



Bible Student's Notebook™

The Herald of His Grace

Presenting every man perfect in Christ Jesus. Colossians 1:28

Volume 26
Issue 634

The Coming Kingdom

Some Fundamental Facts Concerning It

by — William Tucker Broad (1860-1923)

Thy Kingdom come (Matthew 6:10).

Few books are so misunderstood as the Scriptures. The reason is, the real study of it is rare. Most people read it in scraps, and the result is profound ignorance of its teachings.



Yet it claims to be, not the word of man, but the Word of God, made up of words forming a record wholly from God. "God spake through the prophets" is its explanation of its own origin. The mouth, the hands and the organs of speech used in the speaking and writing were man's, but God was behind speaking through these organs, and hence the words came from God. So the Bible is not a literature of the Hebrews, though it may be, in part, in the Hebrew language. It stands in a class by itself, and cannot be regarded as an ordinary book, for it *is*, and it *contains*, a revelation from God.

Its author is the Holy Spirit. It did not originate in any man's imagination,

for no prophecy ever came by man's will, but men spake from God [and not from themselves], being carried along by the Holy Spirit (II Peter 1:20-12).

This "God-breathed"¹ record, wholly originating

from God, contains in it a revelation of God's plans and purposes for man and the earth. It is history written beforehand. This fact alone shows the foolishness of those who object to and criticize what they cannot understand. How can mortal man expect to understand the mind of the Infinite Creator? For God's thoughts are not man's thoughts, nor are His ways man's ways (Isaiah 55:8).

The fact that it is a revelation from God at once lifts it out of the range of human criticism. It is altogether beyond man's mind even fully to understand. It is to be accepted just as it stands, and to be humbly believed.

Study this Book of books diligently and there is unfolded in it the stages by which God is working out slowly and surely His marvelous plans formed before this earth was created. The author of the book promises to help the diligent, spiritual student. He who hunts the Scriptures will find that spiritual things are declared only to spiritual persons (II Corinthians 2:14). ▶

Scriptures), chapter 2 (How We Got Our Bible). A concise history of 53 pages covering everything from the original Greek text to the Concordant Version (see order form).

1. [Editor:] "inspired by God" (II Timothy 3:16). Θεόπνευστος (*theopneustos* [Strong's G2315]), a compound word "God" (θεός, *theos* [Strong's G2316] and "breathe" (πνέω, *pneō* [Strong's G4154]); thus "God-breathed": given by God, divinely inspired. See:
— *God's Eonian Purpose*, by Adlai Loudy, chapter 1 (The Sacred

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The words quoted at the head of this article were first used by the Lord and given to His disciples as a petition to be evermore on their lips. Learned in infancy, and uttered, perhaps, thousands of times, we need to ask what the words mean, whether we believe what we pray, and why the prayer remains so long unanswered.

The reference in the words is to a coming Kingdom which shall be God's Kingdom, and not man's. So they tell a part of God's plan. At present it is only unfulfilled prophecy; but at the proper time the words will be translated into events, and the prophecy will become history. Then this little prayer, in its fulfillment, will transcend all wildest imagination.

WHAT IS MEANT BY THE WORD "KINGDOM"?

From the second chapter of Daniel, where we get a short and clear account of the ultimate coming of this Kingdom of God, we find that the kingdoms of men and the Kingdom of God are explained by using the same word, so that God's Kingdom denotes and connotes what we mean when we speak of any one of man's kingdoms.

We see in that chapter, from its use, that a kingdom is a country and a People ruled over by a king. There must be a territory; this territory must contain inhabitants, and these must be ruled over by a personal, present and visible king.

The word "kingdom" necessarily implies a king actually present to rule his subjects. The idea conveyed by the word "kingdom" is threefold: there must be country, people and king.

Today there is no spot in the world that can truthfully be called the "Kingdom of God"; and it is contrary to facts around us to say that the Kingdom has come, or is at present on the earth. Rather, it is now the "Kingdom of Heaven."² Its King is declared to be in heaven

2. [Editor:] For more information on the "Kingdom of Heaven" see:
- *God's Holy Nation: Israel and Her Earthly Purpose*, by Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., specifically chapter 3 (Israel's Earthly Destiny), chapter 13 (Israel's Prophetic Program), appendix 20 (The Kingdom of Heaven and its Relationship to the Kingdom of God) (see order form).
 - *God's Eonian Purpose*, by Adlai Loudy, specifically chapter 5 (The Kingdom of the Scriptures) and chapter 17 (The Millennial

seated on His Father's throne, waiting until the time for the establishment of His Kingdom on earth in power and glory. Then shall He rule the nations with a rod of iron, sternly subduing all of His enemies and putting out of existence all rebellion against His rule (see I Corinthians 15:24-28).

THE MISTAKEN IDEA THAT THE CHURCH IS "THE KINGDOM OF GOD."

Well, "the Church of God" is one thing, but "the Kingdom of God" is quite another thing. We are not told to pray that the Church of God may come. It is here already, composed of those who have believed God. Man's many churches do not compose the Kingdom of God. Most certainly not, though individuals in them may belong to "the Church of God." The church of a nation, or the church of a man, does not even constitute an integral part of the Church of God, much less constitute the Kingdom of God.³

In our ignorance we often pray for the extension of God's Kingdom, but it cannot be "extended" until it is first of all "set up." Fancy extending a Draper's business before it is started!

Stern facts all around us daily prove to us that God's Kingdom is not set up yet, for when it is there will be peace, and righteousness, and equity in all the world. It will most certainly come, but only in the way revealed – namely, with mighty power and judgments.

No, the "Church of God" is not the "Kingdom of God." To say so is to show that we do not know what we are talking about. A "church" is an *ekklēsia*; called-out ones. A kingdom is a kingdom, and is not a church. Dominion is essential, along with people and king, to constitute a kingdom.

Today's "Church" is composed of all truly believing God, as defined in Paul's "Church Epistles." They are

Kingdom – Israel's Hope) (see order form).

3. [Editor:] The Greek word often translated as "church" in most English versions is *ἐκκλησία* (*ekklesia*, or *ecclesia*). The word is a compound word meaning "called-out" (*ek* = "out"; *kaleō* = "called"). The *ecclesia* is God's "called-out" ones. The *ecclesia* is not a building or denomination; not a meeting, or doctrinal creed; it is not somewhere we go, or something we do, it is who we as believers are. For more information see:
- *The Outsiders*, Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr. (see order form);
 - *The "Ecclesias" (Churches) of the Scriptures*, Adlai Loudy (see order form).

found in small numbers in all countries and kingdoms today, with no material corporate organization, and with no outward marks to distinguish them from their neighbors.

There is no country where all of the people are “children of God.” There is not a truly “Christian country” upon the earth, and never has been. There are members of the “Church” in England, but God’s King is not here. For now, it is the “Kingdom of England,” and not the “*Kingdom of God.*” Edward VII is king of England; and, good ruler as he is, he is not the promised king who shall reign over the Kingdom of God when it shall be set up.

So it is plain that the “Church” is not the Kingdom to be prayed for.

“THE KINGDOM OF GOD” DOES NOT MEAN RULE ONLY

God rules in the lives of all of His children. He has given them His Word to guide them, to tell them His will, and by its precepts they are to be ruled.

In I Timothy 2:1 it is commanded that,

Supplications, prayers, intercessions, thanksgivings, be made for all men; for kings and all that are in high place, that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all goodness and gravity, for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior.

Today, rather than pray “Thy Kingdom come,” we are to pray for all current kings and rulers. It is man who now rules in the earth, but God’s Kingdom will have God’s rule and not man’s, and hence present rulers prove that rule, as we know it now, does not constitute a Kingdom of God.



Time and Eternity: A Biblical Study

by — G.T. Stevenson
74 pages, PB

(See order form.)

When God’s Kingdom comes, all earthly kingdoms will be put down. When God’s King sits on His glorious throne He “*shall be King over all the earth*” (Zechariah 14:9).

So we see that rule alone does not constitute the Kingdom of God.

“THE KINGDOM OF GOD” DOES NOT MEAN INFLUENCE

We know that God’s Word has great influence even now when God’s Kingdom is not set up, when few know God’s revelation. However, in the coming Kingdom *the knowledge of God shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea* (Isaiah 11:9; Habakkuk 2:14).

We influence one another, even when we do not rule. Kings are not the only ones who have influence. Today education and printing have spread far and wide some vague knowledge of God, and the lives and teaching of God’s people have spread influence abroad. However, God’s Kingdom has not come yet. When it comes it will be with power, and not with influence merely. All will be compelled to submit to it.

Hence we are compelled to say that the Kingdom of God does not mean *influence*.

NO KING, NO KINGDOM

The Kingdom of God will compose all of the territory ruled over by God’s King. He will actually be present to rule His subjects. There is no country now that can be called God’s kingdom. There is no country now, where God’s will is done on the earth as it is done in heaven. Now God’s *King* is absent from earth, and until He comes back again the Kingdom will not even begin. ►



Thoughts by the Way by — Donald George Hayter (1911-1988)

32 pages, PB *(See order form.)*

Hayter, of Bournemouth England, was an associate of John H. Essex and E.W. Bullinger.

Today earthly kings rule. Today there are many earthly kingdoms, and many kings, good, bad and indifferent. Satan is “*the god of this age*” (II Corinthians 4:4), the one whom the majority obey. The time, however, is coming when Satan’s rule and influence will cease, and “*a King shall reign in righteousness*” (Isaiah 32:1).

WHAT THE “KINGDOM OF GOD” IS

We have already considered what the coming Kingdom of God is not, and having looked at it from a negative standpoint, let us now consider it positively.

A very little consideration will make it clear that a kingdom is not only a territory ruled over by a king, but he must have ranks and conditions of subjects to rule over. Every kingdom has in it three classes. There must be: (1) the king and royal family; (2) an aristocracy or nobility; (3) subjects to be ruled over by those set to rule.

So will it be in God’s Kingdom. (1) The Lord Jesus Christ is to be the King, and the Twelve Apostles are to compose the members of the Royal family. (2) Israel is to compose the aristocracy of the Kingdom of heaven. They are to rule and govern, under the King, the whole of the earth. Hence the blessings promised to believing and faithful Israelites are earthly blessings, while ours are in no way connected with the earth but are wholly heavenly. The one is God’s heavenly people; the other is God’s earthly people. God’s earthly aristocracy will be carrying out the rule delegated to them upon the earth. (3) Gentiles will compose the subjects of this wonderful Kingdom.

The Lord at His first coming proclaimed the King and Kingdom promised and prophesied, but He was rejected and crucified. Then He was by mighty power raised from the dead, and He ascended to His Father’s throne to wait until His return to earth to set up the Kingdom.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD

We cannot insist too strongly on the fact that this Kingdom is God’s Kingdom. Of course man in utter conceit of himself and his fancied powers imagines that he must work hard to get things ready, and that

the Lord cannot return until things are all prepared.

Recent statistics prove to us that, for every convert made to “Christianity,” no less than twenty-one are born into heathenism. At that rate the whole of the world will never be won by man’s agency and modern missionary societies. Heathenism is growing, by the natural birth-rate alone, twenty-one times faster than Christianity is.

The Lord’s return then is absolutely necessary to the overwhelming growth of heathenism. Man has already, after over a century of modern missions, proved his failure to do the work he has arrogantly set of himself to do. There is no hope for the Kingdom apart from God’s interference.

The kingdoms are now of the earth, earthly; and during this age God’s Kingdom is still “*to come*,” and is called “*the Kingdom of Heaven*,”⁴ for its King is there. Rejected by man, He has gone to “*receive for Himself a Kingdom and to return*” (Luke 19:12). At His return it will be set up, and not before; and then it will be the heavenly Kingdom on earth.

When here on earth, Christ’s enemies on one occasion enquired of Him as to when the Kingdom of God would come. He replied, “*The Kingdom of God is among you*” (Luke 17:21, R.V., margin). Where the King is, there is the Kingdom. He was present among them, though they refused to acknowledge Him. The Kingdom was “*at hand*” in a sense that they failed to understand. Now it is *not among men*.

What a vast change there will be when the Kingdom of God has come. It will be a blessed time for the earth then. God alone can work the changes predicted. Man thinks that his efforts at cobbling and tinkering will accomplish it, but the world needs turning upside down first, and a vast cataclysm is absolutely necessary before such changes can take place. It needs the mighty power of God to accomplish it.

The curse will be taken off of creation and wickedness will be ended. Bad government will cease and a King will reign in righteousness. There will be no Parliaments to waste time and to make legislation for classes (whether for capital or labor; rich or poor):

4. [Editor:] See Daniel 2:44.

for all laws will come forth from Zion from the King Himself. Democracy will vanish from the earth, and the glorious rule of an absolute and perfect Monarch will take its place. The earth will be full of peace and plenty. No wars shall be waged and no dreadful preparations resound. Armies and navies will be totally unnecessary; police and jails things of the past. The earth will then at last be full of the knowledge of God, accomplished quite apart from modern missionary societies.

CHRIST ALONE CAN ESTABLISH HIS KINGDOM

The Lord will come first, and the millennial kingdom be set up after. How we forget! How we neglect to ponder upon one of the greatest events of the ages, though three hundred and eighteen references to it are made in the New Testament alone!

Such, in outline, is the Kingdom as revealed in God's Word, and for which was prayed, "Thy Kingdom come."

CURRENTLY GOD'S SECRET IS BEING WORKED OUT

Meanwhile, while the King is in exile and His Kingdom is in abeyance, God's secret as to the Church is being worked out. Today "the Gospel of the Kingdom" is no longer preached. We now preach "the Gospel of

the grace^s of God" (Acts 20:24). Those who believe today are members of His Body, and are part of the Royalty of heaven.

— *Things to Come*
April & May issues, 1906

(edited & abridged)

This is the second article that we have run by William Broad. Earlier this year we ran:

— *Our Lord's Earthly Ministry*, [Bible Student's Notebook #607](#).

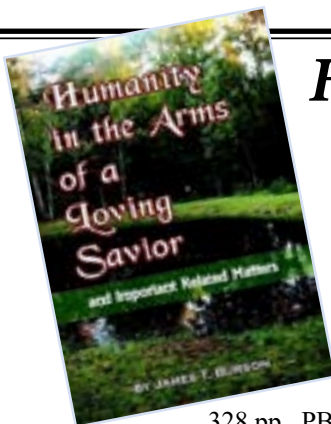
Professor Broad was an associate of Dr. E.W. Bullinger, contributor to *Things to Come* magazine, and assisted him in preparing the *Companion Bible*. He was an Oxford graduate who had a long teaching career. He helped start and was a staff member at Mt. Royal College. Broad specialized in Bible studies and was one of the translators of the *Twentieth Century New Testament* and contributor to *The Open English Bible*. He lived and ministered in England, Allentown, PA, and British Columbia, Canada.

TOPICS:

Major: God; Kingdom of God; Kingdom of Heaven
Minor: Israel

5. [Editor:] For more information on grace, see:

- The Nature of Grace, Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., [Bible Student's Notebook #274](#); or see *Daily Goodies*, January 18, same title (book; see order form);
- Divine Justice and Grace, Steve McVey, [Bible Student's Notebook #290](#);
- God will Judge in Grace, Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., [Bible Student's Notebook #505](#);
- Reigning in Life: The Present Effect of Super-Abundant Grace, Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., [Bible Student's Notebook #75](#).



328 pp., PB

See order form.

Humanity in the Arms of a Loving Savior and Important Related Matters

by — James T. Burson

The chapters of this book are connected in this singular manner: always, there is the attempt to display the grandeur of God's purpose in creation. Never is it proposed that God had a good idea which went awry, and thereafter He supposedly has been picking up the pieces. Our confidence, as believers, may always be premised on an overriding assurance that God does not behave like a mortal, being hesitant, exasperated, indecisive or hoping for the best outcome. This volume expresses the author's confidence in a far greater outcome of the entire human epoch than that which is generally proposed to the world. The flow of human history will not end in a groan, but rather a crescendo of praise by all to a true God of love and mercy. God will not only win, but He will radiate His victory over absolutely all that He has made; no other truth can settle the heart like this.

The Achievement of Grace

by — Dr. Robert William Dale (1829-1895)

Our salvation is the achievement of God's grace:¹ this is the central thought of the Epistle to the Ephesians. God's free, spontaneous love for us, resolved that we who sprang from the dust, and might have passed away and perished like the falling leaves after a frail and brief existence, should share through a glorious immortality the sonship² of the Lord Jesus Christ.



which was formed by the grace of God.

By the grace of God Christ was to be the root of our righteousness and blessedness. In Christ God has revealed the root, the ground, the reason of our redemption. Our fortunes – shall I say it? – are identified with the fortunes of Christ; in the Divine thought and purpose we are inseparable from Him.

God chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love; He blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ. This was the wonderful idea of human greatness and destiny

In Christ's sufferings and death, through the infinite grace of God, we find the power of His righteousness. Through His death we die to the sin which brought the death upon Him; in His resurrection and ascension we see the visible manifestation of that life which we have already received – and which will someday be manifested³ in us as it has been manifested in Him. ■

1. [Editor:] For more information on grace, see:

- The Nature of Grace, Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., [Bible Student's Notebook #274](#); or see Daily Goodie (book: see order form), January 18, same title;
- Divine Justice and Grace, Steve McVey, [Bible Student's Notebook #290](#);
- God will Judge in Grace, Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., [Bible Student's Notebook #505](#);
- Reigning in Life: The Present Effect of Super-Abundant Grace, Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., [Bible Student's Notebook #75](#).

2. [Editor:] "Sonship," often mistranslated as "adoption," is the Greek word *huiiothesia*. It is *Strong's Greek Lexicon* #5206 meaning the "placing as a son", i.e., "sonship," or son-placing. It is "the station in life accorded a son" (A.E. Knoch). It is translated "sonship" in the *Concordant, Rotherham, Moffatt* and *Diaglott* ("son-setting" in the *Dabhar*). For more information see:

- Sonship, C.R. Stam, [Bible Student's Notebook #146](#).

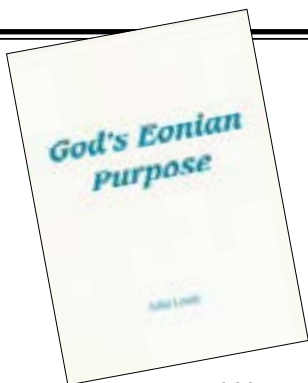
TOPICS:

Major: Christ; Ephesians; God; Identification

Minor: Immortality; Purpose; Sons of God;

3. [Editor:] For more information see:

- Designated – Called – Justified – Glorified, Frank Neil Pohorlak, [Bible Student's Notebook #352](#).



383 pp.

See order form.

God's Eonian Purpose

by — Adlai Loudy

First printed in 1929, this work is a review of God's plan and purpose, gathering together many of the most basic themes of Scripture, including *The Beginning of Creation, The Eons and Administrations, Justification, The Conciliation, Completeness in Christ, and The Goal of the Universe*. These and other vital subjects are presented in an interesting and informative manner. The book contains charts and illustrations which provide a welcome visual supplement to the text. (Available in Hardcover & Paperback)

"This is probably the most suitable of our publications for those of your friends who are just becoming interested, or who do not know of the truths we teach, yet are willing to read and to consider them. It is written in a simpler manner than some of our other publications, and is easier for the beginner to understand. It covers, in a general way, most of the great fundamental subjects of the Scriptures." — A.E. Knoch



The [Bible Student's Notebook](#) volumes are so well done, I appreciate all the work you put into them. You have a great ministry and you're touching so many lives with the truth. Thanks for that! – **KY**

Greetings and peace. I am a German theologian who helped in the process of translating the [Dab-har translation](#). ... I have watched countless videos of yours, and I am moved deeply. Because of you I have experienced the Living God of grace and love! – **Denmark**

What I tell people is that the Scriptures seem to teach many aspects and facets of God. However, what I have been forced to do for the sake of my own sanity, is to cut out one sliver of this pie called LOVE, and slowly eat and savor this one piece, because if God does not love me, and have my best interest at heart, then NOTHING really matters anyway. – **MO**

Thank you for [Bible Students Notebook](#), Vol. 24. It's beautiful and so full of wisdom and glimpses of the Father. – **MO**

Andre, you are deeply and truly loved, a treasure in the right hand of Father that He has graced this world with to send forth the message of His immeasurable love and grace – which you faithfully do, week after week, year after year, and although Clyde gets the public accolades (and you probably prefer it this way), nonetheless your service and sacrifice does **not** go unnoticed, for: the Lord is **not** unfaithful to forget your labor of love. This testimony is true in the heart of Father and Son, and in the hearts and spirits of your sisters and brothers who know and observe the grace of Father working in you, for the praise of His glory! So rest in His great, great love, and in the designs and purposes which He has foreknown and chosen (and thus: predestined) for the current seasons of His life *in you*. – **SD**

Danny Russino's article in *Bible Student's Notebooks* [#499](#), [#500](#), *The Setting of Thessalonians*, along with the materials in [#490¹](#), are great reads. I am very interested in learning more about the Acts 28 issue. It makes more sense than any other viewpoint up to now. It seems to me God's revelation is "progressive," with the prison epistles being the apex. – **Email** ▶

1. Which articles include:

- *The Body of Christ: Its Beginning and Maturity*, by Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr;
- *Paul's Previous Epistles Need Minor Modifications*, by A.E. Knoch;
- *Rapture? or Appearing?: Three Simple Truths in 1 Thessalonians 4*, by Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr;
- *"Happy Hope" or Whimsical Wish?* by Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.
- *When Did the Body of Christ Begin? Gospels? Acts 2? Acts 13? Acts 28?* by Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.



107 pp, PB

See order form.

I Am! Who and What God Says I Am!

The Divine Reckoning of the Renewed Mind; Daily Thoughts on Divine Life

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

People are always talking about their attempts to discover their true selves – of trying to “find themselves.” The believer in the Lord Jesus Christ needs to find out who they *really* are. This doesn't need to be such a difficult search. All that is really needed is a careful look at the Scriptures, and a simple faith in the words of who and what God says we are. God knows who we are; all we need to do is to *believe Him*. This book catalogs the Divine Record of who and what God says that you are. It is a short encyclopedia of faith – the truth about you. It is the truth about you, simply because it is *God* Who has said it. God has spoken these truths concerning you – the *real* you. Believe His record! Refuse to be the shell of a person, pushed into a mold of Adamic conformity. Be the real you that God has uniquely designed you to be. Refuse to be bullied out of your divinely designed identity that our Father has given you.

I've been following you since last year and I have watched many of your videos on YouTube which I appreciate. – *Kenya*

I love the idea of your [Facsimile Project](#). I love old books in their original form. I think preserving them is a great idea. I'll look forward to perusing the catalog of these. Thanks for your good work! – *KY* ■



OUR BLOGS

We have themed blogs, which are collections of *Daily Email Goodies* based on common topics.

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<http://believerswalk.wordpress.com>

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<http://approvedworkmen.wordpress.com>

<http://scripturalwords.wordpress.com>

Body of Christ:

<http://godsecclesia.wordpress.com>

Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.'s Personal Blog:

<http://thegreatadventureoffaith.wordpress.com>

Daily Goodies:

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<http://thesacredscriptures.wordpress.com>

The Sovereignty of God:

<http://thedeityofgod.wordpress.com>

Sufferings & Trials:

<http://godsforgottengift.wordpress.com>

Various, Uncategorized:

<http://choicegleanings.wordpress.com>

Bible Student's Notebook™

Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal

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Scripture education in a semi-weekly format!

This free electronic publication is dedicated to:

- the proclamation of the riches of God's abundant, exceeding grace (Romans 5:20; 11:6; Ephesians 1:7);
- the affirmation that God will save all mankind through the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (I Timothy 2:3, 4; 4:10; Titus 2:11);
- the "preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret in ages past" (Romans 16:25);
- true freedom and liberty apart from law (Galatians 5:1);
- the organic nature of the Body of Christ (I Corinthians 12);
- the distinct message and ministry of Paul, the apostle to the nations (Ephesians 1:1-3);
- the importance of receiving all whom Christ has received (Romans 14-15);
- the recovery of rich Biblical truth that has too long remained hidden under the veils of traditionalism, prejudice, misunderstanding, and fear (Mark 7:7, 13);
- the completeness of the believer in Christ (Colossians 2:10), with:

- total freedom from sins (Colossians 1:14);
- union in His death, burial and resurrection (Romans 6);
- adult sonship position (Galatians 4).

We do not claim infallibility for the contents of this publication. Our readers are asked to be as the Bereans and search the Scriptures (Acts 17:10-11; I Thessalonians 5:21).

This publication is not connected with any "church," "denomination," "movement," "organization," "mission," "creed," "meeting," "school," "conference" or "fellowship."

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