



Bible Student's Notebook™

The Herald of His Grace

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

Volume 38
Issue 946



Tidbits of Truth #48

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

Bullinger on a Pre-Millennial Kingdom

E.W. Bullinger (1837-1913)¹ seems to have suggested a Pre-Millennial Kingdom, in saying that the prophecy concerning Gog “must therefore precede the Millennium” and yet that it “clearly belongs to the close of a yet future kingdom age.”

In his notes for Ezekiel 38:2 in his *Companion Bible* he wrote concerning Gog,

Gog. A symbolical name for the nations north and east of Palestine, or the nations as a whole. That the prophecies of Ezekiel 38 and Ezekiel 39 are still future is clear from Ezekiel 38:8, 14, 16; Ezekiel 39:9, 25-26; as Israel will have then already been “gathered,” and complete restoration enjoyed immediately following the destruction of Gog – “Now will I bring again the captivity of Israel.” **It must therefore precede the Millennium;** and on that account must be distinguished from Revelation 20:8, 10; and may therefore perhaps be identified with Revelation 16:14; 17:14; 19:17-21. Compare Matthew 24:14-30; Zechariah 12:1-4. It marks the climax of Satan’s effort to destroy Israel from being a People, **and clearly belongs to the close of a yet future kingdom age.** See Ezekiel 38:8, &c., above). The name is connected with “Og” (Deuteronomy 3:1-13), and “Agag” (Numbers 24:7), where the Samaritan Pentateuch reads “Agog,” and the Septuagint reads “Gog.” Here the Ara-

bic reads “Agag.” The historical interpretation of this prophecy is confessedly impossible.² [edited]

— Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

Time and the Secret Administration

A notable fact, commonly overlooked, is that *time*, in reference to Israel and the kingdom, is temporarily stalled in the Greek Scriptures. The clock has stopped. ...

It is well to remember that the reckoning of time in the Scriptures differs decidedly from secular chronology. *Yahweh did not reckon time when His people were apostate* or serving other elohim. In the period preceding the prophet Samuel they were subject to five different nations, for a total length of nearly a hundred years. These eras are omitted from Biblical chronology. ...

We find ourselves in an administration where *time* plays no part ... Our future does not lie in the Kingdom on Earth, beneath the sun, where time is reckoned by the shadow on a dial. *Above the sun* is our place, among the celestials, where there are no days or weeks or months or years with which to reckon dura-

(continued on page 7987)

1. [Editor:] For more on Bullinger and his works, see his webpage at StudyShelf.com. His books are also listed on the [order form](#) under “Bullinger.”

2. [Editor:] *The Companion Bible* is available at StudyShelf.com, and on the [order form](#) under “Bibles.”

Tidbits of Truth #487985
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Bible Student's Notebook™

Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal

ISSN: 1936-9360

Volume 38, No. 946 – November 21, 2022

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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As long as death reigns it's the one thing that is sure for every individual: – for the believer and unbeliever alike. – Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.
tion. All time predictions in this administration of the secret have proven futile and false in the past, and will continue to be so in the future. Let us beware of them!

— A.E. Knoch (1874-1965)³
Unsearchable Riches, volume 45, number 5
(September 1954)

New Heavens and Earth

There is a principle of God's working, illustrated in Jeremiah 18, that is important in considering this truth concerning a new creation. The potter did not mend the vessel that was marred but, "he made it again." He did not produce a repaired vessel, but in its place "another vessel." This is a principle seen in God's dealings with a marred and imperfect creation. He does not mend, but makes it again; He does not repair, but makes another, as it seems good to Him, that it may take the place of that which has become imperfect.

In its widest application this principle is to work in respect to the Heavens and the Earth. God created the Heavens and the Earth, and, like all of His works, they were perfect. Sin entered and marred that fair creation involving both Earth and Heaven (Job 15:15⁴). What is God's revealed will concerning this Heaven and Earth? Is He to so fill this earth with good, that at length there shall be a golden age when all shall be restored as before sin was brought to Adam? Is the Gospel to finally convert the world, and bring in a faultless kingdom of Christ? Is *this* Earth yet to know the perfect state when righteous-

3. [Editor:] For more concerning Knoch and his works, see his webpage at StudyShelf.com. His books are also listed on the [order form](#) under "Knoch."
4. "... the Heavens are not clean in His sight."

ness shall dwell where sin is now? Let the Scriptures answer for themselves:

Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for a new Heavens and a new Earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness (II Peter 3:13).

No, God has not spoken of a restored Earth here, but has revealed that His ultimate purpose in the Heavens and Earth is that they shall be re-made. "A new Heavens and a new Earth wherein dwelleth righteousness," is to replace "the Heavens and Earth which are now" (:7). Like the potter, He will not repair this marred vessel, but "make it again another."

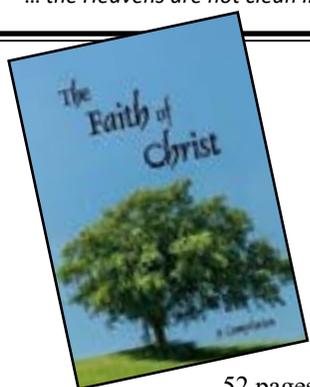
John, in the Revelation of Jesus Christ, was shown this new Heaven and Earth:

And I saw a new Heaven and a new Earth: for the first Heaven and the first Earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. ... and He that sat upon the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new" (Revelation 22: 1, 5).

God's principle with a faulty creation is enshrouded in that word, "Behold, I make all things new."

— J. Eustace Mills⁵
His Workmanship (1933)

5. [Editor:] See Mills' other material in the *Bible Student's Notebook*:
 - "The Mystery of this Dispensation," BSN #62;
 - "The New Covenant," part 1: [BSN #701](#); part 2: [BSN #725](#); part 3: [BSN #726](#);
 - "Acts 28:28, Before and After," [BSN #916](#);
 - "The Only Source of Truth," (Excerpt) Tidbits of Truth #43, [BSN #931](#).



52 pages

See [order form](#) under "Compilations."

The Faith of Christ (A Compilation)

Here is a subject worthy of our careful consideration. It is crucial to our spiritual well-being, since it is vitally joined to our redemption and deliverance which are to be found in the Lord Jesus Christ. "The faith of Jesus Christ" is unwittingly denied by sincere and well-meaning believers. After having been well-grounded in this subject as it is revealed in His Word and reflected in this study, may we no longer be found in that rapidly growing company of believers who are unlightened because they are uninstructed. Authors include:

E.H. Clayton (1887-1972), A.E. Knoch (1874-1965), Adlai Loudy (1893-1984), and Frank Neil Pohorlak (1907-1988).

The Fulfillment of Immortality

[To B.T.:] When we are immortal, with death and sin gone, we will be able to have and do ANYTHING our heart desires – ANYTHING. We just do not know fully how immortality will have an effect on us and our heart's needs and desires. So, when someone asks me "will I be able to ..." "will I be able to have ..." etc. – no matter how seemingly trivial or bazar what they are asking is – I respond, "Absolutely, if you want too!"

However, the things that I wanted and desired, and brought me some measure of happiness and fulfillment when I was 5, or 10, or 15 years of age are far different and removed from what I want now in my 60s. So, just imagine the difference our desires will be when we are immortal!

I'll ask you, "Do you remember when we used to enjoy ...?" And you may respond, "Hmm, vaguely."

Whatever life is like in our immortality, we will be overwhelmingly satisfied and content. Fully!

Along these lines, I am often reminded of the words of Arthur P. Adams (1847-1920)⁶:

6. [Editor:] Arthur P. Adams, author and publisher, was the great-grandson of President John Adams. He was a Methodist minister whose independent study of the Scriptures led him to separate from his denomination in 1878.

For a short while he was acquainted with Charles Russell (1852-1916), and then with Nelson Barbour (1824-1905). Barbour was purported to have held to "Rellyism," the doctrine of Universal Reconciliation taught by James Rely (1722-1778).

Adams disassociated with Russell early in the 1880s. He became associated with John Paton (1843-1922). One source states that "Adams became a significant force among those opposing Zion's Watch Tower."

In 1885 he became the editor of *The Spirit of the Word* published out of Beverly, MA. He published this for at least 23 years.

God has something in His mind to make of me, and I shall surely become that something. Furthermore, since God is wise and good, that something will please and satisfy me perfectly. When I reach the place for which God created me, and for which He has fitted me, then I shall have no regrets that it is not another place, but I shall realize that it is my place and shall be satisfied, perfectly satisfied with the accomplishment of the ever blessed and good will of God in me.⁷

— Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

A Professor on the Concordant Version

I have in my library twelve or fifteen Greek versions of the New Testament in Greek, besides Hebrew, which I have studied very closely that I may get the very truth of God's original Word, but not one of them can compare with the *Concordant Version*. [It] brings out clearly the secret and hidden beauties of the Greek.

I confess that, at first, some of the renderings in the *Concordant Version* seemed a little strange, but when studied and considered in conjunction with the original, I found that is just what was intended by the

He published his major work, *Bible Harmony*, in 1890 by his Bethabah Publishing House. He was known to have lived and ministered in New York and New Hampshire, as well as his home state of Massachusetts. He died in Meredith, NH and was buried in Rhinebeck, NY.

For more concerning Adams and his works, see his webpage at StudyShelf.com. His books are also listed on the [order form](#) under "A.P. Adams."

7. [Editor:] Taken from "God's Plan in Me," *Bible Student's Notebook #880*, which was from Adams book, *The Purposes of God and the True Basis of Redemption*, original printing in 1885, reprinted by Bible Student's Press in 2010. See [order form](#) under "A.P. Adams."



The Eonian Times

or, God's Purpose of the Eons or Ages

by — Leon A. Bynoe (1895-1983)

Contents:

1. The Eonian Times 2. God ALL in All 3. The Way of Salvation 4. Leon A. Bynoe Biography 5. Leon A. Bynoe Obituary

54 pages

See [order form](#) under "Bynoe."

Great Author. . . . It is the very book I have longed for since my college and seminary days, and through my ministry.

— W.R. Chapman

Congregational Methodist Minister and Extension Professor

Webster University, Atlanta GA⁸

Philippians:

Reaching Forth unto those Things Which are Before

[*Edited excerpt:*] Philippians was the first epistle Paul wrote after Israel was set aside. A careful reading suggests that the Apostle Paul hadn't, as of yet, received the revelation of the Mystery, but he knew the Hope of Israel was placed in abeyance.

At the very outset of this epistle, Paul was absolutely confident of this very thing, that He Which hath begun a good work in you will most certainly bring it to completion right up to the time of "*the Day of Jesus Christ*" (Philippians 1:6). His confidence rested in the faithfulness of God.

Paul having not received the revelation of the Mystery when he wrote Philippians, he was still confident in Him who had called him. The idea given him was that they (the believers and him) were to keep pressing forward.

8. [*Editor:*] Letter published in the *Unsearchable Riches* magazine, volume 22, number 4 (July 1931).

If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead (3:11).

"*If by any means*" is not implying the uncertainty of the issue, but rather Paul's struggle and the indefatigable means which he would expend in order to keep on "*pressing toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus*" (:14).

Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before (:12-13).

He is stretching-out like a runner in a race, bending forward toward the tape at the finish line.

*I press toward the mark for the **PRIZE of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus*** (Philippians 3:14).

— Tom L. Ballinger
Plainer Words

An End of Evil

Give evil but an end — and all is clear!
Make it eternal — all things are obscured!
And all that we have thought, felt, wept, endured —
worthless!

Daily Quick Quotes

Since we first began placing single-sentence quotes on the tops of the pages of the *Bible Student's Notebook* they have been a most welcomed feature.

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We feel that e'en if our own tear
Were wiped away forever, no true cheer
Could to our yearning bosoms be secured
While we believed that sorrow clung uncured
To any being we on earth held dear.

Oh, much doth life the sweet solution want
Of all made blest in far futurity!
Heaven needs it too.

Our bosoms yearn and pant
Rather indeed our God to justify
Than our own selves. Oh, why then drop the key
That tunes discordant worlds to harmony!

— Chauncey Hare Townsend (1798-1868)⁹

“IN THAT ERA”

Wherefore, remember that once you, the nations in flesh – who are termed “Uncircumcision” by those termed “Circumcision,” in flesh, made by hands – that you were, **in that era**, apart from Christ, being alienated from the citizenship of Israel, and guests of the promise covenants, having no expectation, and without God in the world (Ephesians 2:11-12).

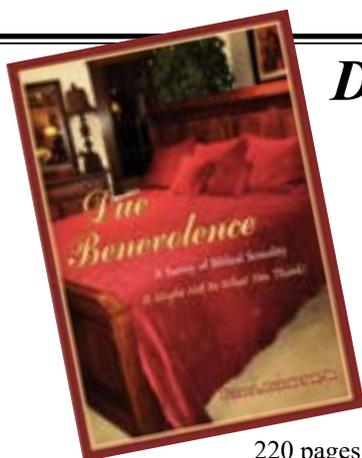
[Excerpt:] It is of paramount importance to a clear

9. [Editor:] *Universalism and Problems of the Universalist Church* (1888), edited and compiled by William Frost Crispin.

understanding and appreciation of the grace glorious which graces us in the Beloved, in the Secret Administration which obtains today, that we recognize that, in the era of the Readjustment Administration (Acts 13:2-28:28), the Lord’s declaration to the Samaritan woman, “*salvation is of the Jews*” (John 4:22), was still in effect, and Gentile believers were receiving their spiritual blessing through the *priestly* ministry of Paul just as the nations will be saved and blessed in the Day of the Lord, when Israel will be a Royal Priesthood to bless all of the families of the Earth in accord with the Abrahamic Covenant (John 4:22; I Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:6; 2:26-27; 20:6; Genesis 22:15-18).

This also reveals why Gentile believers “*in that era*” of the readjustment administration were *subject* to the “*handwriting of ordinances*” or “*decrees*” made by the sovereignties and authorities¹⁰ – the apostles and elders at Jerusalem (Acts 15:19-29; 16:4; Ephesians 2:15; Colossians 2:14-23). So shall it be again in the Kingdom, in the Day of the Lord, when Israel shall “*disciple all the nations ... teaching them to be keeping all,*” whatever He directs them (Daniel 7:14, 22, 27; Matthew 28:18-20). Thus it may be clearly seen and recognized that, at no time or place, during the Readjustment Administration, or in the future Day of the Lord, will Gentile believers ever be considered on the same standing or level with the Jews or Israelites.

10. See, “The ‘Middle Wall’ of Ephesians 2:15 and How It Relates to Acts 15,” Charles H. Welch, [Bible Student’s Notebook #574](#).



Due Benevolence: A Study of Biblical Sexuality

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

(#3775) Think you have read all that there is on the subject of sexuality from the Bible? Think again! Religious moralists have taken the wonderful gift of human beauty and sexuality and made it something dirty and sinful. Much is at stake regarding truth, as well as the nature and character of God Himself. A groundbreaking work providing ...

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“When I began reading *Due Benevolence* it was so radical I felt ill at first; which is, as I’ve come to know, a perfectly normal reaction when your entire foundation shifts. I stuck with it, and

am glad I did so.” – *Canada*
“A Revelation on every page!” — Martin Zender
“An incredible book.” – WA
“Truly liberating.” – PA

These distinctions must not be overlooked or minimized if we are to think and understand as God has spoken, and appreciate the transcendent grace which is ours *now*, in the present Secret Administration, when Israel, as a nation, is *calloused* and *enemies* of the evangel for our sakes (Romans 11:25, 28).

— Adlai Loudy (1893-1984)¹¹

*The Pentecost, Readjustment & Secret Administrations*¹²

"Grace ... Came by Jesus Christ"

There was grace during the Old Testament times, but it could not be manifested fully until the Lord had come. The prophets foresaw this grace when they spoke beforehand of the coming of Christ.

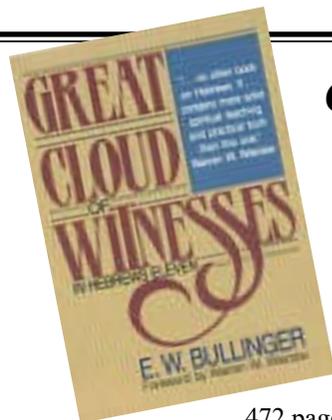
Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow (I Peter 1:10-11).

Thus, it is that John testifies that,

Grace and truth came by Jesus Christ (John 1: 17).

[This grace was then expounded upon through the ministry of Paul:]

11. [Editor:] For more on Loudy and his works, see his webpage at StudyShelf.com. His books are also listed on the [order form](#) under "Loudy."
12. [Bible Student's Notebook #497](#).



472 pages

Great Cloud of Witnesses in Hebrews Chapter 11

by — E.W. Bullinger (1837-1913)

A great classic exposition of this famous and beloved passage, including an examination of the greatest heroes of the faith. Full of rich, practical applications.

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The Sabbath in Scripture

by — John Butler

34 pages

(See [order form](#) under "Other Authors.")

An enlightening study by an associate of A.E. Knoch.

For ye know the GRACE of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich (II Corinthians 8:9).

— J. Eustace Mills¹³

His Workmanship (1933)

BSN

Topics:

Major: [Bullinger on a Pre-Millennial Kingdom:] Bullinger; Ezekiel 38; Gog; Pre-Millennial Kingdom [New Heavens and Earth:] New Earth; New Heaven, Potter [Time and the Secret Administration:] Clock, Prophetic; Date-Setting; Prognosticators; Prophecy; Prophetic Clock; Prophetic Teachers; Time [The Fulfillment of Immortality:] Immortality [A Professor on the Concordant Version:] Concordant Version; Translations [Philippians: Reaching Forth unto those Things Which are Before:] Philippians [An End of Evil:] Consummation; Evil; Poem ["In That Era":] Paul's Priestly Ministry ["Grace ... Came by Jesus Christ":] Grace

13. [Editor:] See Mills' other material in the *Bible Student's Notebook*:

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- "The New Covenant," part 1: [BSN #701](#); part 2: [BSN #725](#); part 3: [BSN #726](#);
- "Acts 28:28, Before and After," [BSN #916](#);
- "The Only Source of Truth," (Excerpt) Tidbits of Truth #43, [BSN #931](#).



I am still enjoying the books and the [Concordant Old Testament](#)¹ I received earlier this year, and again I have to praise your way of writing. When I read your books, I feel like I'm right there with you, and they give me great comfort, and I am learning a lot! – **Norway**

The article "Did Christ Die in Our Place?" [[BSN 938](#)] did a great job making this clear. "Christ died for the benefit of," not "in lieu of." Excellent!² – **TN**

Hanna Whitall Smith "got it."³ – **PA**

This wonderful issue [[BSN 941](#)] is packed with encouraging understanding about the coming days. Both articles are competing for my "favorite to date" bid. So encouraging to grow in understanding ... thank you for your faithful work! – **IN**

Best eye-opening materials on the planet. – **NH**

I found the books that I received from you very comforting. I became a Christian fifty years ago at the age of eighteen. Hearing about hell has always been confusing to me. I have always wanted to believe in universal salvation. As it says in the book of Lamen-

1. See the [order form](#) under "Bibles."
2. For more on the erroneous idea of substitution, see: – [The Doctrine of Substitution: An Erroneous Teaching](#) (see [order form](#) under "Compilations").
3. The *Bible Student's Notebook* series "The God of All Comfort," to be published as a book in 2023, DV.

tations, chapter 3,

For the Lord will not cast off for ever: but though He cause grief, yet will He have compassion according to the multitude of His mercies (:31-32).

I am placing an order for more books. I look forward to seeing what these have to say. – **Scotland**

I just finished the book on [The Pleroma](#),⁴ and all I have to say is "Wow, what a powerful word." – **KS**

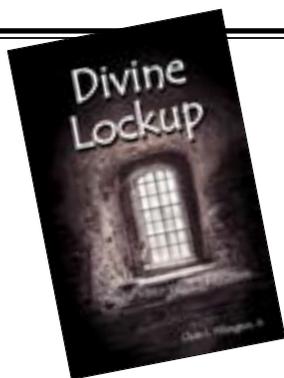
I just wanted to drop a note to say how grateful I am for all the work you do making so many great truths available in print, and for the *BSN*, and the *Daily Email Goodies*⁵ ... not a day goes by that I don't benefit from your work, so thank you.

I just finished your compilation on [The Third Heaven](#)⁶ and your book on [Ephesians and Colossians](#)⁷. I am re-reading through the whole [CLNT](#)⁸ now to help wrap my mind around the Secret Administration distinction in Paul and identifying the "middle wall" in Paul's epistles. I don't think I would have ever clearly identified that distinction on my own, so thanks for writing on that! – **CO**

I truly appreciate working with you in the *BSN* ministry. I am learning again and that is giving me wings again. – **IN**

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6. See [order form](#) under "Compilations".
7. [Ephesians and Colossians: Scripture for the Present Administration](#), on the [order form](#) under "Pilkington."
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Divine Lockup

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

This work deals scripturally with God's sovereignty in the midst of humanity's current condition of, and future deliverance from, unbelief, sin, vanity and corruption. Without question, for all creation, the best is yet to come.

66 pages

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