

"Keep that which is committed to thy trust..."

A Monthly Newsletter for Spiritual Protection and Edification

Volume 42 - Issue 4 - April 2025



"Those who love error must of necessity hate the truth. That is the only explanation for the strange attitude Logos seems to have toward the traditional Bible of English speaking people. They praise Ehrman, Spong and the Pope, but warn about the KJV." Page 9. **Digging in the Walls:** A month's worth of news items, republished from Friday Church News Notes. **Page 13.**



BEWARE OF LOGOS BIBLE SOFTWARE'S BIG TENT ~ By David Cloud

Logos Bible Software is one of the most popular and influential Bible software packages, but it is an ecumenical blending machine that encompasses nearly every branch of end-time Christianity: Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Reformed, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Methodist, Seventh-day Adventist, Baptist, theological liberalism, conservative evangelicalism, Fundamentalist, and more.

Logos is a subsidiary of Faithlife, as are Verbum Bible Software and Lexham Press. Though many Bible believers use Logos Bible Software, it is a dangerous world that can easily draw the individual into association with heretics and put them under the influence of heresy. God's Word contains strong warnings about such things. "Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners" (1 Co. 15:33). See also Romans 16:17-18; 2 Corinthians 6:14; 11:1-4; Colossians 2:8; 1 Timothy 4:1-2; 1 Timothy 6:3-5; 2 Timothy 3:5; Jude 1:17-23; 1 John 4:1; 2 John 1:7-11; Revelation 2:2, 14-16.



We are living in an age of ecumenical blending and merging toward the ultimate fulfillment of Mystery Babylon.

We are witnessing the overall collapse of every "fundamentalist" element in Christianity, including

WAY OF LIFE LITERATURE

fundamental Baptists. Large numbers of them are moving away from core doctrinal convictions by dabbling in the broad tent of evangelicalism that has bridges to sovereign election, cultural liberalism, amillennialism, posttribulationalism, replacement theology, the church fathers, Christian rock, C.S. Lewis, the downgrade of hell, contemplative prayer, gibberish tongues, prophesying, and a slew of other errors.

Logos Bible Software is a major player in this Babel. It started offering Roman Catholic material in 2011 and founded a full-blown Roman Catholic edition called *Verbum* in 2013. Roman Catholics hold positions in Logos and Faithlife.

Consider how Logos describes their role as a blending machine:

"In the very simplest terms, Logos links together thousands of texts and keys them all to the Scripture. The Bible becomes a sort of hub around which the whole tradition revolves. But, all the texts are linked to each other as well. So, as you read the Bible the software is mining the data of the library for information about the passage. What did St. Augustine say? Aquinas? Vatican II? Once you start following a thread, you can go in any direction with it."

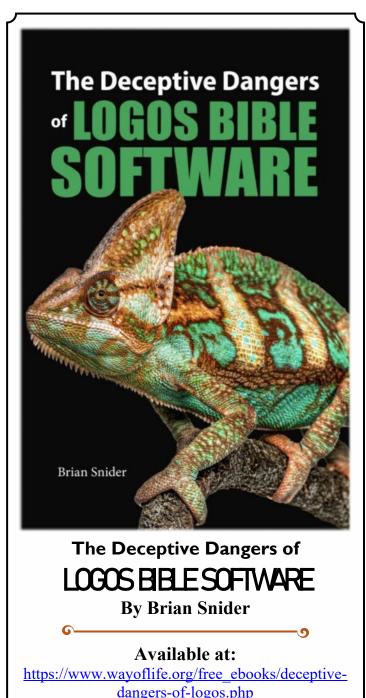
> O TIMOTHY Magazine Volume 42 Issue 4 David W. Cloud, Editor Subscription information on back page of the magazine

Copyright 2011 by D.W.Cloud Way of Life Literature PO Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061 866-295-4143 (toll free) <u>fbns@wayoflife.org</u> http://www.wayoflife.org

Bethel Baptist Church 4212 Campbell St. N. London, Ontario, N6P 1A6 Canada 519-652-2619 Any direction, indeed! That is a recipe for doctrinal disaster and spiritual shipwreck. A few brethren are biblically grounded enough and spiritually strong enough and critically minded enough to use Logos and not be led astray, but this software package is extremely dangerous.

For more on this see the free eBook <u>The Deceptive</u> <u>Dangers of Logos Bible Software</u> by Brian Snider.

It is available at <u>https://www.wayoflife.org/free_ebooks/</u> <u>deceptive-dangers-of-logos.php</u>

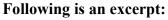




We are pleased to announce an important new book <u>The Deceptive Dangers of Logos Bible Software</u> by Brian Snider.

It is available for free at <u>https://www.wayoflife.org/free</u> <u>ebooks/deceptive-dangers-of-logos.php</u>





(Faithlife is the parent company of Logos Bible Software, Verbum Bible Software, Lexham Press and other subsidiaries.)

Faithlife's Mission Statement is: "We use technology to equip the Church to grow in the light of the Bible."

Yet their digital shelves are filled with works that would damn anyone who believes the doctrines they promote.

Logos has risen to the top of the Bible software heap by means of crafty positioning that allows them to present themselves as promoting the word of God, while selling the most grotesque forms of Bible criticism and heresy. Like a chameleon, they have the ability to quickly change appearance as needed to avoid criticism on a number of fronts.

We understand, of course, that there are just some things a real Christian could never do. He would never give someone materials that would hurt him spiritually. It would be anathema to a man who's been converted to Christ to lead someone astray or encourage them in their error.

But the business model that Logos has adopted allows them to play both sides against the middle. They sell material for cults, the Roman Catholic Church, and shamelessly endorse the grossest apostasy of the Jesus Seminar. And yet, they use phraseology about themselves that would lead people to think that they are evangelical Christians who are promoting the gospel through their endeavors.

They were early in figuring out how to digitize and monetize the Bible. That monetization seems to have driven them beyond their original intentions and their evangelical position, as money often does.

They have now gone into Bible publication, book and magazine publication, video production, presentation software for church production and have also become very influential.

Logos has defined themselves in such a way so that they do not take responsibility for the materials they offer. "Logos is a technology company and bookstore that serves churches, pastors, academics, and laity, but Logos is not a church, charity, ministry, or nonprofit."

When you go to their website, you get to 'shop by tradition' so that you will be offered materials that you are comfortable with and that suits your belief system.

The offerings include: Anglican, Baptist, Catholic, Charismatic, Lutheran, Messianic Jewish, Orthodox, Reformed, Seventh Day Adventist and Wesleyan.

If you criticize Faithlife/Logos for publishing modernism, heresy or materials that appeal to the cults, their carefully worded answer makes it appear as if they only have these materials for academic purposes and that the buyer should beware.

They want to claim neutrality when it suits them, but the reality is that they make spiritual decisions all the time. At first, they did not include Romanism in their offerings, but somewhere along the line, the temptation of such a large market apparently became too great to resist. Their filter changed.

In refusing responsibility for the materials they offer, they act is if they are a library, but the fact is they are a bookstore that makes a profit when you buy these materials, which are offered, not only without warning, but with positive recommendations, no matter how dangerous they might be.

In 2011, Logos released an entire version of their software for Roman Catholics, Verbum, which represents a massive segment of the religious market.

They claim that you must use your own discernment when choosing material, and then turn around and wholehearted endorse and promote the wicked dogmas and doctrines of Rome.

Logos boasts that the "Bible has been the heart and soul of our company for over 30 years." Yet, Galatians 1:8,9

AMERICA: DANGER AND HOPE (Friday Church News Notes, March 21, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - America is a special nation. Though never truly godly, it was greatly influenced by the Bible from its inception, a nation that God, in His grace, has used as an oasis of light and liberty, a blessing to the whole world. But America is grossly wicked now and her light is mostly darkness. I believe America is in greater danger today than ever. Trump is doing many good things, but he is no savior. He cannot change the fundamentals. The "woke America" which is intent on destroying the "old America" is still very large and very well, don't let anyone deceive you. We must focus on the spiritual issues. We must see everything through heaven's lens. The fundamental issue is a very wicked nation standing before a very holy God. There has been no repentance, no real change spiritually and morally, no change in the churches, just politics and carnal weapons. We have seen no evidence that churches have gotten on their knees. The best of them are still partying, mostly, happy-go-lucky. Trump has everything under control. America is going to be great again and rich again. When tested by Scripture, it is

tells us in no uncertain language that a curse rests on those who preach or promote false gospels, which Faithlife clearly does.

The Deceptive Dangers of Logos Bible Software deals with the following:

- Michael Heiser
- John Piper
- Kevin Bauder and Central Baptist Theological Seminary
- Mark Ward and the King James Bible
- Seventh-day Adventism
- Pornography
- Transgender Issues
- Faithlife Streaming
- Craig Evans

<u>The Deceptive Dangers of Logos Bible Software</u> by Brian Snider is available for free at <u>https://www.wayoflife.org/free_ebooks/deceptive-</u> dangers-of-logos.php

9



wrong, ridiculous, frightful. There *is* hope, but it is not politics and the weapons of the flesh. It is not Trump or MAGA. The hope is effectual prayer. It is time to pray as we have never prayed before. There is real, nation-changing power in effectual prayer. And it is time for pastors to be what they are called to be in Scripture, not hirelings who are afraid of losing the lukewarm, worldly crowd, but true spiritual warriors for Jesus Christ and truth. The right pastors are the key to strong New Testament churches, and strong New Testament churches are the key to true power and blessing. "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin *is* a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:34). "For the leaders of this people cause *them* to err; and *they that are* led of them *are* destroyed" (Isaiah 9:16).



We are pleased to announce an important new book *T<u>he Deceptive Dangers of Logos Bible Software</u> by Brian Snider.*

It is available for free at <u>https://www.wayoflife.org/free_ebooks/deceptive-dangers-of-logos.php</u>

It is a well-documented warning about how that Logos is at the forefront of the ecumenical blending and merging that is producing a one-world "church" in preparation for the day of the Lord and the full-blown Mystery Babylon of Revelation 17-18.

Following is an excerpt:

MICHAEL HEISER

The culture of Faithlife/Logos drifts into things that are downright strange and unsettling, like their appointment of Dr. Michael Heiser as a scholar in residence (2004– 2019). He died in February 2023 from pancreatic cancer.

He was a supposed expert on UFO sightings.

He is in good company with evangelical scholars who believe that the Bible can only be understood if we understand the cultural milieu that it was written in, that being the the Ancient Near East. Heiser specifically believed that understanding the Ugarit culture of Syria is vital to understanding the Bible, as he claimed that many Bible concepts were derived from this pagan culture.

In an article on Logos' webpage, he said

"Like everyone whose doctoral work is in Semitics, I took Ugaritic during graduate school. It was a life-

changing course, because it opened up the Hebrew text and Israelite religion to me in so many ways." https://www.logos.com/ugaritic

"It is often said that one of the most important principles of interpretation is to put every text into its proper context. That is, to read the text to be interpreted in place with its surroundings: the surrounding text as well as the social, historical, cultural, and literary traditions of the world in which it was produced. The texts recovered at Ugarit provide a key piece of literary, social, and religious context for certain passages of the Old Testament." What's Ugaritic Got to Do with Anything? Dr. Michael S. Heiser, Academic Editor, Logos Bible Software

According to Heiser, the Bible is not a supernatural book in the way that we think about it. It is a man-made book based on pagan ideas.

Heiser's most significant contribution was his teaching on The Divine Council, a view that Yahweh presided over a heavenly world of lesser gods.

He bases his interpretation on several passages of scripture, including Gen. 1:26, Ps. 82:1, Ps. 89:5-8, Ps. 29:1, Gen. 6:2, Deut. 32:8,9, and others. The definition of 'many gods' is polytheism.

Based on Genesis 1:26, "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness," Heiser taught that God is actually talking to a council of gods, not to the other members of the trinitarian Godhead.

We see more of his doctrine on this subject in this article posted on the Logos webpage. The Tower of Babel Story: What Really Happened?

"As odd as it sounds, the rest of the nations were placed under the authority of members of Yahweh's divine council. Whereas in Deuteronomy 32:8–9 God apportioned or handed out the nations to the sons of God, here we are told God "allotted" the gods to those nations. God decreed, in the wake of Babel, that the other nations he had forsaken would have other gods besides himself to worship.

"The other nations were assigned these lesser gods as a judgment from the Most High, Yahweh. It is as though God was saying, "If you don't want to obey me, I'm not interested in being your god—I'll match you up with some other god." <u>https://www.logos.com/grow/really-happened-</u> tower-babel/

However, scripture is plain. Isaiah 44:8 "Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God; I know not any."

In the Dictionary of the Old Testament which is edited by Tremper Longman III and Peter Enns, Heiser declares:

"Psalm 82:1 God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods he holds judgment. The term divine council is used by Hebrew and Semitics scholars to refer to the heavenly host, the pantheon of divine beings who administer the affairs of the cosmos. All ancient Mediterranean cultures had some conception of a divine council. The divine council of Israelite religion, known primarily through the psalms, was distinct in important ways." Michael S. Heiser, "Divine Council," in Dictionary of the Old Testament: Wisdom, Poetry & Writings (ed. Tremper Longman III and Peter Enns; Downers Grove, IL; Nottingham, England: IVP Academic; Inter-Varsity Press, 2008), 112.

"Incursions of henotheistic thought have made their way into churches, seminaries, and theological resources in recent decades. Henotheism is a species of polytheism, where many gods are said to be subject to one principal deity or supreme Being. Rather than being entirely equal, as with many Eastern polytheisms, henotheism teaches a hierarchy in the divine nature. Proponents of henotheism include the ancient Greeks, Romans, and Norse peoples. More recently, however, the late Dr. Michael Heiser has imbibed henotheistic thought. While maintaining monotheism in principle, Heiser defines monotheism as the belief in a "species unique" deity that presides over other divine beings or gods. In my opinion, this is virtually indistinguishable from the Greeks and Romans who saw Zeus or Jupiter, respectively, as the "king gods" who maintained sway over subjugated divine powers, such as Ares, Athena, or Mars. To adopt this position is to (inadvertently?) drink from the fountain of a fundamental metaphysical compromise, i.e. the expansion of "divine nature" to more than one being." Pastor Joshua Sommer, <u>https://thebaptistbroadcast.com/category/biblical</u> <u>-theology</u>

"Heiser who denies that Isaiah ben Amoz wrote all the book of Isaiah, who denies Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch, who clearly believes Daniel was written hundreds of years after the actual Daniel lived and who more than hints that he doesn't believe in a worldwide universal flood (or much of any of the historicity of Genesis 1-11 for that matter) represents a practical rejection of New Testament statements about the Old Testament, its prophets and prophecies. He certainly doesn't believe the text to be God-Breathed and thus it has to be said that his concept of inspiration is radically different from what traditional theological conservatives have argued." https://proto-protestantism.blogspot.com/2019/07/ heisers-unseen-realm-and-divine-council.html

The visibility provided to him through Logos allowed him to have a tremendous audience and his views on the Divine Council have spread widely and have been widely accepted by a huge cross-section of evangelical readers and scholars

John Piper's website (<u>www.desiringgod.org</u>) ran an article that was a full-orbed acceptance of Heiser's teachings.

"Several biblical passages speak of what some theologians call a "divine council," an assembly of heavenly beings or "gods." For Israel's neighbors in the ancient Near East, such councils reflected polytheistic worldviews, where rival gods vied for power and supremacy. For Israel, however, the members of the divine council, though heavenly and supernatural, remained subject to the providence and decrees of the one Creator God. Furthermore, God disarmed all these malevolent spiritual powers at the cross of Christ, and one day he will strip them of all authority entirely." <u>https://www.desiringgod</u> .org/articles/the-divine-council#fn2

The article on Piper's website goes on to parrot Heiser's doctrine and errors.

Heiser's most popular book is entitled The Unseen Realm: Recovering the Supernatural Worldview of the Bible which promotes weird and unconventional doctrine regarding supernatural subjects.

On the Amazon page for his book, we find this summary and endorsement:

- "Why wasn't Eve surprised when the serpent spoke to her?
- How did descendants of the Nephilim survive the flood?
- Why did Jacob fuse Yahweh and his Angel together in his prayer?
- Who are the assembly of divine beings that God presides over?
- In what way do those beings participate in God's decisions?
- Why do Peter and Jude promote belief in imprisoned spirits?
- Why does Paul describe evil spirits in terms of geographical rulership?
- Who are the "glorious ones" that even angels dare not rebuke?
- After reading this book, you may never read your Bible the same way again."

"There is a world referred to in the Scripture that is quite unseen, but also quite present and active. Michael Heiser's The Unseen Realm seeks to unmask this world. Heiser shows how important it is to understand this world and appreciate how its contribution helps to make sense of Scripture. The book is clear and well done, treating many ideas and themes that often go unseen themselves. With this book, such themes will no longer be neglected, so read it and discover a new realm for reflection about what Scripture teaches."

-Darrell L. Bock, Executive Director for Cultural Engagement, Senior Research Professor of New

Testament Studies, Howard G. Hendricks Center for Christian Leadership and Cultural Engagement

Faithlife produced a documentary based on his book "TheUnseenRealm."<u>https://www.youtube.com/</u>watch?v=2OM7anD5vSIwhich merely highlights theirendorsement of this very confused 'scholar.'

Heiser also wrote The World Turned Upside Down: Finding the Gospel in Stranger Things which is featured on the Logos website.

The Netflix series Stranger Things includes paranormal activity, loads of profanity, sexual content and demons.

"Some characters get overtaken by an interdimensional creature known as the "Mind-Flayer," which makes them act in ways that are contrary to their personality and give this creature more power. ... Now in its third season, most viewers of STRANGER THINGS won't be surprised by the amount of swearing in the series. However, Christians will be surprised to know that many of the expletives come from the mouths of children." (https://www.movieguide.org/news-articles/3things-christians-should-know-about-strangerthings-2.html)

"In The World Turned Upside Down, Heiser draws on this supernatural worldview to help us think about the story of Jesus and discover glimpses of the gospel in the Upside Down. He argues that this celebrated series helps us understand the gospel in unique and overlooked ways. The spiritual questions and crises raised by Stranger Things are addressed the same way they are in the gospel, with mystery and transcendent power." Promotional statement on Amazon for his book.

"For Michael Heiser, 'Stranger Things' is the perfect marriage of his interest in popular culture and the paranormal. In 'The Unseen Realm,' he opened the eyes of thousands, helping readers understand the supernatural worldview of the Bible—now he turns his attention to the worldwide television phenomenon, exploring how 'Stranger Things' relates to Christian theology and the Christian life." Promotional statement on Logos' website.

Heiser's book Reversing Hermon: Enoch, the Watchers,

and the Forgotten Mission of Jesus Christ, using apocryphal writings to reinterpret what we know from sacred scripture.

"Reversing Hermon is a groundbreaking work. It unveils what most in the modern Church have never heard regarding how the story of the sin of the Watchers in 1 Enoch 6-16 helped frame the mission of Jesus, the messiah. Jews of the first century expected the messiah to reverse the impact of the Watchers' transgression. For Jews of Jesus' day, the Watchers were part of the explanation for why the world was so profoundly depraved. The messiah would not just revoke the claim of Satan on human souls and estrangement from God, solving the predicament of the Fall. He would also not only bring the nations back into relationship with the true God by defeating the principalities and powers that governed them. Jews also believed that the messiah would rescue humanity from self-destruction, the catalyst for which was the sin of the Watchers and the influence of what they had taught humankind. The role of Enoch's retelling of Genesis 6:1-4 in how New Testament writers wrote of Jesus and the cross has been largely lost to a modern audience. Reversing Hermon rectifies that situation." Description on Amazon.

With the help and support of Faithlife/Logos, Heiser has influenced thousands of people toward his heretical view of the Godhead and his weird and unscriptural views on a host of things. Thousands of positive comments on his articles and videos reveals how easily people fall prey to this sort of thing.

Recent comment on one of his books: Elijah Liech, 12/3/2024

"Dr. Heiser's work in bringing out scholarship to the day-to-day folk who are just interested in reading and discerning the word of God is phenomenal. God used him in a profound way in helping many of us to not only see scripture for what it is but also avoid misconceptions unduly placed on the Bible. He was a brilliant scholar and his works continue to enlighten a lot of people. The books are really good...a must-have for any scholar and Christian."

Through Logos, Heiser has been able to influence conservative and fundamental Baptists. Tri-City

Baptist Church of Forest City, NC, was a traditional, fundamental Baptist, KJV church.

In 2019 the church used Heiser's book *The Unseen Realm* as the basis for a series of Sunday School Classes. They have recently also moved from the KJV to using the NKJV.

After Heiser died in 2023, **Kevin T. Bauder**, Research Professor of Historical and Systematic Theology at Central Baptist Theological Seminary, eulogized Heiser in glowing terms, particularly noting how influential he had been on the doctrinal issues he promoted.

"Most of all, Heiser's legacy rests upon his singleminded focus. Starting from his advocacy of the divine council theory he developed related theories of angelology demonology, biblical and an understanding of the development and role of nations in the plan of God, and ultimately an overarching storyline for the outworking of God's plan. The result was an integrated system that reflected а comprehensive biblical theology. By continuously publishing the elements of this theory through a variety of scholarly and popular venues, Heiser was able to advance his views significantly within the evangelical world.

"In 2019, Heiser left Logos and moved to Florida to become Executive Director at Awakening School of Theology and Ministry. The following year, while the rest of the world was panicking about COVID, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. The cancer took his life in February of this year. Michael Heiser was just sixty years old.

"Heiser was a true scholar. He was a true gentleman. He was a true man of God and a faithful witness for Jesus Christ. But he was also unique in his interests and in his passion to communicate them. We shall not look upon his like again."

https://centralseminary.edu/a-noted-passing/

Bauder said that Heiser was a true scholar, but in reality he was a dangerous and deceptive false teacher.

The very second that you attribute the writings of Moses to pagan nations you have failed the test of true Bible scholarship which begins by acknowledging that the Bible is a supernatural book without error.





We are pleased to announce an important new book <u>The Deceptive Dangers of Logos Bible Software</u> by Brian Snider.

It is available for free at <u>https://www.wayoflife.org/free_ebooks/deceptive-dangers-of-logos.php</u>

It is a well-documented warning about how that Logos is at the forefront of the ecumenical blending and merging that is producing a one-world "church" in preparation for the day of the Lord and the full-blown Mystery Babylon of Revelation 17-18.

Following is an excerpt:

MARK WARD and the KJV

Those who love error must of necessity hate the truth.

That is the only explanation for the strange attitude Logos seems to have toward the traditional Bible of English speaking people. They praise Ehrman, Spong and the Pope, but warn about the KJV.

For the last few years, they have campaigned against the continued use of the KJV through the person of Mark Ward. Ward has called himself 'an apostle' to the KJV only crowd, and, like Michael Heiser, he found in Faithlife a forum for promoting his views.

Ward left Logos last year (2024) but Logos gave him an international forum which he used to campaign for all the modernists who have attacked the Bible for the last 350 years.

You may say, 'but he only wants people to have a Bible in modern English?!'

Yes, but modern Bibles are based on the work of men who don't believe Moses and who believe that the New Testament are just oral tales handed down.

He knows that but he will not discuss it. And because most people are ignorant of this history, he is able to act like it doesn't exist.

Ward holds a PHD from Bob Jones University. The fact that he is highly educated and knows his subject well is only part of his effectiveness. Ward is an eloquent and educated proponent of his point of view. He's very compelling.

He has used two tools to overwhelm thousands people, young and old.

First, dialogue. He is not here to argue. He is your friend. He just wants to help you leave the past with its KJVonly ignorance and grumpiness and join the smart and nice people of the future. (Fundamentalists are grumpy, you know.)

Secondly, he only presents one side the story: readability. He argues readability first, last and middle. He refuses to discuss the elephants in the room which are the unbelieving critics who have used atheistic theories to whittle away at scripture.

He acts as if he is completely unaware that there are Satanically led deceivers among Bible scholars.

He is oblivious to the warnings of Scripture that they will grow worse and worse as we get closer to the return of the Lord. That part of the equation does not exist at all as far as he is concerned.

To that end, he refuses to discuss modernism as it relates to the Bible version issue. He is so convinced that readability is the only thing people should worry about, that he recommends any modern English Bible without regard to who edited it or what their biases might be.

He has little criticism for The Living Bible, the Good News Bible and the Message.

It is this dishonesty that makes Ward a dangerous man to listen to. When you hide significant facts from your listeners it reveals who you are.

Since the 1600s, rationalism has overwhelmed the field of Bible scholarship. Godly men have seen it and warned about it. J. C. Philpot feared the day infidels would edit the traditional Bible.

"Instead of our good old Saxon Bible, simple and solid, with few words obsolete, and alike majestic and beautiful, we should have a modern English translation in pert and flippant language of the day. The (Authorized Version) ... is, we believe, the grand bulwark of Protestantism; the safeguard of the Gospel, and the treasure of the church; and we should be traitors in every sense of the word if we consented to give it up to be rifled by...sacrilegious hands...and the whole tribe of enemies of God and godliness." J C Philpot

The issue is not whether or not language in the KJV has become antiquated over time. The issue is that the current tribe of scholars operate on atheistic principles. There is NO GOD in their methods. They say the Bible must be treated like any other book. They deny the foundational principle of Bible scholarship, and that is a belief that the scriptures were given supernaturally.

Virtually all of the current crop of modern scholars deny that the Bible is a completely supernatural book. They all operate on the basis that the Bible came about by natural means.

Ward loves comparing himself to William Tyndale and sees himself as doing the same work that Tyndale did. But that is because he has blinded himself to the fact that the battle Tyndale fought was a different battle on a different field.

Tyndale was going against the spirit of his day by trying to get the word of God to people in a language they could understand. In his day, the battle was over being able to read the Word of God at all.

Today, most Christians own several Bibles. The battle is not over having a Bible, it's over having one that is pure and unadulterated.

Today, the battle is over those who handle the scripture but deny its supernatural origin. And Ward promotes those men to the hilt. If anything, he is the anti-Tyndale. Tyndale could never have worked with the men Ward endorses.

Tyndale would have no truck with the likes of those who teach that Genesis is a fable. Ward recommends the work of those men. He's is comfortable in that environment.

If Tyndale had been in the mainstream, as Ward is, he never would have been burned the stake.

As of last year, Ward is no longer affiliated with Faithlife. After leaving Faithlife, he worked briefly at Crossway, publisher of the ESV and other reformed materials, but now is on his own as a YouTuber, speaker and influencer.

Ward has recently sworn off his advocacy against KJV Onlyism with some stipulations. He claimed in a recent video (Dec. 31, 2024) that he had answered all the claims of KJV onlyists.

That is patently untrue.

The truth is, he has neglected to answer the underlying complaints of the entire KJV-only mindset, and that is that Satan is at work through unbelieving scholars to undermine all of scripture. Fundamentalists and Bible believers stand on the fact that the Bible teaches that apostasy will be the hallmark of Christianity in the last days. When the great Christian scholars of the age teach that Moses is a myth and that we do not know who wrote significant parts of the New Testament we clearly see the accuracy of the warnings of scripture.

KJV-onlyists have taken scriptural warnings at face value and are on guard against unbelievers who would corrupt the word of God. These corrupters are everywhere. Ward, apparently, has never come across even one of them. Ward makes this boast: "Almost anything a King Jamesonlyist says, I've got a link to a video where I address the argument that they've made."

Again, this is a lie. He has only answered the arguments he has chosen to answer as he repeatedly said that he will not discuss textual criticism.

Readability is important, but it pales in comparison to the changes that these folks have brought to the text of scripture or the doctrinal positions of those who are driving those changes.

Even though Ward is no longer at Faithlife, they gave him a powerful forum and he used it convert thousands of people to his point of view.

At Logos, Ward went along with Faithlife's program of straddling a chasm as wide as heaven and hell.

A couple of years ago, Ward was challenged online about his position on working alongside Roman Catholics.

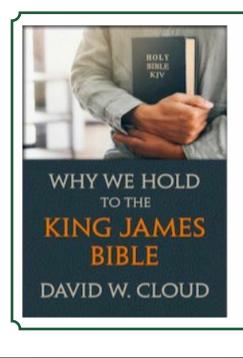
"You work for Faithflife and have been associated with Logos for a long time. Faithlife and Logos work together to promote Catholic materials that deny salvation by grace, substitutionary atonement, turn people to worship Mary and follow the Pope, among other highly destructive doctrinal errors. I received advertisements from your company regularly offering me Catholic materials. A small amount of archaic language vs. attacks on the Gospel itself. What am I missing?" Jon Cloud

Ward answered that he did not work on the Catholic side of the organization. So, Jon reworded the question.

"I was asking whether you have written against these attacks on the Gospel by the company you work for, not whether you worked on Catholic materials yourself. Their promotion of Catholic and liberal material is beyond academic interest. They are making money selling Gospel-denying materials to Catholics (Catholic edition, etc.) and promoting these materials without warning. Certainly, for academic purposes and apologetic ones, scholars and leaders need access to even very dangerous books. That is not what is taking place. Logos and Faithlife are actively promoting Catholic books, not to scholars but even to the weakest believers, again, with no warning whatsoever. Do you warn about this? (Gal. 1:8 is much stronger than 1 Cor. 14:7.)" Jon Cloud

This comment was deleted and Ward quit answering.

While at Faithlife, Ward's entire campaign focused on a few antiquated words in the KJV, while ignoring the blasphemy that his own company published. If you can be in an environment with Romanists and cultists and modernists, and all you can fuss about is the traditional Bible of English speaking people, you have told us everything we need to know about your spiritual insight.



WHY WE HOLD TO THE KING JAMES BIBLE By David Cloud

The 2023 edition is enlarged and improved with new material and a thorough reediting. It is designed to be a Bible course, with the textbook, 17 video classes, a syllabus to guide the teacher or individual student through the course, review questions, sectional tests, a final test, and test scoresheets.

> In this course we examine five reasons for holding to the KJV: • because of the doctrine of divine preservation,

- because of the heretical theories of textual criticism supporting the modern Greek New Testament,
- because the modern texts and versions are a product of end-time apostasy,
 - because the King James Bible's doctrine is superior, and
 - because of its unmatched heritage and character.

Available at:

https://www.wayoflife.org/publications/books/why_we_hold_to_the_kjb.php

HYMMS - Jewels From SAMUEL STENNETT By David Cloud

The following is excerpted from:

<u>Transforming Congregational Singing for the 21st</u> <u>Century, www.wayoflife.org</u>.

Samuel Stennett (1727-1795) was a Baptist pastor and hymn writer.

His father, Joseph; paternal grandfather, Joseph; greatgrandfather, Edward; and brother, Joseph, were all dissenting Baptist preachers.

Samuel's grandfather **Joseph Stennett** (1663-1713) was one of the first Baptist hymn writers in England and published one of the first Baptist hymnals. From 1690 to his death, Joseph pastored the sabbatarian Particular Baptist church at Devonshire Square, London (afterwards in Pinners' Hall). The Baptist leader Hanserd Knollys preached at his ordination. Knolly was twice imprisoned, the final time at age 86 for 16 months. The church's first pastor died at Newgate Prison for his nonconformity. In 1704, Joseph Stennett defended the Anabaptists in a reply to an attack on them by D. Russen. Joseph's first hymnal was *Hymns in Commemoration of the Sufferings of our Blessed Saviour Jesus Christ*, 1697. The third edition, 1709, had 50 hymns.

Samuel Stennett had a Doctor of Divinity from King's College, Aberdeen, and, like his father, was known for his great learning.

Samuel was converted as a young man and began assisting his father in the pastorate of Little Wild Street, London, at age 20. He took the pastorate in 1758, upon his father's death.

His learning and education promoted him to high society. "He had been accustomed to move in the society of persons of refinement; and on entering upon his pastoral duties in London he was remarkable for the ease and suavity of his manners, for the good breeding, the polished language, and the graceful ways of the true gentleman. He was frequently in company with persons enjoying the highest social distinction and in such situations as gave him an opportunity to commend Baptists and aid Dissenters of all denominations" (Seventh Day Baptists in Europe and America, 1902).

Though offered opportunities of advancement in the Church of England by King George III, Stennett determined to remain among the dissenters. He authored appeals to Parliament on behalf of dissidents for relief from persecution.

Thirty-eight of Stennett's hymns were published in *Rippon's Selection* (1787), including "On Jordan's Stormy Banks." Seventeen of his hymns have appeared in 50 or more hymnals.

"Majestic Sweetness Sits Enthroned," 1787 Samuel Stennett

Meter: 8.6.8.6. - Tune: ORTONVILLE

 Majestic sweetness sits enthroned upon the Savior's brow;
His head with radiant glories crowned,
His lips with grace o'erflow,
His lips with grace o'erflow.

2 No mortal can with Him compare, among the sons of men; fairer is He than all the fair who fill the heav'nly train, who fill the heav'nly train.

3 He saw me plunged in deep distress, and flew to my relief; for me He bore the shameful cross, and carried all my grief, and carried all my grief.

4 To Him I owe my life and breath, and all the joys I have; He makes me triumph over death, and saves me from the grave, and saves me from the grave.

Music Score and midi

https://hymnary.org/text/majestic_sweetness_sits_enthroned

DIGGING IN THE WALLS

God commanded the prophet Ezekiel to dig in the walls of Israel's temple and observe the evils being done in secret by apostate religious leaders of that day. "Then said he unto me, Son of man, dig now in the wall ... And he said unto me, Go in, and behold the wicked abominations that they do here. So I went in and saw. ..." (Ezek. 8:7-10).

Ezekiel was then instructed to preach against the errors of the leaders and to tell the people the things he had witnessed.

"Therefore prophesy against them, prophesy, O son of man. ... Then I spake unto them of the captivity all the things that the Lord had shewed me" (Ezek. 11:4,25).

The hour in which we live is very similar to that of Ezekiel's day. Many of those who profess to be the people of God are apostate. It was prophesied in the New Testament Scriptures that such would be the case in the closing hours of our age. This will culminate in the brief worldwide rule of an utterly apostate Harlot "church" (2 Tim. 3-4; 1 Tim. 4; 2 Pet. 2-3; Jude; Rev. 17).

As in Ezekiel's day much of the apostasy of our hour is hidden from the view of the average Christian. We intend by God's grace to "dig in the walls" of modern ecumenism and to expose and cry out against the things we find. In this section we also report on secular events which are relevant to Christians. May God give us ears to hear, minds to understand, and hearts to obey. Is the truth of God not worthy of defense?



EVANGELICALS AND MERGING CATHOLICS THROUGH CCM (Friday Church News Notes, February 28, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Evangelicals and Catholics in Brazil are merging through contemporary worship music. Consider recent Christian а Broadcasting Network (CBN) "Amazing Salvation report Numbers." At first glance, it appears that there is a great turning from Catholicism to "evangelicalism," but on closer examination, the evolving one world "church" comes into focus. On one hand, the percentage of Brazilians identifying as Catholic has fallen from 93% in 1950 to about 65% today. The biggest growth is found among Pentecostal-Charismatic churches. At the same time, the radical ecumenism of contemporary worship music is uniting Catholics and "evangelicals." Contemporary worship artist Ana Paula Valadao, whose praise band Diante do Trono has sold more than 15 million albums, is at the center of this phenomenon. Her concerts draw massive ecumenical crowds, and her songs are featured in every type of church, including Baptist and Catholic. Priest Antonio Ferreira says, "Today, a growing number of Catholics are returning precisely because prayer meetings are

conducted in a more Pentecostal ("Amazing style" Salvation Numbers," CBN, Feb. 18, 2025). Nothing is facilitating the blending of Christianity more effectively than contemporary worship music, including that of Getty-Townend. Fundamental Baptists that are messing around with contemporary worship, "adapting it," "toning it down," are playing with fire. The leaders are the blind leading the blind.

NATIONAL **EDUCATION** ASSOCIATION **PROMOTES** "WORLD HIJAB DAY" (Friday Church News Notes, February 28, www.wayoflife.org 2025. fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "NEA Promotes World Hijab Day," PJMedia, Jan. 24, 2025: "Saturday, Feb. 1, is another World Hijab Day, a Western feminist expression of solidarity with Muslim women in the United States who are supposedly oppressed and discriminated against because they wear the hijab. ... For innumerable women in Iran, the hijab is the most visible sign of their second-class status, and of the brutality of the regime that will imprison them for years or even kill them outright for daring to venture out in public without wearing it. Also, the oppression related to the hijab is not linked to wearing it, but to not wearing it. ... In Mississauga, Ontario, a few years back, Aqsa



Parvez's Muslim father choked her to death with her hijab after she refused to wear it. Amina Muse Ali was a Christian woman in Somalia whom Muslims murdered because she wasn't wearing a hijab. Forty women were murdered in Iraq in 2007 for not wearing the hijab. Alya Al-Safar's Muslim cousin threatened to kill her and harm her family because she stopped wearing the hijab in Britain. Amira Osman Hamid faced whipping in Sudan for refusing to wear the hijab. An Egyptian girl, also named Amira, committed suicide after being brutalized by her family for refusing to wear the hijab. ... women in Chechnya were threatened by men with automatic rifles for not wearing the hijab. When is the NEA's day for all these women, and so many others who have been brutalized or even killed for not wearing hijab?"

IDAHO LEGISLATURE CALLS FOR **OVERTURNING** THE SUPREME COURT RULING ON **SAME-SEX MARRIAGE** (Friday Church News Notes, February 28, www.wayoflife.org 2025. fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The Idaho state's legislature has issued a joint resolution to overturn Obergefell v. Hodges, the 2015 Supreme Court decision that legalized same-sex "marriage" and required all 50 states to perform and recognize them on the same footing God-appointed man-woman as marriages. This invented "right" by arrogant, ungodly, activist five



justices has resulted in persecution of Bible-believing Christians. The Idaho legislature boldly reproves this faulty decision. The following is excerpted from "Idaho Drafts Resolution to Overturn," The Disntr, Jan. 27, 2025: "Leftists and LGBT activists are predictably their collective minds losing over Idaho's new resolution against Obergefell v. Hodges ... They claim to stand for 'justice' and 'equality,' but their real fear is glaringly obvious, they're terrified that their grotesque crimes against nature, humanity, and God will have to retreat back into the shadows-where they belong--instead of being paraded around to the world as a badge of 'progress' while the rest of us reflexively gag on what they're force-feeding us. The Idaho resolution, a joint memorial of the legislature, state's doesn't pussyfoot. It calls out Obergefell as an illegitimate overreach, a decision 'arbitrarily and unjustly that rejected' the time-tested definition of marriage in favor of 'a novel, flawed interpretation' of the Constitution. The resolution correctly identifies that Obergefell relies on the 'dangerous fiction of treating the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment as a font of substantive rights,' a doctrine that gives unelected judges power they were never meant to have. ... In simpler terms, the Supreme Court fancied itself a legislative body and trampled over the will of the people, the Constitution, and 2,000 years of moral sanity--all in one fell swoop. Idaho's resolution methodically dismantles the lies propped up by Obergefell."

AI AND CHRISTIAN TRANSLATION WORK (Friday



Church News Notes, February 28, www.wayoflife.org 2025. fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Recently I received the following communication from Edward Habal, edward.habal@okiweb.com: "Bro Cloud, I have recently been looking at AI for video translations and in particular for Sunday School and discipleship material for some missionaries in other countries. I was wondering if you have looked into it at all. I just spoke to some in our church about my vision for IT for the Gospel. I think your vision for your Bible college can match up with other visions to really have an impact. I think the timing is right. I have been in IT for 30 years and just recently started looking at AI and it is amazing. I got a free account at Heygen https://heygen.com and did test translations and was so impressed I signed up for a paid account. You can scan your image and input script, you can translate existing video to many different languages and other things that I have not investigated yet. In my church Spanish speakers said the translation was perfect. Chinese speakers said it was robotic. Indonesian speakers said 97%. Filipino speakers said not KJV. It was off a little there also."

"BISEXUAL" CAST AS JESUS IN NEW RENDITION OF JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR (Friday Church News Notes, February 28,

2025. www.wavoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - In a sign of the frightful blasphemy of the times, Cynthia Erivo, an "LGBT-identified British actress known for her role in 'Wicked' has been cast to play Jesus in an upcoming production of 'Jesus Christ Superstar'" ("Cynthia Erivo." Christianity Today, Feb. 21, 2025). Erivo told Elle magazine, "I have a deep belief that God makes people as they're meant to be. The rules for themselves that people put upon others have nothing to do with me and my faith." The movie "Wicked: For Good," scheduled for release in November, portrays "same-sex attraction." Sodom and Gomorrah are mentioned in multiple prophecies of the end-times, such as the following by Peter: "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned *them* with an overthrow. making *them* an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly; And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;) The

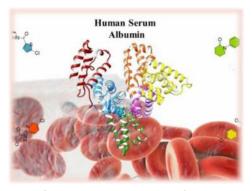


Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous *are they*, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities" (2 Peter 2:4-10).

A BACKSLIDDENCHURCHFOR ITSMOTHERANDFOR ITSFATHER(FridayChurchNewsNotes,February28,2025,www.wayoflife.org

fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - "Human religion's enterprises have an atmosphere of earthliness about them. It despises the day of small things and scorns little humble people and lonely ways. It is eager to jump to the height of prosperity. Its music has no pathos in it, its laughter lacks divine cheerfulness. its worship lacks supernatural love, its prayers bring down no huge answers, it works no miracles, calls forth no criticism from the world. and has no light of eternity in its eyes. It is a poor, sickly thing, born of the union of the heart of the world with the head of Christian theology--a mongrel, bastard thing with a backslidden church for its mother and the world for its father. Oh. my dear brother and sister, never forget that this unnatural monster will be destroyed at the coming-again of our Blessed Lord Jesus Christ" (James A. Stewart, Evangelism, 1940s, p. 28).

A BUSY, SUPER-SMART PROTEIN (Friday Church News Notes, February 28, 2025, w w w . w a y o f l i f e . o r g fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from



CreationMoments.com, February 4, 2025: "Blood is made up of many components. Red blood cells carry oxygen to all parts of the body. And even though hemoglobin is based on iron, the healthy body, protected by rust inhibitors, doesn't rust. White cells and other blood components fight infection. It's difficult to decide which of the components of blood are more amazing in their design. But if awards were given to the various components of blood for the amazing ways in which they work, serum albumin would certainly be in the running. Like one of those gadgets advertised on cable television, serum albumin seems to do more things in the bloodstream than seems possible. Serum albumin, which is made by the liver, regulates the volume of your blood, helping to keep your blood pressure healthy. It also controls your blood chemistry so that all the components are there in the right concentration. It stores molecules and moves them to where they are needed when they are needed. When you take an aspirin or a drug, serum albumin sees to it that the medicine gets to where it is needed. Serum albumin also prevents an enzyme which digests proteins in your digestive tract from digesting the proteins in the rest of your body. Indeed, as the Bible says, much of our physical life happens in our blood. But eternal life is only found in the blood of Jesus Christ, shed on the cross in our place--His death our place--the in

forgiveness of our sins before our Creator."



ISRAEL'S DELUSION (Friday Church News Notes, March 7, 2025, <u>www.wayoflife.org</u>

fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Israel's delusion is that she is back in the land by her own power and that she can live as she pleases and have God's blessing without obedience to God and His Christ, just because she is Israel. This has been Israel's delusion for 2,000 years. There can be no doubt about this, because Israel's history, present condition, and future are recorded in infallible Scripture. Israel's survival in the midst of the nations is indeed miraculous and her return to the land proves that the Bible is God's Word. But Israel has survived against impossible odds, not because she is living in God's favor but because she is unwittingly preparing for the completion of Bible prophecy. She is back in the land to receive the Antichrist and to participate in the building of the third temple that he will desecrate (Daniel 9:27; Matthew 24:15-22; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12). She is back in the land to prepare for the day of the Lord, which is also called "the day of Jacob's trouble" (Jeremiah 30:7). She is back in the land in an unregenerate condition to fulfill Ezekiel 37:8, "And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them." Israel's worse

time is yet ahead, but this will be followed by the glad day when the Spirit of God will convert the nation, not in whole but in part. "And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God" (Zechariah 13:8-9).

A PORNDEMIC (Friday Church News Notes, March 7, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is by Simeon Western, Pastor, Northside Baptist Church, Adelaide, Australia: "You have heard of a pandemic. What we have in our churches that is even more dangerous is a porndemic. I don't enjoy having to tackle this problem. I wish I didn't have to talk about it. It makes me faint to look at it because it is like ten Goliaths facing us all at once. But I have come to a realization in my experience today that this porndemnic is not going to go away, and whether we like it or not, as parents, as pastors, we are going to have to face this battle. And you've got to be awake to it, and you've got to be alert to it, because it is destroying families, it is destroying marriages, it is destroying lives. Wantonness has taken over the people of God. It is killing the spirituals lives of so many Christian men. And I've been praying, 'Lord, what do I do about it as a pastor? How can we tackle this more effectively?' And I think maybe this is of the Lord, but the thought that came to mind is that we need to go



on the offense. That means that you as a parent need to be involved in this because if you are not careful your ten year old could get hooked on your unprotected device. The amount of young men I have counseled would shock you, and guess where they got hooked on porn? In their home school bedrooms on unprotected devices which parents let into their home and did not think carefully and wisely about what they were doing. There is forgiveness and restoration and such, and I'm not trying to smash you down if you have made mistakes as parents, but you had better get on your knees and say, forgive me for 'God. being unwatchful, forgive me for not being alert, and now my son or daughter is practically an addict, and I'm going to have to fast and pray and get my hands dirty to lift them out of the pit in which I, to a degree, allowed them to get into."" (We recommend the new course "A Church Smartphone Program," Accountability www.wayoflife.org.)

I BELIEVE IN THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD AND DELIGHT IN IT (Friday Church News Notes, March 7, 2025, www.wayoflife.org

<u>fbns@wayoflife.org</u>, 866-295-4143) - Charles Spurgeon defined the essence of Calvinism as follows: "To me, Calvinism means the placing of the eternal God at the head of all things. I look at everything through

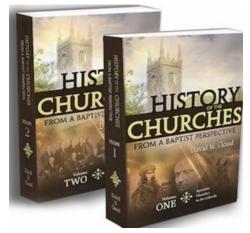


its relation to God's glory. I see God first, and man far down in the list. ... Brethren, if we live in sympathy with God, we delight to hear Him say, 'I am God, and there is none else" (An All Round Ministry). I am not any type of Calvinist, but I agree 100% with this. I believe in God big and man little. I would change just one word in Spurgeon's statement: "To me, Biblicism means the placing of the eternal God at the head of all things." I don't need Augustine or John Calvin or the divines of the Westminster Assembly to teach me this, for it is the emphasis of Holy Scripture. I believe God is Almighty, all-wise, infinite, eternal, King of kings, the only God, the most High. He "sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers ... That bringeth the princes to nothing; he maketh the judges of the earth as vanity" (Isa. 40:22-23). "The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever" (Isa. 29:10). The heaven is His throne and the earth is His footstool (Isa. 66:1). He "worketh all things after the counsel of his own will" (Eph. 1:11). He is working all things together according to His eternal plan "that in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him" (Eph. 1:10). to Nothing can stay His hand. "But our www.wayoflife.org.)

God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased" (Ps. 115:3). "For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it? and his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?" (Isa. 14:27). When God has determined something, there is no power in heaven or earth, now or ever, that can hinder it. God--not revolutions or politics or economics or dynasties--is the Author of human history. He "changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding" (Da. 2:21). No matter what men determine to do, God is in charge. "The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the LORD" (Pr. 16:33). God's will can only be resisted when and as He allows, as when He gives men and angels a will that can be exercised within certain narrow parameters. But when God has ordained that something be done, it will be done. All creatures operate within the boundaries of God's will and they can do nothing beyond those boundaries. The God who made the world and all things therein "hath made of one blood all nations of men, for to dwell on the earth, and hath the determined times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation" (Ac. 17:24-26). In His foreknowledge, God has incorporated man's will and man's actions and man's prayers within His eternal plan and has ultimate control over all things so that His eternal plan will be fulfilled. I can say with a prominent Calvinist, "There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: 'Mine!'" (See "I Hold the Doctrines of Grace,"

WALDENSIAN PERSECUTION

(Friday Church News Notes, March 7, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Two streams of churches have flowed through church history: true churches and false, sound churches and apostate. Century after century, the Bible-loving Waldenses were subject to the Inquisition, horribly persecuted by the popes and bishops and monks. Entire cities and towns were destroyed and valleys decimated. Countless thousands were tortured and brutally murdered. We have documented this in \underline{A} History of the Churches from a Baptist Perspective. www.wayoflife.org. Consider one example. In the year 1209, Pope Innocent III was the first pope to call for a crusade against the Waldenses in France (also called Albigenses). Anyone who volunteered to war against the "heretics" was promised forgiveness of sin and many rewards. Tens of thousands took up arms for the pope and marched against the hated Waldenses. Some 200,000 were killed by the pope's army within a few months. Two cities. Beziers (Braziers) and Carcasone, were destroyed, together with many smaller towns and villages. Some of the 40,000 inhabitants of Beziers were Roman Catholics, and when Simon de



ANOTHER MIRACLE OF SIGHT (Friday Church News Notes, March 7, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, January 20, 2025: "The eye is a chemical and technological wonder. It would take thousands of carefully directed mutations for an eyeless creature to develop sight. And since a partial eye doesn't provide sight, each of these thousands of mutations would offer no advantage to the creature. The fact is, of course, that mutations don't happen this way. All the true mutations we know about have harmed rather than helped the creature with the mutation. This fact places the thought of thousands of positive mutations in a row outside the realm of scientifically reasonable consideration. In addition, neither living nor known fossil animals show any evidence of gradual development of eyes. Therefore, the most reasonable scientific conclusion is that there is a Creator Who designed and created the eye. The lens of the eye is a marvel of chemistry. It is made up of a concentration of protein molecules inside waterlined cells. When scientists learned this, they were amazed. Protein molecules in water are not

Monfort, Earl of Leicester, asked the pope's representative how he was to separate the Catholics from the Albigenses, he answered: "Kill them all. God knows His own." That is exactly what they did. The cruelties practiced by the Catholic persecutors were horrible. Believers and unbelievers alike were thrown from high cliffs, hanged, disemboweled, pierced through repeatedly, drowned, torn by dogs, burned alive, crucified. In one case, 400 mothers fled for refuge with their babies to a cave in Castelluzzo, which was located 2,000 feet above the valley in which they lived. They were by the rampaging discovered Catholic campaigners; a large fire was built outside of the cave and they were suffocated. Thousands were made homeless and were forced to wander in the forests and mountains to escape the persecutors.

"In this manner, the war was carried on for twenty years. Town after town was taken, pillaged, burnt. Nothing was left but a smoking waste. Religious fanaticism began the war; rapacity and ambition ended it. Peace was concluded in 1229, and the Inquisition finished the deadly work" (John Christian, *A History of the Baptists*). This is but one *tiny glimpse* into the persecutions against the Waldenses and other Baptists that occurred century after century.

THE ASCETIC NUN WRAPPED IN CHAINS AND IRONS (Friday Church News Notes, March 14, 2025, <u>w w w . w a y o f 1 i f e . o r g</u> <u>fbns@wayoflife.org</u>, 866-295-4143) - The skeleton of a nun wrapped in chains and irons was recently discovered in an ancient monastery in Jerusalem. This is the first physical evidence of an extreme ascetic



transparent, as the lens must be. After more research, they discovered God's secret. The high concentration of protein molecules in the lens of the eye causes the proteins to pack together something like the molecules of window glass. As a result, the normally opaque protein solution in the lens becomes transparent. The eye does more damage to ideas about origins that leave out God than almost any other feature of the creation because it allows us to see the Creator's fingerprints all around us!"



practice that was reportedly widespread in the early centuries as apostate Christianity was spreading everywhere. "Theodoret of Cyrrhus, 5th-century Christian writer, a mentions two women, Marana and Cyra, who bound themselves with chains for decades" ("Buried in Chains," World Israel News, Mar. 10, 2025). The ascetic principle began to be taught in the first century as a part of gnosticism (Col. 2:20-23). According to asceticism, salvation

and holiness are obtained by human works, especially through abuse of the body. Monasticism increased in the third and fourth centuries during the persecutions of the Roman emperors. Many fled to the deserts and other remote places in the Judean wilderness east of Jerusalem toward Jericho and the Sinai Peninsula and Egypt, and it was in this region that the practice of asceticism began. The prominent ascetics were called "the desert fathers." (The word "hermit" means "of the desert.") The ascetic life was promoted by many of the influential "church fathers." including Origen, Jerome, Basil, Augustine, and Chrysostom. The practice of asceticism grew ever more intense and strange. They beat themselves, deprived themselves of sleep for long periods, fasted abusively, partook of nearly inedible food, took vows of silence, stood for days without sitting down, didn't bathe, kept hoods drawn over their faces. They abandoned marriages and withdrew from all normal human relationships, taking vows to isolate themselves from their loved ones for the rest of their lives. They submitted themselves to endless vain rituals. The first error of Roman Catholic asceticism is its false gospel of works and sacraments. They replaced the gospel of free, eternal salvation by Christ's grace alone through Christ's blood alone with a gospel of salvation by grace *plus* works. According to the Ladder of Divine Ascent, which depicted the fundamental concepts of monasticism, monks and nuns ascend to heaven on a ladder of good works and ascetic practices.

THE HAWAIIAN NOAH (Friday Church News Notes, March 14, 2025, <u>w w w . w a y o f 1 i f e . o r g</u> fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - More than 200 flood accounts have



been collected by researchers in 70 languages. They come from every part of the world, including Mesopotamia, Egypt, Africa, Persia, India, Greece, China, the Polynesian islands, and the Americas. Though containing mythical elements, the stories represent a universal memory of the Flood. "Ninety-five percent of traditions have common these elements with Genesis and they say that the flood was global" (Nozomi Osanai, A Comparative Study of the Flood Accounts in the Gilgamesh Epic and Genesis). In 1905, Stephen Peet wrote, "[T]here are many descriptions of the remarkable event [the Genesis Flood]. Some of these have come from Greek historians. some from the Babylonian records; others from the cuneiform tablets, and still others from the mythology and traditions of different nations, so that we may say that no event has occurred either in ancient or modern times about which there is better evidence or more numerous records, than this very one which is so beautifully but briefly described in the sacred Scriptures. It is one of the events which seems to be familiar to the most distant nations ... It is true that many look upon the story as it is repeated in these distant regions, as either referring to local floods, or as the result of contact with civilized people, who have brought it from historic countries, and yet the similarity of the story is such as to this explanation make even

unsatisfactory" ("The Story of the Deluge," American Antiquarian, July-August 1905, p. 203). See "Flood Legends from Around the World," nwcreation.net. See also After the Flood by Bill Cooper. Consider one of the Hawaiian flood accounts which features Nu'u (it is easy to see the name Noah here), who is said to be the 13th generation of the first man. (Noah was the 10th generation from Adam.) The "gods" instructed him to build a large canoe roofed over like a house by which to escape the flood with his wife and three sons. He also carried a male and female of all animals. Water covered all the land. After the flood, Nu'u made landfall on top of a large mountain. In thanksgiving, Nu'u offered a sacrifice. This account also features a rainbow ("Flood in World Myth and Folklore Pacific," curioustxonomy.net).

THE MYSTERIOUS NATURE OF THE ANTICHRIST (Friday Church News Notes, March 14, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - There is something very mysterious about the coming Antichrist. On one hand, the Antichrist appears to be a man. He is called "that man" (2 Th. 2:3). He arises from "the people ... that ... shall destroy the city and the sanctuary," referring to the Roman legions that destroyed Jerusalem and the second temple in AD 70 (Da. 9:26). On the other hand, the Antichrist is described as the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit (Re. 11:7; 17:8). The "bottomless pit" is the Greek abussos, which is where some fallen angels are held captive. The demons who were cast out of the demoniac of the Gaderenes begged Jesus not to send them into "the deep" (abussos, Lu. 8:31). Satan will be incarcerated in the bottomless



pit during the Millennium (Re. 20:1-3). The Antichrist is called "the beast" 28 times in Scripture (Da. 7:6, 11; 11:7; 13:1, 2, 3, 4, 14, 15, 17, 18; 14:9, 11; 15:2; 16:2, 10, 13; 17:7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17; 19:19, 20; 20:4, 10). Is the Antichrist a man? Is he a demon? John Walvoord surmised that the beast out of the pit is Satan, who, together with the world dictator of Revelation 13:1 and the false prophet of Revelation 13:11, forms "the satanic counterfeit of the divine Trinity." We cannot accept this, because the beast and Satan are cast into the lake of fire at separate times and as different personages. Compare Revelation 19:20 with 20:10. W.C. Stevens surmised that the Antichrist is "a resurrected man" who comes out of the pit described in Ezekiel 32:17-32. The bottom line is that we won't know for sure until we have more light. For now, we know everything God wants us to know and everything we need to know. We know that Christ's coming, our blessed hope, is "at hand"; it is imminent. "But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer" (1 Peter 4:7).

SAIL ON (Friday Church News Notes, March 14, 2025, www.wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is by John Phillips: "Keeping on was the genius of Columbus. Many mariners had sailed west, but none of them had remained on a westerly course so determinedly for so long. Joaquin Miller described his persistence:

Behind him lay the gray Azores, Behind the Gates of Hercules:

Before him not the ghost of shores,

Before him only shoreless seas. The good mate said: "Now must

we pray,

For lo! the very stars are gone.

Brave Admiral, speak, what shall I say?"

"Why, say 'Sail on! sail on! and on!'"

They sailed and sailed, as winds might blow,

Until at last the blanched mate said: "Why, now not even God would know

Should I and all my men fall dead. These very winds forget their way, For God from these dread seas is gone.

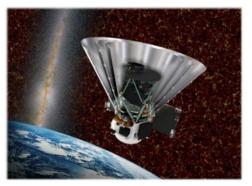
Now speak, brave Admiral, speak and say"—

He said: "Sail on! sail on! and on!"

TESTIMONY ABOUT THE WAY OF LIFE BIBLE **COMMENTARIES** (Friday Church News Notes, March 14, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - A pastor recently wrote as follows: "I love a good commentary. It is my normal procedure to investigate a passage of the Bible, and then look up a few trusted commentaries to see how these good men handled the same passage. Right now, I am preaching through I Timothy in our midweek service, and I picked up your Pastoral Epistles Commentary. The information is thorough and completely trustworthy. I really enjoyed reading the introduction (read it a couple of times). We are now in chapter 5, and I am indebted to the valuable research that your

commentary provides. I have also read your commentaries on Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel to accompany my own morning devotions. I consider it a spiritual challenge every time I pick up one of your books, but vour commentaries are my favorite so far. Thank you for being used of God to be a blessing to many others. Every pastor should invest in the treasure of books you have written for their personal library, for their church library, and church book store. Our people have been very blessed and strengthened by your hard work." Currently there are commentaries on 37 books of the Bible with 15 more scheduled for 2025: Genesis-Deuteronomy (scheduled March 2025), Joshua-Chronicles (scheduled June 2025), Psalms, Proverbs (scheduled last half 2025), Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Minor Prophets (12 books), Romans, Corinthian Epistles, Prison Epistles (Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians), Thessalonian Epistles, Pastoral Epistles (1 and 2 Timothy, Titus), Hebrews, General Epistles (James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1, 2, 3 John, Jude), Revelation.

NASA CONTINUES VAIN SEARCH FOR ORIGIN OF LIFE (Friday Church News Notes, March 21, 2025, <u>www.wayoflife.org</u> fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - With blind devotion to the hypothesis of evolution, NASA has launched a new satellite "to explore



PLANTS FOCUS LIGHT (Friday Church News Notes, March 14, 2025, www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is from CreationMoments.com, February 14, 2025: "In many ways, a plant is like a machine that changes the energy of sunlight into food energy that is needed by the rest of the living world. The energy which runs the plant is light. Now, if you were going to design a better, more efficient plant, how might you do it? Obviously, one way to improve a plant would be to create one that can do its job with less light. But remember, the plant cannot store more energy than it receives. And if the plant was too sensitive to light, a strong dose of sunlight could kill it. The obvious solution is to outfit the plant with tiny lenses which focus even dim light into the chemical centers where photosynthesis takes place. Due to man's ignorance, modern science has often regarded plants as if they were simple, unsophisticated forms of life. Now scientists have discovered that many plants do indeed have special cells which focus and concentrate the available light into the very centers where it is needed.



One plant's shaded leaves were found to intensify available light by 26 times. And if the light gets so strong that it could damage the leaves, the light is focused onto cells which can absorb the extra light. Plants are much more complex, higher-performance living things than we ever suspected. Plants incorporate designs based on a highly sophisticated knowledge of both chemistry and physics. What a wonderful witness they are to our Creator!"

the origins of the universe." SPHEREx is short for Spectro-Photometer for the History of the Universe, Epoch of Reionization and Ices Explorer. "The mission aims to deepen the understanding of a phenomenon known as cosmic inflation, referring to the universe's rapid and exponential expansion from a single point in a fraction of a second after the Big Bang that occurred roughly 13.8 billion years ago" ("NASA SPHEREx telescope," Reuters, Mar. 12, 2025). NASA claims that cosmic inflation "caused the universe to expand in size a trillion-trillionfold in a fraction of a second after the big bang" ("NASA Launches," Mar. 12, 2025, nasa.gov). This is ridiculous and unscientific on its very face. According to the Big Bang, the universe of mind-boggling complexity with its living earth is the product of an accident or, more properly, an uncountable myriad of

accidents, everything came from nothing, atomic clock precision was the product of an explosion, life leaped from non-life, and intelligence appeared from non-intelligence. NASA had it right in December 1968 when the crew of Apollo 8, the first human beings to travel to the moon, read from Genesis 1. Roughly a billion people in 64 countries heard the voices of three NASA astronauts read from the only accurate account of creation in existence. The astronauts concluded with the words, "and God bless all of you, all of you on the good Earth." It is a good Earth because it is a divinely created Earth.

THE ONLY TRUE ACCOUNT OF THE CREATION OF THE EARTH (Friday Church News Notes, March 21, 2025, w w w . w a y o f 1 i f e . o r g fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is what three NASA



astronauts broadcast to the earth while orbiting the moon on December 24, 1968: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the

morning were the first day. And God said. Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day. And God said. Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good" (Genesis 1:1-10).

THE CORRUPT WORLD OF **TOP-LEVEL SPORTS** (Friday Church News Notes, March 21, www.wayoflife.org 2025. fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - Legal betting for the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) March Madness basketball tournament is expected to reach more than \$3 billion ("Madness legal wagering," Fox Business, Mar. 17, 2025). God's born again people are to test everything by Scripture and disassociate with evil. "Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Ephesians 5:10-11). There is a lot of evil throughout pro and collegiate sports. In fact, it is an idol to a great many people. In a report on a drought in west Texas that was killing the grass on football fields, the Los Angeles *Times* observed that this was serious because "football is God and the field is church" ("In West Texas," Los Angeles Times, Oct 3, 2011). In 1982, the famous sports announcer Howard Cosell, while viewing the



largest Sunday football game attendance in Texas history, said "the Cowboys are more than a football team in Dallas; they are a religion." So the world itself says pro sports is an idol. What else is wrong with professional and collegiate sports from a biblical perspective? We could mention pride, boasting, envy, self-promotion, vanity, covetousness, cursing, blasphemy, drinking, drugging, gambling, fleshly rock music, sensual dancing, indecent clothing. When and evangelist Billy Sunday turned his back on a successful professional baseball career in 1893, he gave ten reasons for leaving. Reason number two was "Because it develops a spirit of jealousy and selfishness." That was 130 years ago! Take the halftime shows and commercials for the Superbowl. The 2013 halftime performance (and things have not gotten better) by Beyonce was "pushing x-rated." The Superbowl commercial voted a contender for "best" Mercedes was а advertisement that depicted a young man contemplating selling his soul to the devil for the worldly pleasures he could expect from owning a sleek automobile. The commercial was set to the Rolling Stone's godless song "Sympathy for the Devil." And what about neglect of God's house? Not many decades past, professional sports were not played on Sundays in respect for the Lord's Day and the command of God that Christians not forsake the assembly (Heb. 10:24-

25). Not so today. The devil has pulled out all the stops in his effort to woo the hearts of professing Christians away from Christ toward the things of this wicked world. Those who allow professional and collegiate sports to capture their hearts become desensitized to the wickedness that is inherently associated with it. "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever" (1 John 2:15-17).

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA BARS DISCRIMINATION AGAINST HOMOSEXUALS, TRANSSEXUALS, AND HERETICS (Friday Church News Notes, March 21, 2025. www.wayoflife.org fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from "PCUSA approves amendment," Christian Post, Mar. 14, 2025: "Presbyterian Church (USA) has approved an amendment to its constitution that prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The LGBT advocacy group Covenant Network of Presbyterians announced



Wednesday passage the of Amendment 24-A in a statement posted to the PC(USA)'s official website through the Presbyterian News Service. Amendment 24-A amended the PC(USA) Book of Order to include gender identity and sexual orientation to the antidiscrimination statement found in F-1.0403, which read in part that 'God unites persons through baptism regardless of race, ethnicity, age, sex, disability, geography, or theological conviction.' ... The PC(USA) ratified an amendment allowing ordination of openly LGBT pastors at the discretion of each congregation in 2011."

THE FROG'S BROADCASTING SYSTEM (Friday Church News Notes, March 21, 2025, <u>w w w . w a y o f l i f e . o r g</u> <u>fbns@wayoflife.org</u>, 866-295-4143)



The following is from CreationMoments.com, February 12, 2025: "If you live in a large city, especially one that is surrounded by other large cities, you know that the radio dial can become very crowded. To prevent the radio dial from incomprehensible turning into gibberish, radio stations are assigned a frequency on which to operate. This orderly arrangement is also found among many animals. Male birds will often stake out a territory so that their mating call does not interfere with other males of their kind. Frogs too, have mating calls, but often many species of frogs are found in the same swamp. They avoid interfering with each other by each using a unique frequency for their calls. Otherwise, no one's call could be clearly understood. This orderly arrangement is evidence enough of the Creator's hand. But there are two South American frogs, often found in the same locations. which use the same frequency. How can they do that? One frog calls only above water while the other frog uses his call only under water. Since the surface of the water is an effective barrier for sound. neither call interferes with the other. Frogs could have never gotten together and agreed on limiting themselves to unique frequencies."

9

Aim of O Timothy Magazine

- Exalting the Lord Jesus Christ; His eternal perfect, and preserved Word; and the Gospel of his Grace. (2 Peter 3:1-2, 18)
- Standing for the whole counsel of God. (Acts 20:27; Jude 3)
- Challenging Christian workers to uphold the truth and resist the apostasy of our times. (1 Timothy 6:20-21)
- Exposing the spirit of error and compromise within Christendom (Hosea 4:6a; 2 Tim. 3)
- Upholding the New Testament Church (1 Tim. 6:13-14). O Timothy is a ministry of Bethel Baptist Church of London, Ontario.
- Challenging churches to fulfill the Great Commission of world evangelism (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 13-14)
- Standing for the Received Text of the Holy Scriptures, the Authorized Version in the English Language, and sound translations of the TR in the languages of the world. (Ps. 12:6-7)



O TIMOTHY MAGAZINE

Way of Life Literature P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061-0368 866-295-4143 (toll free), <u>fbns@wayoflife.org</u> (e-mail) <u>http://www.wayoflife.org</u> (web site) NONPROFIT ORG U.S. Postage PAID PORT HURON, MI Permit No. 1061

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

- ONLINE EDITION: FREE! To access the online edition, go to <u>www.wayoflife.org</u>, click the O Timothy tab, then click the words "online edition" to select the issue you wish to view or download.
- UNITED STATES: The annual subscription is US \$15. Payment can be made by: CHECK – payable to Way of Life Literature (NOT O Timothy) and designated for O Timothy on the memo line CREDIT CARD – call toll free 866 295 4143 Monday through Friday ONLINE – with credit card or PayPal at <u>www.wayoflife.org</u>
- CANADA: The annual subscription for Canada is \$31.50 Canadian (GST included). Checks or money orders should be made payable to Bethel Baptist Church and designated for O Timothy. Payments should be mailed to Bethel Baptist Church, 4212 Campbell St N, London, ON N6P 1A6.

SUBSCRIPTIONS (O Timothy is a monthly publication)

USA - One Year Subscription......**\$15 US.** - **Payable To WAY OF LIFE LITERATURE** CANADA\$31.50 Canadian (GST Included)

DATE	
NAME	
ADDRESS	
CITY, STATE, ZIP	
COUNTRY	
PHONE, EMAIL	

PRINTED IN CANADA