



# Bible Student's Notebook™

## The Herald of His Grace

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

Volume 40  
Issue 999

## Enlightened Eyes

Part 3 of 4

by — J. Blake Botner

... The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints ... (Ephesians 1:18).

### Key Points:

God progressively edifies by way of the contrast of good and evil. ....8411  
God is today using a new called-out body of believers as a witness to all of creation, and especially the celestial beings that make up the "spiritual wickedness in high places." ....8414  
You, in all of your current mortal weakness, are the chosen to be seated with Christ far above all authorities in the heavenly places. ....8415

The promise of resurrection and an immortal body like Christ's is the believer's hope, assuring them of their future glory and eternal destiny with God. ....8416  
Our life is to be lived out resting in Christ, and that death is to be considered just a step in our brief experience as we press on in Him. ....8417  
God delights in assuring us of His love by providing supernatural peace – peace that is available right now for the called. ....8418

**T**he church today is called to "shine as lights in the world" (Philippians 2:15). We are to "do all things without murmurings and disputings" (Philippians 2:14) and to have it in our hearts and minds to keep "reaching forth unto those things which are before" us (Philippians 3:13) – promises that are assuredly ours. This is our "high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14) and, if we are to be effective servants, it requires that we approach life with *enlightened eyes* of understanding.

We have been called by God and are being utilized by having the vocation of being blessed with the *gift of being God's "workmanship"* right now (Ephesians 2:10), while still clothed in weak corrupt bodies.

The mature servant needs to understand *what* God is doing today. He needs to understand *who* all of the participants are, and *where* their destiny lies. The mature servant of the Lord needs to know the individual roles of creation, and *when* their roles are to be played out. The mature servant needs to under-



stand our promises; he needs to know *why* and *how* God is fulfilling His will by including and utilizing our predestined participation.

The reason we should seek after God to the end of better learning His will, is because we know that everything is in His control. I've heard it said that *nothing has ever* just occurred to God. This is true, for He not only created the physical matter, but He also has *sovereignty over it all*. He is in control of everything that has ever happened from the very onset. Everything. God never reacts in the moment, as if He has been caught unaware of what is happening. That is the trait of the creature, not The Creator. All things belong to God. All things are for God. History is indeed *His story*, and all things were created by Him precisely to be just as they are.

*Creation is learning by experience as God progressively edifies by way of the contrast of good and evil.* Everything is from God; all things work to His pre-

(continued on page 8413)

## How to Access Our Resources

### Our Main Website:

<http://www.StudyShelf.com>

### Daily Email Goodies Signup:

<http://www.pilkingtontonandsons.com/emailgoodies.htm>

### Bible Student's Notebook Electronic Issues:

<http://www.biblestudentsnotebook.com/volumes.html>

### Bible Student's Notebook Bound Volumes:

<http://www.biblestudentsnotebook.com/volumes.html>

### Bible Student's Notebook Master Index:

<http://www.biblestudentsnotebook.com/bsnindex.html>

### Videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/1424241>

### Audios:

<http://www.biblestudentsradio.com/audios.html>

### Themed Blogs:

<http://pilkingtontonandsons.com/ourblogs.htm>

### Bibles:

<http://www.studyshelf.com/bibles.htm>

### Books by Clyde Pilkington:

<http://www.pilkingtontonandsons.com/clp.htm>

### Books by Author:

<http://www.pilkingtontonandsons.com/author.htm>

### Books by Subject:

<http://www.pilkingtontonandsons.com/books.htm>

### Newest Book Releases:

<http://pilkingtontonandsons.com/>

### Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/clyde.pilkington>

### Facsimile Project:

<http://www.studyshelf.com/facsimile.htm>

### Donate:

<http://pilkingtontonandsons.com/donate.htm>

### Bible Student's Resource Index:

<https://biblestudentsresourceindex.blogspot.com/>

A Directory of Multi-Media Biblical Resources.

### Bible Student's Version:

<https://biblestudentsversion.wordpress.com/>

A Continuing, Composite Translation of Scripture.

### Standardized Scripture Terminology:

<https://standardizedscriptureterminology.wordpress.com/>

Clarifying Confusing Scripture Terms.

### Online Key:

<http://studyshelf.com/abbreviation-key.pdf>

Definitions of abbreviations/acronyms.

### Online Order Form:

<http://studyshelf.com/orderform-studyshelf.pdf>

### Bible Student's Notebook™

*Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal*

ISSN: 1936-9360

Volume 40, No. 999 – December 11, 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 unpropheesied, 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@studyshelf.com](mailto:bsn@studyshelf.com)

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

André Sneidar – Executive Editor

Associate Editors: J. Blake Botner, Chris Carnahan, James Fine, Steve Martin, Mark Peters, Mark Vogt, Dean Wilkin-son

Assistant Editors: Will Marshall, De Trefethen

### Managers and Assistants

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

Copyright © 1989-2023 Bible Student's Press™

destined end. This is not a fatalistic outlook by any means, rather it is reverently acknowledging *His authority*. It is the basis for understanding what our true vocation is, as we now know what our predestined fulfilling role is as members of the church that is destined to serve in Heaven.

*O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out! For of Him, and **through** Him, and **to** Him, are **all** things: to Whom be glory for ever. Amen. (Romans 11:33, 36).*

Equipped with this God-given enlightenment, the effective servant of the Lord is able to press on with the correct finish-line goal in his heart and mind. The servant of the Lord now knows the: *what, why, how, who, when* and especially now the full extent of the *where* found in Scriptures’ edification process; these are the things that make up each predestined vocation.

We today enjoy the benefit of having the “fulfilled” (i.e., “completed”) Word of God available to us (Colossians 1:25). Understanding and growing in Scripture matures the faithful servant of the Lord, and this maturity tempers the servant of the Lord.

As Paul had previously taught,

*The servant of the Lord must not strive, but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth, and that they may recover themselves out of the snare of*

*the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will (II Timothy 2:24-26).*

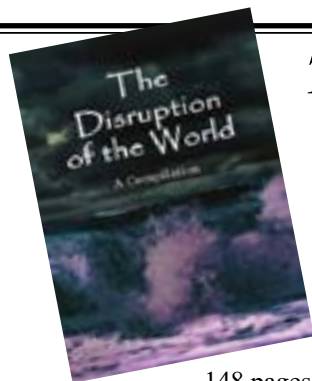
I have never liked the thought of hurting others. Especially within the context of their current belief and level of understanding, that which is the basis of their resultant faith. Our influence, within the context of sharing God’s Word, is to be gentle and to be ministered by the wisdom of the Word of God, patiently encouraging a fuller understanding of our calling as the Heaven-bound ecclesia who are sealed by the Holy Spirit to that end.

*Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. ... And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you (Ephesians 4:29, 32).*

The church today is not a place. The church today is not an organization. The church today is not something to be joined. The church today is a called group of believers. The church today is a sealed, indwelt by Almighty God, *new ecclesia* that is bound for residency in the highest Heaven.

*In whom ye also trusted after that ye heard the Word of Truth, the gospel of your salvation: in Whom [Christ] also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory (Ephesians 1:13-14).*

*But God, Who is rich in mercy, for His great love*



148 pages

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

## ***The Disruption of the World***

### *A Compilation*

A broad study of the crucial, but all-too-often overlooked teaching of Scripture of the events between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2. Sometimes known as “The Gap,” “The Overthrow,” or “The Disruption,” this key event in God’s ages lays the important foundation for the ministry of Paul, the Apostle.

This critical compilation of 13 chapters from 8 authors will be an essential part of a Bible student’s library. Authors include: E.W. Bullinger, A.E. Knoch, Edward Clayton and John Essex.

wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: that in the ages to come He might shew the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:4-7).

God is today using a new called-out body of believers as a witness to all of creation, and especially the celestial beings that make up the “*spiritual wickedness in high places*” (Ephesians 6:12) – a living organism of believers bearing witness of His power, wisdom and grace to overcome evil with good. He made a show of this victory of good over evil at Calvary, a far-reaching victory that has not only paved the way for the conciliation of the Earth, but also the Heavenly places.

There are many examples in Scripture of supernatural good overcoming supernatural evil within the context of seemingly insurmountable odds:

- David and Goliath (I Samuel 17:1-58);
- The Red Sea crossing (Exodus 14:1-31);
- Daniel and the den of lions (Daniel 6:1-28);
- Elisha prayed for his servant to see the spiritual protection that God sent (II Kings 6:14-17).

These expressed-within-the-Word-of-God examples of good overcoming evil showcase His intervention and absolute authority over each situation. They also imprint the lesson upon the called saint of how He

alone is accomplishing His will. For the ecclesia destined to reign as joint-heirs with Christ in the Heavenly places it is especially true.

It really is beyond our grasp to fully understand the nature or magnitude of the principalities, powers, mights and dominions that occupy the Heavenly places. These celestial beings are obscured from our visible daily experience as we live out our current existence within the confines of the physics of our three-dimensional comprehension. We rely upon the brief glimpses in Scripture of the duties, capabilities, strengths and limitations of the immortal celestial beings. What is sure is that they exist and are superior to, and much more powerful than, mortal humanity.

For example, we read in Scripture that in one night one angel defeated 185,000 Assyrian soldiers:

*“For I will defend this city, to save it, for Mine own sake, and for My servant David’s sake.” And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the Lord went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses (II Kings 19:34-35).*

Here are a few more examples of the existence and strength of celestial beings:

- Balaam sees the celestial entity (Numbers 22:31);
- Cherubim guard the tree of life (Genesis 3:23-24);
- Daniel is visited by Gabriel (Daniel 9:21-22).

## Without Form and Void: A Study of the Meaning of Genesis 1:2

by — Arthur C. Custance

Considered a classic in Christian apologetics, this scholarly analysis of the biblical phrase “without form and void,” from the opening chapter of Genesis, observes the rules of linguistics, grammar and syntax, and also examines how words are used in the rest of Scripture. This book has been described as the best argument that has ever been written for the Gap Theory.

A well respected Canadian scientist, and listed in the 1971 American Men in Science, Dr. Custance contends that we should not allow science to determine what Scripture says. Neither should we allow Scripture to determine what the scientist observes in the laboratory. Yet observed fact in the one cannot, ultimately, conflict with revealed fact in the other. Any conflict, then, is in the interpretation of the facts – not in the facts themselves.

292 pages

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



The reason that a consideration of the celestial beings is especially important for the saints today is that our vocation, as joint-heirs with Christ, literally has to do with the oversight of the heavenly places.

*The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power, Which He wrought in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: and hath put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be the Head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fulness of Him that filleth all in all (Ephesians 1:18-23).*

Stop and let that sink into the vision you have of your future. Consider Paul's words within the vocational context of God having chosen you, having predestined you, having made you a joint-heir with Christ to dwell and reign with Him far above all of these immortal, celestial beings. **You, in all of your current mortal weakness, are the chosen to be seated with Christ far above all authorities in the heavenly places.** I pray that our loving heavenly Father will give, unto each who reads this, *enlightened eyes* of understanding with which to grasp a glimpse of the

glory that awaits the called, spotless, blameless and Heaven-bound saints. Today our called vocation is to comprise the church that is the fulfilling-body of our Head, the Lord Jesus Christ, to be seated there with Him in the glory of the conciliated heavenly places.

Charles Baker wrote a book in 1937 entitled "God's Clock of the Ages." The work was a *defense of creation* in light of the imposition that science and evolution were making at the time on Scripture's testimony of God's handiwork of creation. It was based on the twelve hours on a typical clock. Mr. Baker correctly identifies a significant amount of time that elapsed between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2, understanding that this *gap* serves as better support for creation and the absolute authority of God.

The original creation in Genesis 1:1 has to do with the heavenly places and those celestial beings that were created to occupy them. The extensive lapse of time that separates the original cosmos from the habitat for humanity established in Eden's garden (:3-31) simply further testifies to the sovereignty of the great "I Am" of Scripture. It is in total support of the understanding and belief of creation by the hand of our sovereign God. It also aligns with the references in Scripture to the interference of the "sons of God" (ancient celestials) prior to the judgement of Noah's time (Genesis 6:1-4), those who gathered (celestial heavenly powers) to give an account to God when He used the man Job as a witness of faithfulness against them (Job 1:6; 2:1), and the demonic activity (spiritual wickedness as an evil contrast) in Scripture.



## ***The Administration of the Secret***

*A Comprehensive Compilation*

308 pages

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

The Secret Administration, revealed through Ephesians and Colossians, is characterized and empowered by the dispensing of transcendent grace (Ephesians 1:7; 2:7; 3:2). Now, believing Gentiles are "no longer guests and sojourners," as they were in the Pentecostal and Readjustment Administrations, but are "fellow-citizens of the saints and members of God's family"

(Ephesians 2:19). This outstanding work includes 45 chapters, by 17 authors, spanning nearly 200 years. Author's include: Oscar M. Baker, Tom L. Ballinger, J. R. Caldwell, E. H. Clayton, J.J.B. Coles, John Essex, J.H. Evans, H.W. Fry, Vladimir Gelesnoff, William B. Hallman, Richard Holden, John H. Kessler, A.E. Knoch, Adlai Loudy, Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., and Charles H. Welch.



These celestial beings are fearfully powerful in contrast to the weakness of humanity. Our promise as joint-heirs with Christ, and possessing a body fashioned like unto His, is to be *far above* them when we literally dwell in heavenly places at the appearing of Christ in glory. Understand that this assured future glory is a witness that we are living out *right now in mortal weakness*. This is our ministry as those who are sealed by God and destined for the highest Heaven.

Are you beginning to better understand why God has promised you a new body? Are you beginning to understand what it means to say, “I’m going to heaven when resurrected in Christ”? Can you now see how Paul could say, “*For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain*”? A more accurate translation of Philip-  
pians 1:21 states “*For me to be living is Christ, and to be dying, is gain*” and better reveals the true intention in Paul’s heart. The thought in this passage comes from the Apostle’s goal to do everything in service to Christ. If he lived, he was actively serving Christ, but he also knew, in dying as a martyr,<sup>1</sup> his death would further the gospel. Therefore, he concludes that remaining in service here was more profitable for those to whom he ministered, although he preferred neither evangelizing or a martyr’s death. Rather, he preferred to be together with Christ knowing that at His appearing (when we as Christ’s Body appear with Him) things will be far better for all. Paul lived from a heart that understood how brief our current life is, and how glorious our assured future is.

Are you starting to catch a vision of how *we have only just begun to fulfill our destiny when we live out our brief existence down here on earth*? I hope that you

1. [Editor:] Tradition says that Paul was martyred, but we have no witness from Scripture.

are, because even now we are commissioned to think in terms of already possessing this standing in Christ while pressing on as living testimonies of our new identity and hope.

Consider these insightful passages in light of the understanding of the ancient cosmos, the original creation that the ancient celestial beings continue to inhabit; our future position will be far above them in the highest heaven:

- Paul was caught up into *paradise* (II Corinthians 12:1-5);
- For our citizenship is in *Heaven* (Philippians 3:20);
- Set your affection on things *above* (Colossians 3:2).

Think of the ancient example and experience of Job as his destiny was on full display to the celestial beings that had congregated in council with God.

*Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them. And the LORD said unto Satan, “Whence comest thou?” Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, “From going to and fro in the earth and from walking up and down in it.” And the LORD said unto Satan, “Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?” (Job 1:6-8).*

In a similar way, our brief lives are being lived out as examples of the power, wisdom and grace of God to utilize us within the context of His victory over evil; victory that reaches the entirety of creation. *We have only just begun* as we complete our brief mortal experience in this current life. We will *all* find ourselves,



## Will We Escape Death?

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

The plight of humanity is mortality and death. In every age the believer’s hope has always been resurrection from the dead and the glory which lays beyond. It was Satan who first introduced the idea, “*Thou shalt not surely die.*” So, what makes anyone think that Satan was right – that we are actually not going to die? What makes someone expect that, of all of the people who have ever lived before them, they will somehow be the ones who will *escape* death? The answer, in one word: tradition.

62 pages

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



at some point in this current life, coming face to face with our mortality. Death is assured to all of humanity; if you are facing it now whether by age, or sickness, or accident, or maybe its impending grip has already taken a loved one from your current presence, remember that death is the destiny of all men *by design*. Dear friend, you are by no means facing it alone.

*And it is appointed unto men once to die ...*  
(Hebrews 9:27).

*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord*  
(Romans 6:23).

*If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable* (I Corinthians 15:19).

We have been programmed to think in terms of escaping death by way of the rapture *instead of* resting in the assurance of resurrection from sure death. This is sad, for the surety of hope, for all who are presently in Christ, is a clear understanding of our heavenly destiny and duty as joint-heirs with Him. The best way to overcome this *roll-of-the-dice* thinking that we are going to be *a generation* that will not have to face literal death, an assurance that no one to date has been able to claim as a *literally experienced promise*, is to have your understanding enlightened to our glorious calling. The fulfilling of Scripture with the revelation of the far reach of Calvary throughout the heavenly places, and our joint-heirship with Christ there in those heavenly places, *is your certain promise*.

God has placed His seal within the called today and given us the sure promise that we can think and live as those *who are already resurrected in Christ*. Death

is a prerequisite to our putting off the corruption of our current bodies as we rest in the assurance of receiving a glorified body fashioned just like Christ's body. It is after this life's brief experience and resurrection that we assume our *literal* glorious calling as the Sons of God in Christ Jesus *when we all appear with our Lord and Savior*. We have the promise from God, Who cannot lie, that He will finish what He has begun in us (Philippians 1:6). **Therefore, Paul's example to us is that our life is to be lived out resting in Christ, and that death is to be considered just a step in our brief experience as we press on in Him.**

*When Christ, Who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory* (Colossians 3:4).

*I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ* (Philippians 1:3-6).

We will be clothed in a new body that is immortal, fashioned just like that of Christ our Head – a body that will not die, not grow old, nor grow weary with physical or emotional sickness and pain; a body that is suited to exist in any place or dimension of creation. We will have the ability to go anywhere instantly. I remind you that the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ was able to pass right through an unopened door/wall (John 20:19, 26). He also ascended up into the presence of the Father, way up in the third Heaven, and returned to Earth in a short period of time (cf. John 20:17 with 20:19).



## ***Ephesians & Colossians*** ***Scripture for the Present Administration***

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

Ephesians and Colossians are the present truth for the current dispensation. Ephesians introduces the Secret Administration in which we live, while Colossians, its companion epistle, completes the Word of God. There are no other Secret Administration letters beyond Ephesians and Colossians.

76 pages (2<sup>nd</sup> edition) See [order form](#) under "Clyde Pilkington."



With a full view of our eternal destiny understood, we now know that death for us is a necessary step of shedding the burden of the corrupt bodies that we are currently clothed in; “*for this corruptible must put on incorruption.*” Christ Jesus is our assuring example of resurrection power.

*For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ (I Corinthians 15:53-57).*

*For our conversation is in Heaven; from whence also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body, according to the working whereby He is able even to subdue all things unto Himself (Philippians 3:20-21).*

Until our glorious appearing with Christ, and the literal experience of these promises, we rest in the surety of Scripture knowing that we have the seal of the Holy Spirit within us as a witness of God’s indwelling promise to bring us to the fulfillment of our destined future. Understanding all that we have in Christ, all that is ours to look forward to, is the basis of peace in our lives – peace that goes beyond the understanding of those who have not been given the

ability to set their eyes on the prize of the high calling that we have in Christ. Please carefully reread these few short paragraphs and consider the magnitude of our high calling.

As the old hymn states, “... the things of this Earth grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace ...” to us.

You are now in Christ and free and encouraged to pour your heart out boldly to God. Our current life is so often wonderful and full of pleasure. However, it is, by God’s design, also filled with burden that drives us back to Him. In our current state we would most often not keep God first in our hearts and minds without the fearful challenges we now face. He knows just how we are, and He created us thus to the end of teaching by way of experience. **God delights in assuring us of His love by providing supernatural peace – peace that is available right now for the called whose eyes have been enlightened, a precious current gift of solace from the fear brought on by our temporary mortal weakness.**

*Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:6-7).*

(concluded next issue)

#### TOPICS:

**Major:** Calling; Ecclesia; Enlightenment; Sovereignty

**Minor:** Celestials; Consummation; Death; Faith; Grace; Peace



72 pages

## *The Divine Activation of Faith, and the Myth of Free Will*

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

What is faith? Who is a believer? Is faith a matter of human choice, or is it a gift from God? Do those who have faith understand and believe everything correctly? Or, do they experience areas or degrees of unbelief? Can one be weak or strong in faith? Is there room in faith for growth? These are among the important questions that are considered in this work.

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