

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

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

Choosing God’s Will

Dave Hunt — First published in May 1991

DURING THE TEMPTATION in the wilderness, Satan offered to give Jesus “all the kingdoms of the world...and the glory of them” (Lk 4:5-6). He wasn’t bluffing. This world really is Satan’s to give to whom he will. Jesus didn’t dispute Satan’s boast that this world had been “delivered unto me [by God]; and to whomsoever I will I give it.” The conditions upon which Satan offered this world to Christ were clear: “If you bow down and worship me”—which, of course, Jesus refused to do. Beware! For the kingdoms and glories of this world are still the favors Satan bestows in order to entice today’s recipients into worshipping him.

Like their Lord, Christ’s true followers refuse the kingdoms and glories of this world. This refusal includes the highly touted new world order, which will still be under Satan’s control. Christ has promised believers something far better—an eternal and heavenly kingdom procured through His defeat of Satan at the cross. As a result of that victory, “the kingdoms of this world [will] become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ” (Rev 11:15). Worldly kingdoms will soon pass away, and in their place the kingdom of God will come to earth. Then Christ, together with those who have shared in His rejection and suffering (Acts 14:22; Rom 8:17; 2 Tim 2:12), will reign in glory and ultimate joy forever.

It would be a denial of their Lord for Christians to bask in the popularity and honors that this present world may bestow upon them. That isn’t to say that a Christian should never be successful in business, science, the academic world, sports, etc. Indeed, Christians should be the very best they can possibly be at whatever they do. But their skill, talent, and diligent efforts are expended for God’s glory, not for their own. This world has no attraction for believers; they neither love it nor its plaudits. They are not swayed from the course they must run (1 Cor 9:24-27; 2 Tim 4:7-8) either by the world’s criticism or its compliments. They know that ultimately nothing matters except God’s opinion of them.

We are warned, “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him” (1 Jn 2:15). Satan is called “the god of this world” (2 Cor 4:4), and those who love this world are siding with and honoring Satan, whether they realize it or not. Indeed, they are on the road to Satan worship, which will be the worldwide religion during the Great Tribulation (Rev 13:4). One obvious evidence that Christianity has been seduced by Satan is the fact that those who are highly honored by the world are, on that basis alone, given instant and special honor in the church. The Christian media fawns over a sports hero, an attractive actress, a wealthy businessman, or a highly placed politician who has supposedly become a Christian. These too-often immature, worldly new believers are paraded and lauded on Christian TV and held up to the church as heroes of the faith and role models for youth—and Christians turn out by the thousands to “ooh” and “aah” at their testimonies. Yet the humble, godly missionary, mature in the faith, who has remained true to Christ through decades of privation, temptation, hardship and danger, and who has won souls in difficult fields of labor,

can scarcely draw an audience. Obviously, the average Christian admires worldly success far more than godliness. Something is badly askew!

Jesus told His disciples, “If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are *not of the world*, but I have chosen you *out of the world*, therefore the world *hateth you*” (Jn 15:19). Thus, to Pilate, Jesus declared, “My kingdom is not of this world” (Jn 18:36). He didn’t mean that His kingdom is totally detached from this *earth* but that it’s not of this *world system*. In fact, it stands in opposition thereto. This present world system (including the new world order), which belongs to Satan, must be destroyed for the kingdom of God to be established.

Christ came to “destroy the works of the devil” (1 Jn 3:8), which He accomplished upon the cross (Jn 12:31-33). Such is His purpose in all those who receive Him as Savior and Lord. The works of Satan in and through our lives, and any attachment to this world, must be destroyed if Christ is to reign within us. This goal can be effected only through the work of His cross applied to one’s daily life in the power of the Holy Spirit. Then can God’s love and His will and Christlike character be manifested in one’s heart and life.

The unsaved love the world. In contrast, Christians do not love the world; they love the Father. We are citizens of heaven, “from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body...” (Phil 3:20-21). Instead of trying to make our mark in this world and enjoying its benefits and pleasures, we seek to please the Father because we desire a *heavenly* and *eternal* reward.

The choice we face isn’t, as many imagine, between heaven and hell. The choice is between heaven and this world. Even a fool would exchange hell for heaven; but only the wise will exchange this *world* for heaven. You can’t have both. One can’t live both for God and for self. Many so-called Christians find it difficult to resist the temptations of this world and to live wholly for Christ.

Why should it be difficult to choose life instead of death, joy instead of sorrow, eternal fulfillment instead of remorse, God’s truth and love instead of Satan’s lies and destructive lusts? The choice is only difficult for those who are deceived by Satan, and who thus, in believing this liar, doubt and dishonor God. What an insult it is to their heavenly Father for Christians to act as though surrendering to God’s will were a great sacrifice—as though exchanging this world for heaven were a bad bargain!

Motivation is a key element. One powerful motivation comes by comparing the length of eternity with one’s brief life on this earth. Only a fool would trade the heavenly and eternal for that which is earthly and temporal—and, remember, *we can’t have both*. “Christians” who habitually live for what they can gain and enjoy in this world, instead of “lay[ing] up treasures in heaven,” (Mt 6:19-21) deny with their lives the faith they profess with their lips.

Those who in their daily lives opt for this world instead of for heaven shouldn’t be surprised when God gives them for eternity the choice they have made. How can one complain if he’s not taken in the next life to the heaven he consistently rejected in this one? Someone has said there are only two kinds of people in the world: those who say to God, “Not my will, but Thine, be done,” and those to whom God says, “Not My will but thine be done.”

What a tragedy to be chained for eternity to one's own will instead of His—forever imprisoned with self and separated from God!

Christ's declaration to the Father, "Not my will, but thine, be done" (Lk 22:42) put Him on the cross. We, too, must deny self in submission to the cross (Mt 16:24). Doing so puts an end to self, and Christ becomes our very life—our all. This is the path of wisdom (Job 28). The wise will "shine...as the stars for ever" (Dn 12:3) with His light in their hearts; pure vessels eternally radiating His glory. Fools will inherit the blackness of darkness *forever* because they insisted on doing their own thing and being their fallen selves. Man's destiny is eternal joy in the presence of God and His angels and saints—or a lonely and eternal agony, shut up to self.

William Law expressed with unusual clarity the choice between heaven and this world. He pointed out that a man would be considered insane who spent his life planning the house, tennis court, swimming pool, retirement condominium, etc., that he expected to build on Mars—yet someone who spent his life equally absorbed in planning, achieving, and enjoying such things in this world would be respected as successful and prudent. In fact, said Law, both are fools! The first is obsessed with a world where he *cannot live*—while the other is attached to a world where he *cannot stay*. The degree of their folly differs only by a few short years.

Jim Elliot, a young missionary martyred in Ecuador in 1956, put it succinctly: "He is no fool who gives up that which he cannot keep in order to gain that which he cannot lose." What a tragedy to barter eternal life for the pleasures of this world. The Bible doesn't say that sin has no pleasure; it says that the pleasures of sin can only be enjoyed "for a season" (Heb 11:25)—and a very short season it is, compared to the endless ages of eternity. A bad bargain indeed!

The phrase "eternal life" refers not only to the quantity of the life God offers but to its quality—a quality of life that God wants us to begin to experience here and now. Jesus said that eternal life was *knowing* (not knowing *about*) God and His Son (Jn 17:3). Paul warned that Christ would one day take vengeance upon those who "know not God" (2 Thes 1:8). In keeping with the truth of these and similar scriptures, evangelicals profess that they don't practice a religion *about* God but that they have a personal relationship *with* God. Sadly, this boast has become almost a cliché—it sounds good in theory but there's often little practical evidence seen in daily life.

Recognizing that eternity is infinitely longer than one's most optimistic life expectancy provides a powerful motivation for living for Him (and thus choosing heaven instead of this world). But to truly know God provides an even more powerful motivation.

Knowing God leads to holiness. He alone becomes one's consuming passion, displacing all other desires and overcoming the power of sin in our lives. His presence within is sufficient to satisfy every longing. For to know God is to love Him—and there is no higher motivation for obedience to His commands than love. In fact, no other motivation is accepted. It is no accident that the first commandment is, "Thou shalt *love* the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might" (Deut 6:5).

Obedience to God's laws must spring from love for Him. Otherwise, obeying the letter of the law is nothing (1 Cor 13:1-3). We could give all our possessions to the poor and submit to martyrdom at the stake for Christ's name, but if our motive is not love, it would all be in vain. Christ declared, "If a man love me he will keep my words... he that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings" (Jn 14:23-24).

Loving God is the secret of the Christian life. If we truly love Him, then we want to serve and please and glorify Him. We wouldn't want to do anything or even think a thought that would displease or dishonor Him. A genuine love for God—and only that love—produces consistent holiness and godliness in our daily lives. Love is also the great wellspring of joy and peace. It causes us to witness to the lost about us with passion and without shame. For who is ashamed of one's lover? And who does not rather speak well, boldly and continually, of the one he loves!

Where shall we find this love that we must have for God, and without which we cannot please Him? It's not hiding somewhere

in our hearts waiting to be discovered. Nor is it a potential that we have that only needs to be developed. We can't work it up. It can't be produced by effort. This love is not in us at all. Though it involves our will and emotions, it comes from God alone.

How then is this love produced? Love is the fruit that the Spirit bears in our lives (Gal 5:22). It is miraculous, like the fruit on a tree—something that only God could produce. Yet we aren't like a tree, which has no will or emotions. Obviously, much more is involved when the Spirit bears fruit in the believer's life than is involved in fruit-bearing in nature. His love is the key.

"We love him because he first loved us" (1 Jn 4:19). This tells us that our love for God comes as a response to His love for us. We know of His love through His Word. Our hearts are stirred as we believe what the Bible tells us of His love in creating us, giving His Son to die for our sins, patiently bearing our rejection, pardoning and saving us from the penalty that His holy law demands for our sin, providing heaven at infinite cost. Surely to meditate upon God's love for us must produce, by His Spirit, fervent love for Him.

Much more, however, is involved than reading and memorizing and believing what the Bible says *about* God and His love. Jesus reproved the Pharisees for searching the Scriptures and at the same time refusing to come to Him, the One of whom the Scriptures testified. What the Bible says about God is there in order to lead us into a personal relationship with Him. We must know not only His Word, but we must know *Him* personally. There is an intimacy with God that is promised to those who love and thus obey Him, an intimacy that is missing in the lives of many Christians.

To those who love and obey Him, Christ offers an incredibly wonderful promise: "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him" (Jn 14:21). This promise to *manifest* Himself to those who love Him implies a real communication of His presence. This is more than a strong belief that He is with us. It is a spiritual *manifestation* of His presence.

This intimate fellowship begins at conversion with a real communication from God's Spirit to the believer's spirit. God's Spirit "beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God" (Rom 8:16). It is not simply inserting one's name in John 3:16 and taking it "by faith." There is a *knowing* God, a very real *knowing* that we are His, and an ongoing communion with Him in prayer. This doesn't involve visualization, journaling, or any technique, but an intimacy that He initiates and promises to maintain with those who love and obey Him.

Most people, Christians included, would jump at the chance to become an intimate friend and confidant of some world leader, perhaps an astronaut, Olympic gold medalist, the head of a multinational corporation, or a famous heart surgeon. How many, however, neglect the infinitely more wonderful opportunity to know the God who created the universe, to have continual and intimate fellowship with the One who has all power, all wisdom, all knowledge, and Who loves us immeasurably! As with anyone else, God's companionship must be cultivated. It takes time. And we will only devote the time if we really believe that we can know God and that it is worthwhile.

"He is a rewarder of them that *diligently* seek [not success, pleasure, health, or wealth but] him" (Heb 11:6). God said to Abram, "I [not land or cattle or other possessions that I will give to you, but *I*] am thy shield and thine exceeding great reward" (Gn 15:1). God wants to reward us with *Himself*. Let us not settle for any lesser rewards—for mere gifts instead of the Giver. Let us diligently pursue this intimate fellowship with God that He desires for each of us. Let us say with David, "O God...early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee" (Ps 63:1); and with Paul, "That I may know him,... the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death" (Phil 3:10). May knowing and loving God be our passion, as it was theirs.

TBC

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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

or e-mail: editorial@thebereanall.org

QUESTION: To many who claim to have done signs and wonders in His name, Christ says He will say, “I never knew you” (Matthew 7:22-23). Are these nominal Christians? People who “think” they’re Christians? Born-again Christians who messed up?

RESPONSE: This scripture is a solemn warning! Those He addresses apparently were accepted and honored by many as Christian leaders and seemingly did great exploits in Christ’s name—or so they thought. They even seem to be sincere in telling Christ: “LORD, LORD, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?” (Matthew 7:22).

Jesus (who says, “I know my sheep”—John 10:14) declares, “I never knew you.” Thus they were never true Christians (His sheep) “who messed up,” nor could they be “nominal Christians” but leaders and presumed miracle workers!

They do seem to “think” they are Christians, but they clearly never understood the gospel. Obviously, they are false prophets. Works, no matter how seemingly miraculous, are not the basis of salvation and cannot provide assurance of salvation. Their plea ought to have been, “LORD, You promised eternal life to those who believe in You. We believed and are saved by faith, so You can’t turn us away.” The true gospel was neither the emphasis of their “ministry” nor the basis of their assurance.

Sadly, we find the same dominant emphasis upon “miracles,” or signs and wonders, within much of the charismatic and “faith teaching” and “positive confession” sectors of the professing church today. Take heed!

This is also a powerful scripture for eternal security. If salvation could be “lost,” surely Christ would have said to at least one of them, “You were doing well until you lost your salvation.” He says that to none of them. They never had salvation to “lose.”

QUESTION: The Bible makes it very simple as to what one must believe in order to be saved. The Ethiopian eunuch merely said, “I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God” (Acts 8:37). Upon that confession, he was baptized. Romans 10:9 says, “if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.” From Paul’s delineation of the gospel, one need only believe that “Christ died for our sins...was buried, and rose again” (1 Corinthians 15:1-4). Yet I have heard you say that to be saved one must believe in His virgin birth, His deity, His sinlessness, etc. How can you justify this?

RESPONSE: I believe this is a serious matter. Let me explain why. That the virgin birth, deity of Christ, etc., are not mentioned every time the gospel is briefly summarized in Scripture doesn’t mean that they are not essential elements that anyone who is to be saved must believe. Every detail need not be specifically mentioned, because each would be understood from having been stated elsewhere.

Paul’s declaration in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 is only a summary, and not the full gospel that he preached to the Philippian jailor or that Jesus explained to Nicodemus, to the woman at the well, or to others. Surely, to “preach Christ” necessarily means more than merely saying that someone called Jesus Christ died in our place, without explaining who He is!

The very scripture upon which you rely (1 Corinthians 15:1-4) contains the vital phrase “according to the scriptures”—which surely includes all that the scriptures have to say relating to the gospel. Certainly Paul and Silas preached the full gospel in “the word of the Lord” (Acts 16:32; 1 Peter 1:25). How can we ask someone to believe in Jesus without explaining fully who the biblical Jesus is? Would not this be “another Jesus” and “another gospel” (2 Corinthians 11:4; Galatians 1:6) against which Paul warns?

You suggest that if someone believes in an undefined “Jesus Christ” he is saved and will eventually discover that the Jesus he believed in was virgin born, was truly God come as a man, lived a sinless, perfect life, paid the full penalty for our sins upon the cross, etc. Suppose this person, upon being told that truth, doesn’t believe it! Jesus himself said very clearly, “I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I AM he, ye shall die in your sins” (John 8:24). Or suppose that this “convert” dies before he learns that Jesus is God?!

We are making false converts by not clearly preaching the full gospel according to the scriptures. This is a serious matter, because “the gospel...is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth” (Romans 1:16). This statement itself means that if someone believes something less than, or more than, or otherwise contrary to, the gospel, he is not saved.

Yes, many come to Christ with an imperfect understanding. Yes, God, who knows whether the heart is sincere, and who wants all to be saved, will reveal Himself to earnest seekers, but that is no excuse for being vague or inaccurate in our presentation of the gospel.

QUESTION: I have often heard you say that God does not bestow spiritual gifts through physical means but only through spiritual means. This is logical, but I have a question. Why then did Jesus tell His apostles in Mark 9:29, when they were unable to drive out a particularly stubborn unclean spirit, that “this kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting”? This seems to contradict your position.

RESPONSE: Prayer is certainly not a “physical means.” Nor is prayer a magic technique that frightens demons away. Prayer is petitioning God to intervene, while at the same time submitting to His will rather than trying to impose one’s will upon Him. Nor could fasting be a “physical means” unless it were the direct or indirect cause of obtaining answers to prayer.

Fasting has no such powers and does not appease God or earn from Him an answer to prayer. In prayer man humbles himself before God. Fasting adds to that humility (Psalm 35:13). It also demonstrates one’s earnestness by setting aside the normal desire and need for food, and the time involved in eating, in order to more completely devote oneself to petitioning God.

The humility of submission to and dependence upon God for His mercy is further demonstrated by clothing oneself in “sackcloth and ashes,” as practiced at times in the past along with fasting (Esther 4:1, 3; Jeremiah 6:26; Daniel 9:3; Jonah 3:6; Matthew 11:21). Scripture says, “Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (James 5:16). Fasting is a mark of fervency; it is not a physical means of obtaining a spiritual gift.

LETTERS

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

Dear TBC,

I'm sure God will use The Berean Call ministry in this New Year to teach, warn, prophesy, inspire, and be an example to others. What an awesome responsibility and honor it is for us to serve our Father in heaven.

We got Tom's new tract, and we've been telling other ministries to order them too. We'll be spreading them all over the area, and a ministry in another state will be spreading them also. We must spread the Gospel to the lost in these last of the last days. I hope you and all your family members are doing well. We've been praying for all of you. May you and every believer in your family get a closer walk with the Lord and do His will in your lives, because we know that He is coming soon. BR (IL)

Dear Berean Call Staff,

It is our pleasure to minister to you of our carnal things, even as you have ministered to us spiritual things. Do keep up the good works and the faith until He sounds the Trumpet. May God grant you His wisdom and will in organizing this year's conference. We look forward to watching online, if we're still here and He has not sent for us all. LH (Canada)

Dear Tom,

I am very grateful to receive these discussions that you and Dave had in the past. When I received Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord in August of 1988, I was as blind as any man could possibly be. Somehow by the grace and mercy of the God we serve, He led me to The Berean Call. Dave Hunt and yourself, Tom, have been, and continue to be, one of the few "guardrails," if you will, that have helped me to stay on the narrow path of Truth. May God continue to richly bless you. Stand firm. RS (email)

TBC NOTES

Weaning Ourselves Off Ourselves

Someone noted that self is like a dominant weed in the garden of life. All efforts to uproot self are short-lived at best and, like weeds, self (meaning our self-serving, self-centered preoccupation and bias) will continue to crop up no matter how diligent are our attempts at removing it. That was impossible before we put our faith in Jesus Christ, and it's a continual struggle as true believers in Him. So how do we win that ongoing battle?

Dave Hunt gives some great insights in this issue's feature article "Choosing God's Will." I encourage you to read it more than once. The solution is in knowing God and loving Him. In my own struggle regarding self, my objective has been to love Jesus more than I love myself. As that takes place, the choices I make are aimed at pleasing Him rather than pleasing myself. Doing "those things that are pleasing in His sight" results in obedience and fruitfulness as well as a witness of one's love for Jesus (1 John 3:22).

T. A. McMAHON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear T. A.,

I read your article on Reconciliation (12/17) at the exact time I needed guidance through an irreconcilable conflict. Had I not read your letter, I probably would have made the meeting much worse by "taking the bait" and dredging up past issues under the guise of "clarification." So many conflicts are best left to God and Prayer. Thank you for sharing your four decades of experience. JL (NM)

Hello [excerpt],

Too bad you feel this way [about Catholicism]. I use a Catholic Bible—you know, the first Bible that came onto the scene? I can't help [it] that men took out seven books from it and reformed it by adding other words to it.... I'm not trying to win an earthly argument. I'm just defending the one True Christian Faith. I can't win what's already been won and stood the [test of] time on sacred Holy ground that can't be defeated. In the first place, since 33 AD the Roman Catholic Church has always been undefeated. Unfortunately, it appears you don't know true scripture, for man has interpreted Holy Scripture in the Protestant faith. I know, I know, but it's true: Catholics hold the truth. N (email)

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to say thank you all for all the work that's done to help and even teach with the information that's in the booklets [Berean Bites], papers, etc., that I and others really love. Thank you...all. RS (prisoner, TX)

Dear TBC,

Concerning the articles on "Psychology and the Evangelical Church," this is so clear and well written...and honoring to the Lord's Word! This psychological preaching (as the beloved late Dr. McGee called it) is a satanic humanist influence that is contributing to the apostasy in our day. The younger generations are being indoctrinated into this, and even in so-called Bible churches it is rampant. Thank you for writing honestly about it. Blessings in Christ. "And this is the testimony: GOD has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who hath the Son hath life. He who has not the Son has not life" (1 John 5:11-12). JB (email)

Dear T. A. McMahon,

Thank you for your faithful service to us Bereans in continuing the ministry after Dave passed away. I met and talked to him once in Iowa and was so impressed by his knowledge and humility. I'm [also] impressed by the letters to you from prisoners—thanks for supplying them with The Berean Call. AG (MN)

QUOTABLE.....

Some of the heaviest burdens I have borne as an adult had to do with my children. The enemy will attack us through our children in an attempt to distract us, weaken our faith, and ultimately separate us from God. Therefore, we must pray unceasingly for strength, wisdom, and comfort. While God does not require us to pray on our knees, I suggest that praying parents take a knee whenever possible to pray for their children. A sincere act of respect and honor toward our Heavenly Father on behalf of our children demonstrates true humility. The Bible teaches us that "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble" (James 4:6). For our children's sake, parents should pray fervently and daily before God. We will worry far less and sleep more soundly as a result.

—PATRICK CROUGH

NEWSWATCH

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

SWEDEN HERITAGE HEAD IS PAKISTANI MUSLIM

FRONTPAGEMAG.COM, 2/7/18, "SWEDEN APPOINTS PAKISTANI MUSLIM HEAD OF NATIONAL HERITAGE BOARD" [EXCERPTS]: Qaisar Mahmood, a Muslim born in Pakistan, is the new head of the Swedish National Heritage Board. This is an extremely anomalous appointment, since he readily admits that he has not read anything about Sweden's cultural heritage. But his new job is not really about preserving and protecting Sweden's cultural heritage and historical sites at all.

Mahmood...is using his position as head of the Swedish National Heritage Board not to highlight and celebrate that heritage, but to downplay Sweden's cultural heritage and history, and to create a false narrative that will help compel Swedes to accept mass Muslim migration.

Last October, a Swedish researcher gained international headlines by claiming that burial costumes from Viking graves dating back to the ninth and tenth centuries had been found to be inscribed with the name "Allah." The intent of this was obvious: to convince Swedes that Islam had always been a part of Sweden, all the way back to the days of the Vikings, and so they should not be concerned about the mass Muslim migration that was now bringing Sweden unprecedented rape and other crime rates. Islam has always been a part of Sweden!

The Viking burial cloths didn't really feature the name "Allah" at all, as Stephanie Mulder, an associate professor of Medieval Islamic art and archaeology at the University of Texas at Austin, proved shortly thereafter, but by then the damage had been done.

(<https://goo.gl/2TPf4t>)

EVOLUTION NOT TOP 2017 NEWS

ICR.ORG, 1/30/18, "EVOLUTION DIDN'T MAKE TOP 2017 SCIENCE NEWS" [EXCERPTS]: For decades, secular authors and science writers have reviewed each past year and listed the top accomplishments in the various fields of life and physical sciences. What is common to all these annual reviews is that evolutionary naturalism is virtually never documented.

2017 was no different. For example, Futurism.com reported "human cell regeneration for growing organs, [and] banishing genetic disease through breakthrough

gene-editing techniques..." But as impressive as these advancements are, they have nothing to do with the neo-Darwinian process of evolution via time and chance. The article also stated, "In one of the biggest scientific breakthroughs of 2017, scientists used the gene-editing technology CRISPR (the most accessible gene-editing technique so far) inside the human body for the very first time." Impressive of course, but evolution was not involved.

Hilary Brueck of Business Insider said, "Here are some of the wildest, coolest, most promising science finds of the year." Alas, evolution didn't make the cut. Some might protest and point out that Brueck reported, "Scientists created the 'closest thing anyone has ever made' to a new life form" in her article. But the scientists do not create anything! Only God can make something from nothing. Scientists can only make things from pre-existing things. Furthermore, within the paragraphs of her "new life form" section, evolution is never mentioned.

(<https://goo.gl/9z5YDK>)

QANTA AHMED: JERUSALEM BELONGS TO THE JEWS

THE TIMES OF ISRAEL.COM, 1/26/18, "JERUSALEM BELONGS TO THE JEWS: AN ISLAMIC TRUTH—QANTA AHMED" [EXCERPTS]: As a believing Muslim observing Islam, I am compelled by the Quran to support Israel's sole claim to the Holy Land; the Quran says it is so. The 80,000-word document 1.6 billion Muslims accept as the revealed word of God, the Quran, is categorical about the destiny of Israel and the people who can claim its ownership. The Quran states: "Moses said to his people: O my people! Remember the bounty of God upon you when He bestowed prophets upon you, and made you kings and gave you that which had not been given to anyone before you among the nations. O my people! Enter the Holy Land which God has written for you."

Nowhere does the Quran make mention of the Muslims' claim to the Holy Land. Instead, God reveals in the Quran that The Holy Land is designated for the followers of Moses. Because the Promised Land is theirs according to the Quran, only the followers of Moses may determine where their capital must lie.

(<https://goo.gl/n13APH>)

[TBC: The Bible explicitly promises what the Quran simply admits.]

THE BEREAN CALL

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

TBC ONLINE

To receive The Berean Call by email or to access our online archives, please go to www.thebereancall.org

To order items from this newsletter or to see additional resources, visit www.thebereancall.com

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.

CONTACTING US

tel: (541) 382-6210 • fax: (541) 385-6025
orders and donations: (800) 937-6638 or
(541) 382-6210

e-mail: editorial@thebereancall.org

website: www.thebereancall.org

online store: www.thebereancall.com

The Berean Call is a nonprofit 501 [c] [3], tax-exempt corporation registered in the State of Oregon. It is overseen by an independent board which has full and final authority over all corporate assets, personnel, and affairs. (03/18)

SHIPPING RATES & OPTIONS

\$3 - DISCOUNT SHIPPING (US)

Your items will be shipped by the cheapest method, delivers in 7 - 21 days.

\$7 - FASTER SHIPPING (US)

Your items will be shipped by USPS First Class Mail or faster, delivers in 3 - 7 days. (Street address required.)

If you require a specific shipping method, or want FedEx expedited shipping, we will charge you the actual shipping cost. Customers who buy at wholesale or ministry discounted pricing also pay actual shipping cost. Please provide a street address to get the lowest shipping cost.

FOR INTERNATIONAL ORDERS ONLY:

Please use the calculation below to estimate your shipping costs. If actual shipping costs are less, we will adjust what we charge you. If shipping charges are more, we will contact you.

First pound is \$15, each additional pound is \$5

Example: a 10-pound package is \$15 (first pound) + \$45 (9 additional pounds) = \$60

We will use International Priority Flat Rate Boxes whenever possible to reduce postage costs.

If you pay with a credit card, we will charge the actual amount of shipping. If you pay by check or cash, we prefer to refund you with store credit. You may also choose to receive a refund by check or specify that the difference be used as a donation.

NEW! CHRISTIAN LIVING BOOKLETS FROM LIGHTHOUSE TRAILS**Broken Vessels for Christ**

Ironside—H. A. Ironside writes, “God is looking for broken men, for men who have judged themselves in the light of the Cross of Christ. When He wants anything done, He takes up men who have come to an end of themselves, and whose trust and confidence is not in themselves but in God.” Lighthouse Trails, 10 pp.

LTP11wt .1 **\$1.95****Faith Under Fire**

Fisher—God’s Word gives us examples of faith in the fire, faith in the flood, faith when outnumbered by the enemy, faith when facing an indomitable foe, faith in prison, and many more examples. Every instance of faith thus described is manifested in adversity or great need. This booklet examines these examples in the light of God’s Word. Lighthouse Trails, 11 pp.

LTP12wt .1 **\$1.95****Substitution: He Took Our Place**

Ironside—Although the word “substitution” is not in the Bible, it stands for a great truth that runs through the Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation. That is the fact that the Lord Jesus Christ, in infinite grace, took the place of guilty sinners, and made it possible for a holy God to reach out in mercy and save all who would come to Him. Lighthouse Trails, 10 pp.

LTP13wt .1 **\$1.95****Three Vital Questions on Navigating Discernment**

Ironside—Objection is often raised—even by some sound in the faith—regarding the exposure of error as being entirely negative and of no real edification. But the brethren who assume this attitude forget that a large part of the New Testament, both of the teaching of our blessed Lord Himself and the writings of the apostles, is made up of this very character of ministry. Lighthouse Trails, 15 pp.

LTP14wt .1 **\$1.95****6 Questions Every Gay Person Should Ask**

Carter—Homosexuality was a biblical issue long before it became a political one. This booklet answers six important questions about man’s existence and whether or not a God of perfect love exists. Could it be there is a moral God who loves us enough to literally save us from ourselves? Lighthouse Trails, 15 pp.

LTP15wt .1 **\$1.95****SET FOUR – APOLOGETICS BOOKLETS**

This is the fourth set of booklets we are offering from Lighthouse Trails. To order the first three collections, see LT001, LT002, and LT003 (below).

LT004

5 booklets

wt .4 **\$9.00****Set One - Apologetics Booklets**

Danielsen/Lawson, Lanagan, Smith—Titles include: *The Alpha Course*, *Beth Moore & Priscilla Shirer—Their History of Contemplative Prayer*, *The Message “Bible”—A Breach of Truth*, *The Spiritual Truth Behind Alcoholics Anonymous*, and *10 Scriptural Reasons Why Jesus Calling Is a Dangerous Book*.

LT001

5 booklets

wt .4 **\$9.00****Set Two - Apologetics Booklets**

Oppenheimer, Matrisciana, Smith, Yungen—Titles include: *Meditation! Pathway to Wellness or Doorway to the Occult?*, *Chrislam—The Blending Together of Islam & Christianity*, *Be Still And Know That You Are Not God*, *Is Your Church Doing Spiritual Formation?*, and *A Trip To India*.

LT002

5 booklets

wt .4 **\$9.00****Set Three - Apologetics Booklets**

Smith—A series of booklets authored by Warren Smith. Titles include: *Trusting God Through It All*, *Being Thankful Through It All*, *Praising God Through It All*, *Remaining Faithful Through It All*, and *Remaining Hopeful Through It All*.

LT003

5 booklets

wt .4 **\$9.00****BOOKS WARNING OF DECEPTION ENTERING THE CHURCH****New Evangelicalism: The New World Order**

Smith—Why have so many evangelicals identified themselves as “new” evangelicals? What is the relationship between Fuller Seminary, the Purpose

Driven Church, and the Emergent Church Movement? Can the Calvary Chapel Movement, independent churches, and denominations learn any lessons from others’ errors and mistakes? Addressing these questions with riveting case studies coupled with staggering and sobering documentation, Paul Smith unfolds the shocking progression of ideas that was birthed in a nest of aberrant church beliefs. Calvary Chapel Publishing, 215 pp.

B19779wt .6 **\$10.00****A Time of Departing**

Yungen—A revealing account of a universal spirituality that has infiltrated much of the church today. This book exposes subtle strategies to compromise the gospel message with East-

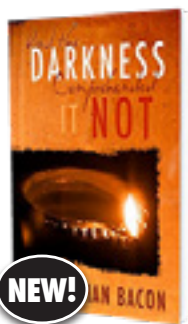
ern mystical concepts cloaked under the wrappings of contemplative prayer and “the silence.” Some questions this book answers: What exactly is contemplative spirituality and how is it New Age? Is Rick Warren’s *Purpose Driven* paradigm promoting the contemplative prayer movement? What is wrong with Christian yoga? What is the emerging church really all about and why is it spiritually dangerous? Lighthouse Trails Publishing, 246 pp.

B01206wt .8 **\$12.00****For Many Shall Come in My Name**

Yungen—Most people believe the New Age has been long gone from our society, and, if practiced at all now, it is only by unconventional “fringe”

types. The New Age movement (a term not normally used by its proponents) has permeated virtually all aspects of our society. This “Ancient Wisdom” spirituality can be quite readily encountered in the following fields: Business, Education, Health, Self-Help, Religion, and Arts & Entertainment. This book examines them all. Lighthouse Trails Publishing, 215 pp.

B01290wt .7 **\$12.00**

NEW! BIBLE HISTORY BOOK AND OTHER BIBLE STUDY RESOURCES**And the Darkness Comprehended It Not**

Bacon—From the author, A. Adrian Bacon: “Prior to my research into the making of this book, I had cultivated a hazy mistrust in the back of my mind about the integrity of the Bible that was introduced by fellow Christians unawares and continually reinforced by what appeared to be sound scholarship. When I discovered what was behind

all the uncertainty, I was set free to enjoy the Bible without worry. What you read in this book will equip you with enough information so that you will be able to see through the falsehoods that have assaulted the inerrancy and infallibility of the Bible in recent times. Jesus said, *Ye shall know the truth, and the truth will make you free* (John 8:32).” 251 pp.

B60546

wt .9 \$12.00

**Let Me Introduce You to the Bible**

MacDonald—A great little booklet to share with new believers. MacDonald begins with the assumption that his readers are unfamiliar with the Bible, but they want to learn about it. He uses readable, understandable descriptions that get right to the heart of learning about God’s Word. Included are an overview of the entire Bible, the Old and New Testaments, and a brief description and synopsis of each book. Walterick Publishers, 47 pp.

B96222

wt .2 SALE \$4.00

**Enjoy Your Bible**

MacDonald/Farstad—The words “enjoy” and “study” used on the cover of this book may seem a contradiction to many people. For a

Christian, studying God’s Word should become a delight, a pleasure, a joy. This little volume will help chart excursions on the limitless seas of the written Word of God. About the authors: For decades William MacDonald addressed the key issues of Christianity in clear and simple terms. Arthur Farstad was recognized as an able and eloquent defender of the Majority Text of the Greek New Testament. Gospel Folio Press, 124 pp.

B00585

wt .4 \$9.50

PRAYER AND MEDITATING ON GOD’S WORD**The Calvary Road**

Hession—This is an updated edition of a book written by missionary and evangelist Roy Hession in 1950 in which

he profiles the nature of religious revival and lays out the prerequisites and consequences of the activity of God in the heart of the hungry seeker. This book is the result of that testimony. Hession shows us how brokenness, humility, and repentance prepare our hearts to receive the fullness God wants us to have. Seize this opportunity to learn how Jesus can fill you with His Spirit through brokenness, repentance, and confession. CLC Publications, 131 pp.

B82363

wt .3 \$6.50

**The Nonnegotiable Gospel**

Hunt—Most people are surprised to learn that the gospel contains nothing about baptism, church membership or attendance, tithing, sacraments or rituals, diet or clothing. In fact, if we add anything to the gospel, we have perverted it. This evangelistic booklet reveals the gem of the gospel in every clear-cut facet for anyone desiring a precise biblical definition of the gospel. The Berean Call, 44 pp.

B45645

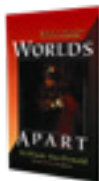
wt .1 \$3.25

**True Happiness**

Lloyd-Jones—In this short but powerful book, a beloved preacher takes an in-depth look at two of the psalmist’s writings. The verses of Psalm 1 poetically state the essence of the Bible and reveal the secret of true happiness. Psalm 107, on the other hand, is a hymn of praise from one who has lived that secret and wants everyone to know it for themselves. Martyn Lloyd-Jones faithfully offers eternal truths from these psalms in a way that is sure to cause you to pause and ponder your own life—and your quest for true happiness. Crossway Books, 206 pp.

B42871

wt .6 \$14.00

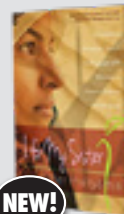
**Worlds Apart**

MacDonald—Biblical insights into the battlefield where two kingdoms vie for loyalties.

There is the kingdom that the Bible calls “the world” and there is the kingdom of God—they are worlds apart. *Worlds Apart* is a battle plan calling the church to action. With the author, we tour the battlefield, inspect the armory, meet the combatants, and learn the strategies for victory. Gospel Folio Press, 101 pp.

B01054

wt .3 \$8.00

NEW! I FOR MY SISTER BRINGING THE GOSPEL TO MUSLIM WOMEN**I For My Sister**

Burger—Are you prepared to capture the next wave of women’s souls for the kingdom of heaven? Having given her testimony of coming to Christ in her inspiring autobiography, *From the Crescent to the Cross: My Extraordinary Journey to the Heart of God*, Sister Maryama now presents an invitation and exhortation to women in the Body of Christ—equipping them “to connect with women in the Islamic [and] other cultures.” It is not the church as an organization that can change the world but individual believers within the body of Christ, acting as an “Organism” that can change others one heart at a time. After all, is this not how our Jesus engages us—one heart at a time? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!”—Romans 10:14-15. Maryama Salaad Burger, 196 pp. *For a limited time, get *Biblically Thinking About - Islam* FREE with purchase of *I For My Sister*!

B16623 wt .7 \$15.00

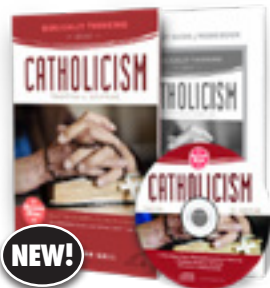
**Biblically Thinking about - Islam**

TBC—Islam (which means “submission”) is a monotheistic religion that has more than one-and-a-half-billion adherents. They are known as Muslims (meaning “those who submit”). Muslims worship Allah, whom they regard as the supreme God. This booklet not only sheds light on the critical differences between biblical Christianity and Islam—it also exposes the lie that Islam is a religion of “peace and tolerance.” 30 pp. **FREE with purchase of *I For My Sister*!**

BBB04

wt .2 \$4.00

MARCH 2018



Biblically Thinking about—Catholicism

TBC—For the Catholic, salvation does not come through personally receiving Christ as Savior but is a lengthy process that begins with baptism and thereafter depends upon one's continued relationship to the Church. Salvation comes through participation in the sacraments, penance, good works, [and] suffering for one's sins. The theological differences between Catholics and Protestants were once considered to be so great that millions died as martyrs rather than compromise with them, and the Catholic executioners were equally convinced of the importance of such differences. That gospel hasn't changed. Has conviction been compromised to create a huge coalition among conservatives for social and political action? Includes study guide and audio CD. Booklet 36 pp, Study Guide 16 pp., and CD 78 min. **Price includes shipping in the USA!**

continued relationship to the Church. Salvation comes through participation in the sacraments, penance, good works, [and] suffering for one's sins. The theological differences between Catholics and Protestants were once considered to be so great that millions died as martyrs rather than compromise with them, and the Catholic executioners were equally convinced of the importance of such differences. That gospel hasn't changed. Has conviction been compromised to create a huge coalition among conservatives for social and political action? Includes study guide and audio CD. Booklet 36 pp, Study Guide 16 pp., and CD 78 min. **Price includes shipping in the USA!**

BBSET07

wt .2 \$7.00

TBC ORDER FORM — PLEASE SUBMIT ENTIRE PAGE

1 ORDERED BY: ☐ address correction or change below

Account No. _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

2 CONTACT INFO: In case we need to contact you regarding your order

Phone Number (_____) _____

E-Mail _____

To sign up for automatic e-mail news, please visit our website: www.thebereancall.org and click on "subscribe" to create a user name and to see the newsletter options.

5 ORDER RESOURCES: Please print all information clearly and use catalog item codes

Item Code	Title/Product Description	Price	Weight (Int'l Only)	Quantity Ordered	Total Weight (Int'l Only)	Total Price

★ **SHIPPING NOTE:** U.S. CUSTOMERS MUST CHOOSE \$3 SLOWER SHIPPING OR \$7 FASTER SHIPPING. INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMERS SEE PAGE 5 FOR SHIPPING RATES.

6 WEIGHT: _____ (Int'l only) 7 TOTAL ORDER: Product Total _____ Shipping Fees _____ Donation _____ Total Enclosed _____

☐ IF MY FUNDS EXCEED PRODUCT AND SHIPPING COSTS, PLEASE KEEP BALANCE AS A GIFT **Thank You!**