



# Bible Student's Notebook™

## The Herald of His Grace

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

Volume 40  
Issue 983

# Only God's Sovereignty Assures the Salvation of All

## Bible Student's Courses

Course 1: God / Unit 2 – The Sovereignty of God /

Lesson 9 – Only God's Sovereignty Assures the Salvation of All

by — Mark D. Vogt

### Key Points:

If God is not sovereign, how can we be sure about the salvation of all? ..... 8286

If God is not sovereign, how can we be sure that he will keep his promises?..... 8283

*For even as, in Adam, all are dying, thus also, in Christ, shall all be vivified* (I Corinthians 15:22).

**I**n discussing the salvation of all humanity there are two points to consider.

First, God is sovereign! In other words, He is in complete control of His universe! This is critical to understand and to embrace, for without an understanding and assurance of this, there may be an undercurrent of doubt about the salvation of all. There may not be any doubt on the part of a particular believer about *their own* salvation, but doubt may arise concerning a child, or sibling, or relative or friend.

Most of us have witnessed the anguish of someone who is known to us, wrestling with doubt about the salvation of a family member, almost to the point of making him- or herself ill. If God is not totally sovereign, then there is no certainty that anyone will be saved, simply because God is not in total control, so they may not respond to Him. Such a god without absolute sovereignty is no God AT ALL!



Secondly, if God is not absolutely sovereign, then how can we be sure that ANY of His promises will be carried out? Yet God has not left us without a witness! Time and time again God has fulfilled His Word to His Old Covenant witness: Israel (Isaiah 43:10-11; 44:8).

Paul tells us in Romans 15:4 that those things written before were for our learning so that we, through the endurance and the consolation of the Scriptures, might have an expectation.

God is proving to all that He is the God Who keeps His Word. If He is not THE SOVEREIGN GOD, then His

*(continued on page 8285)*

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### Bible Student's Notebook™

*Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal*

ISSN: 1936-9360

Volume 40, No. 983 – August 21, 2023

*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

### Bible Student's Notebook™

PO Box 265, Windber, PA 15963

Office: (800) 784-6010 – Local: (814) 701-0063

[bsn@studyshef.com](mailto:bsn@studyshef.com)

Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr. – Editor-in-Chief

André Sneidar – Executive Editor

Associate Editors: J. Blake Botner, Steve Martin, Mark Peters, Mark Vogt

Assistant Editors: James Fine, Will Marshall

### Managers and Assistants

Clyde L. Pilkington, III, Nathan H. Pilkington, Stephen Hill

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*We eagerly anticipate the day when time and distance will no longer be a barrier/hindrance to our fellowship. – André Sneidar*

heart's desire is there, but He lacks the power to fulfill His revealed will (just like humans). His sovereignty and His ability to keep His promises are wrapped up together in one package. You can't have one without the other.

*The LORD is faithful in all His words and gracious in all His actions (Psalm 145:13, HCSB).*

*Faithful is Yahweh in all His words, and benign in all His works (CV).*

Only God's sovereignty can assure all that He is able to save all:

*For even as, in Adam, all are dying, thus also, in Christ, shall all be vivified (I Corinthians 15:22).*

God is not arbitrary and does not react to human will and the capriciousness of people. There is no imaginary wavering on His part. God has His plan, He is working His plan, and His plan will come to a glorious conclusion without man's help. We are passengers on the Ship of Glory Captained by God Himself, and nothing will prevent Him from completing this voyage and docking His ship pier-side in the Third

Heaven (Romans 8:38-39)! It would be unimaginable to think that God could not succeed because He lacks enough integrity, power and sovereignty to keep His Word.

Even though man maligns Him, God will eventually reveal to all creation His love, fidelity and passion for the work of His hands.

*Thou wilt have a desire to the work of Thine hands (Job 14:15, KJV).*

*You shall long for the work of Your hands (CV).*

We are simply along for the ride, but what a ride it is! Relax and rest in God, for He will take us all home in a glorious revelation of His power and love, because He is absolutely sovereign and ALWAYS keeps His Promises!

*Relax and know that I am Elohim (Psalm 46:10, CV).*

**BSN**

**TOPICS:**

**Major:** God; Salvation of All; Sovereignty

**Minor:** Expectation; Hope



## ***Rightly Dividing Israel's Prophetic Kingdom – With Special Emphasis on The Overlooked Pre-Millennial “Kingdom of the Heavens”*** (A Comprehensive Compilation)

Editors: Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., André Sneidar

342 pages  
1<sup>st</sup> Ed., A4 size (8.3” x 11.7”), 87 chapters, with charts and appendices, from 22 authors.

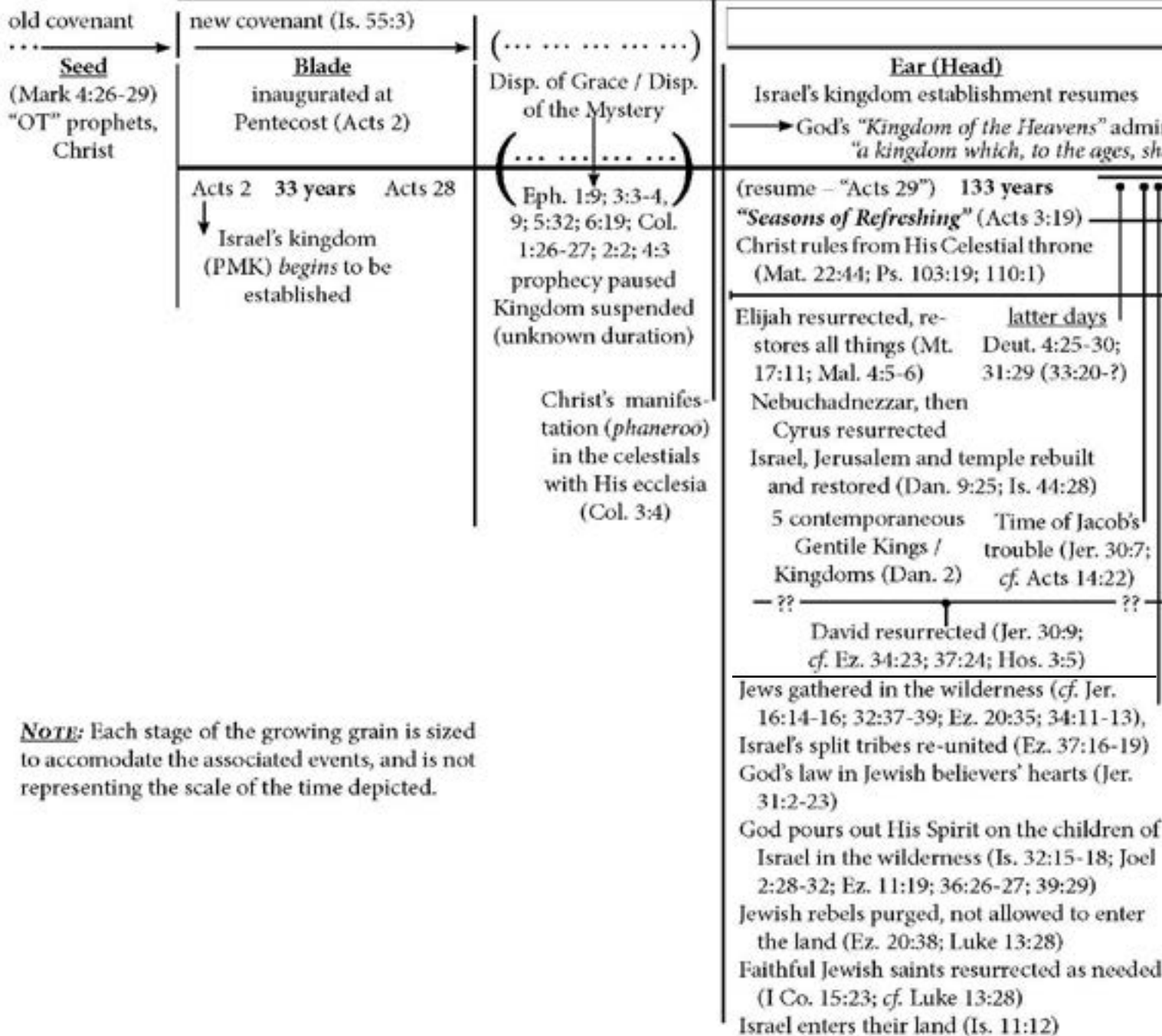
See [order form](#) under “Compilations.”

There are enormous amounts of prophecy that were given to Israel in the Hebrew Scriptures that are yet to be fulfilled. Most believers simply follow some version of Christendom's eschatology, futilely attempting to force the enormity of Israel's prophetic scene into a few extremely abridged time periods. From this shallow vantage point, it is believed that more time has passed in God's ages than remains. This couldn't be further from the truth. Multiplied millennia remain, more than have yet transpired, for the fulfillment of all of the glorious plans that God has revealed in His Word. Far from being near the “end” of something prophetic, the span of God's eonian plan is immense, and our placement is early in its timeline. Much more of God's prophetic program remains than man's feeble eschatologies allow.

The intention herein is to present an alternative view to the confusing message of the traditional Evangelical concept of prophecy, thus opening the door to a consideration of the idea of a Pre-millennial Kingdom as the fulfillment of many of God's promises to Israel to have their kingdom in the Earth.

All of the material in this book, taken together, is a wonderful resolution to the confusion of the conventional religious theology that has muddled the minds of sincere Bible students for centuries. While we may live in the Secret Administration, that doesn't necessarily mean that God's Word regarding His plans for Israel must be a mystery to us.

**Growing Grain**



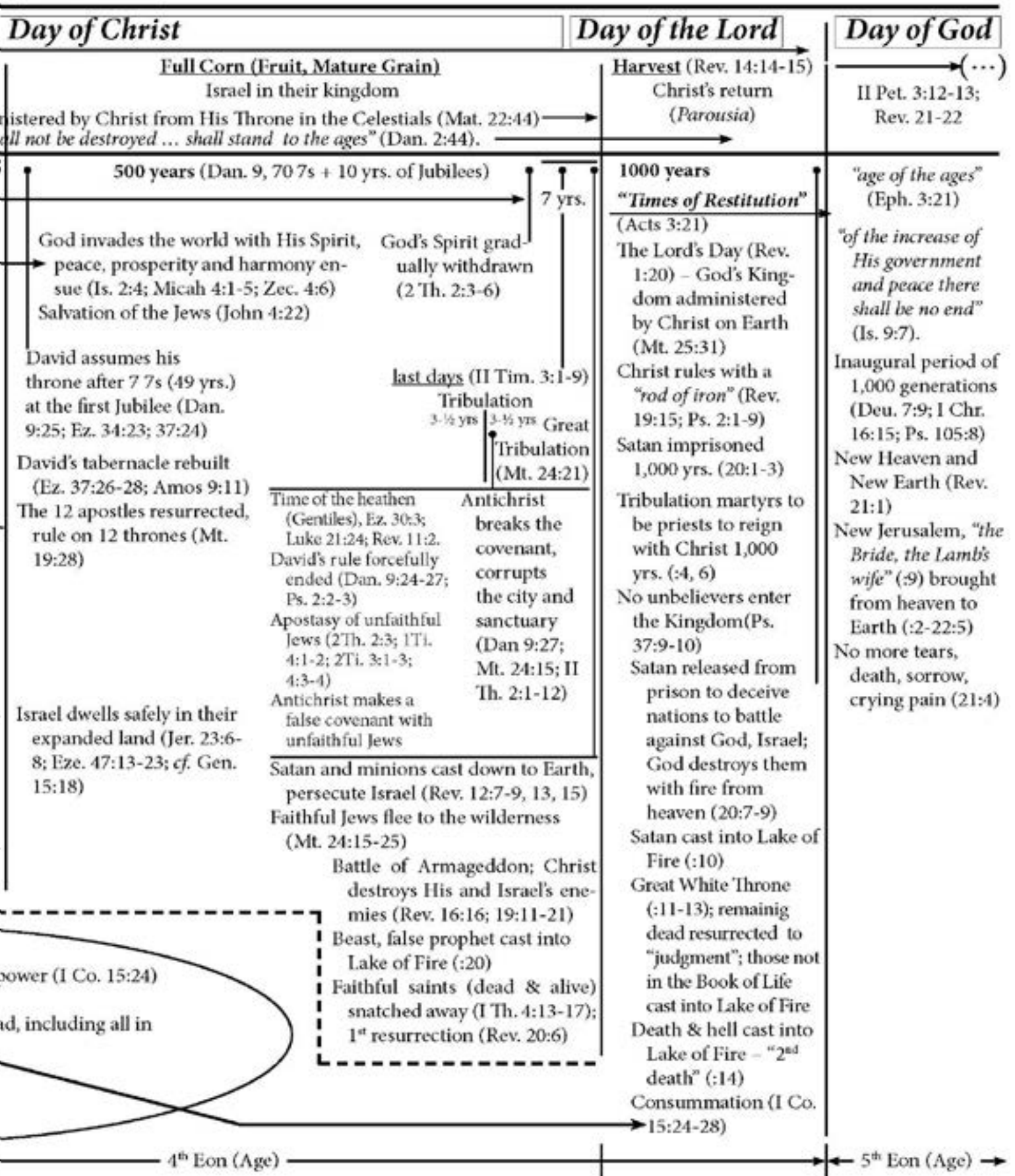
**NOTE:** Each stage of the growing grain is sized to accomodate the associated events, and is not representing the scale of the time depicted.

by — André Sneidar  
*Rightly Dividing Israel's Prophetic Kingdom* (2023)  
 Bible Student's Press

- Christ abolishes all adversarial rule, authority, p...
- Christ delivers the Kingdom to God (:24)
- Final resurrection/vivification of remaining dea...
- the Lake of Fire (:50-54)
- Death destroyed/eliminated (Rev. 21:4)
- God is "ALL in all" (I Co. 15:28)

3<sup>rd</sup> Eon (Age)

(Mark 4:26-29)



# Superabounding Love

by — E.A. Larsen (1884-1978)

*And this I am praying, that your love may be superabounding still more and more in realization and all sensibility (Philippians 1:9).*

## Key Points:

Growing maturity shifts focus from personal grievances to conciliation with all..... 8288  
Even the apostle Paul became more gentle as he matured. .... 8290

Would it not be safer and far more conciliatory for me to overdo the attitude of kindness and gentle forbearance than to be so sure that someone else is holding the truth in unrighteousness or error?..... 8290

As we “grow up into Him in all things” (Ephesians 4:15), may we become more gentle and loving, not only toward the entire world, but toward one another.

Paul was very severe toward Mark, as recorded in the account in Acts 15, and was shocked at Mark’s weak conduct. No doubt he felt very much ashamed of his vacillating deportment and was thoroughly annoyed that such weakness was condoned by Barnabas. But that was when Paul was still in his early ministry, with much of the sense of “strict justice” that Peter had rightly manifested toward Ananias and Sapphira.

There appear to be certain “laws of compensation” that, while given directly by our Lord to the circumcision, may be applicable in a very significant way at all times; such as,

Later Paul became more gentle, and recommended that very same Mark, realizing, no doubt, that the Lord saw things in a different light than he, Paul, had seen them. Paul had grown in grace and love.

*Judge not, that ye be not judged (Matthew 7:1, KJV);*

*He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone (John 8:7, DAR).*

There may be a lesson of considerable significance in this for us. We may be so very anxious to clear up some difficulties, and so swift to banish from our “confidence list” some whom God is using; and perhaps a tender loving expression of confidence, a sympathetic understanding would do us good, and be of great inspiration to another who has been suffered

It may come about that, as we grow more and more into maturity, we shall not be so interested in seeking the righting of wrongs done to ourselves, but may exercise more of the conciliation spirit toward everyone – even those who have appeared to misrepresent us.

(see **LOVE**, last page)



535 pages

See [order form](#) under “Bullinger.”

## Figures of Speech Used in the Bible

by – E.W. Bullinger

Bible students have made serious blunders through the inattention to figures of speech, clouding the real meaning of many important passages of Scripture. Bullinger’s work, first published in 1898, clarifies 217 distinct figures of speech used in the Bible. In systematic order, this classic gives the proper pronunciation of each figure of speech, its etymology or origin, and a number of Scripture passages where the figure of speech is used, giving full explanation of its use in each context. It cites nearly eight thousand Bible passages and includes five appendices and seven indexes, making it even more valuable as a reference tool. No other work approaches the scope and detail of this field of study. *New edition:* Re-typeset and formatted, with errata incorporated.

# God, Christ and All Mankind

by — Dr. George A. Barrett (1869-1942)

His love for Mankind ♦ His work for Mankind ♦ His purpose for Mankind ♦ His attitude towards Mankind ♦ His final perfection of Mankind

As we see the inhabitants of the world – mankind, generally – the individuals, with few, if any, exceptions, and the nations collectively, moaning and groaning, sinning and dying, hating and fighting; despising God, rejecting the Son of His Love nailing Him to the accursed tree; and then, after nineteen hundred years of light and revelation and grace and longsuffering, still rejected as Savior and Lord and Prince of Peace, we wonder:

## WHAT GOD'S ATTITUDE AND LOVE AND PURPOSE IS FOR MANKIND

God so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son (John 3:16).

God sent His Son to be the Savior of the world (I John 4:14; cf. John 3:17).

God is not willing that any should perish (II Peter 3:9).

God wills that all shall be saved (I Timothy 2:4).

God is the living God, Who is the Savior of all mankind (I Timothy 4:10).

God spared not His Son but delivered Him up for us all (Romans 8:32).

God created the world and all that is in it, therefore He loves all (Isaiah 45:12).

His Son came into the world to do His Father's will (John 4:34; 6:38), therefore He loves all.

His Son bore the sin of the world; therefore, He loves

all (Hebrews 9:28; I Peter 2:24; John 1:29).

His Son became a curse for all (Galatians 3:13), therefore He loves all.

His Son was manifested that He might destroy the works of the Devil (I John 3:8).

His Son was raised from the dead that He might be the justifier of all (Romans 4:25; 5:18).

God is the Savior of all mankind (I Timothy 4:10).

His Son is the Ransom for all mankind (I Timothy 2:6).

His Son is the Propitiation for all mankind (Romans 3:25; I John 2:2).

His Son is the Sacrificial Lamb for all mankind (I Corinthians 5:7; Hebrews 7:26-27; 9:23-26).

His Son is the Resurrection and the Life for all mankind (I Corinthians 15:21-22).

His Son is the One Mediator between God and mankind (I Timothy 2:5).

His Son is the Justifier unto life for all mankind (Romans 5:18).

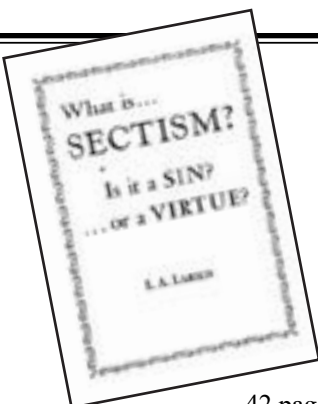
His Son is the Lord of all mankind (Matthew 28:18; Philippians 2:10-11; Hebrews 2:8).

His Son is the Righteousness of all mankind (Romans 3:21-26; 5:19).

His Son is the Head of all mankind (Ephesians 1:22; 4:15).

His Son is the Reconciler of all mankind (II Corinthians 5:19; Colossians 1:20).

His Son will draw all mankind unto Himself (John 12:32).



42 pages

## What Is Sectism?

### Is It a Sin, or a Virtue?

by — E.A. (Edward Alfred) Larsen (1884-1978)

This work "takes up such matters as the basis of fellowship, definition of a sect and common motives in their formation, and the unity of the saints from a Scriptural viewpoint." – *Unsearchable Riches*.

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

His Son is to become the Object of worship of all mankind (Philippians 2:9-11). **BSN**

— *The Differentiator*, Vol. 6, No. 2, p. 11-13  
March-April, 1944

(edited)

*LOVE* (continued from page 8288)

to undergo much misunderstanding and misrepresentation.

Paul was very severe in his recommendations in his epistles to the Corinthians; but it was still in the time of the Acts period. Yet, in Ephesians and Colossians we find a very mellowed spirit; reaching its acme of sublime consideration and generosity of heart, as seen in the epistle to Philemon.

So, dear brethren, is it not better to be kindly sympathetic in our attitudes? Let us not be too deeply concerned about setting others straight and acquainting others with the faults of His saints. We have much to correct in ourselves yet. Would it not be safer and far more conciliatory to overdo the attitude of kindness and gentle forbearance than to be so sure that someone else is holding the truth in unrighteousness or error? After all, we are still learners; and it is a very serious thing to be so "learned" that we hurt and crush instead of soothe and heal. **BSN**

— *The Differentiator*, Vol. 6, No. 2, pp. 8-9  
March-April, 1944

(edited & abridged)

E.A. (Edward Alfred) Larsen (1884-1978), of Tacoma WA, for decades conducted studies and conferences in the area. He was

Barrett, of Seattle WA, was a longtime associate of A.E. Knoch (1874-1965).

**TOPICS:**

**Major:** God; Jesus Christ  
**Minor:** Consummation; Love

contributor to *Unsearchable Riches Magazine*, as well as founder (1939), and original editor and publisher of *The Differentiator*. He was author of [What Is Sectism? Is It a Sin or a Virtue?!](#)

Other *Bible Student's Notebook* article by Larsen:

- "Re-Adjustment," [BSN 230](#);
- "The New Heaven, the New Earth and the New Jerusalem," [BSN 439](#).

**TOPICS:**

**Major:** Attitude; Conciliation; Gentleness; Grace; Kindness; Larsen, E.A. (bio), Love  
**Minor:** Paul

1. On the [order form](#) under "Other Authors."



### *After Polygamy Was Made a Sin*

The Social History of Christian Polygamy

by — John Cairncross  
260 pages

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

Cairncross contends in this fascinating historical analysis that it was when the Church became centered in Rome that "polygamy" became a "sin." Based on rigorous research he demonstrates however that there is a strong underground polygamous Christian tradition, including support from such prominent figures as Milton, Newton, Spinoza and others.



60 pages

## *Ultimate Liberation: Beyond Forgiveness (The Justification from and of Sin)*

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

Many people labor under a heavy weight of guilt and shame. The answer is to be found only in the total provision that God Himself has already provided!

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