

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

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

A Crucial Address to the Overseers — Part One

T. A. McMahon

So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

—JOHN 21:15-17

IT'S ALWAYS AN honor and a privilege for me to address those who are in church leadership, and by God's grace to share some thoughts that I pray will prove helpful as you minister to God's flock. I consider yours to be the most difficult of all the Lord's callings. Certainly it's an impossible task without the conviction of God upon you. I've known some who have attempted to shepherd the Lord's sheep without His calling, and it was a disaster, both for the presumptuous leader and the congregation he led.

The words of Jesus to Peter (referenced above) cut to the heart of the matter when it comes to one's calling. It all comes down to whether or not one loves Jesus.

Three times Jesus asks Peter if he loves Him, and three times Peter says yes. His last response is a great deal more emphatic than the other two: “*Thou knowest that I love thee.*” More often than not, some of us, perhaps many of us, throw out the phrase “I love you” or just “love you” as a nice sounding thing to say . . . or a reflex . . . but we do little or nothing to support the words. Yet Jesus doesn't let Peter's response rest on words, however sincere. He gives him instructions that when obeyed will prove Peter's love for his Lord.

There's a strong connection between obedience and love. In fact, obedience is often a demonstration of one's love. I've been asked, “So what's the deal with Adam and Eve's sin? Seems like much ado about nothing. All that fuss over eating a piece of fruit! I don't get it.” I wouldn't get it either, if taking a bite of the forbidden fruit was the issue. No. The critical issue was “obedience.”

Jesus, in John 14:21-24 and in many other places, underscores the relationship between love and obedience: “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. Jesus answered and said unto him, *If a man love me, he will keep my words*: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode

with him. *He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings*: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me” [emphasis added].

Those of you who are raising children, or who have raised them, know that a child who says he loves you but majors in disobedience is demonstrating love in this way: he loves himself more than he loves his parents. Adam and Eve demonstrated that they loved themselves more than they loved their Creator. Jesus gave Peter instructions that he was to follow—“feed My sheep”—thereby demonstrating the love that he had repeatedly declared to his Lord and Savior.

What then should Peter feed the Lord's sheep? How about this: everything that Jesus said and did! I love the way this is presented throughout Scripture. It's called the “full counsel of God,” “all Scripture,” “the Word of the Lord,” “the Gospel,” “sound doctrine,” “the entirety of Thy Word,” “every word that proceedeth from the mouth of God,” and so on. In other words, Peter was to feed them—Jesus! Jesus is *the* “Word . . . made flesh.”

Jesus underscored the *overall content* of that food when He said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life” (John 14:6). Think about that for a moment. What's left out of that? With what might we supplement it? Absolutely nothing! If you were to survey those who profess to be biblical Christians, you would very likely find that many would claim to believe in the *inerrancy* of the Scriptures and the *authority* of the Bible. However, there's another claim made by the Word of God that, *in practice*, is missing from many who profess to believe it, and that is the *sufficiency* of the Scriptures.

This is a huge problem. In what way, you ask? Well, consider a three-legged stool. Let's say one leg stands for the Bible's inerrancy, the second leg its authority. The third leg is its sufficiency. What happens to a three-legged stool when one of the legs is missing? It becomes unstable and is no doubt ripe for a collapse. Here's how the matter plays out logically. If the Bible is viewed as not sufficient (contrary to its claims), then its complete authority breaks down. That being the case, one will look outside the Bible for information, turning to other so-called authorities or experts. Being viewed as insufficient and therefore lacking absolute authority, what does that say about the belief in its inerrancy? Well, we're left with a confusing mixture of God's perfect wisdom and fallen mankind's imperfect wisdom (and worse), which renders the inerrancy of God's Word meaningless.

But does the Bible claim to be sufficient? Peter tells us that it does. Second Peter 1:2-4 states, “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” [emphasis added].

Other scriptures, such as 2 Timothy 3:16-17, declare that, “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profit-

able for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

But I love Peter, especially the incredible change seen in Him from Pentecost on, and also in his two Epistles. Earlier on, it seemed that he suffered at times from “foot-in-mouth” disease. Nevertheless, his words to Jesus as recorded in John chapter 6 indicate that he knew of the sufficiency in Christ. When others were turning away from the Lord, Scripture tells us, “Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life” (John 6:68).

Peter got that right, but, sadly, more and more believers in Christ today are going elsewhere for “things that pertain to life and godliness.” Tragically, in some cases many are being led that way by their churches, in which the leadership refers members of their fellowship to professionals for psychological counseling. If this is taking place in your fellowship—whether they call themselves Christian psychologists or Marriage and Family counselors or whatever label they choose to give themselves—I have two words for your fellowship: *stop it!*

We need to take the counsel given by Nehemiah, who, when he learned that a chamber had been made for the wicked Tobiah in the courts of the Temple, Scripture tells us, was “grieved sore; therefore [he] cast forth all the household stuff of Tobiah out of the chamber.” The church needs to do the same today with the psychobabble that has set up shop within its hallowed walls.

(If you would like more reasons than just psychology’s denial of the sufficiency of God’s Word, TBC has a host of resources spelling out psychotherapy’s damaging effects, both from the secular researchers and—more importantly—the Scriptures. You can see more at thebereanall.org or thebereanall.com).

Let’s consider a little deeper the words of Jesus in John 14:6: “I am the way, the truth, and the life.” What might there be outside of what He claims that would be of eternal value? Nothing. What about our temporal side of life? Can’t we look to experts in certain fields to help us in matters of living? Of course! I’m not interested in having my appendix removed by someone whose only degree is in theology or whose education was obtained through attending a Bible college or who simply reads the Bible and does what it says.

On the other hand, I would love to be ministered to or helped by any person, whether in the medical profession or otherwise, who is tops in his or her field and is also a born-again Christian. Such a person with medical expertise would provide temporal value by meeting my particular need, e.g., successfully removing my appendix, but that person could also minister to my spiritual needs as a brother or sister in Christ. That spiritual support might happen through prayer, encouragement from the Word, and doing their business according to the spiritual/moral/ethical teachings of the Word, and so forth. It’s a mixture of physical temporal values *and* spiritual eternal values.

Continuing with the words of Jesus, “I am the way, the truth, and the life,” what’s missing regarding “all things that pertain to godliness through the knowledge of Him...”? Is there anything in these words of eternal value that Jesus has left out? No! There is no other way, no other truth, and no other life.

Yet if you can believe the current surveys by Barna and others who are asking evangelical Christians if they believe there’s another way to heaven apart from Jesus, more than half declare that there is! Perhaps they’re sincerely trying to show how loving and accepting God is. I don’t know their hearts. But I do know that they’re unwittingly demonstrating that they are “ashamed of the gospel” (Romans 1:16). Worse yet, they’re calling a liar the One who claimed, “. . .no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).

The same slanderous implication of being a liar would also apply to Peter in Acts 4:12, when he declared, “Neither is there

salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” In obedience to Christ’s instructions, Peter fed to Christ’s lambs and sheep Jesus himself. He fed them “the way, the truth, and the life.”

I grew up Roman Catholic, and I was taught that when I received the wafer at communion I was eating the literal body, blood, soul, and divinity of Jesus Christ under the appearance of bread and wine. Still today, supposedly the priest has the power to transubstantiate, or change, the bread and wine into Jesus, although it continued to resemble bread and wine. The transubstantiated bread or host was then worshiped as Jesus himself.

Many Catholics accuse evangelicals of taking everything they read in the Bible literally. Not true. If that were the case we would believe that God is a chicken. Why do I say that? Psalm 91:4 says that God “shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.” We don’t take it literally that God has feathers and wings. We recognize that the words are figurative, meaning they simply indicate that God will protect believers from the snare of the fowler, referring to Satan. Catholics, on the other hand, make a huge error by taking literally a verse that is clearly figurative. In John chapter 6:53-54 Jesus declares, “Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

How do I know that we’re not to take that literally? There are three obvious reasons: First of all, to eat human flesh is the horrific outcome of people who are in dire straits under the judgment of God (Lv 26:28-29; Jer 19:8-9). Jesus would never condone such an evil activity as cannibalism. Secondly, the act itself is devoid of any physical or spiritual benefit. What does one learn from that repeated ritualistic act performed on Catholic altars? Nothing is learned, at least as it relates to what the Bible tells us. In fact, it denies the truth of the *finished* work of Christ on the cross and turns the biblical act of taking communion into a mystical rite.

Do you know what the phrase “hocus pocus” means? It’s commonly used by those who perform magic tricks. Originally, however, it was used by Protestants to mock the Catholic priests who performed transubstantiation in the Mass. The priests used the Latin phrase *Hoc est corpus meum*, which is translated “This is my body.” That Latin phrase was later corrupted as “hocus pocus.”

Thirdly, Jesus makes it clear that His words given in John 6:63 are not to be taken literally but figuratively. He says, “. . .the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.”

Getting back to Peter as he was instructed by Jesus to feed the Lord’s sheep, what might that food consist of? Jesus said in Luke 4:4, “It is written, that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.” Jesus is “the Word of God” (Revelation 19:13). So, I would surmise that Peter fed the Lord’s sheep *Jesus himself—His way, His truth, and His life—and all that is presented in His Word*. That’s the meaning of Christ’s words in John 6:53-54: “Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

The question for you shepherds of the Lord’s flock, then, is: What are you feeding the sheep whom the Lord has given to your charge? Is it, first and foremost, Christ himself in all of His ways, His truth, and His life? How critical is one’s personal relationship with Jesus in regard to a believer’s fruitful life in Christ? Jesus tells us in no uncertain terms.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

TBC

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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

or e-mail: editorial@thebereanall.org

QUESTION: I just went to see *Paul, Apostle of Christ*, and I thought it was the best biblical movie I've seen so far. I heard that the Berean Call does not approve of biblical movies, so I'd like to hear your criticisms.

RESPONSE: I went to see *Paul, Apostle of Christ* the day it opened, and I would agree that it was an excellent presentation in terms of its movie qualities, specifically the directing, acting, art production, cinematography, storyline, and the musical score. Writer/director Andrew Hyatt dealt with the movie's Christian content in many ways that seemed consistent with the Scriptures, a feature blatantly missing to the level of caricature in movies such as *Noah*; *Exodus: Gods and Kings*; *A.D. The Bible Continues*, and *Son of God*.

Yet *Paul, Apostle of Christ* flunks right alongside other terribly inferior efforts at bringing the Bible to the screen. Why? Because any attempts to translate the Bible into a visual medium is condemned by the Bible itself. Before I get to that, consider this:

A major problem in discussing movies is that the conversation almost immediately enters the subjective arena. This Q&A began with the questioner's thinking that the movie "was the best biblical movie I've seen so far." That's what he *felt*. Do I, on the other hand, with my graduate-school major in film and more than a decade as a Hollywood screenwriter, have a more objective perspective about movies? *No!* Forget the credentials—it all comes down to what we either like or dislike about the movie we're discussing. We may have different gauges for evaluating a film, but in the end it still comes down to personal, subjective, and experiential criteria, i.e., the way we each feel about *Paul, Apostle of Christ*.

When feelings become the main criterion of evaluation, there can be no satisfactory conclusion as to who's right or who's wrong. In fact, I've seen marriages break up because of heated differences over movies. That could also apply to some readers being upset with me based upon my response in this Q&A, so, I'm going to attempt to remove myself from any potential skirmish by deferring to the Scriptures. I simply want to ask some questions of those who consider themselves to be biblical Christians and desire to submit to God's Word.

Do you believe in the Bible's claim of inerrancy, i.e., that it is without error in the original communication to the writers and their recording (Psalm 19:7; John 17:17; Galatians 1:11-12), its claim of authority in all matters of faith and practice (1 Thes 2:13; 2 Tim 3:16-17), and its claim of sufficiency? If yes, then you take it as God's perfect communication to mankind, the content to which believers must submit, and believe that it is sufficient for all things that pertain to life and godliness (2 Pt 1:3). If no, then your problem is with God's Word, not with me.

The claim of the Bible is that it is absolutely sufficient and will not tolerate any additions or subtractions from mankind. Obviously, that would make the Bible the product (even in part) of fallen, sinful humanity—which would render it worthless.

Scripture declares: "Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar" (Pr 30:5-6).

"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 Pt 1:19-21).

"For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man

shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book" (Rv 22:18-19).

Starting with the first frame of a "biblical" movie and ending with the last, and every frame in between, additions to and subtractions from Scripture fill the screen. Here's a quote from actor Russell Crowe when he was questioned as to why so much was added to the biblical story of Noah: "There are very few lines in the Bible, few specific lines that tell the story. So if you are going to make that tale into a narrative for a feature film, you've got to fill in some of those gaps."

Filling in "those gaps" subjects an audience (perhaps millions of people) to man-supplied content that pretends to be Scripture. I could stop right there and confidently rest upon what the Bible clearly says, certainly in the verses mentioned above and others that could be given. Yet I will add this additional consequence for believers, as well as unbelievers.

When *The Passion of the Christ* had its theatrical release, I wrote a book addressing my concerns titled *Showtime for the Sheep*. It includes a personal example of a survey in which I interviewed some biblically astute young adults who were enamored with the movie. I described a number of scenes from the film and asked them to tell me which scenes that I mentioned were "accurate" to the Bible and which had been added by the screenwriter. They believed that five were true to the Scriptures and three were added. Wrong. All eight were made up by Mel Gibson, the writer/director. Tragically, viewers now have scenes in their minds that they believe are scriptural. Even worse, how sad for the millions of lost souls whose only "biblical insights" have come from a Hollywood production of God's Word.

QUESTION: It is my understanding per Jesus' own words in Matt 26:39, 42, Mark 14:36, and Luke 22:42 that He was *not willing to die but chose to do the Father's will, not His own. I am struggling, as our pastor is preaching that Jesus was willing to be our "rescuer." Am I wrong or is there some other way to interpret these Scriptures?*

RESPONSE: In Matthew 26:39 we read, "And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt." We also read, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin" (Heb 14:5).

Jesus was tempted in all ways, just as any human, yet He never yielded to that human nature. Any unwillingness He experienced never stopped Him from exercising His will to be obedient to the Father.

We know that Jesus was "willing" in that He submitted himself to the will of the Father. In Luke 18:31 the Lord, "took unto him the twelve, and said unto them, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of man *shall be accomplished*" [our emphasis].

Jesus knew that the prophecies could be fulfilled only by His willingness to go all the way to the Cross. "And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem" (Lk 9:51). He made up his mind to do so by the exercise of His will. Christ's will was in agreement with the Father's will. Regardless of His very human temptations, Jesus remained in harmony with the will of the Father.

Finally, throughout His ministry, the Lord Jesus spoke of what He was willing to do. "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.... As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep" (John 10:11, 15).

LETTERS

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

Dear Berean Call,

Thank you so very much for the [radio transcript] two-part discussion of Calvinism and all its parts. I am re-reading them a second time—it is a lot to work through. This answers many questions for me, and I am grateful. I hope you will have more. Reading them is more helpful than listening to the program for me. I can go back to the previous paragraph to reference [what’s being said]. PR (email)

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

I see that not everybody who reads the newsletter agrees with your take. I also see that your opinion or position is backed up with what is stated in God’s Word. This is the reason I look forward to your newsletter. If people cannot [understand] teaching that is backed by God’s Word, then we need to call on the Holy Spirit for clarity. RO (NY)

Hello:

I was recently in Australia and happened upon an Easter message on TV from Brian Houston, lead pastor from Hillsong. It was unusual in that he gave the message from Rome, and throughout the sermon there were many pictures of various churches and other well-known Roman sites. The whole message was somewhat troubling in that [although] he stated Rome’s role in the crucifixion of Jesus, he also seemed to give Rome credit for the gospel being spread to the far reaches of the known world. He also quoted from Desmond Tutu. To give such a message from the home of the Vatican, when in actual fact it was the land of Israel where Jesus was born and died and from where the gospel originated, seemed very

out of place. It is hard to describe the impact it had on me, but it was unsettling to say the least. Thank you again for your ministry in this day of compromise everywhere you look. AB (email)

Greetings, TBC,

This State Ward [prisoner] is grateful for people like you. I’ve been receiving *The Berean Call* for many years (1999), thanks to items from a prisoner whom I would walk and talk about the Word with. Sharing the Word with fallen men has been my calling and I thank you for your godly insight monthly. Your intel and knowledge of the Word helps me to think things over and do my homework studying and researching. Many of Dave’s readings have touched my heart and soul so much that I share them with others. I save the best ones in a “Berean” file and pull them out to share when needed. RM (CA, prisoner)

Dear T. A. and Staff:

Thanks for that timely article “Choosing God’s Will.” It’s an ongoing battle to see the difference between my will or God’s will. Often we think we are doing the right thing when it’s actually a work of our flesh, and it’s a hidden method of our self-life to rule and be noticed. Keep up the great work that you’ve been blessed with. MT (NY)

Dear TBC,

Just a note to say “thank you” for your ministry—I so appreciate the monthly newsletter and the materials obtainable from you. I’m reading Samuel J. Andrews’ book along with *Peace, Prosperity, and the Coming Holocaust*. The New Age movement, its history, and the plans for the future are frightening without the Scripture [which is] the truth that shall prevail. CW (NE)

Dear Berean Call,

I want to support your publication, even though I have trouble reading. I have to use a magnifying glass for all the publications I get—and to check what I am writing. I thank you for your work. AT (CO)

Dear Mr. McMahon,

I have enjoyed your newsletter for a number of years. The issue on Psychology was most informative. So many of your issues I keep on file to refer to. BS (OH)

QUOTABLE.....

Some believers suffer needless anxiety that they have committed the willful sin of Hebrews 10:26-27. They reason that since their will is involved when they do sin, therefore they are guilty of the willful sin and are doomed to the judgment and fiery indignation that will devour God’s adversaries. But that is simply not true. It is essential for us to realize that there is a difference between acts of sin and the willful sin of Hebrews 10. The willful sin is apostasy. It is defined in v. 29 as trampling underfoot the Son of God, counting the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulting the Spirit of grace. No true believer can ever be guilty of that! The very fact that a person worries that he has committed this sin is an indication that he has not. Those who apostatize from the Christian faith are so hardened and arrogant that they never give it a second thought. They have no fear of God or of His punishment.

—WILLIAM MACDONALD

TBC NOTES

Jesus Who?

Many claim to love Jesus. Yet Jesus said, “But me [the world] hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil” (John 7:7). So who are those who claim to love Jesus? Are they believers in the biblical Jesus? And why do we make that distinction? It’s necessary because only the Bible defines who Jesus is and what He has done, revealing His characteristics and attributes in the process.

Any contribution from man that adds to or subtracts from the biblical revelation of Jesus may result in one’s believing in “another Jesus” (2 Corinthians 11:4) and a “false Christ” (Matthew 24:5), who can save no one.

If a person claims to know someone whom I know very well and begins to wrongly describe that person, I wouldn’t hesitate to inform him that he’s not talking about the person I know. That correction—or lack thereof—may have eternal consequences regarding Jesus our only Savior. “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12). Meekly asking, “Jesus who?” is critical in our day, which Jesus characterized as a time of rampant spiritual deception (Matthew 24:4).

T. A. McMAHON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NEWSWATCH

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

ISAIAH'S SIGNATURE?

CHRISTIANPOST.COM, 3/22/18, "ISAIAH'S SIGNATURE? ARCHAEOLOGY AND SCRIPTURE" [EXCERPTS]: Archaeologists digging "at the foot of the southern part of the wall that surrounds Jerusalem's Old City," found an ancient refuse dump dating back to the eighth century before Christ.

In the refuse dump, they found 33 clay imprints or seals, known as bullae. One of these bore the inscription "Belonging to Hezekiah (son of) Ahaz king of Judah...." The latest issue of *Biblical Archaeology Review* features a piece by Eilat Mazar of Hebrew University [who] supervised the excavation that found Hezekiah's seal.

Among the other clay seals was one inscribed with the name "Yesha 'yah[u]." (יֵשָׁע) For those of us who didn't study Hebrew, the name means "YHWH is salvation." In English, the name is rendered as "Isaiah."

In 2008, seals belonging to two high officials, Gedeliah and Shelemiah [Jeremiah 38] were found "only few feet apart."

Thus, "it would not be the first time that seal impressions of two Biblical personas, mentioned in the same verse in the Bible, were found in an archaeological context.

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

BLOAT AND FLOAT DINOSAURS

ICR.ORG, 3/26/18, "GENESIS FLOOD EXPLAINS BLOAT-AND-FLOAT DINOSAURS" [EXCERPTS]: A new research paper claims to have solved the mystery of why most ankylosaur dinosaur fossils are found upside down. Lead author Dr. Jordan Mallon, from the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa, Ontario, explains, "Textbooks have touted that ankylosaur fossils are usually found upside down, but no one has gone back and checked the records to make sure that's the case."

To test these hypotheses, the team examined 36 ankylosaur specimens from across the province of Alberta and found that 26 (over 70%) were deposited upside-down. They carefully examined the bones for bite marks and reported only 1 out of 32 ankylosaurs (specimens that had a sufficient number of bone fossils to study bite marks) had any evidence of carnivore activity....

The authors also noted that many ankylosaur fossils, particularly the nodosaur variety, are commonly found in marine

sediments, as are most of the dinosaur fossils found across Europe. Did virtually all these dinosaurs somehow happen to fall into rivers and float out to sea as many secular scientists claim? Did 26 of 36 carcasses casually flip upside-down in the water? Or is there a better explanation for these upside-down ankylosaurs?

The global Flood seems to provide the perfect answer to this global phenomenon. The floodwaters would have quickly inundated and drowned ankylosaurs. The dinosaurs would have floated along, most of them tumbling into an upside-down position, and then been deposited in sediments quickly enough to preserve their bones as fossils. The Flood also better explains why so many dinosaur fossils are found in marine rocks and why marine fossils are commonly mixed with non-marine fossils, such as dinosaurs.

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

NORMALIZATION WITH ISRAEL DEVIATES FROM NORM

JIHADWATCH.ORG, 3/27/18, "PALESTINIAN" COUNCIL OF RELIGIOUS SCHOLARS: "NORMALIZATION WITH ISRAEL DEVIATES FROM THE ARAB AND ISLAMIC NORM" [EXCERPTS]: "Drive them out from where they drove you out," says the Qur'an (2:191), and since "Palestinian" agitprop claims that the Israelis drove them from their land, that Islamic imperative applies to the "Palestinian" conflict with Israel. Israel must be destroyed because of this command of Allah in the Qur'an; no negotiated settlement will change that, or prevent some Muslims from attempting to act upon this command.

The Council of Religious Scholars and Lecturers in Beit Al-Mukdas in Jerusalem warned against normalizing ties with the "occupation."

The Council is headed by Sheikh Ekrima Sabri, who also serves as an imam in Al-Aqsa Mosque. Appointed by arch-terrorist Yasser Arafat, Sabri legitimized suicide bombings and attacks on civilians during the Second Intifada.

In a statement, the council said that "normalization with Israel deviates from the Arab and Islamic norm" and is considered "loyalty to the occupation."

They also said that "Palestine" has always "spat out the invaders," just like a healthy body gets rid of an illness. The solution to the occupation, they said, is to remove it from the blessed and holy land.

(<https://goo.gl/7WjTk8>)

THE BEREAN CALL

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

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Merryman—*Millennial Eschatology: The Triumphant Kingdom of Messiah* is an introduction to "last things" in the Bible. This study examines and resolves the issues of Old Testament eschatology as it relates to New Testament eschatology; excellent graphs and illustrations throughout. Merryman Ministries, 126 pp.

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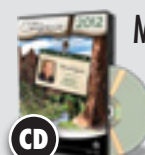


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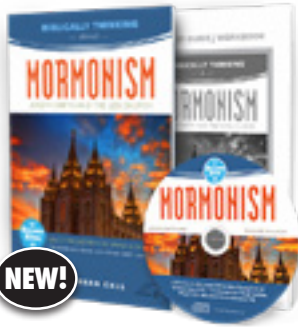
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work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent” (John 6:28-29). Only Jesus, as God and Man, could (and did!) pay the penalty for the sins of mankind. Tragically, JWs have rejected their only hope of eternal life with Jesus. Includes study guide and audio CD. Booklet 32 pp., Study Guide 16 pp., and CD 56 min. **Price includes shipping in the USA!**

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Higley—TBC is privileged to offer this revised and expanded edition of Dennis & Rauni Higley’s concise but revealing investigation of their former faith, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Dennis was a sixth-generation Mormon who became an Elder’s Quorum president while still in his early twenties. About a decade later, he was ordained a High Priest and called to serve on the Stake High Council. Rauni worked as a translator and language coordinator for the LDS Church for over 14 years. Together they launched an intensive private study of the “facts” of Mormonism, with guidance from God and His Word. This ultimately led Dennis and Rauni out of the darkness and into the light. The Berean Call, 78 pp.

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Jesus Christ/Joseph Smith

McElveen—This book and companion DVD featuring Floyd McElveen seeks to compare historical LDS teaching with God’s Word. You will hear interviews with former members of the LDS Church who, at one time, believed very strongly that Joseph Smith was a true prophet sent by God to restore Christianity to the earth. When they realized that their presuppositions were not true, they had to make some extremely difficult life-changing decisions. Good News for LDS, 476 pp., 1 DVD, 90 min.

B01558

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DNA vs. The Book of Mormon

Living Hope Ministries—The Book of Mormon teaches that Israelites, having immigrated to and fully populating the American continents, are the principal ancestors of modern-day Native Americans. Citizens of more than 150 of these tribes have been tested to determine their ancestry. This video presents the evidence from DNA researchers, including Mormon scientists, that *refutes* this teaching. English/Spanish option. 1 DVD, 49 min.

DVD067

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RESOURCES ON JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES



Captives of a Concept

Cameron—“You’ll never get sick. You will never grow old. You will never die.” Although those words come from the movie *Cocoon*, they could have come from the Watchtower Society, because this is the same thing they have been proclaiming for decades as part of “the Creator’s promise of a peaceful and secure new

world that is about to replace the present wicked, lawless system of things.” This very appealing prospect attracts many people to begin studying the Bible with Jehovah’s Witnesses. In *Captives of a Concept*, Don Cameron offers suggestions about how to help Jehovah’s Witnesses and how to show them the truth about their religion. Lulu, 152 pp.

B00103

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30 Years a Watchtower Slave

Schnell—More than an account of how a cult enslaved a man, William Schnell’s story illustrates how false teachers “crept in unawares” (Jude 4). The Watchtower appeals to those searching for certainty and a place to belong. Schnell joined the Watchtower Society in the 1920s, but the societal issues of that time grimly parallel those of today. It would be wise to heed the warning of the author: “Let my life of slavery be your warning! It took me thirty years to get free!” Baker Books, 214 pp.

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Jehovah’s Witnesses: What You Need to Know


Rhodes—The Watchtower Society claims to be a prophet of God. However, it has consistently made false prophecies throughout its history. Ron Rhodes summarizes Watchtower teaching and methods for witnessing to Jehovah’s Witnesses. This 16-panel, full-color, handy fold-out summary is just the ticket for aiding in discernment. Harvest House Publishers, 16 pp.


QR02


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 **The Unseen Foe behind Rising Evil—and Putting on God's Armor**
Kjos—We don't hear much about spiritual warfare these days. Most churches seem to ignore the reality of Satan and the evil he inspires. God's warnings about fellowship with the world's alluring thrills doesn't fit the contemporary image of Jesus as a tolerant, easy-going friend. A vast number of politicians, media masters, and educators have joined this war against biblical truth. Lighthouse Trails, 12 pp.
LTP28 wt .1 **\$1.95**

 **Truth or Consequences**
Smith—The phrase "truth or consequences" would ordinarily suggest a certain degree of solemnity rather than levity. However we live in a society that doesn't take the concept of "truth or consequences" very seriously. In fact, there seems to be a growing apathy and disregard—even in the church—for the consequences of not observing and maintaining truth. Lighthouse Trails, 16 pp.
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 **Preparing for Perilous Times & Finding God's Peace in the Midst of Them**
Dombrowski—I know that for the average American (including the American Christian) the idea that mighty America could stumble and fall simply does not register. As it is becoming increasingly obvious, by all indications, that America is racing toward judgment, so too is the realization that something serious or catastrophic could easily come to our country, and we are unprepared. Lighthouse Trails, 12 pp.
LTP27 wt .1 **\$1.95**


 **Big Noisy God: Dispelling the Rumor That God Can Be Found "Only in the Silence"**
Pratt—Statements like this are troubling: "The believer must first achieve a state of silence—and then God works in the believer's heart." But does the Lord vacate the premises when it's noisy and then return when things quiet down? Isn't God present, active, when the grandchildren squeal, "Thank you, God, for ICE CREAM!" Of course He is. Psalm 139:7-10 says that no matter where we go, God is there. Lighthouse Trails, 12 pp.
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B04917 wt .3 **\$9.00**

 **Biblically Handling Technology and Social Media**
Various—This booklet presents specific Scriptures to help guide Christians in their use of technology-based systems so that they can recognize how to better glorify the Lord and walk worthy of Him (Colossians 1:10). Biblical Discipleship Ministries, 69 pp.
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 **STS 24/7 - The Message in the Media**
McMahon/Kerby—Tom welcomes guest Carl Kerby, founder and missionary with Reasons for Hope, to discuss "the message in the media," particularly in the case of movies, both Christian and secular. 1 CD, 50 min.
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 **Showtime for the Sheep?**
McMahon—Tom observes a connection between *The Passion of the Christ* and trends taking place among professing Bible believers such as the increasing use of entertainment in presenting the gospel, the ecumenical relationship between Catholics and evangelicals, the use of imagery verging on idolatry, and the major drift away from the objective Word of God. The Berean Call, 159 pp.
B60134 wt .4 **\$10.50**

 **The Bible vs. The "Bible" according to Hollywood**
McMahon—In the last couple of years we've seen the release of an onslaught of "biblical" movies and TV-show productions—including *Noah*; *Exodus: Gods and Kings*, and *A.D. The Bible Continues*. This message challenges believers young and old to think carefully about biblical entertainment and exhorts viewers to return to the Bible. 1 DVD, 60 min.
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