4). Even fewer seem to care to discern biblical errors whether they be of Calvinism, or hyper-dispensationalism, or Christian psychology, or some other human-induced false teaching.

According to God’s Word, the closer we get to the return of Jesus for His church, the more spiritually demanding life on earth

will become. On the other hand, Satan’s assault on the church will greatly expand and intensify, though nothing of his wickedness will be new. As has been noted, it’s all simply revised, adjusted, amended, and updated for each new generation.

Part three of this series will include numerous examples of questions that challenge the presuppositions of those who profess to be biblical Christians.

[TO BE CONTINUED]

TBC

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Submit your own questions to: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708 • Or e-mail: [editorial@theberean.org](mailto:editorial@theberean.org)

**QUESTION:** Increasingly I’m hearing the “call to take back our land.” For example, on September 2, [2000], there was a large gathering in Washington, DC called “The Call DC.” It was advertised as follows: “THE SUMMONS IS OUT. MULTITUDES HAVE HEARD THE CALL TO FAST AND PRAY IN DC. Two generations will stand and take back our land. Now that’s revolutionary.” I saw this ad in “Global Prayer News” from Colorado Springs. Can you comment?

**RESPONSE:** First of all, I don’t understand the phrase “take back our land.” America is not the promised land of Israel which God gave to His chosen people. There is no scripture declaring that God gave America to the American Christians or Germany to the German Christians, etc. Nor is there in the entire Bible any encouragement, much less command, for Christians to take over any land on earth. Thus, if Christians ever possessed this land in the past, it was without the sanction of God. We know, however, that Christians *never* possessed America. Many settled here in the attempt to find freedom of expression and worship, but there were also many non-Christian settlers. It is quite clear that many who signed the Declaration of Independence were at best deists who referred to “providence” but did not have in mind the one true God of the Bible, nor did they know Christ as their Savior.

I have not seen the literature of which you cite merely the headlines. However, I have seen similar material. Usually its call to “take back the land” is based upon applying to the church today the promises God gave Israel. When He said, “Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you...” (Jos 1:3), He was speaking specifically to the Israelites about the land of Israel. He was *not* speaking to Americans about America, and it is improper to attempt to apply that scripture in such a way.

Yes, God said, “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land” (2 Chr 7:14). However, “my people” specifically meant Israel, and “their land” meant the land of Israel. While we may learn general lessons from this scripture about prayer and repentance, it is absolutely unbiblical for Christians today to attempt to apply this promise specifically to themselves and the land in which they live.

Consequently, marches on Washington (or elsewhere) and prayers intended to aid in taking America “back” are unbiblical and will not be honored by our Lord. Rather, one ought to pray for revival in the church and the rescue of souls from judgment. The US has had professing Christians as president and in many other high offices, without overall progress toward godliness in this country. What lost Americans need is the gospel, not coercion toward a godly lifestyle characterized by “family values” and “traditional morals.” If all Americans could be persuaded to live by such values and morals, they would still be on their way

to the lake of fire and perhaps would be even harder to reach with the gospel because of self-satisfaction with their good lives.

**QUESTION:** In his book, George Mueller tells how God uses trials to increase our faith. Such an interpretation would have to be read into the [biblical] text. Abraham’s life (for example) proves that notion wrong. Otherwise, God would be a child abuser!

**RESPONSE:** You seem to think that no Christian should face any trials; or that if they do come, they could only be from Satan. But was it not God who commanded Abraham to offer Isaac? Was Job wrong when he said submissively, “What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?” (Job 2:10). Paul clearly says that God gave him a “thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me,” and he explains why: “lest I should be exalted above measure.” Paul also rejoices in the blessed result: “Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ’s sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong” (2 Cor 12:7,10).

Surely, if anyone was in God’s perfect will it was Christ himself. Yet He endured many trials and was a “man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief” (Is 53:3). Indeed, He learned “obedience by the things which he suffered” (Heb 5:8). And Christ declared that Christians would likewise suffer for His sake: “The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you” (Jn 15:20).

There was no greater apostle than Paul, yet he suffered “in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep...in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen...In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst... in cold and nakedness” (2 Cor 11:23-27).

Those who preach the “prosperity gospel” today must conclude that Paul didn’t know how to make a “positive confession,” or he would have prospered like they do. We would have to conclude the same concerning the heroes and heroines of the faith mentioned in Hebrews 11 who suffered such horrible trials. On the contrary, the trials strengthened their faith. Indeed, how else could one demonstrate one’s faith without it being put to the test? Thus Peter speaks of “the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold...[which] might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ...” (1 Pt 1:7).

The Bible is literally filled from beginning to end with the thrilling testimonies of those whose faith our gracious Lord strengthened through many trials. Perhaps today’s church’s neglect of that part of Scripture has contributed to a warped view of living the life of faith.

# LETTERS

To connect with TBC, write: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708  
or e-mail: [editorial@theberean.org](mailto:editorial@theberean.org)

**Dear TBC,**

Jesus is the Truth. As a believer with a relationship with Jesus we can access any particular truth, but one of the truest things I know is many souls are in peril because of their lack of knowing Jesus. What knowledge of man could be of any use to someone in hell? Eating from the tree of knowledge harmed mankind and placed a division between man and God. Through the blood of Christ we can eat from the tree of life.

It perplexes me that many reject the path of truth and life in vain attempts to acquire righteousness for themselves. Thank you for not deviating from the Word! MJ (email)

**Dear TBC,**

Around the time I was born again, I encountered [two documentaries] that stipulated that alien abductions are demonic. Testimony after testimony, of “them” fleeing when the name of Jesus is spoken, just like the demoniacs in the NT books. I was never abducted, but oppressed and haunted several times. I believe it is real, but in another era, it would have been considered demonic activity and it is.

## TBC NOTES

### A Note from William MacDonald

Here is an excerpt from Bill’s *Believer’s Bible Commentary* regarding Hebrews 5:12-14:

“The writer reminds the Hebrews that they had been receiving instruction long enough now so that they should be teaching others. But the tragedy was that they still needed someone to teach them the ABCs of the Word of God.

“You ought to be teachers. God’s order is that every believer should mature to the point where he can teach others. Each one teach one! [...] Every believer should engage in some teaching ministry. It was never God’s intention that this work should be limited to a few.

“You have come to need milk and not solid food. In the physical realm, a child who never advances from milk to solids is impaired. There is a form of stunted growth in the spiritual realm as well (1 Corinthians 3:2).

“Professing believers who stay on a milk diet are unskilled in the word of righteousness. They are hearers of the word but not doers. They lose what they do not use, and remain in a state of perpetual infancy.

“They do not have a keen sense of discernment in spiritual matters and are “tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting” (Ephesians 4:14).

“Solid spiritual food is for the full grown, for those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. By obeying the light they receive from God’s Word....”

T. A. McMAHON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Only secular humanism’s pollution of America makes it something else. It’s good to see people talking about this topic. As Christians, we need to focus on prayer, daily Bible reading and church attendance/membership with discipling and witnessing. We should keep our minds simple concerning things that are evil, but we should not ignore these topics. We should be able to speak to them so we are not deceived by them so we can witness to those who need the gospel who suffer from these things. Early in my born-again life, Brother Hunt was in a lot of things I was watching that God has used greatly in my life. KS (email)

**Dear TBC,**

The entertainment/marketing approach is so one-size-fits-all and makes so many shallow assumptions about people. Truth from God speaks to the individual. This journey of obedience, of taking God’s hand and letting Him lead, is so exciting and satisfying and mysterious. I think many people who are searching for meaning, especially young people who value authenticity, would be very attracted to that. FL (email)

**Dear TBC,**

Thank you [Brad Huddleston] for your work. I worked at a suicide prevention helpline. I was shocked at the amount of young girls from teens to twenties that are suffering from serious mental health problems—and in talking to them, their problems began with social media—cyber bullying, parents who had no idea that their kids were getting viciously bullied into the night because of their phones. These girls are in a really bad way. This message is so important. Protect your children and yourselves. OL (email)

**Dear TBC,**

[Concerning your video *Is It Okay to Paraphrase the Bible*, see—<https://bit.ly/3tW9Avs>] Paraphrasing is perfectly okay when it comes to stating something in shorthand, or, conversely, expounding upon something. Matthew 4:4 and Luke 4:4 could be defined as a paraphrasing of Deuteronomy 8:3, and that is Jesus himself, talking about every word that proceeded out of the mouth of God. But, the issue is when it changes the truth into a lie: “Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen” (Romans 1:25). Errors like that can be done even out of carelessness, so it’d be good to be careful. Anon. (email)

**NOTE:** Our purpose in this section is to simply show what kind of feedback we receive. We may respond to some of them in private whether or not we agree with their views.

## QUOTABLE .....

“I stood a mendicant of God before His royal throne  
And begged him for one priceless gift, which I could call my own.  
I took the gift from out His hand, but as I would depart  
I cried, ‘But, Lord, this is a thorn and it has pierced my heart.  
This is a strange, a hurtful gift, which Thou hast given me.’  
He said, ‘My child, I give good gifts and gave My best to thee.’  
I took it home, and though at first the cruel thorn hurt sore,  
As long years passed, I learned at last to love it more and more.  
I learned He never gives a thorn without this added grace:  
He takes the thorn to pin aside the veil which hides His face.”

—MARTHA SNELL NICHOLSON, “THE THORN”

# NEWSWATCH

News stories are selected for reader awareness and as an exercise  
in discerning the times from a biblical perspective.

## YOUNG PEOPLE REGRET THEIR "GENDER TRANSITIONS"

**LIFESITENEWS.COM, 10/27/23, "THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE REGRET THEIR 'GENDER TRANSITIONS,' AND THEIR STORIES ARE GUT-WRENCHING" [EXCERPTS]:** Over the past several years, the mainstream press has been working overtime to debunk the testimonies of "de-transitioners"—the men and women, most of them very young, who underwent various transgender "treatments" such as puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, and "sex change" surgeries. Those of you who read this blog regularly will have read many of their stories; there are now so many de-transitioners speaking out that an entire genre of dissident documentaries has sprung up featuring their stories.

These stories are important—they emphasize the human cost of the so-called "gender-affirming care" constantly pushed by the press, who insist that "sex change" surgeries for minors are a human right. Chloe Cole, who shared her own heart-breaking story of de-transition with Jordan Peterson some time ago and frequently testifies in favor of bans on transgender procedures, recently shared a comment [online]... "There is no going back now and I'm so scared it's going to feel like that forever. I was too young, I messed up..."

(<https://bit.ly/3FHLg2Y>)

## "EARLY" ORIGIN FOR BAT ECHOLOCATION

**ICR.ORG, 11/16/23, "AN 'EARLY' ORIGIN FOR MODERN ECHOLOCATION IN BATS" [EXCERPTS]:** As flying mammals, bats continue to amaze zoologists with their incredible abilities. But their origin continues to be an enigma for conventional biologists because the creatures appear in the fossil record complete, fully formed as bats without evolutionary precursors.

In 2006, evolutionist Karen Sears said, "The earliest known bats appear in the fossil record...[about] 50 million years ago, and they appear suddenly and already possessing the anatomical hallmarks of powered flight." Gunnell and Simmons made a similar comment in their work in the *Journal of Mammalian Evolution*.

Just a few years ago it was stated that early bats couldn't echolocate, which is the ability to send out high frequency pulses of sound through the nose and mouth while simultaneously listening for the echo to "see" and navigate the environment.

"There are some differences between the oldest bats and their modern relatives.

Based upon the ear anatomy of the better-preserved specimens, for example, scientists know that the first bats couldn't echolocate."

Three years later, however, four evolutionists described "a new, three-dimensionally preserved fossil bat [*Vielasia sigei*] recovered from 50-million-year-old limestone cave sediments" in France. They reported the fossils are well-preserved with "the oldest uncrushed skull of a bat yet known." Finding the preserved skull is significant because at "50-million years old," it "supports an early origin for modern echolocation."

So contrary to what *Smithsonian Magazine* stated in 2020, it looks like bats were equipped with modern echolocation from the start—as predicted by creationists.

God created bats as bats, complete with echolocation, just thousands of years ago. Like other creatures, they are able to move in and fill ecological and physical niches such as caves.

Bats in all their complexity make a clear case for creation.

(<https://bit.ly/40HDqQy>)

## HAMAS DOCUMENTS SHOW TARGETED SCHOOLS AND YOUTH CENTER

**NBCNEWS.COM, 10/13/23, "'TOP SECRET' HAMAS DOCUMENTS SHOW THAT TERRORISTS INTENTIONALLY TARGETED ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND A YOUTH CENTER" [EXCERPTS]:** Documents exclusively obtained by NBC News show that Hamas created detailed plans to target elementary schools and a youth center in the Israeli kibbutz of Kfar Sa'ad, to "kill as many people as possible," seize hostages and quickly move them into the Gaza Strip.

The attack plans, which are labeled "top secret" in Arabic, appear to be orders for two highly trained Hamas units to surround and infiltrate villages and target places where civilians, including children, gather. Israeli authorities are still determining the death toll in Kfar Sa'ad.

The documents were found on the bodies of Hamas terrorists by Israeli first responders and shared with NBC News.

Another page labeled "Top Secret Maneuver" describes a plan for a Hamas unit to secure the east side of Kfar Sa'ad while a second unit controls the west. It says "kill as many as possible" and "capture hostages." Other orders include surrounding a dining hall and holding hostages in it.

(<https://bit.ly/3skqgw8>)

## THE BEREAN CALL

Founder: Dave Hunt  
President & Executive Director: T. A. McMahon

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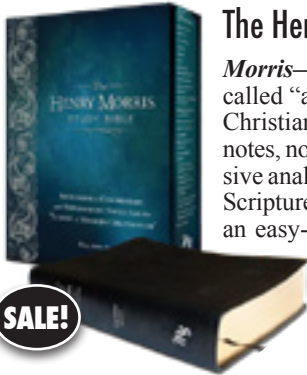
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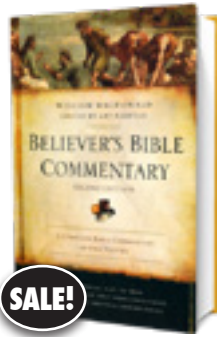
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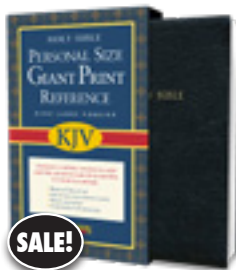
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the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. **11-point type** *Jer 13:25*  
**7** Jesus saith unto them, **Fill the waterpots with water.** And they filled

and there was light. **17-point type** *Ps 33:6, 9; 2 Cor 4:6*  
**4** And God saw the light, that **it was good:** and God divided \*the light from the darkness

## DEVOTIONAL READINGS FOR THE COMING NEW YEAR



### Beside Still Waters

**Stagner**—Devotional books are a wonderful way to connect with the Word of God on a daily basis. However, many 365-day offerings provide little more than 60-second sound bites to sustain readers for brief reflection. So if you've been searching for a devotional reader that takes a deeper dive into the book of Psalms, then you've got a trustworthy guide in your hands. Regardless of what season of life you're in, *Beside Still Waters* will revive your soul and sustain your spirit with timeless revelation and practical application as you walk day-by-day through the majestic and marvelous Book of Psalms. The Truth about God Publishing, 491 pp.

- B05232** wt 2.0 **SALE \$20.00**



### My Candle

**Decker**—*My Candle* is a children's devotional journal with daily challenges to encourage believing children to let God's light shine through their lives. This charming, soft-cover devotional is spiral bound for easy use and includes a 366-day Bible reading schedule with related daily questions, weekly challenges, memorization opportunities and more! Can be used individually (roughly ages 8-13, writing ability required) or in a family setting with younger children. The beautiful artwork contained in this book was done by a Russian artist who lives in the town where the Deckers served as missionaries. 256 pp, spiral bound, soft cover.

- B00477** wt .8 **SALE \$15.00**



### Daily Light KJV Devotional

**Bagster**—This timeless work links passages from both the Old and New Testaments, helping us to hear how all of God's Word speaks in unison to the themes of our everyday lives. It offers two readings per day and is ideal for a morning and evening devotional. Now in large print, this edition will enable many to continue to enjoy these popular selections of themed Bible verses. However, nothing can replace the regular daily reading of the Bible, as God has given it to us (Psalm 119:105). Bible Truth Publishers, 788 pp, soft cover.

- B00013** wt 3.2 **SALE \$15.00**

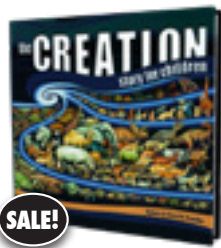
# WINTER READING FOR KIDS BOOKS FOR YOUNG BEREANS



## God's Big Book of Animals

**Kashtan**—In this book you'll read about 60 of God's amazing creatures, from the tiny shrew to the mighty elephant. Enjoy a book that makes studying animals both fun and educational! Captivating, full-color photographs of all the animals • Conversational tone that kids find engaging • Presents animals and their origins from a strong biblical, young-earth creationist worldview! Master Books, HB, 247 pp.

**B05960** Ages 5-13 wt 3.9 **SALE \$25.00**



## The Creation Story for Children

**Helen & David Haidle**—Written and illustrated by David and Helen Haidle, *The Creation Story*

*for Children* is filled with vibrant images of the week of Creation. Each creation day includes the relevant Scripture, as well as a child-friendly explanation of what occurred and questions designed to help the reader reflect on the meaning of the text. Illustrated throughout with unique, full-color artwork. Master Books, HB, 39 pp.

**B05655** Ages 5-11 wt .9 **SALE \$10.00**



## Dinosaurs for Kids

**Ham**—*Dinosaurs for Kids* shares the unique world of dinosaurs and their true history as never before. Meet the most unusual creatures to ever walk the earth, stalk the seas, or soar across the sky! Discover how dinosaur bonebeds are made, and learn about other kinds of fossils beyond just bones. Find out the truth behind museum exhibits and flawed evolutionary timelines. Let Ken Ham take you on a journey through time to explore these awesome wonders of God's design. Master Books, HB, 64 pp.

**B05556** Ages 6-14 wt 1.2 **SALE \$10.00**



## KJV SwordGrip Old Testament - Vol 1

**Lynch/Woychuck**—This resource includes practical tools to help you memorize more than 80 key verses of the Old Testament,

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**B11455** Ages 7+ wt .6 **\$15.00**

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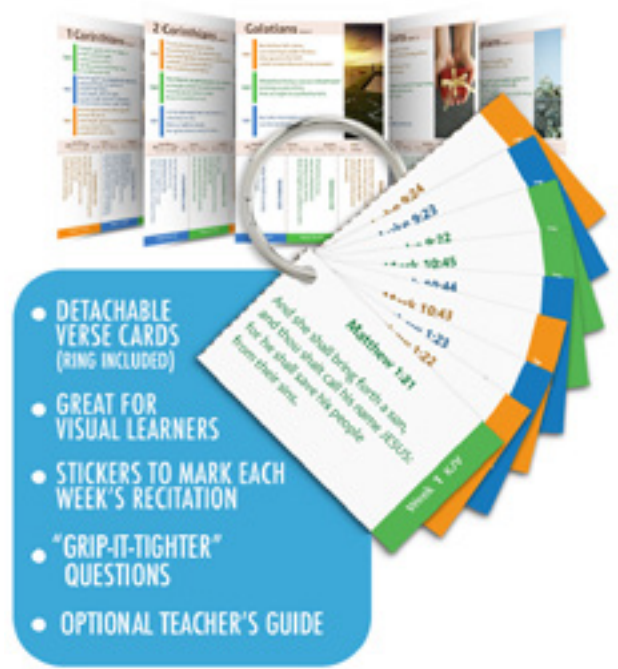


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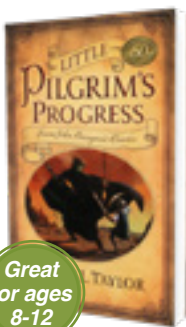
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**Bunyan/Taylor**—For more than a half century, Little Christian and Christiana have captivated children in their quest to reach the Celestial City. A journey fraught with danger, pitfalls, and temptation, Helen L. Taylor's retelling of John Bunyan's classic allegory, *Pilgrim's Progress*, celebrates more than 60 years. The anniversary edition of *Little Pilgrim's Progress* contains the best of the many illustrations used to depict the highs and lows of the Christian journey through life and the ultimate reward: eternity with Christ. This profound allegory will delight children ages 8 to 12, providing spiritually rich reading they will adore and long remember. Moody Publishers, 323 pp.

**B49263** 2 or more \$7.50 ea. wt .8 **\$9.00**



## The Pilgrim's Progress

**Bunyan**—The story of Christian and his companions has been a favorite for generations. John Bunyan's imaginative text brings out practical and necessary lessons that everyone needs to know. Additional features and study sections have been included to help today's generation of children understand the book. These will help you to get behind some of the characters and places that Bunyan describes. You will also learn about Bunyan himself through a "life summary" and get some ideas on how to use this book. A small number of archaic words have been changed to modern equivalents and there is a dictionary and footnotes to provide additional help. Christian Focus Publications, HB, 191 pp.

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—T. A. McMahon. The Berean Call, 345 pp.

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