

The BBI BULLETIN

Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth

SUMMER 1999

Berean Bible Institute, Inc.
PO Box 40
Germantown, WI 53022
berean@execpc.com

Phone (414) 255-4094
Fax (414) 255-4195
E-Mail:

Training Workmen That Need Not Be Ashamed

INSTITUTE UPDATE

As many of you are aware, last January steps were taken to begin the process of separating the **BEREAN BIBLE INSTITUTE** from the *BEREAN BIBLE SOCIETY*. As of July 1st that move was completed and **BBI** is now functioning as an independent ministry. Of course, this action was planned from the time of **BBI's** inception so it is not something that was unexpected, but is still a step of faith. In some ways, it is like being a child that has grown up and moved out on his own. There is a feeling of excitement and yet at the same time a feeling of apprehension when thinking about what the future may bring. But trusting that through His people the Lord will continue to provide the resources necessary to maintain this important ministry, the decision was made to go forward. And we will continue in that direction as long as the Lord enables us.

As part of becoming an independent ministry, **BEREAN BIBLE INSTITUTE** now conducts all of its business separate from *BEREAN BIBLE SOCIETY* and now has its own post office box. This means that all correspondence and gifts to **BBI** should be sent to its new address which is:

BEREAN BIBLE INSTITUTE
PO Box 40
Germantown, WI 53022-0040

Please be patient with us as we work through this transition period.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Directors of the *BEREAN BIBLE SOCIETY*, and those who encouraged and supported them, for standing up and taking the initiative in establishing the **BEREAN BIBLE INSTITUTE**. Without their resolve to "get the ball rolling", **BBI** would not exist today.

(continued on page 2)

THE IMPORTANCE OF FAITH

by Dr. W. Edward Bedore

To become saved, a man or woman must place their faith in the Person of Jesus Christ and His finished work of redemption, for in Him "*we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace*" (Eph. 1:7; cf. Rom. 3:21-26; I Cor. 15:3-4).

But having been set free from the power of sin and the resulting wrath of God, how are believers to live? Why just as they were saved, by grace through faith. Not only are we "*justified by faith*" resulting in our being at "*peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ*", but we have continuing "*access by faith into this grace wherein we stand*" (see Rom. 5:12).

The reason that the world in general rejects the idea of faith alone in Christ alone for salvation is that it goes against the grain of human wisdom. It just doesn't seem right, it's foolishness, even offensive to the natural man to suggest that he cannot in some way contribute to his (or her) own salvation. That is why man-centered religions flourish throughout the world while true Biblical Christianity is scorned by the multitudes.

In like manner, living by faith also goes against the grain of human wisdom. The conventional wisdom of the world tells us that the greatest achievement in life is to be able to enjoy the "good life." They usually speak of this elusive goal in terms such as seeking fulfillment, being me, doing my own thing, taking care of number one, etc., etc., etc. But in truth, the prevailing attitude of worldly wisdom is "I will do it my way." And of course, a man or a woman's way is according to the wisdom of the world.

The social, civil, and economic dynamics of the world are driven by a principle that can be

(continued on page 2)

(INSTITUTE - continued from page 1)

The over-riding burden that prompted the establishment of **BBI** is the very real need for godly and committed individuals to be properly equipped for the work of ministry. Every generation of believers has a God-given responsibility to pass the message of "*Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the mystery*" on to those who follow them. By God's grace, we are endeavoring to do this by being faithful in following the admonition of Scripture to "*be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also*" (II Tim. 2:1-2). Being involved in the Lord's work is exciting and challenging. It is also the most meaningful, fruitful, and fulfilling work that anyone could ever be involved in. In fact the message of "*Jesus Christ, and Him crucified*" (I Cor. 2:1-2) is the only message of substance to be found in the world. Therefore it is the only message worth committing one's life to.

Please pray for the staff, faculty, and students of **BEREAN BIBLE INSTITUTE** as we look forward to the beginning of a new school year in a few weeks.

And if you have not already done so, I would like to ask that you consider financially supporting the ministry of **BBI**. It is the gifts of those who believe that what we are doing is important that make **BBI** possible.

Dr. W. Edward Bedore, Executive Director

We recently received a missionary letter that contained the following quote. We would like to share these thoughts with you.

"The plain and simple truth is that the Scriptures never teach us to wait for opportunities of service, but to serve in just the things that lie next to our hands...The Lord bids us work, watch, and pray; but Satan suggests, wait until a good opportunity for working, watching and praying presents itself -and needless to say, this opportunity is always in the future."

-J.O. Fraser

(FAITH - continued from page 1)

divided into three basic aspects that the Bible describes as "*the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life*" (see I John 2:15-16).

The Scriptures have a simple name for this, SIN. Of course it should be expected that the company of the unredeemed would live according to such a system. After all, they are of the world.

"*Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners*" (see I Tim. 1:15; cf. 2:3-4). But once saved the company of the redeemed are not to live by the same dynamics that the world does. The world lives by faith but it is a misplaced faith that trusts in self and seeks to please self. The world's ethics are based on a floating set of standards that are regularly changed as "reason" or "wisdom" dictates according to each "situation." In other words, the world rejects the idea of absolute right and wrong. Their misdirected faith in self in effect causes those of the world to "walk by sight" depending on their own "selfish reasoning" (worldly wisdom) to guide their actions. Their goal is to gain the things of the world, i.e. what they see.

In contrast, the company of the redeemed are called to walk by faith, a faith that trusts in God and His Word and "seeks to please Him." This means that the "when, how, and what" of the believer's actions are to be according to God's will. Do it when, do it how, and do what God wants done. Walking by faith means not trusting in the things the world trusts in. Faith is unnecessary if we are going to trust in our own powers of reason and ability. The things of the world promise fulfillment, contentment, and security but they never deliver the goods because they simply have no ability to do so.

In stark contrast to the ways of the world, believers are to "*be not high-minded nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they do good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come that they may lay hold on eternal life*" (I Tim.6:17-19).

*"Only one life: 'twill soon be past.
Only what's done for Christ will last."*

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS: FALL SEMESTER 1999

101 - Dispensational Survey - The Bible must be rightly divided (2 Tim. 2:15). Therefore, we are committed to studying it dispensationally. Although God's essential nature does not change, His dispensations towards man do change. This course gives an overview of the Bible from a dispensational point of view. It lays the groundwork for a lifetime of effective personal Bible study. *Two credit hours.*

103 - Bible Exposition - This course begins with an in-depth study of the foundational book of Genesis and then moves on for a book by book study of Exodus through Deuteronomy. It provides the student with an understanding of the outworking of God's plan in reference to the creation, the flood, the nations, the special purpose of His chosen people, Israel, the Exodus from Egypt, the Tabernacle, the Priesthood, and their dispensational importance. *Four credit hours.*

105 - Basic Bible Doctrines - A concise study of the important major doctrines of Scripture from a dispensational point of view. This course covers the introduction to Bible doctrines; the Bible, the Godhead, the Person of Christ, the Depravity of Man, Salvation, the Security of the Believer, the Holy Spirit, and the Church. *Two credit hours.*

107 - Personal Evangelism - The student will learn first hand how to lead both adults and children to faith in Jesus Christ as Savior. Procedures for one on one witnessing, door to door evangelism, and evangelistic meetings will be taught. This is one of the most important classes an individual can take. *Two credit hours.*

109 - Hermeneutics - The study of how to correctly interpret the Bible. Sound and practical methods of personal Bible study will be examined and applied. This is an important course for those who want to be students of God's Word. *Two credit hours.*

111 - Study Skills/Personal Finance - The first eight weeks of the semester are devoted to helping the student develop good study skills and habits, enabling them to obtain the most from their studies. The second eight weeks deals with personal finance to help individuals wisely manage their personal finances following Biblical principles. A practical course that teaches people how to get out of debt and stay out of debt. *One credit hour.*

113 - English - To be successful students or teachers, individuals must have the ability to communicate effectively. This course is provided to help students improve their speech and writing skills. This is a specially programmed course designed to make learning of English grammar a positive experience. *One credit hour.*

115 - Biblical Ethics I - Biblical Ethics is the study of how the great doctrines of the Word of God are related to, and should be manifest in, the everyday life of the believer. The unchanging principles of the moral values taught in the Bible and how Christians are to apply them in every area of their lives is the focus of this course. *One credit hour.*

201 - Pastoral Ministry I - This course focuses on the local church as God's primary ministry in this dispensation of Grace. Paul's letters, particularly to Timothy and Titus, provide the principles for Pastoral Ministry. Covered is the training of elders, church growth, and the pastoral job description, along with an examination of contemporary issues from a Biblical perspective. *Two credit hours.*

203 - Bible Exposition - This study is of the history of Israel and covers the captivity and return from Babylon to rebuild the Temple and Jerusalem, the intertestimonial years, and the time of Jesus Christ's earthly ministry. Emphasis is given to the centrality of the Person and ministry of Jesus Christ to Israel's messianic hope of a restored kingdom on earth. *Four credit hours.*

205 - Dispensational Theology - Theology is the study of God. Systematic Theology is the ordered study of the great doctrines of God's Word, the Bible. Dispensational Theology is the systematic in-depth study of the great doctrines of Scripture according to the Biblical principle of right division. Dispensational Theology covers the introduction to Dispensational Theology; Bibliology (revelation, inspiration, authority, and the dispensational character of the Bible); Theology Proper (the existence of God, the nature of God, the eternal purpose of God, and the works of God). *Three credit hours.*

207 - The Major Prophets - This course focuses on the ministry, message, and person of each of the major writing prophets (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel). This study looks at the significance of each prophet's time and place in Israel's history, their relationship to the false prophets of the day, the dispensational importance of their messianic prophecies, and the character of each prophet. *Two credit hours.*

209 - Homiletics I - Covers the introduction of the basic purpose, principles, and the importance of preaching from the Bible. The student is presented with the need for personal Bible study and with an emphasis on relying on the power of God and His Word in preaching. This class focuses on the necessity of the preacher preparing himself before preparing the message. *Two credit hours.*

211 - Bible Counseling - This course presents the bible as sufficient for providing answers for all of man's personal problems in every area of life and as such shows how it is to be used in dealing with one's own personal problems or in counseling others who are in need. Bible Counseling is shown to be the Christ-centered and Holy Spirit empowered practical application of Biblical truth to an individual's life with the goal of spiritual maturity and fruitfulness toward God. In particular, the doctrines and problems associated with immorality, drug and alcohol abuse, marriage, divorce, and remarriage will be thoroughly dealt with. *Two credit hours.*

If you are interested in attending classes at **BBi** or would like more information about the school, please contact:

Dr. W. Edward Bedore, Executive Director
PO Box 40
Germantown, WI 53022-0040

Berean Bible Institute, Inc. admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin.