

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

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

The Love of God – Part One

Dave Hunt

IT HAS BEEN suggested that the unique ability to form conceptual ideas and to express them in speech separates mankind from all lower creatures by a chasm that no evolutionary process could ever span. Although that is true, there is another capacity that separates man even further from animals. Paul explained it thus: “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity [love], I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal” (1 Corinthians 13:1). To put it in a contemporary context, without love man is a robot—a computer programmed to meaningless reactions. In a word, it is *love* that makes a human being.

God has given mankind marvelous abilities. Think of the great scientists and philosophers who have probed the mysteries of life; and the poets, novelists, and musicians who have expressed the depth of human experience in compelling ways. We don’t need to argue the absurdity of evolution to be convinced that the ability to look into the mysteries of the atom or to compose or appreciate an opera involves qualities that no animal could acquire by developing a larger brain and a more advanced nervous system. Marvelous as these capabilities are, however, they are not primarily what differentiates between human and animal life. It is *love*.

What do we mean by love? Certainly not the popular notion portrayed in today’s media. The bumper stickers, “Make love, not war,” reflect an all-too-common trivialization of man’s highest capacity. Love is far more than sex. Animals can enjoy that. And if real love is missing, then sex becomes a mere gratification of animal instincts that cannot satisfy the spirit of man.

Yes, there are similarities between human beings and animals as long as we live in bodies of flesh and blood on this planet. We have certain basic needs for food, warmth, and water. We know hunger and thirst, as do animals. We also experience powerful sexual desires and other fleshly cravings, but God intended these passions to be controlled by *love*. The will is no match for lust, but God’s love working in man can conquer evil with pure desires.

A failure to be motivated by God’s love brings defeat into our personal lives. There are those who can, for selfish motives such as the praise of others, seemingly conquer physical desires and remain faithful to God. True victory, however, is not necessarily won by those who, from outward appearances, seem to be victorious. If love—which Paul reminds us is the essential ingredient—is missing, then even a fiery death at the stake would be of no value in God’s sight.

Without love, Paul reminds us, we are nothing. That “nothing” doesn’t mean we don’t exist but that we are not what we were intended to be by our Creator. We are not fully human without love, no matter how much knowledge we have or how clever we are. It should be clear why this is the case. We are made in the image of God, who, speaking of Himself, has said, “God is love.” Thus, the very essence of the Creator who made man in

His image must be the essence of man in the creature. And it is in the perversion of that essence that we have ample proof that something went horribly wrong.

We do not need to know Greek and the difference between the types of love (for which Greek has separate words) to realize that the love that Paul goes on to describe in 1 Corinthians 13 is beyond anything mankind usually experiences or expresses. There is a divine quality that shines through, a quality that rings true to conscience and condemns us. We cannot quarrel with the standard Paul sets. We know that true love ought to be precisely what he depicts, but at the same time we hang our heads in shameful admission that such love is beyond us. Nevertheless, we also know that somehow we were made for that very kind of love and that our failure to experience it is a defect for which we are responsible and for lack of which we feel a deep loss.

Paul is depicting a love that is not of this world. It is additional evidence that we were made for another world. We recognize it for what real love ought to be, and it strikes a chord in us like the description of a land we have never seen but to which we somehow feel we belong. We need read no other part of the Bible than this “love chapter” to know that man is a fallen creature. We can say, “I love you!” and perhaps not even realize that deep inside we really mean “I love me, and I want you!” Such is the tragedy of present human experience.

Nevertheless, those words, “I love you,” have the power to wonderfully transform both the person who speaks them and the one to whom they are spoken. They are the highest expression of which man is capable, as a creature made in the image of God. Some people find these words difficult to speak, and other people find them embarrassing to hear. What we all find nearly impossible to believe is that the God who created the universe has spoken these wonderful words personally and intimately to each of us. And He has done it in a way that no one else could: by entering into humanity and dying for our sins upon the cross. He has thus so fully proved His love that there is no excuse for our ever doubting it.

It is this unparalleled manifestation of God’s love that makes Christianity what it is. There are many facets of our life in Christ that make it totally unique. Among the most wonderful distinctives is the relationship that each Christian is intended to enjoy with Christ himself—an intimate *personal* relationship that is not only unmatched by any other faith but is absolutely essential if someone is to be a Christian.

In contrast, for a Buddhist to have a personal relationship with Buddha is neither possible nor necessary. Nor is the practice of Islam impaired because Muhammad is in the grave. It is no hindrance at all to any of the world’s historic religions that their founders are dead and gone. Not so with Christianity. If Jesus Christ were not alive today there would be no Christian faith because He *is* all that it offers. Christianity is not a mass *religion* but a personal *relationship*.

At the heart of this relationship is a fact so astonishing that most Christians, including those who have known the Lord for

many years, seldom live in its full enjoyment. It isn't that we don't believe it intellectually but that we find it too wonderful to accept its implications into our moment-by-moment experience of daily life.

We are like a homely, small-town girl from a very poor family who is being wooed by the most handsome, wealthiest, most powerful, most intelligent, and in every way most desirable man who ever lived. She enjoys the *things* he gives to her but is not able to fully give herself to him and really get to know him because she finds it too much to believe that *he*, with all the far more attractive women in the world, really loves *her*. And to leave the familiar surroundings of her childhood—the friends and family that have been all she has known and loved—to go off with this one who seems to love her so much and to become a part of another world so foreign and even inconceivable to her is all too overwhelming.

Some of us grew up as children singing, “Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so,” and found a certain amount of childish comfort in its simple assurance at the time. We never matured in that love, however, because we were not taught to do so. Meanwhile, other loves entered into our lives and were given priority over the love of God.

To be sure, we still read the love chapter (1 Corinthians 13) now and then and sing lustily (and at times even with great feeling) such classics as “The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell. . . .” But we are no longer children, and the simple fact that “Jesus loves *me*” has somehow lost its power for us. Not because it is intellectually too shallow but because its deeper implications, which we now begin dimly to perceive, are spiritually and emotionally too wonderful.

Like the small-town girl, each of us finds it very difficult to believe that Jesus really loves us. Although we appreciate His blessings, we find it difficult to become intimate with our heavenly Suitor, because it seems so inappropriate that the Lord of the universe should be wooing *us*. That He loves everyone and that we are included in that great love is too marvelous. My response falls far short of the joy that He intends for me.

Thus the essence of the Christian life—its true source of joy and confidence and power—is missing in so much that calls itself Christian. We can be very fundamental, evangelistic, and biblical, yet not realize that the heart of our faith is missing. This sad fact is then reflected in the way we present Christ to the world.

Unfortunately, as we have seen, the church, early in its history, departed so far from the fundamentals of the faith that the essential personal relationship with Christ lost its importance and meaning. Eventually it was even denied to those who needed it by those who claimed to represent Him. Christ says, “Come unto *me* . . . I am the door . . . the way, the truth, the life.” The Church, however began to claim that *it* was the means of salvation and called the world to itself instead of to the One of whom Peter had said, “Neither is there salvation in any other” (Acts 4:12).

Not only for Catholics but for many Protestants today as well, joining the church has become a substitute for an essential saving relationship with Christ. Although the Reformation repudiated a host of heresies, it left intact a great deal of “churchianity.” From that base, forms and formulas and attitudes have grown until, within much of Protestantism today, the affection and honor that Christ himself deserves is directed toward pastors and denominational loyalties. The passionate love that the bride ought to have for the Bridegroom is all too often deficient, if not lacking.

The love of God creates love for others whom He loves, thus providing the only true motivation for fulfilling the Great Commission. In preaching the gospel, we are to be messengers of God's love, expressing and sharing it with the world. In making disciples, we are bringing others into a love relationship with Him. We're not calling them back under the law but into the

freedom of God's grace. It is love that motivates us to obey in a way that legal obligation and fear of judgment could never do. As Jesus told His disciples: “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. . . . 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 . . .” (John 14:21, 23, 24).

It is a tragedy that we so easily forget the glory and wonder of God's love, not only as the joy of our lives and the motivation for obedience but also in its relationship to the gospel as well. We can present the truth of John 3:16, for example, as a judicial act on the part of God and forget that the verse begins, “For God so *loved* the world. . . .” The work of salvation was conceived and executed by divine *love*. We can present the gospel correctly and remain true to its basics concerning the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ in our place for our sins, and forget—and thus not convey to others—the heart of God, which is the very heart of the message.

Some of the classic old hymns expressed it so well: “Son of God 'twas *love* that made Thee die, our ruined souls to save. . . .” Another exults, “O love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul on Thee. . . .” “O, the wonder of it all!” exclaims yet another. Charles Wesley put it so powerfully:

And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love, how can it be,
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

Many preachers attempt to entice the world to “come to Christ” with the popular offer of lesser rewards: health, prosperity, an improved society, and long life upon earth, when the real essence of salvation is to know God and to be partakers of His love and life. A rejection of the gospel, therefore, is the rejection of God himself and His love.

Man's problem is not that he was driven from an earthly paradise, but that he was separated from God's presence. That is the great tragedy. Those who seek to recover the physical benefits of Eden, to restore paradise without the missing Presence, to establish a kingdom without the King himself reigning in power and glory, have misunderstood both problem and solution. Our purpose is to reawaken a hunger for God himself and to stimulate the wonder, worship, and love we ought to have for Him.

Knowing that He loves us not because of anything in us but because He *is* love tells us something else that is very important: God loves all mankind with the same love. There is no special reason why He should love one of us more than another. He is no respecter of persons; there is no favoritism with God. And here we see another reason for rejecting the view that God does not love all mankind enough to want everyone to be in heaven. There is no basis in man (all have sinned and the hearts of all are the same) for God to love some and not others—but neither is there any basis in God for His loving one but not another. Thus we are told that He “so loved the *world*” that He sent His Son into the *world* “that the *world* through Him might be saved.” There is no greater love anywhere!

TBC

*Excerpted from Whatever Happened to Heaven?
first published in 1988.*

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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

or e-mail: editorial@thebereanall.org

QUESTION: Often when I'm out doing street evangelism I speak to Muslims. Many Muslims bring up the problem they have with Jesus being God in the physical flesh (as Colossians 1:15 says) because they say that the Second Commandment prohibits any images of God. What is a good response to this concern?

RESPONSE: The Commandments are God's Commandments given to Israel at Mount Sinai and by which He judges sin (Romans 7:7). Man is forbidden from doing certain things, including making images by his hand. In Exodus 20:4, the Second Commandment states: "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth."

Nothing the hand of man produced was acceptable by the Lord in regards to the salvation of man. The Lord's commands concerning construction of an altar further reinforced this theme: "An altar of earth thou shalt make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt offerings, and thy peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen: in all places where I record my name I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee. And if thou wilt make me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it" (Exodus 20:24-25).

The body of Jesus, however, was not made by men. In Hebrews 10:5 we read, "Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me..." God himself prepared the body of Jesus. The simple point remains: this "image" of flesh and blood was not created by man and doesn't fall under the prohibition of the Second Commandment.

QUESTION: Are we as believers and non-believers responsible for the sins committed by our past generation family members? Does God really allow the past sins of parents/grandparents/great grandparents to affect the life of us, our children, and grandchildren? [Composite of responses by Dave Hunt]

RESPONSE: The covenant of the Lord with Israel included blessings and curses; obedience brought blessings and breaking the law brought curses. Even though the sins committed by God's covenant people would reap destructive consequences throughout generations, nevertheless God's justice, grace, and mercy were made manifest to the individual. The entire chapter of Ezekiel 18 addresses that fact: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die. [But] the son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon [the righteous], and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon [the wicked]" (Ezekiel 18:20).

Simple logic tells us that probing into the past to uncover "lost memories" of former traumas, as in psychotherapy or the Christian brand known as "inner healing," is a vain pursuit for two reasons: 1) One can never be sure of the accuracy of such memories, due to a lack of objective verification; and 2) If one "lost memory" could have such a heavy influence upon the person's thinking, emotions, and conduct, who can say that there may not be other "memories" of equal or greater importance that likewise need to be recovered and "worked through" endlessly? Moreover, this practice clearly violates the biblical injunction, "*forgetting* those things which are behind" (Philippians 3:13—emphasis added), and inhibits pressing "toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (v. 14).

So it is with generational curses. If these actually exist, then we face the hopeless task of digging them all out. How far back does one attempt to go? Surely there are hidden sins in the ancestry of everyone. My father was from England and my mother, though

Canadian, had similar ancestry. Who knows what involvement with Druids lies hidden in my genealogy! My father's mother was from Norway, so the worship of Nordic demons must also permeate my background. I could never uncover it all.

To search for occult influences in the past as though they had some power over which one needs to be delivered is the same violation of "forgetting those things which are behind." In addition, all of the above deny the basic fact that the Christian's sins were laid upon Christ and paid for by Him; he has been born again by faith in Christ, "old things are passed away...all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Let us therefore "go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works..." (Hebrews 6:1).

QUESTION: "In my Father's house are many mansions; if it had not been so, I would have told you. I'll prepare you a place." What are these "many mansions"? I would think there would be several "classifications" and the most beautiful mansions, should be for the most faithful believers who had a greater reward and had worked harder for the Lord and His Kingdom here on earth, like the disciples. When we get down to the common believers like so many of us, it would seem that we should receive only a modest abode, like a hut. Is that correct? Or will all mansions be the same for all?

RESPONSE: One of the inherent problems when examining the details of heaven is that we are dependent upon speculation, since we're given few specific details about what we will find there. For example, when we see the word "dwellings," we immediately equate that word with conditions here on the earth, forgetting that "we shall be changed," and, consequently, as resurrection beings, our needs will be vastly different. As a result, we're speculating without a full understanding.

Regarding heaven: First of all, it's too easy to rely upon speculation regarding the things that will be available in heaven. First Corinthians 2:9 states, "But as it is written, eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." One of the things that God has "prepared" for us is heaven. Although it's impossible for us to see heaven now, we are given glimpses.

Heaven is a place of joy where the Lord God will wipe away all tears from off all faces (Isaiah 25:8). Psalm 16:11 tells us, "Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore." In Revelation 21:4, we read, "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." And in Revelation 7:16, we see, "They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat."

Finally, when we arrive in that which He has "prepared for us," we can know with certainty that His provision will exceed our imaginations. Yes, there are differences in rewards, but we have no specific evidence that these will involve the size of the houses in which we will live. And we can be certain that there will be no pettiness of comparison there, nor feelings of disappointment. We will be rejoicing because we will see HIM! First John tells us, "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2). There will surely be no greater joy than that.

LETTERS

To connect with TBC, write: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708
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Dear Tom [Excerpts],

I believe in literal, normal, plain, common sense, logical interpretation of the Bible. I'm a fundamentalist I guess. I can't tell you how disappointed I am with our local church—we would go somewhere else if there was somewhere to go. There isn't unless we drive 30-50 miles. By the way, our church is growing like crazy. Seeker friendly definitely gets the number through the door. Our church has installed many special lights in the auditorium—every week, a different color scheme is used all around the auditorium. I don't think our church is unique, many local churches are likely very similar. When you couple this with the decline in the U.S. and the world, it makes us wonder if Christ's return for the Bride of Christ is close. Thank you for your work. I won't use my name because I'm in enough trouble in our church as it is. I'm a believer who is a fundamentalist and is looking for the Titus 2:13 hope. [Anonymous]

To All at TBC,

I thank you all for your fellowship from afar by continuing to send me the monthly newsletter and other publications of The Berean Call. It's a great blessing and an aid in inciting fellowship with other believers in this dark place. I continue to hope to one day return home to Oregon and to sit in fellowship in The Word with you all there one day, unless of course Christ catches us all away with Him first. MP (prisoner, Mexico)

Dear Berean Call,

Thank you, thank you, thank you for your clear response in the August 2018 Q&A section where you explained John 15:16: "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you." I have always struggled with that verse in trying to explain my non-Calvinist view, and now I have a better explanation of that verse, not to win an argument, but to win a soul. May God continue to richly Bless You, your staff, and Ministry as you abide in Christ. SB (CA)

TBC NOTES

Make It a "Happy Meal"!

No, this is not a promotion for McDonald's. It's a promotion for thanking the Lord for His provision at mealtime, i.e., for every meal wherever it may take place. Hopefully that's a habit of the heart that every believer has—and does. It's also a wonderful way of introducing very young children to prayer. Let them pray!

Whom does it make happy? Certainly Mom and Dad. But definitely Jesus. He's pleased not only by our obedience to His instructions but also by our imitating what He did continually—giving thanks. As one example among many: "Jesus took the loaves; and when He had given thanks, He distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would" (John 6:11).

T. A. McMAHON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear TBC,

I really enjoy what you write. I have just read your latest *Berean Call* and find it so interesting about the Law. The Seventh-day people have a very strong presence on *Shine TV* [New Zealand]—they seem to know the Bible so well and are very convincing. I am just thankful for the teaching we have had over the years . . . and we often sing: "Free from the Law, O happy condition! Jesus has died, and there is remission. Cursed by the law and bruised by the fall; Grace has redeemed us once and for all!" KH (NZ)

Dear Berean Call Staff,

Thank you for another wonderful conference. We were delighted to watch it online. Your ongoing faithfulness to our Lord and His Word is a tremendous encouragement to us. The discernment with which the Lord has blessed you has kept us from scampering down cleverly designed "rabbit trails"—and more than once. Thank you. AH (Canada)

QUOTABLE.....

Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

—2 Timothy 4:8

"Also to all who have loved His appearing." For many years, I thought that this expression referred to those believers who had kindly, sentimental feelings about the coming of the Lord. They would be rewarded with a crown of righteousness because their hearts glowed warm when they thought about the Rapture.

But surely it means more than this. To love His appearing means to live in the light of His coming, to behave as if He were coming today. Thus, to love His appearing means to live in moral purity. For, as John reminds us, "*everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure*" (1 John 3:3).

It means to stay disentangled from the things of this life. We should set our affections on things above, not on things of the earth (Colossians 3:2). It means to serve God's people, giving them "*food in due season*" (Matthew 24:45). The Lord pronounces a special blessing on those who are doing that when He comes.

In short, it means that we won't do anything that we would not want to be found doing when He appears. We would not go anywhere that would cause shame at His coming. We would not say anything that would be offensive in His presence.

If you knew Christ were coming in a week, how would you spend the intervening days? Does it mean you would give up your job, go to a mountaintop and spend all day reading the Bible and praying? Does it mean you would go into "full-time Christian work," preaching and teaching day and night?

If we are really walking with the Lord today and living in the center of His will, it would mean carrying on as usual. If, however, we are living for self, then it would require some revolutionary changes.

It is not enough to have kind thoughts about the Savior's return. The crown of righteousness is reserved for those who love it enough to let the truth mold their lives. It is not enough to *hold* the truth about His coming; the truth must hold us.

—WILLIAM MACDONALD

NEWSWATCH

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

A SHARK THAT EATS ITS VEGGIES?

ANSWERSINGENESIS.ORG, 9/14/18, "A SHARK THAT EATS ITS VEGGIES?" [EXCERPTS]: A news item caught our eye this week. It was reporting on a study which found that the bonnethead shark (a smaller relative of Hammerhead sharks) actually eats and digests seagrass. Now, scientists have noticed these sharks eating seagrass for several years but, perhaps influenced by their evolutionary worldview, had assumed they were just eating the seagrass to get at crabs, shrimp, or small fish living in and around the seagrass.

Samantha Leigh, the study's lead author made a couple of fascinating quotes in her Fox news interview. "We have always thought of sharks as strict carnivores, but the bonnethead is throwing a wrench into that idea by digesting a fair amount of the seagrass that they consume."

"Given that bonnetheads have a digestive system that resembles that of closely-related species that we know to be strict carnivores, we need to re-think what it means to have a 'carnivorous gut'."

When you start from a biblical viewpoint, this study is not surprising at all. God created animals as well as humans to be vegetarian right from the beginning (Genesis 1:29-30). Evolutionists frequently bring up "strict carnivores" like sharks as supposed evidence against certain animals ever being vegetarian, thinking they are disproving what Scripture says. But time and time again, animals thought to be only carnivores are found to be vegetarian or omnivorous. This just further illustrates what the Bible says, that in the pre-Fall world there were no animals eating one another, no bloodshed, and no death. At the Fall, death, bloodshed, disease, and suffering entered all of creation, which now groans because of sin (Romans 8:20-22).

(<https://goo.gl/fLZVm6>)

EXECUTED FOR FAILING TO RECITE ISLAMIC PRAYER

WORLDWATCHMONITOR.ORG, 9/18/18, "KENYAN WORSHIP LEADER ONE OF TWO KILLED FOR FAILING TO SAY ISLAMIC PRAYER OF FAITH" [EXCERPTS]: Two people were killed for failing to recite the Islamic statement of faith when militants, believed to belong to the Islamist militant group Al-Shabaab, attacked their bus in eastern Kenya on Friday, 14 September.

Seven men stopped the bus while it was on its way to Garissa, between the towns of Iljara and Sangailu, and ordered passengers to show their IDs, a witness told local newspaper *The Standard*.

They then picked three passengers and "asked [them] to recite the Shahada [Islamic prayer of faith] and the seven verses of Suratul Fatiha [first chapter of the Quran]," the witness, a teacher, said.

Two of the three men were unable to do so and were executed on the spot.

One of the victims, Fredrick Ngui, in his late 20s [was] the East Africa Pentecostal Church worship leader...

He leaves behind a wife and two children. His funeral is planned for later this week in his hometown in Kitui County.

After they killed Ngui and another man, known only as Okoth, who was working on the bus, the suspects fled into the bush.

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

STUDENTS INSTRUCTED TO WRITE GAY LOVE LETTERS

BREITBART.COM, 10/1/18, "SIX-YEAR-OLD SCHOOL CHILDREN INSTRUCTED TO WRITE GAY LOVE LETTERS TO MAKE THEM 'ACCEPTING OF DIVERSITY'" [EXCERPTS]: A video published by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) showing 6-year-old school children being instructed to write gay love letters has been causing a stir on social media.

The video, originally uploaded to BBC Radio Manchester's Facebook page, shows young children at Bewsey Lodge Primary School being instructed to write love letters from "Prince Henry" to his manservant, "Thomas", with the teacher instructing her pupils: "You're going to tell Thomas why it's a brilliant idea for him to marry you."

"This class of six-year-olds is learning about gay marriage. In this fairytale, the Prince wants to marry his [male] servant. And the children are writing a love letter."

"We also teach about racism, extremism and religion and the same philosophy filters through it all. I would challenge anyone who doubts the power of what we are trying to do around LGBT+ to come and talk to some of our little people. They could tell you about respect and how, if you want to wear a skirt for school and you're a boy, it's fine, if you have 2 mums or 2 dads as long as you're loved it's cool and there's no such thing as boy's and girl's stuff, it's just—whatever!"

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

THE BEREAN CALL

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

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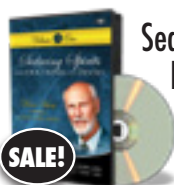
NEW! **Biblically Thinking about - Loving God**
TBC—To love God with our whole heart and our neighbors as ourselves is not something we can produce by self-effort. Love for our fellows must be the expression of God's love in our hearts; nor can we love God except by coming to know Him as He is. Most of us have an all-too-shallow knowledge of God. Our love for God will not grow except from a deepening appreciation of His love for us—an appreciation that must include two extremes: 1) God's infinite greatness; and 2) our sinful, wretched unworthiness. That He, who is so high and holy, would stoop so low to redeem unworthy sinners supremely reveals and demonstrates His love. Includes study guide and *I Love the Lord* DVD. Booklet 36 pp., Study Guide 16 pp., and DVD 61 min.

BBSET13

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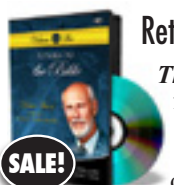
Hunt—A powerful audio montage of life-challenging messages given by Dave Hunt during his 2004 international ministry tour, arranged under the following topics: "Loving God with All My Heart: How to Be Fully Surrendered to God in Worship," "Loving God with All My Mind: The Practice of Biblical Discernment in the Church," "Loving God with All My Soul: The Difference between Soul and Spirit," and "Loving God by Loving My Neighbor" (Parts One and Two). 5 hrs.

CD107 4 CDs wt .2 **\$19.50 SALE \$9.75****MP3107** 1 MP3-disc wt .1 **\$9.75 SALE \$7.75****SALE! DAVE HUNT CLASSIC DVD's JUST \$6.00 EACH****Seducing Spirits and Doctrines of Devils**

SALE! **The Berean Call**—In this informative talk, Dave skillfully dissects and dismantles a number of these false doctrines. As always, Dave's erudite and articulate presentation lays bare the foundations of psychology, quoting Scripture, scientists, and occultists alike to illustrate the Satanic origins of modern self-delusion by seducing spirits. 1 DVD, 105 min.

DVD301 wt .2 **\$9.75 SALE \$6.00****The Berean Call Israel Tour**

SALE! **The Berean Call**—Follow Dave Hunt during TBC's 1993 tour to Israel. The three presentations, *In the Garden*, *The God of Prophecy*, and *Prophecy vs. Experience* capture a unique visual of Dave on location as he expounds upon powerful scriptures pointing to the imminent return of Christ. 1 DVD, 113 min.

DVD317 wt .2 **\$9.75 SALE \$6.00****Return to the Bible**

SALE! **The Berean Call**—This talk, from 1986 at Lakewood (WA) Assembly of God, is a call to return to the sure Word of God! 1 DVD, 105 min.

DVD327 wt .2 **\$9.75 SALE \$6.00****Global Peace and the Rise of Antichrist**

SALE! **The Berean Call**—Dave recounts: "When I was a boy and I read Flash Gordon and Buck Rogers and so forth...we didn't take it seriously, it was fantasy. Well...we found out that the science fiction writers were prophets. And whatever they imagined, someone would eventually be able to perform.... The younger generation sees science fiction in that way today. They are seeing depicted on the screen...something that they realize man can ultimately achieve. And that is why God scattered the human race." Dave proceeded to reveal how leading laboratories were proudly "undoing the Babel effect." More than 20 years later, Dave's talk is still instructive to us regarding Satan's rapidly advancing plans and ability to harness and manipulate technology in order to prepare humanity for the coming kingdom of Antichrist. 1 DVD, 60 min.

DVD302 wt .2 **\$9.75 SALE \$6.00****The Gospel of God**

SALE! **The Berean Call**—"The Bible is about 30 percent prophecy. We're talking about world-shaking and world-shaping [prophecy].... This is, in fact, the great proof of God's existence [and] that the Bible is His word." Join Dave Hunt in this talk from a 1996 prophecy conference as he gives example after example of God's prophecy fulfilled. 1 DVD, 76 min.

DVD325 wt .2 **\$9.75 SALE \$6.00****Prophecy and World Events**

SALE! **The Berean Call**—As Dave explains in this powerful and inspiring teaching, Bible prophecy is, in fact, the great proof that God gives for the historicity, authenticity, and authority of the Scriptures. What is anti-Semitism all about? Dave exposes the roots of this pervasive hatred of Jews, from ancient to modern times, as Satan's plan to thwart the Word of God. Why? Because God's integrity is tied to the restoration and blessing of the Jewish people. Dave recounts little-known history of modern anti-Semitism, including the post-Holocaust persecution of Holocaust survivors who were turned away, persecuted, and killed, by those who had opposed Hitler, even after WWII. Dave explores dozens of Scriptures concerning the past, present, and future of Israel and our blessed hope in Christ. 1 DVD, 54 min.

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SALE! **The Berean Call**—Two talks on one DVD! Join Dave for *The Bible Gives Dates* as he speaks on two specific dates given in the Bible and how they prove prophecy. The talk ends with Dave's familiar exhortation to expect our Lord Jesus Christ's return at any moment. *In A Specific Timing—Christ and Antichrist*, Dave speaks about the timing of our Lord's return. 1 DVD, 91 min.

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**Countdown to the Second Coming**

Hunt—At last—a book that presents, in concise form, the events leading up to the return of Christ! For those who seek to understand the times from a biblical perspective, this little volume provides a concise summary of historic and current world events that will excite, encourage, and equip God's people to boldly proclaim the Gospel to this generation. The Berean Call, 95 pp.

B00193 Paperback wt .3 **SALE \$7.77****Honest Doubts**

Hunt—In *Honest Doubts*, readers will become familiar with the key issues of Calvinism in a unique format that reads like a real-life drama because the characters are composites of actual individuals, and the circumstances are equally real. Discover the heart of a Calvinist "seeker"—and the surprising result of his quest for truth in this fictionalized but true-to-life dialogue. The Berean Call, 109 pp.

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Hunt—Dave's fictional story of the Archons (enlightened ETs who make contact with psychic researchers in both the US and then-Soviet Union) reads like a current-day *NYT* bestseller, in large part due to its biblical (and believable) premise, based on historic facts of secret Cold War government programs. The Berean Call, 378 pp.

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Hunt—Set during the height of the Cold War, Dave Hunt's second novel focuses on the secret world of global warfare—not only between East and West, but for the ultimate control of planet Earth. Readers will be captivated by this thrilling history-based drama that masterfully weaves the perils of international politics with Bible prophecy. The Berean Call, 380 pp.

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MP3158 1 MP3 Disc wt .2 **SALE \$7.77****A Very Present Help**

Ruth Hunt—From Adam and Eve to Samson to David and beyond, we may catch glimpses of ourselves in the feats and foibles and even the deep loneliness of these very human characters through whom God chose to work amazing acts that would shape and rock the very world in which we live today. Ruth Hunt knows that Jesus Christ is Savior, but she also knows that He is the ultimate Friend—the only One who can truly fill the emptiness we sometimes experience. With great skill and enormous insight, Mrs. Hunt ties each Bible story back to mankind's only source of help and beautifully reveals how Christian love and compassion can banish loneliness and despair forever. The Berean Call, 179 pp.

B60798 Paperback wt .6 **SALE \$7.77****Psychology and the Church**

Hunt/McMahon—So prevalent is the use of psychotherapy among Christians today that many pastors themselves are either licensed therapists or are the greatest source of referrals to professional counselors. In addition, the study of psychology has become the number two career choice for all college students. In fact, the popularity of this "science of the soul" is even greater among those enrolled in Christian colleges, universities, and seminaries from coast to coast. The purpose of this book is not to attack or condemn evangelicals who are practicing psychotherapists or those who have been helped by what is commonly called "Christian Psychology." Rather, this volume acknowledges the value of believers bearing one another's burdens through prayer, fellowship, and the Word of God. The Berean Call, 415 pp.

B60613 Paperback wt 1.3 **SALE \$7.77****East Wind**

Ruth Hunt—"Only one who has felt the nearness of death can truly be grateful for each new day, no matter how much suffering it might bring." Thus speaks Maria Zeitner Linke, survivor of nine years' imprisonment in the death camps and prisons of Stalin's Russia following World War II. A Christian classic, *East Wind* is Maria's incredible true story—as told to Ruth Hunt. The Berean Call, 240 pp.

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MP3151 1 MP3 Disc wt .2 **SALE \$7.77****To Russia with Love**

Hunt—This compelling real-life drama of terror, mystery, and suspense behind the Iron Curtain is the true story of Hans Kristian, Bible smuggler to the Soviet Union. This exclusive TBC edition is a facsimile of the 1987 Harvest House edition titled *Secret Invasion*, with a redesigned commemorative cover. The Berean Call, 223 pp.

B60361 Paperback wt .6 **SALE \$7.77****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.

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James—In *The Harbinger: Fact or Fiction?* author David James exhaustively documents and responds to the serious flaws found throughout the New York Times best-seller from Charisma Media, *The Harbinger*. Tragically, even former discernment leaders are unwittingly being led astray, attributing Cahn's nine mystical "seals" or "signs" as new revelation from God. TBC, 223 pp.

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Hunt—Every Christian should be informed of the true origins and effects of the practice of yoga and its ungodly roots in Kundalini energy—which, literally defined, means an awakening of the "Serpent Power." The Berean Call, 171 pp.

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NEW! KEEPING FAITH IN AN AGE OF REASON REFUTING BIBLE "CONTRADICTIONS"**NEW!****Keeping Faith in an Age of Reason:
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Lisle—Critics often claim that the Bible cannot be true because it has contradictions. Other critics hear this claim and repeat it. But few bother to check to see if it is really true. A popular list of 420 alleged Bible contradictions has been circulating on the internet for years. Many critics refer to this list as the definitive proof that the Bible is flawed. In this book Dr. Jason Lisle examines these alleged 420 claims of Bible contradictions and sets the record straight. Each answer is as concise as possible, so that the book is not overly cumbersome. Many Christians have heard the claim

that the Bible has contradictions and they would like to be better equipped to answer the critic. This book is for them! New Leaf Publishing, 254 pp.

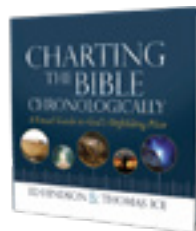
B04990wt .7 **\$15.00****God of Wonders**

Eternal Productions—This amazing DVD takes us through the creation story and the Gospel with spectacular photography, and tremendous facts about God's marvelous handiwork in creation. Presented clearly and simply by men of God—including Dave Hunt, Roger Oakland, John Whitcomb, and Jason Lisle the author of *Keeping Faith in an Age of Reason: Refuting Alleged Bible Contradictions* (see left). 1 DVD, 85 min.

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affordability, size, and reference features combine to make it the ideal Bible for both devotional and study purposes. Imitation leather, 1622 pp.

B60954wt 1.8 **\$12.00****Charting the Bible
Chronologically**

Hindson/Ice—Too few, especially among the upcoming Christian generation, are aware of God's historic

and chronological plan of events that will impact their lives. From "In the beginning" to the New Jerusalem, this theologically sound and easy-to-understand compilation provides the big picture of what God has done, is doing, and will do. The authors give readers a panoramic view of the events recorded in Scripture, with 40-plus full-color charts! Hardback, Harvest House Publishers, 142 pp.

B64371wt 1.9 **\$21.00****Believer's Bible
Commentary**

MacDonal—Rich practical exposition of both the Old and New Testaments in one hardbound volume. Written from a

soundly conservative viewpoint. Combines profound spiritual insights and relevant practical application. Verse-by-verse explanation of the Bible—one of the best investments you can make in your study of the Word of God. *The Believer's Bible Commentary* is the perfect choice for your personal devotions and Bible study. Thomas Nelson, HB, 2,389 pp.

B19728 wt 4.7 **\$29.00 SALE \$24.00****Actual size
sample
text.**

the purifying of the Jews, containing
two or three firkins apiece. In 3:25
7 Jesus saith unto them, **Fill the wa-
terpots with water.** And they filled

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B16584 Leatherbound • black wt 4.5 **\$87.50 SALE \$55.00****B16942** Imitation Leather • brown wt 3.8 **\$55.00 SALE \$45.00****B16577** Casebound • blue wt 3.9 **\$37.50 SALE \$25.00****The Story of the English Bible**

Connolly—*The Story of the English Bible* is a drama that spans more than 300 years, from late 1300 AD to early 1600 AD. It is a well-documented page of British history drenched in blood. It is a story of inhuman torture, relieved only by being burned to death. The fires left black, scorched earth, covered with the bones and ashes of the martyrs.

Some of these victims perpetrated no greater crime than to teach their children "The Lord's Prayer" in English. But the established church of that day demanded that these "criminals" pay the ultimate penalty. This is the story of a small army of courageous martyrs whose skills provided our English translation. We cannot afford to be ignorant of these facts. This information is a must for every Christian home and especially for our generation of children who are forced to grow up in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation — ***for a limited time get The Story of the English Bible FREE with purchase of a Henry Morris Study Bible (see left).** 1 DVD, 43 min.

DVD058wt .2 **\$9.75**

DVD SALE! SINGLE DVDs ONLY \$7.75 – DOUBLE DVDs \$9.75**The Seduction of Christianity**

Hunt/McMahon—Digitally remastered footage shot exclusively to address concerns raised in the author's best-selling book, *The Seduction of Christianity*. Each segment contains an in-depth discussion of New Age concepts. 1 DVD, 120 min.

DVD100 1 DVD wt.2 **SALE \$7.75**

**The Bible vs. The Book of Mormon**

Living Hope Ministries—This presentation leaves no question as to the truth and accuracy of the Word of God and the falseness and inaccuracies found in the Book of Mormon. 1 DVD, 66 min.

DVD154 wt.3 **SALE \$7.75**

**The Deceitful Heart**

Hunt—Using a number of different examples from history and Scripture, Dave expounds on Jeremiah 17:9, which is key to understanding our past, present, and future as individuals—and for believers, as the Body of Christ. 1 DVD, 107 min.

DVD152 wt.2 **SALE \$7.75**

**Best of Search the Scriptures Daily 2007**

Hunt/McMahon—Two hours of Dave Hunt and T. A. McMahon, filmed in our radio studio for the video broadcast of *Search the Scriptures Daily* radio. These program segments are the most-requested of 2007, selected and organized by viewer popularity, making this one power-packed DVD. 1 DVD, 121 min.

DVD205 wt.2 **SALE \$7.75**

**Heal Our Land**

Connolly—Ken Connolly, producer and narrator of the moving documentary on the life of George Müller, *Obstacle to Comfort*, delivers this stirring two-part examination of the Revival of 1859, including important historical examples and a biblical definition of true revival. 1 DVD, 67 min.

DVD174 wt.2 **SALE \$7.75**

**Psychology and the Church**

McMahon—Contemporary Christianity's embrace of psychology raises an important question: is there an insufficiency on the part of God's Word that made it necessary for the church to turn to modern psychotherapy in order to more effectively address a Christian's problems of living? Crucial answers to that question will be the focus of this program. 1 DVD, 51 min.

DVD097 wt.2 **SALE \$7.75**

**Psychological Seduction**

Martin&Deidre Bobgan—This 2-part discussion with Martin and Deidre Bobgan explains to viewers how psychotherapy, with its underlying psychologies, is one of the biggest and most demonic deceptions in the church today. 1 DVD, 98 min.

DVD160 wt.2 **SALE \$7.75**

**Psyching Out the Evangelical Church**

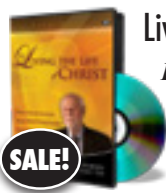
McMahon—The Christian church in the United States has become a major referral service for clinical psychologists and psychiatrists. The critical question raised by these developments is: Why? T. A. McMahon takes these issues head-on. 1 DVD, 51 min.

DVD166 wt.2 **SALE \$7.75**

**Best of Search the Scriptures Daily 2008**

Hunt/McMahon—Nearly four hours of Dave Hunt and T. A. McMahon, filmed in our radio studio for the video broadcast of *Search the Scriptures Daily* radio. 1 DVD, 213 min.

DVD206 wt.2 **SALE \$7.75**

**Living the Life of Christ**

Hunt—Four exceptional talks from Dave Hunt: *The Cross in the Life of the Believer*; *Seeing Things the Way They Really Are*; *Love, Justice, and Truth*; and *What Is the Real Spirit-Filled Life?* 2 DVDs, 279 min.

DVD165 wt.3 **SALE \$9.75**

**Israel, Islam, and Armageddon**

Hunt—Overflowing with fantastic, fast-moving visuals spanning centuries of history and biblical prophecy to clarify current and future events, this powerful, compact history lesson documents how the current peace process is fraught with peril and why it is impossible for Jerusalem to know true peace in our age. 1 DVD, 62 min.

DVD051 wt.3 **SALE \$7.75**

**A Woman Rides the Beast**

Hunt—Join Dave Hunt on this hour-long journey through history as he presents an overview of end-times prophecy and explains why he believes that a revived Roman Empire and the Church of Rome are major players in what lies ahead. 1 DVD, 56 min.

DVD028 wt.3 **SALE \$7.75**

**I Love the Lord**

Hunt—At TBC's 2008 Conference, Dave Hunt encouraged the saints with one of his most heartfelt exhortations on record! Our prayer is that you and yours will be blessed by this message and that God will use it for His glory in the days ahead. 1 DVD, 61 min.

DVD177 wt.2 **SALE \$7.75**

**Cosmos, Creator, and Human Destiny**

Hunt—Dave's enthusiastic and factual response to "the new atheists" (e.g., Richard Dawkins, Sam Harris, Stephen Hawking, et al.) is a must for battling the evolutionists' indoctrination of our schools and society. 1 DVD, 83 min.

DVD157 wt.2 **SALE \$7.75**

**The Indestructible Book**

Connolly—The Scriptures were banned, burned, and ridiculed by rulers of every age, from Roman emperors to English monarchs. Many who dared to read and share the Word met horrible deaths. Yet God's truth could not be crushed. This four-volume video commentary by Ken Connolly is a spectacular sweep of history. 2 DVDs, 222 min.

DVD060 wt.3 **SALE \$9.75**

\$10 CDs FROM TREVOR BAKER *FREE DVD & RADIO PROGRAM WITH PURCHASE OF CD!**Bring Me Back**

Baker—Track list: The First Place, Bring Me Back, Bankin' On Heaven, Lost in God, So Dear, Your Constant Touch, I Don't Wanna Go Back, No Place Like Home, Pickin' Up the Pieces, He Had To Go, The Spark. 1 CD.

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Baker—Track list: It Oughta Make A Man Honest, Good Luck with That, Bible Smart and Jesus Dumb, Do the Math, Git It Right, Evolution 101, Those Golden Years, The Great Pretenders, I Never Knew You, Superficial Talk. 1 CD.

CD300 wt.2 **\$15.00 SALE \$10.00****Only the Words Remain**

Baker—Track list: Please Consider, American Know-How, Only the Words Remain, Champions of Sin, Heroes From the Past, Esther's Song, Will America Pray, Song for a Nation, It Won't Go Away, Uncle Sam. 1 CD.

CD306 wt.2 **\$15.00 SALE \$10.00****Remember When**

Baker—Track list: Pictures from the Past, They Say Angels Live in Heaven, When God Was Makin' Daddies, Oh Those Changes (spoken), The Acute Computer Blues, It Came from Above, Tender Hearts for Sale (spoken), Remember When, Nothin' Makes Sense, I Don't Belong Here, Not Too Late (spoken), My World Turned Around, Love's from Above, Hard Moments (spoken), One of Those Days, A Present. 1 CD.

CD301 wt.2 **\$15.00 SALE \$10.00****Road Less Traveled**

Baker—Track list: The Biggest Haul, I Don't Play Well, I Wish I Had Your Life, Storybook Romance, Letter to Self, No Regrets (Spoken), I'm So Small, Double Life Lie, The Unapproachable God, Big Dogs Rule, Don't Get Me Started, No Time for God (Spoken), Do You Ever? 1 CD.

CD303 wt.2 **\$15.00 SALE \$10.00****Still Some Left**

Baker—Track list: Wait a Minute, Still Some Left, Sign Me Up, Where Are the Warnings?, The Show Goes On, I'm Going Up, Takin Some Notes, Missed the Boat, Shame on You, Let's Go Home. 1 CD.

CD307 wt.2 **\$15.00 SALE \$10.00****The Lonely Road**

Baker—Track list: Picture of Today, I'm Leaving Town, I Thee Wed, North American Christian, The Lonely Road, The Prophet's Profits Are Up, That's Your Wife, Living Proof, We Call It Home, Look What You've Done. 1 CD.

CD308 wt.2 **\$15.00 SALE \$10.00****Who Are They?**

Baker—Track list: So Unknown, Big Somebody, Me and My Girl, Who Are They?, The Cow Song, That's Your Life, Make It Here or There, Nobody's Home, If Tombstones Could Talk, A Pilgrim. 1 CD.

CD302 wt.2 **\$15.00 SALE \$10.00****Unwanted Treasure**

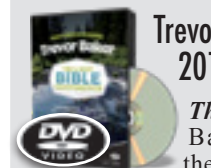
Baker—Track list: Stars and Stripes Aren't Enough, Unwanted Treasure, My Best Friend, Dotted Line, Church - Hot Off the Press, Step Back (Museum), Square One, Slow Down and Look Up, Grandma Hit the Rhubarb, Goodbye Freedom, Individual Spirit, That's For Me, Soldiers. 1 CD.

CD310 wt.2 **\$15.00 SALE \$10.00****It's All in Place**

Baker—You Don't Live There Anymore, They Won't Get In, It Meant What It Said, I Don't Understand, Blend It, Made-to-Order God, You Don't Have the Right, Connect the Dots, Throw It All Away, He Wrote How Great Thou Art, I Don't Fit In, It's All in Place. 1 CD.

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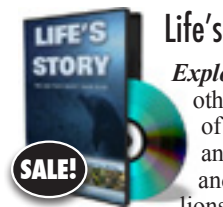
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**Trevor Baker - 2017 Conference (DVD)**

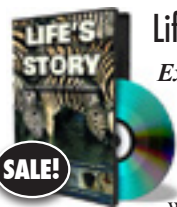
The Berean Call—Trevor Baker's sessions from the TBC 2017 conference include: *Ministry through Music - Part 1*, and *Ministry through Music - Part 2*. 2 DVDs.

DVD285 wt.3 **\$10.25****Trevor Baker: Signs of the Times in Song**

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B49263

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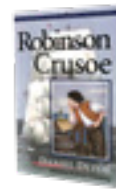


Pilgrim's Progress

Bunyan—The story of Christian and his companions has been a favorite for generations. John Bunyan's imaginative text brings out the same, practical, necessary lessons that everyone needs to know. Additional features and study sections have been included to help today's generation of children understand the book. Christian Focus Publications, HB, 191 pp.

B26100

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