



Bible Student's Notebook™

The Herald of His Grace

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

Volume 37
Issue 915

The Resurrection of the Dead

by — Andrew Brown

The Old Testament gives accounts of resurrection that demonstrate God's ability and plan to use resurrection: Elijah raised the widow's son (I Kings 17:17-24), Elisha resurrected the Shunammite's son (II Kings 4:18-37), and a dead man was raised when he touched the bones of the dead Elisha (II Kings 13:21).

In the valley of dry bones, Ezekiel encountered the enemy death (Ezekiel 37). The Lord confronted Ezekiel's doubt: "Son of man, can these bones live?" (:3). In this vision, Ezekiel witnessed life-breathing, death-reversing resurrection. All of Israel stood before Ezekiel alive. Ezekiel saw resurrection in action and could say with certainty as Paul did,

Why is it considered incredible among you people if God does raise the dead? (Acts 26:8).

This answers Job's hypothetical question,

If a man dies, will he live again? (Job 14:14).

Job knew of resurrection.

Even after my skin is destroyed, yet from my flesh I shall see God; Whom I myself shall behold, and Whom my eyes will see and not another (Job 19:26-27).

Job knew that God would call him out of death to see Him with his own eyes in the flesh.

Resurrection is consistent through the New Testament. In the proclamation of the Kingdom, resurrections were performed to show forth what would

come in that future time. Jesus sent out the apostles with power to raise the dead (Matthew 10:7-8).

Lazarus' resurrection was an exclamation point in the Lord's ministry. Lazarus was not in Heaven, but was "sleeping" in the state of death:

Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I go, so that I may awaken him out of sleep (John 11:11).

He told Martha,

Your brother will rise again (John 11:23).

Death had momentarily won the victory. It did not matter how long Lazarus was dead, for God created man from dust in the beginning. God has numbered our hairs and, regardless of how long we sleep in death, He will put us together again with glorified bodies. The rebellion against God is what brought the "sting of death." The results of death made Jesus weep. Jesus reversed this curse,

I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies (John 11:25).

As with Lazarus, life is not given immediately. The believer's salvation rests on the Lord's death and resurrection.

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For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day (I Corinthians 15:3-4).

Though He slept in death, our Savior is alive!

He is not a dead Savior (I Corinthians 15:20).

I am the first and the last ... the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore (Revelation 1:17-18).

The mythical phrase “the resurrection of the body” does not appear in Scripture. “Resurrection of the dead” is the Bible term. This “hope” has been hijacked from the myths of Greek philosophy. Plato’s view of the soul’s immortality contaminated the true hope of resurrection, transferring it to a false hope of instant glory in Heaven at death. Christianity has nearly lost the truth of resurrection. People embrace the comfort of thinking they will be alive in Heaven regardless of resurrection. They celebrate the enemy

death. There is no need for resurrection if believers are currently in Heaven. Resurrection is unnecessary if the body is cumbersome, and some have been in Heaven thousands of years without it. Satan began the lie that man is immortal by saying,

You surely will not die (Genesis 3:4).

Man is not immortal. The Bible speaks of dead souls, not immortal ones. The Lord Jesus was actually dead, and was buried, then He was raised.

Contrary to man’s biased traditions, the Bible will not demonstrate a person living anywhere apart from a body. Jesus did not go to Heaven or “Hell” at death. He did not enter Heaven until after His resurrection (John 20:17).

If death is the gateway to eternal life, why was Jesus resurrected? It is a twisted belief that says people are not dead when they die, blending death and life. Life and death are opposites. Resurrection is God’s method for bringing the dead back to life. The angel spoke to the women at the tomb,

Bible Student’s Notebook™

Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal

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Scripture education in a weekly format!

This free electronic publication is dedicated to:

- the absolute sovereignty and deity of God (Romans 11:36);
- 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 through the death, burial and resurrection of Christ (I Timothy 2:3, 4; 4:10; Titus 2:11);
- the universality of death and resurrection (I Corinthians 15:21);
- the unique gospel of Paul – which he calls “my gospel” (Romans 2:16; 16:25; II Timothy 2:8; I Corinthians 15:1-4; Acts 13-28; Acts 20:24);
- the “preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret in ages past” (Romans 16:25);
- the epistles of the present Secret Administration being Ephesians & Colossians (Ephesians 3:2, 9; Colossians 1:25);
- true freedom and liberty apart from law (Galatians 5:1);
- the organic nature of the One Body (Ephesians 4:16);
- the Secret Administration, being the operational revelation for today (Ephesians 3:9);
- the unprophesied, Celestial hope and calling of the One Body (Colossians 3:4);
- the distinct message and ministry of Paul, the apostle to the nations (Ephesians 3:1-3);
- 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 and ascended seated position among the celestials (Romans 6; Ephesians 2:6);
- adult sonship position (Ephesians 1:5).

This publication is the product of humble efforts of ordinary men intended to stimulate the earnest study of Scripture. We do not claim infallibility for the contents of this publication; thus they are not meant to imply finality on any subject discussed, or that further research would not add further light from the Word of God. God’s storehouse of truth is inexhaustible, so draw on its wealth by prayerful study. 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.”

We are always open for discussion, but never for disputation. – André Sneidar

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For definitions of abbreviations/acronyms, see the [online key](#).

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*Why do you seek the living One among the dead?
He is not here; but He has risen (Luke 24:5-6).*

who give thanks to You, as I do today (Isaiah 38:18-19).

Without resurrection, Jesus would still be dead (I Corinthians 15:16). All die because of Adam's sin, but all will be made alive because of Christ (:22). Then death is swallowed up in victory (:54).

Paul's expectation was not out-of-body life in Heaven but life through resurrection (Philippians 3:10). Without resurrection, those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished (I Corinthians 15:18) – an impossible statement if believers are immediately in Heaven when they die!

The dead return to the dust as God declared (Genesis 3:19); without resurrection they would remain dust. Believers are to be pitied without it (I Corinthians 15:19). Paul agrees with Ecclesiastes. Without resurrection all remain in death. If you are not resurrected, your faith is worthless (:14).

These verses are perplexing to those who hope in the instant glory of Heaven. Do not let the Bible's hope be hijacked from you. Resurrection needs its proper place in the foundation of truth.

Adam's race has been brainwashed by believing Satan's lie about death. Rather than accepting widely held mythical-based traditions, our understanding of death must be defined by the many details found in God's perfect Word. As Hezekiah prayed to God,

Sheol ["the grave"] cannot thank You, death cannot praise You; Those who go down to the pit cannot hope for Your faithfulness. It is the living

Only the living can praise and thank the Lord. Only those living have awareness and hope.

For the living know they will die; but the dead do not know anything (Ecclesiastes 9:5).

There is no activity or planning or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol ["the grave"] where you are going (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

David believed the truth about death. Through inspiration he wrote,

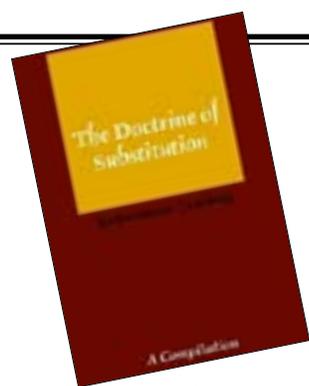
What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise You? Will it declare Your faithfulness? (Psalm 30:9).

Truth regarding death fills the pages of the Bible, yet it is ignored and twisted. Job and Ecclesiastes are slandered, yet their teaching regarding death is consistent with the entirety of the Bible.

Orthodoxy remains willingly ignorant, choosing the false comfort of fables over God's precious truth. The multitudes blindly follow their blind leaders.

Jesus Christ is the example of God's method to bring us to life with Him. He died and He rose from the grave. As Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection (Romans 6:4-5).

The results of death are all around us. The anticipation (see **RESURRECTION**, page 7741)



70 pp., PB

The Doctrine of Substitution: An Erroneous Teaching *A Compilation*

This is an exposé of Christianity's erroneous doctrine of "Substitution." Though it is widely accepted, it is not the teaching of Scripture. This is a compilation of authors, including: *A.P. Adams, Vladimir Gelesnoff, Andrew J. Jukes, A.E. Knoch.*

See [order form](#) under "Compilations." "The best book I've read in ten years." – Richard Kirsch

The Judgment Seat of Christ

by — David R. Hettema

The Bible is the book of the Kingdom and within its pages we find many prophecies and promises of the Messiah that will rule the world not as men might rule, but in righteous judgment.

The Kingdom of God opens the curtains on the salvation of the world, which has been made possible by the victorious death and resurrection of Jesus Christ Who is the very personification of salvation. This world (*kosmos*) will be rescued, delivered and made safe by his great sacrifice. The highest honors in Heaven and Earth are His due for His obedience unto death, even the death of the cross.¹

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in Heaven, and things in Earth, and things under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:9-11).

The exaltation of Christ Jesus positions Him as the One in Whom all power is vested, the highest au-

1. [Editor:] *i.e.*, "An upright stake or pale, without any crosspiece." – A.E. Knoch (*Concordant Keyword Concordance*, page 63). For more information, read:

– [THE "CROSS": Was Christ Nailed to a "Cross" or a "Stake"?](#) Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr. *Bible Student's Notebook* #330;

– The "Cross" – An Explanation of its Use in the *Concordant Version*, A.E. Knoch, *Bible Student's Notebook* #302.

thority in Heaven and Earth, with all things subject to Him.

Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, "All power is given unto Me in Heaven and in Earth" (Matthew 28:18).

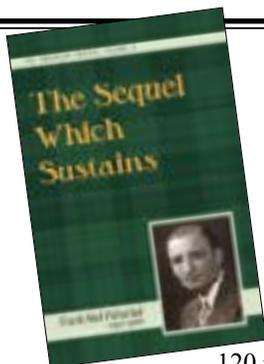
All judgment is His exclusive right.

For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son (John 5:22).

The Lord Jesus Christ, Who shall judge the quick (living) and the dead at His appearing and His Kingdom (II Timothy 4:1).

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad (II Corinthians 5:10).

The living and the dead will have their day in court, have their future determined as to whether or not they will have a place or portion in God's beneficent Kingdom. This great time of judgment will begin at the first day of God's Kingdom (manifest government) and conclude when, at the Great White Throne Judgment (described in Revelation 20), the earth and the sea have given up all the dead and none remain. Thus, the time frame for the Judgment Seat of Christ covers a period of almost 1500 years, although dur-



The Sequel Which Sustains –

The Pohorlak Papers: Volume 1

by — Frank Neil Pohorlak

In cooperation with his estate, this is the first in a series of collected articles on various scriptural themes by Frank Pohorlak (1907-1988). In associations with men such as Bob Jones, John R. Rice, J. Frank Norris and A.E. Knoch, he enjoyed a long, illustrious, colorful life and teaching ministry spanning many states and foreign countries.

120 pp., PB

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under "Welch."

ing the 1000 years of Christ's personal presence there are no resurrections.

It will be every man in his own order (I Corinthians 15:23). For the living it will be an immediate event, but for those in the state of death it will be their awakening experience when their order is called, some sooner than others.² **BSN**

2. [Editor:] Of course, ours is a prior, pre-expectant resurrection, not revealed before the Secret Administration. When Christ, Who is our life, is manifested on His throne (Colossians 3:4) at the right hand of God (Ephesians 1:20) in Glory, far above all Heavens (Ephesians 4:10; 1:21, *i.e.*, in the Super-Heavens), then we, too, will be manifested (appear) with Him there.

In the basic order of resurrections given by Paul, note that the FIRST one is the Christ Himself.

But every man in his own order: Christ the Firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at His coming (I Corinthians 15:23).

Christ's was the *first* resurrection to immortality (vivification). As members of Him, we share in His prior resurrection. What was unrevealed to Paul when he wrote to the Corinthians, was that "Christ the Firstfruits" included His Ecclesia of the Secret Administration. With Him, our resurrection is pre-expectant, earlier than even Israel's prophetic "better resurrection" (Hebrews 11:35). Ours (Head and Body) is the *best* resurrection – being the Firstfruits!

Note that the word "Firstfruits" is plural. Not all versions recognize this important distinction, even prominent "literal" translations. The oversight is made in an attempt to match "Firstfruits" (in the plural) with what is thought to be "Christ" (in the singular). This would seem to make sense. However, other English versions keep it plural, consistent with its usage in the Greek Scriptures (KJV, ASV, Darby, Geneva, Holman, 20th Century, Worsley, Lamsa, Montgomery, Webster, *exeGes*, etc.).

The analogy of "Firstfruits" is not a single piece of fruit, but rather a very small group that forms the initial harvest. Attempting to match a singular "Firstfruit" with a singular "Christ" is an oversight, for "Christ" is not now singular, but plural – a unit

—*More Seed & Bread*, Issue 205 (1995)
(*edited abridgment*)

[Note:] For more on the nature of Christ's Judgment Seat, see, – "The *Bēma*" (Tidbits of Truth #19), Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., [Bible Student's Notebook #879](#).

TOPICS:

Major: *Bēma*; Judgement Seat of Christ

Minor: Firstfruits; Great White Throne; Resurrection

comprised of Head and Body.

Paul would later reveal – in the Epistles of the Secret Administration – that we who are members of His Body have as our hope (confident expectation) not merely to be "Christ's at His coming [*i.e.*, His coming to Earth]" (I Corinthians 15:23), but rather to be "manifest together with Him in Glory" (Colossians 3:4).

Since we are reckoned as being raised with Christ (Ephesians 2:6), it's easy to see how we are included with Him in resurrection order. Our order, in accord with the Secret Administration, is a union with Christ in the First Class, "Christ, the Firstfruits." Thus, we see our transcendent enrichment in "the sacred secret of **THE Christ**" (Colossians 4:3, *Rotherham*).

Those of us granted the distinct privilege of being members of the Ecclesia, which is His Body, (God calling those things that are [apparently] not, as though they were), have been risen *with Him* (Colossians 2:12), been vivified *with Him* (Colossians 2:13), been hidden *with Him* (Colossians 3:3), and will be made manifest *with Him* (Colossians 3:4).

These superior truths of our identity with Christ take us not only back into living union with Him at Calvary, but far beyond – "before the foundation [or, disruption] of the world" where He was already the "Lamb slain."

Note with care how Paul's early epistles lay the foundation of the even more glorious expansions in Ephesians and Colossians. Little wonder that Paul wrote,

Whereby, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the secret of the Christ (Ephesians 3:4).

RESURRECTION (continued from page 7739)

tion of Scripture's resurrection gives us hope. Christ has conquered death!

As the days pass, death draws nearer, but God will

transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of Christ's glory (Philippians 3:21).

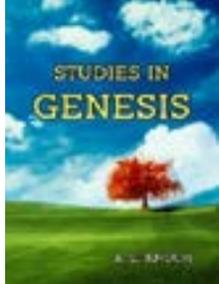
Today, resurrection is not understood. Its significance is nearly lost in the fluffy fables and misrepresentations of death that have muddied many minds. Let us search for what God has actually taught in His glorious Word and be found believing it.

— *More Seed & Bread*, Issue 301 (January, 2015)
(*edited abridgment*)

TOPICS:

Major: Death; Resurrection

Minor: Expectation; Hope



Studies in Genesis

by — A.E. Knoch
(1874-1965)

A dispensational consideration of the first book of the Hebrew Scriptures.

668 pp., BK See [order form](#) under "Knoch."

Tidbits of Truth #37

“Tidbits” is a column dedicated to short comments, thoughts, studies and excerpts.

The Completed Word of God and the Chronology of the Books of Scripture

... *the dispensation of God which is given me [Paul] for you to fulfil [complete, fill to the full so no more can be added] the Word of God; even the mystery which has been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints (Colossians 1:25-26).*

This “mystery” was given to the Apostle Paul as the body of truth to complete the Word of God. Thus, there are no revelations from God since that time. This fact should cause the serious student of Biblical chronology to rethink the *internal* evidence of each book of the Bible as to when it was written, rather than accepting the traditions of men.

— Dr. C.E. McLain (1909-1990)
Rethinking the Acts (1984)

The Honor of Scripture Research

[*Edited excerpt:*] I suppose that all who do biblical research wish at times that they could set forth fragmentary and unfinished ideas in printed form without people thinking that a final and definitive conclusion has now been chiseled into imperishable granite which shall stand forever as the final word on the subject dealt with. Any such conclusion will be far from correct.

It was and is the declaration of Solomon that,

It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honor of kings is to search out a matter (Proverbs 25:2).

The knowledge of God’s concealed truths is usually gained by tracing out the intimations to it that are scattered throughout the Bible. These allusions to

the truth are regularly ignored by the average Bible reader; but the real lover of God’s truth will carefully note these faint glimmers, meditate upon them, and hide them in his heart, maybe for many years, as he waits for more light on the subject.

— Otis Q. Sellers (1901-1992)
Seed and Bread, #151 (1982)

The Loftiest Place in the Universe

[*Excerpt:*] Even as the Heavens are higher than the Earth, so also is His heavenly throne exalted above His earthly sovereignty. And this, the loftiest place in all the Universe, is reserved for an election out of the nations as well as a remnant out of Israel! We are peers in these celestial dignities!

— A.E. Knoch (1874-1965)
[*Rooted and Grounded in Love*](#)
A commentary on Ephesians, chapter 22¹
(*Unsearchable Riches*, Volume 21, 1930)

BSN

TOPICS:

Major: [*The Completed Word of God and the Chronology of the Books of Scripture:*] Chronology; Completed Scripture [*The Honor of Scripture Research:*] Study [*The Loftiest Place in the Universe:*] Celestials

1. See [order form](#) under “Knoch.”

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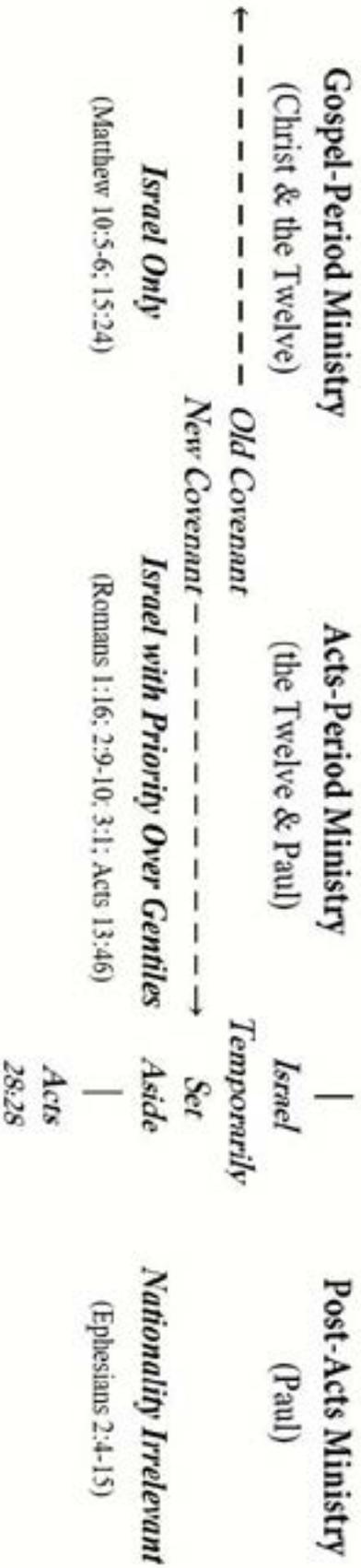
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Are you looking for other believers with whom you can fellowship and study around the glorious truth that our Father is the “Savior of all men” (I Timothy 4:10)? If so, then this site is for you.

- (1) Go to www.JoinsandBands.com
- (2) Choose your state on the right-hand side.
- (3) Add a post with your name and contact information.

The Greek Scriptures

Commonly Known as the "New Testament"



"Gospels"

Writings of the Acts Period¹

Writings of the Secret Administration

Matthew	<i>Historical Book</i>	<i>Jewish Books</i>	<i>Jewish & Gentile Books³</i>
Mark	Acts	Hebrews	I & II Thessalonians
Luke		Revelation ⁴	I & II Corinthians
John		James	Galatians
		I & II Peter	Romans
		I, II & III John	I & II Timothy
		Jude	Titus
			<i>Ephesians</i>
			<i>2:14</i>

¹ These books are listed in the approximate chronological order in which they were written.

² Contrary to modern traditional teaching, the Book of Revelation was written early in the Acts period, not decades later after Paul had completed the Scriptures.

³ During the Acts period, and in these early epistles written by Paul, the Jews had dispensational priority, with Gentile believers being subservient to them.

⁴ Philippians was written after the Acts period, but prior to the revelation of the Secret Administration, standing as the gateway epistle to the Celestial writings of Paul – Ephesians and Colossians.

⁵ Ephesians was the first of the twin epistles revealing the Secret Administration.

⁶ Colossians, the second of the twin epistles revealing the Secret Administration, completed the Word of God, bringing an end to the writing of Scripture.

⁷ Philemon was a personal, practical letter that accompanied the letter to the Colossians.

Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr. / StudyShelf.com



[Readers: In this installment of *Our Mailbox* we're sharing a few comments that were made regarding the recent "[Things I Misunderstood](#)" video series from the Meyerstown, PA gathering:]

I love these videos! You make me laugh and my heart sing. – **CO**

Thanks so much. I have been waiting for some new studies. – **VA**

I love how passionate you are when you are speaking! This is good stuff! I am so blessed to have found you and Mark Vogt! I rejoice in the truth! – **PA**

Amazing, edifying videos. – **Canada**

Pure truth, start to finish, jam packed and overflowing. – **TN**

I enjoy the way you share these truths. Thank you, brother! – **MO**

I have been blessed by a video of yours I watched yesterday where you talked about God being the one who suffers most from separation from His creation in death [[3 Things I Misunderstood About God](#)]. I have given this subject much thought since the death of my wife a year ago today. I believe the sufferings of Christ are a picture of the greater sufferings of the Father, and

are sufferings He willingly undertook for the love of His creation. Your video was more or less confirming this and I found it very encouraging. – **Australia**

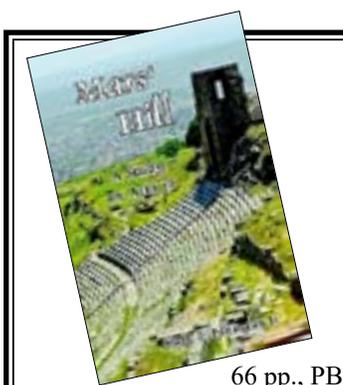
Thanks for posting the five videos recorded in Meyerstown, PA. Wow! They were so, so needed and so, so refreshing. Just plain, yet vital truths that everyone needs to hear, but few will ever grasp. Thank you! – **NY**

I just watched the [3 Things I Misunderstood about God](#). God just kept bringing up people I could share this with. I just love it. You constantly give me a new favorite video. – **IN**

Your love, kindness and abilities to dig out truth is beyond amazing and is the earthly inspiration for me to delve into the knowledge of God. Your latest video set from the last conference [[7 Things I Misunderstood About Prophecy](#)] was eye opening as I have been struggling with Christ's appearing vs I Thessalonians. – **VA**

I've been watching your talks. I just finished the one on prophecy [[7 Things I Misunderstood About Prophecy](#)]. ... I'm very thankful we have the videos for me and many others to watch. ... How well articulated and logical your points were. ... I know that publicly teaching on that topic and knowing it would be ruthlessly scrutinized had to be at least somewhat difficult; yet you chose to expose the deception and hopefully help countless fellow believers. Your message was clear, scripturally supported and bold, and I think it is very much needed among other believers right now. ... You had the courage to expose the deception and face the almost guaranteed backlash from doing so. That takes real strength and conviction that I feel can only come from Father, and it's an honor to witness your courage in the face of it. – **PA**

BSN



66 pp., PB

See [order form](#) under "Clyde Pilkington."

Mars' Hill: A Study on Acts 17

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

Even among those who place a great emphasis on Paul, with his unique apostleship and message, there is an amazing neglect of one of his most outstanding messages found in the Book of Acts: his message given on Mars' Hill. The content of his message to this group of unbelieving pagans has been overlooked for far too long. These words of Paul contain a very rich message. Preserved in the Scriptures, we know that, not only was it a challenge to the pagans of Athens, but it will prove to be a challenge to the members of Christ's Body as well.