

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

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

How Then Shall We Live?

T. A. McMahon

THE BIBLE IS AN amazing book. Although this is certainly true, it's also a huge understatement. All accolades fall short; no adjectives come close. Yet that should hardly be surprising since God is the author. As we've written elsewhere, the Bible is God's direct communication to mankind. And since He is infinite, apart from His Word there's no way that finite man can know in truth anything beyond God's *general attributes* that are revealed in creation (Rom 1:20). Everyone can surmise that the material world, from the sweeping expanse of the universe to the intricate complexity of a cell, could not have created itself. A Designer had to have been involved, and the Designer must have attributes of astonishing intelligence, power, and presence. Observation and logic are enough to lead anyone to that conclusion.

On the other hand, the *specifics* regarding God's character, as well as His purpose and plan for those whom He created, cannot be arrived at through human opinions, speculations, and guesses. Finite man is basically clueless when it comes to the specifics, which is a major reason why there are so many different religious beliefs and practices in the world. God must inform humanity about things it cannot figure out, which He has done clearly through the Scriptures. One of those things (which is the focus of this article) is the way that a biblical Christian, one who has believed the gospel for salvation and desires to obey the instructions of God's Word, should go about living his life.

The Bible is sometimes referred to as the “Manufacturer's Handbook,” which is a good description regarding the overall content of Scripture. However, not too many people care to read instruction manuals. This attitude doesn't serve them well when it comes to the functioning of their latest kitchen appliance or video entertainment device, leading to the inevitable frustration of “why isn't it working?” The same attitude regarding the Bible will cause a believer to reach that exasperation stage and far worse. As Proverbs states in two verses: “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death” (14:12; 16:25; emphasis added). “Death,” in this case, means separation from God. In those areas of a believer's life where he hasn't looked to the Scriptures for God's instruction, he has to supply his own ideas. That causes him to go his own way, thus separating him from God's “way.” The “end thereof” ultimately leads to a condition that at best is devoid of God's grace and at worst is destructive physically and spiritually.

Recently I've been reading the Apostle Peter's Epistles and found the first chapter in his second letter to be a compact volume of God's instruction for believers as well as a great exhortation to do what it says. Though it's not God's full counsel regarding His instructions for everyone who claims to follow Jesus, it's an

excellent self-evaluation piece for us to consider, no matter our degree of maturity in Christ.

Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, according as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: for so an entrance shall be ministered

unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.

Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance; knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me. Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance. For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount. We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as, they were moved by the Holy Ghost. (2 Peter 1:1-21)

These are indeed God's words, relayed by His Holy Spirit, and written through the human instrument whom He chose to pen them, Simon Peter. Although Peter was gloriously transformed at Pente-

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—2 Peter 1:8

cost from the hit-or-miss Peter we read about in the Scriptures prior to that event, these were *God's* words and not Peter's own ideas but expressed through Peter's manner of communication. This is made clear at the end of the chapter but needs to be underscored at the beginning: the declarations are from God himself.

Verses one through four assure us that Jesus is God and that He has supplied believers in Him with precious faith through the knowledge of Him, empowering us with *all things* that pertain unto life and godliness. "All things" means *all* things. That phrase asserts the sufficiency of God's Word. What source other than God could supply anything that pertains to life and godliness? There is no other source. What Jesus has fully supplied enables every believer in Him to join in His divine moral nature, His godliness. As we are reminded in 1 Peter 1:15-16: "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of [conduct]; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy." That is the only way that the sinful, lustful corruption of the world can be overcome.

If, as His Word proclaims, the Lord has given us all that is necessary for us to live our lives in a way that is pleasing to Him, what then is our part? This involves a willingness to do what He has instructed. That answer may seem obvious, but it is either resisted or avoided by many Christians today. Verses five through seven of 2 Peter 1 exhort the believer to cultivate what our Lord has provided, helping our faith to grow. For a mature faith to flourish, we must add virtue, knowledge, self-control, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity, i.e., love. Love, of course, is the chief quality of godliness and must superintend all of God's promises.

Too often we read those words and blow past them as if they were simply platitudes or spiritual clichés. On the contrary, there aren't many verses that are *more practical* in their fruitfulness. If we will only put them into practice, "they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 1:8). This, by the way, is not "head knowledge" but knowledge that produces godly fruit. Those individuals who miss that, for whatever reasons, the Scripture characterizes as blind and forgetful as to what Jesus has already done for them by paying for their sins.

Some Christian writers have addressed their concern over the lack of good works produced by those who claim to follow Jesus. Sadly that is a reality of our day. However, a few authors have sought to correct that condition by teaching that true believers who lack good works will receive temporary punishment at the judgment seat of Christ where rewards are bestowed. No. That is an error and is not supported by Scripture; moreover, it creates a Roman Catholic-type of Purgatory, which involves the expiation of sin by the individual himself. It's also a denial of Christ's full payment for our sins, i.e., the gospel. What has been referred to as the Bema Seat of Christ for *rewards and losses* has nothing to do with the *sins* of believers. Jesus will judge our works by rewarding those endeavors that have eternal value and dismissing those that are worthless (1 Corinthians 3:13-15).

Second Peter 1:10-11 is an exhortation to diligently fulfill the ministry, the works, and the purpose that the Lord has called us to. Our willingness to do just that is a guarantee of spiritual fruitfulness: "For if you do these things, ye shall never fall." It also encourages us to press forward earnestly that upon entrance into heaven we may hear those wonderful words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:21).

Peter knew from the Lord that he was close to the time of his death, and his heart was to remind fellow believers of the things he had taught that would cause them to grow in the faith. To that end, he gives us some insight regarding a glorious event that he, James,

and John had witnessed. Even beyond Peter's personal preview of Jesus being glorified (as He will be again when He returns), the teaching stresses the foundation to all that he had written above. In conclusion, he notes that what he is relating was a fact of history, and that he was an eyewitness of what he saw, heard, and felt on the Mount of Transfiguration. Be assured that in our present times when the *experiential* has become the guiding authority of most people's lives, both in the world and in the church, *no one* has had an experience like that (2 Peter 1:16-21).

Peter, James, and John saw Jesus glorified before their very eyes. It was no altered state of consciousness, no visualization, no conjured-up imagery produced by some contemplative, Eastern mystical method. It was a God-produced reality. None of those who teach that God cannot be known by the senses, the intellect, or the written Word but can only be experienced, have ever, nor could ever, produce such an extraordinary event. Moreover, what they do produce through their occult methodologies is fake—if not a direct demonic deception.

Peter certainly acknowledges the amazing experience on the Mount. But then he says, "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed" (verse 19). Why, however, should we *accept as true* the personal, subjective experience that Peter described? Some modern so-called Bible scholars consider it a myth. It would definitely be questionable except for the fact that Peter's experience is documented in the Word of God, and according to Jesus, "Thy word is truth" (John 17:17). Furthermore, the true experience is supported by "a more sure word of prophecy," and we are exhorted to "take heed" to God's written Word.

Believers are certainly privileged to have experiences in the Lord, but those experiences must never take the place of nor diminish the authority of Scripture.

As wonderful as spiritual experiences can be, they are personal and subjective and are a byproduct of a believer's relationship with the Lord. They lack the objective basis for one to discern whether or not they are true. For example, a Christian friend relates how the Holy Spirit was leading him in a certain situation. Although that experience was consistent with Scripture as a principle, yet because of its subjective nature, one can't really verify that it was indeed Holy Spirit led. In some cases, the situation may be so contrary to the Word of God that it can be readily dismissed as *not* of the Lord.

Scripture, on the other hand, *is* objective. It is a believer's plumbline against which he is to determine what he believes or is being taught. As Isaiah wrote, "To the law and to the testimony [God's Word]: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (8:20).

Peter concludes the chapter by underscoring the fact that prophecy (meaning the written words of Scripture) did not originate from man (himself included), but the words came through chosen men of God who wrote them down as they were given by the Holy Spirit. Numerous other verses confirm this, including 1 Thessalonians 2:13: "For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe."

So, we have the *words of God*! My hope is that everyone who has just read that sentence will take the significance of it to heart. God has given us *His words*! And, as we've noted here in Peter's second Epistle as one example, His Word contains instructions for every follower of Jesus Christ that we all must obey if we are to be fruitful and productive in our lives as believers. There is no other way to please God.

TBC

EVERY MAN'S WORK SHALL BE MADE
MANIFEST; FOR THE DAY SHALL
DECLARE IT, BECAUSE IT SHALL BE
REVEALED BY FIRE; AND THE FIRE
SHALL TRY EVERY MAN'S WORK OF
WHAT SORT IT IS.

—1 Corinthians 3:13

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Submit your own questions to: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708

or e-mail: editorial@thebereanall.org

QUESTION: I have a question that I hope you can help with, please: “Where did Jesus get His blood?” As I understand it, a child only gets its blood from the father and not the mother, so presumably, the characteristics of His blood came from God.

RESPONSE: In Hebrews 10:5, the inspired writer says concerning the Lord Jesus: “Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, *but a body hast thou prepared me...*” [emphasis added].

“A body have you prepared me...” means that the Lord Jesus Christ’s human body, including the blood, was prepared especially by the Father.

He was a real man of flesh and blood. Is the blood of Christ precious? Indeed it is, because, like His entire body, Christ’s blood was without sin and was shed on the cross for our sins. He is “God manifest in the flesh,” but the flesh in which He was manifest was not “God flesh,” for there is no such thing. It was perfect, sinless human flesh.

Leviticus 16:14 tells us that on the Day of Atonement, the high priest in Israel took some of the blood of the sacrifice (without blemish) into the Most Holy part of the tabernacle. Jesus Christ, as the final High Priest, entered into heaven itself but not with His blood. That had been poured out on the ground (Jn 19:34). With the death of His human body, the purpose for which it had been made was completed.

After the Resurrection, Christ had a body of “flesh and bones” (Lk 24:39) but no longer blood in His body, because it was all poured out for sin upon the ground. “Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption” (1 Cor 15:50). In Leviticus 17:11, we are told, “For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.”

We don’t know the creative process that God used in preparing Christ’s body, but whatever the process, it was supernatural.

QUESTION: In Mark 9:24, a man tells our Lord Jesus that he believes but asks him to help him with his unbelief. This scripture was in my mind all night, and I was wondering if maybe you could help me to understand it a little better?

RESPONSE: Mark 9:24 is a precious verse for us. It reads, “straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.”

Simply put, even as born-again believers we have doubts. As for the father of this child, he may have *intellectually* believed that the Lord was absolutely capable of healing, but as a human, he knew very well his own capacity to doubt. In Mark 9:23, Jesus had specifically stated, “*If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth*” (our emphasis). It was his own capacity for *belief* that gave reason for his cry, “Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.”

When it comes to our need for healing, as believers we long for the time when the Lord “shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself” (Phil 3:21). “And...ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body” (Rom 8:23).

In the meantime, we must cast ourselves entirely upon the Lord for our deliverance, remembering that when we acknowledge, as

this father did, that our faith is weak, He is strong, no matter what the issue, affliction, need, or fear may be. The Bible tells us that our Savior is “touched with the feeling of our infirmities” (Heb 4:15). And whether or not He chooses to heal the illness or solve the problem or deliver us from the issue, even still we can take comfort knowing that He will never fail nor forsake us (Dt 31:6; Josh 1:5), and that He will strengthen and sustain us until the very end (Ps 55:22).

QUESTION: In Genesis 11:1-9, Nimrod builds the Tower of Babel in the land of Shinar. In Zechariah 5:5-11, the city needs to be rebuilt on its base. What keeps that city from being rebuilt now? The river still runs by there to make it a hanging garden city. I know Rome fits the description to many people in some ways, but I wouldn’t confine myself to that possibility alone when I read other scriptures that apply to Babylon. Many people believe that the “temple” that the Antichrist will desecrate is the Dome of the Rock. That is not a temple, it’s a mosque. What do you think?

RESPONSE: The Dome of the Rock could not be desecrated by the Antichrist because it is already an abomination to God, so there is nothing to desecrate—and certainly nothing in Babylon. We are clearly told that Antichrist will “sit in the temple of God...” (2 Thes 2:4), and that could only be the Jewish Temple rebuilt on Temple Mount. It must happen. We have shown why the Muslims will want the Dome moved to Medina where it belongs, making way for the Temple (*Judgment Day!* <https://goo.gl/yKNvf4>).

Could the ruins of Babylon in Iraq (now under reconstruction) become the headquarters for the Antichrist? Anything is possible. It would, however, seem highly unlikely that Antichrist would establish his headquarters in such an inconvenient place. There is not and never will be a deepwater port on the Euphrates next to Babylon. Yet upon her destruction, sailors and ship owners made wealthy by Babylon’s demand for goods of all kinds (who are apparently coming and going in and out of her port at the time) can see the smoke of her destruction (Rv 18:17-19).

There were originally no chapter divisions between Revelation 17 and 18. Both concern the same city. Some of the same descriptive elements given in Revelation 17:2,4 are repeated in 18:3,9,16. And the description given in 17 identifies the woman as Rome/Vatican/false worldwide church of the last days—not as a rebuilt Babylon in Iraq (See *TBC* Jul/Aug ’93 and *A Woman Rides the Beast*).

QUOTABLE.....

The gospel contains nothing about baptism, church membership or attendance, tithing, sacraments or rituals, diet or clothing.... The gospel is all about what Christ has done. It says nothing about what Christ must yet do, because the work of our redemption is finished. “Christ died for our sins” (1 Cor 15:3). His death on the cross is in the past, never to be repeated. Nor does the gospel say anything about what we must do, because we can do nothing (Ti 3:5; Eph 2:8-9). Instead...the gospel requires faith. It is the power of God unto salvation to those who believe (Rom 4:5; John 3:26). The gospel is a two-edged sword. It declares, “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life.” The same verse also says, “he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him” (Jn 3:36).

—Dave Hunt in *An Urgent Call to a Serious Faith*

LETTERS

To connect with TBC, write: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708
or e-mail: editorial@thebereancall.org

TBC NOTES

Our Conference: An Oasis in the Desert!

One of the things I love most about our TBC Conferences is that they give an opportunity for like-minded biblical Christians to gather together physically to hear like-minded speakers and enjoy a time of fellowship that we all want and need. This has been our experience each year, and it seems to get better year after year. Some folks (and the number is growing) are having difficulty finding biblically solid churches, so gathering together with us here in Bend feels like an oasis in a dry land.

Last year we had a wonderful Friday evening that centered around fellowship. We heard a message, sang hymns, shared testimonies, prayed in small groups, and encouraged one another. Requests came from some to be baptized, which we accommodated in the river that flows by the conference hall. This year we've planned a BBQ picnic in a nearby park facility.

We recently added Warren Smith, Ray Yungen, and Ed Newby to our lineup of speakers that includes Carl Kerby, Rob Congdon, Larry DeBruyn, and me. See below for a speaking schedule for the conference and be sure to check out our website www.thebereancall.org/conference for a complete schedule.

For those who can't attend, the next best thing is to follow the event via live-streaming, but since the high desert of Central Oregon is absolutely gorgeous in August, we do hope that you'll be able to join us in person!

T. A. McMAHON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2016 Conference Schedule:

FRIDAY - AUGUST 26

- 7:30 AM Registration — Auditorium is open
- 8:30 Tom McMahon, "The Pope's New Catholicism"
- 9:15 Larry DeBruyn, "Quantum Spirituality Part 1"
- 10:45 Rob Congdon, "New Calvinism's Upside-Down Gospel"
- 1:00 PM Carl Kerby, "Becoming Bold!"
- 2:30 Ray Yungen, "Ecumenism Gone Exponential!"
- 4:00 Warren Smith, "Be Still and Know That You Are Not God"
- 7:00 Carl Kerby, "10 Things a Christian Can Learn about Evangelism...From an Atheist!"

SATURDAY - AUGUST 27

- 8:00 AM Auditorium and Bookstore open
- 9:15 Rob Congdon, "Oops! I Thought I Was a Four-Point Calvinist"
- 10:45 Larry DeBruyn, "Quantum Spirituality Part 2"
- 1:00 PM Panel Discussion — Warren Smith, Ray Yungen, Gaylene Goodroad
- 3:30 Tom McMahon, "Days of Apostasy: Scripture's Prevention Program for Believers"

SUNDAY - AUGUST 28

- 10:00 AM Ed Newby, "The Faithfulness of the Lord"

T. A. and Staff,

A short note of encouragement and thanks for continuing to send me your timely, instructive, and eye-opening newsletter over the past two decades. After reading, I have used your important work as an outreach ministry by placing the newsletters in public places for others to hopefully "stumble" upon, e.g., doctors' offices, hospitals, parks, bus stops, etc. May our Lord Jesus shower His blessings on your faithfulness! (TC)

Dear Ed and TBC,

I thank you so much for your reply to my query [about] something that had become a stumbling block to my freedom and joy in the Spirit. Truly I can testify to the Truth setting one free, as I now once more have freedom in the Spirit and can rejoice. I was coming under condemnation, and "there is no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives you life has set you free..." Rom 8:1-2.

My husband and I live in the "wilderness" so to speak, as we are isolated on our son's farm in far northern South Africa.... Julie Leo, from the Johannesburg office, has sent me books and a Dave Hunt DVD. When I listen to Dave, or read his sermons, or recall the messages we heard him preach in Durban, it is "meat" that he is feeding one.... Thank you for showing me from God's Word the truth about grace—forgiveness and confession of sins being necessary. R (South Africa)

Dear TBC,

I just wanted you to know that I have finished reading the book entitled *Judgment Day*. The book gave a clear understanding that salvation is through the Blood of Jesus Christ and not by something we have done. I found it to be the best book written (besides the Bible) concerning the times we are living in. Also, [reading] the history of Catholicism and Islam, especially concerning how they are treating God's chosen people and their land, brought clarity.

We are buying more copies for our grown kids and one each for two pastors in our area. Thanks again for your wonderful work for the Lord. JL (OR).

Dear Mr. McMahon,

I have not been pleased with the newsletter since you changed format. "If it is not broke, don't try to fix it." More importantly, I am less pleased with your unwillingness to [speak up] as America is turned into a totalitarian nation. You do not even warn your readers of possible difficulties/detours in their very affluent life styles. Contentment is not in the thoughts of most of my church-going friends. "Get more" is the byword and mindset.

America has been the place where the Gospel message was sent forth—to the neglecting of our duty to preserve our freedoms. Now we find ourselves (some of us) overwhelmed by the Evil that pervades our land. VE (TX).

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for your time and your work of ministry at The Berean Call. I love most that you are sticking to what you have always done: Be a discernment/apologetics ministry. If it isn't broke, don't fix it! Keep on with the ministry the Lord gave you. GF (CA, prisoner).

NEWSWATCH

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

POPE FRANCIS' JIHAD ON CHRISTIANITY

FRONTPAGEMAG.COM, 5/20/16, "POPE FRANCIS' JIHAD ON CHRISTIANITY" [EXCERPTS]: The man known as the "Catholic Pope" and the "Vicar of Christ"—but who in light of what follows is probably best referred to by his real name, Jorge Mario Bergoglio—recently gave an interview demonstrating why "so many people think he is the anti-Christ."

[The Pope] claims that: "It is true that the idea of conquest is inherent in the soul of Islam. However, it is also possible to interpret the objective in Matthew's Gospel, where Jesus sends his disciples to all nations, in terms of the same idea of conquest."...To state the obvious: Yes, both Christianity and Islam seek to win converts. However, Jesus' call to his disciples to "go forth and make disciples of all nations" in Matthew's Gospel was understood and practiced peacefully. Disciples preached, people converted. No violence, no coercion.

Conversely, Muhammad said, "I have been sent with the sword between my hands to ensure that no one but Allah is worshipped—Allah who put my livelihood under the shadow of my spear and who inflicts humiliation and scorn on those who disobey my commandments (*The Al Qaeda Reader*, p.12)." Unlike the spread of Christianity, Islam spread through the sword.

(<http://goo.gl/DE3cKh>)

ISRAEL: SUBTERRANEAN SUCCESS

STRATEGYPAGE.COM, 5/10/16, "ISRAEL: SUBTERRANEAN SUCCESS" [EXCERPTS]: In the West Bank and Israel the Fatah sponsored "knife terrorism" campaign appears to be ending even though opinion surveys in the West Bank and Gaza still show a lot of support for the attacks, especially among the young (15-29) people who most often participate. Yet attacks have sharply declined (by over 70 percent) since the first ones last October.

Israeli police have, so far this year, disrupted 77 terror attacks. These included 15 bombings (five using a suicide bomber), seven kidnappings and 34 shooting attacks. For all of 2015, 239 attacks were disrupted indicating that terror activity was declining this year. Suicidal "knife terrorism" attacks have lost their popularity despite

Fatah still pushing them energetically in all the Palestinian media.

Israel finally made public its plans to deal with Hamas tunnels. This has become a big issue in Israel...The military managed to keep much of this dispute quiet as it sought a solution. Now the military believes it has one. The main result of this is a new security fence being built along the Gaza border. Costing several billion dollars, it won't be complete until 2018. The effectiveness of the new tech has been confirmed by tests against new Hamas tunnels. Two of these have been found in the last month. Also very helpful was the capture and interrogation of several Gaza men with experience in the tunnels. One of those captured had a lot of experience building the tunnels and supplied lots of details, which are being confirmed with the new newly discovered tunnels.

(<http://goo.gl/nhi7a7>)

"SNAKE PASTOR" DRIVES CAR OVER CONGREGANTS

CHRISTIANPOST.COM, 5/18/16, "CONTROVERSIAL 'SNAKE PASTOR' DRIVES CAR OVER CONGREGANTS TO SHOW 'POWER OF GOD'" [EXCERPTS]: A controversial South African pastor who received a backlash last year for feeding his congregants snakes and rats as a test of their faith has contrived a new way of "demonstrating the power of God"—by driving over people with a car.

Pastor Penuel Mnguni of the End Times Disciples Ministries in Soshanguve was featured [on] Facebook...conducting a "demonstration of power" by driving his car on top of sleeping congregants....He commanded both of the members to sleep followed by moving the car over them.

After the pastor reversed the car and backed off the congregants, the post claims that the congregants began dancing and praising God along with other congregants who witnessed the ordeal.

The South African government had previously accused Mnguni of "abusing" the faith of his congregants after he fed members snakes that he claimed God turned into chocolate.

After the ministry posted photos on Facebook last summer showing Mnguni feeding snakes to his congregants, he was arrested on charges of animal cruelty.

(<http://goo.gl/fUKzh6>)

THE BEREAN CALL

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

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DONATIONS

The Berean Call (TBC) has always operated on the belief that God will provide as we seek His face, so we do not make appeals for financial help. Although the ministry operates primarily on donations, these are freewill and not solicited. Through the years, TBC has seen God "do exceeding abundantly above" all that was asked or thought.

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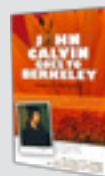
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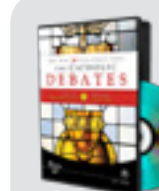
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