

The BBI BULLETIN

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

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Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth

Training Workmen That Need Not Be Ashamed

THE INSTITUTE UPDATE

Along with the "all spiritual blessings in heavenly places" that those "in Christ" have been "blessed" with (Eph. 1:3) come both responsibilities and privileges. While we are not under the constraints of the Law by which good works were required to find favor with God, we are to do good works because God, by His grace, "hath made us accepted in the Beloved. In whom we have redemption through His blood" (see Eph. 1:6-7). Being saved by grace, apart from works, "we are created unto good works, which God hath before ordained (planned beforehand) that we should walk in them" (see Eph. 2:1-10). In the book of Titus we read that believers are to be "looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the God and our Savior Jesus Christ; who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar (special) people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:13-14).

Why does God desire that His people be "zealous of good works"? The Apostle Paul says that "This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. **These things are good and profitable unto men**" (Titus 3:8).

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RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH

by Dr. W. Edward Bedore

LESSON 3 - The Need for a Plan of Redemption

SIN

The Bible tells us; "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for all have sinned:" (Rom. 5:12). Sin is the transgression or failure to live up to the righteous demands of doing what is right before God. It is falling short of God's standard of righteousness or what is right.

What is Right and Wrong?

God, as the Sovereign Creator of all things, including mankind, has not left it up to man to determine what is right and wrong. On the contrary, being perfectly holy, righteous, just, and good in His very essence, His standard must be perfect righteousness. Those who fail to live up to His perfect standard are transgressors - sinners. They "have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23).

The First Man - Adam

Having created the heavens and the earth and all that is in it, God created Adam from the "dust of the ground" and breathed the breath of life into him and "man became a living soul." God then created a woman to be a "helpmeet," or a properly fit helper for him (see Gen. 2:4-25).

The Law given to Adam consisted of one rule: "And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Gen. 2:16-17). In disobedience to a directly given command of God, Adam willfully ate of the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil." Thus, **Adam became a sinner**, a transgressor or violator, of the revealed will of God.

(continued on page 3)



Mail Received At Box 40

FROM GEORGIA:

"God bless all that you do in spreading the Grace message which is so desperately needed today."

FROM PENNSYLVANIA:

"It is a joy to help in the ministry of teaching faithful men and women. May the true living God bless the work for His glory and for His eternal purpose."

FROM MISSOURI:

"I surely appreciate being on your mailing list. I read them over and over. I think I know what a dispensation is."

FROM WEST VIRGINIA:

"How wonderful it is to share in the knowledge and wisdom of our Lord and Savior. The spirit, the trust, and of course the fellowship of the mystery (Eph. 3:9). Thanks again for your monthly letter and your faithfulness in His work."

FROM CANADA:

"I always enjoy your quarterly paper about your school and the message. Congratulations to the graduating class and to those continuing or just joining. This school is so important. I wish you all the Lord's blessings."

FROM WASHINGTON:

"Thank you for the progress report on **BBI** and for the personal note you added. Your ministry is so vital to the Grace Movement and we thank God for all of you that are involved."

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

THE BULLETIN BOARD

News & Announcements



The Fall Semester at **Berean Bible Institute** begins August 24th. If you would like an application or a Handbook and Course Catalog, please contact **BBI**. It's never too late to be a servant of God.



Midwest Grace Fellowship Bible Conference



Dates: August 25-26, 2001
Theme: "Paul's Letter to the Ephesians"
Location: Iola, Kansas

For more information contact:
David Tidd (316) 365-6004 or
Pastor Ken Lawson (816) 425-2408



Berean Bible Institute has produced a chart outlining the order, structure, and purpose of the letters of the Apostle Paul. This chart is 11 1/2x17 inches, in full color and can be used in conjunction with personal Bible study or as a teaching aid for group study.

Price: \$3.00 (includes postage)
To Order contact: **Berean Bible Institute**, PO Box 40, Germantown, WI 53022



Special Class



A special "Biblical Principles of Family Life" class is being offered this semester at **BBI**. See page 6 for schedule and class description.

(SIN—continued from page 1)

The Children of Adam

All of mankind, every member of the human race, has descended from Adam, who was the first man and the first sinner. All those of Adam's race have not only inherited his sin nature, but have also followed his sinful ways. The entire human race is a race of sinners (see Rom. 5:12). This means that the human race is lost because sin has separated all of mankind from God.

The Result of Sin

As a result of sin, man's heart became "*deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked*" (Jer. 17:9). Man, by nature, is at enmity (hostile, has animosity) towards God. In other words, man and God are at odds with each other because God is holy and man is sinful.

God, being just and holy in His very nature, must judge sin. In this He has no choice. He would cease to be righteous if He allowed His creation to blatantly sin and not impose righteous judgment. Physical death and eventual eternal condemnation in the Lake of Fire are the consequences (see Gen. 3:19; Rev. 20:11-15). Man's relationship with God was severed because of sin and the sinner is helpless to save himself. Left to his own resources **he is in a hopeless situation.**

Redemption

Because of sin, man is in a fallen condition and deserves only everlasting condemnation. This is a situation that a man or woman is totally unable to do anything about. There is simply no way for the fallen creature to re-establish a harmonious relationship with his Creator, for the fall into sin was a spiritually fatal fall.

However, even before man was created, God formed a plan of redemption according to His eternal purpose. Even while proclaiming the results of the curse of sin upon man and the earth, God included a message of hope. In His proclamation against the serpent, God began to reveal His plan of redemption through which the door of reconciliation was to be opened to mankind. In Gen. 3:15 we read "*and I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; He shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel.*"

From our perspective today, we know that the "*seed of the woman*" is none other than the virgin born Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ (see Matt. 1:18-25 and Lk. 1:26-56; 2:1-14). Jesus Christ came in "*the likeness of sinful flesh*" yet without sin to carry out God's eternal plan of redemption. His mission in becoming man was to "*save sinners*" (I Tim. 1:15; cf. Rom. 5:6-10).

The Means of Redemption

After having sinned by eating of the "*tree of the knowledge of good and evil,*" the man and woman "*knew that they were naked*" because their eyes were opened. Having disobeyed, they now knew the difference between good and evil. Understanding the concept of right and wrong, their consciences became active and they realized their guilt. To cover their shame they made for themselves aprons or coverings from "*fig leaves.*" But, when they heard the sound of the Lord walking in the garden their self-made coverings proved to be inadequate. They fled from His presence and attempted to hide among the trees of the garden where God found and condemned them (see Gen. 3:1-19). Immediately after the pronouncement of judgment for sin, we read that "*Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them*" (Gen. 3:21). To provide these coats, or coverings of animal skins, to replace Adam and Eve's totally inadequate self-provided coverings of fig leaves, some animal, or animals, had to die. Blood had to be shed. This was the beginning of the sacrificial system in the Old Testament by which a temporary covering for sin was provided by the blood sacrifice of an animal.

By His Blood

While we find examples of blood sacrifices in the Patriarchal period (Adam to Moses), during the Dispensation of the Law the sacrificial system was refined and prescribed in great detail. No longer was a clan leader or the head of a family to offer sacrifices. Only sacrifices offered by the priests of the house of Aaron would be acceptable to God. And most important, only the high priest could enter into the holy place of the Tabernacle with the blood of a sacrifice on behalf of the people on the Day of Atonement (see Leviticus chapter 16).

The writer of Hebrews, speaking of these things, tells us "*...went the high priest alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people...; But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say not of this building; neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the Holy Place, having obtained eternal redemption for us*" (Heb. 9:7-12).

We are told that "*...without the shedding of blood there is no remission (of sins)*" (Heb. 9:22). Sin earns a terrible wage "*for the wages of sin is death*" (Rom. 6:23). The offering of the blood of animals could never take away sins; they were offered only as a temporary covering, but at some time the full

penalty for sin would have to be paid. "*But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God*" (Heb. 10:12). When the Lord Jesus Christ said "*it is finished*" (John 19:30) and died on the cross, the work of redemption was done. Jesus Christ has done all that can be done for the redemption of man. There is nothing left for the lost sinner to do but believe the testimony that God has given us in His Word. The resurrection of Jesus Christ gives us assurance that His work on the cross is sufficient for our redemption. He is the Living Savior, well able to save all who place their trust in Him.

Our Mediator

In times past, men were required to offer blood sacrifices in "faith obedience" to what God had revealed up to that point in the working out of His eternal program. We must take note that while sacrifices, ordinances, and rituals were required in past dispensations, the works in themselves did in no way save. It was the response of faith that God acknowledged. It must be noted as well that while it was before the fact, and as yet unrevealed, salvation in past dispensations was still dependent totally upon the blood of Jesus Christ who, in God's eternal plan, was "*delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God*" (Acts 2:23).

It is clearly stated by the Apostle Paul that today "*there is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus; who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time (the proper or prescribed time)*" (I Tim. 2:5-6).

A Perfect Plan: Sufficient for All Who Believe

Because of man's hopeless condition God, in His mercy and grace, has provided a means of salvation. Salvation is offered as a free gift to those who receive

it, but it was secured on the cross at great cost. God's own Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, provided the ultimate sacrifice for us, "*as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us*" (Eph. 5:2). "*But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners Christ died for us*" (Rom. 5:8). In that "*all have sinned and come short of the glory of God*" (Rom. 3:23), all are in need of salvation. No one is exempt - there are absolutely no exceptions. But in Jesus Christ **all who believe** "*have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sin, according to the riches of His grace*" (Eph. 1:7). There are no exclusions.

Because Christ's sacrifice was sufficient for all of mankind, salvation is now being offered to all men and women. It cannot be purchased for the price is already paid. It cannot be earned for the work is already accomplished. Nothing can be added to it for it was completed on the cross. It can only be received through faith in Jesus Christ.

Faith Is Believing

The Bible tells us that because his sin has rendered him incapable man can do nothing that would merit divine favor, he must trust completely in what God has done for him in order to be saved. As "*faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God*" (Rom. 10:17), we are to believe what God has revealed to us in His Word, the Bible. Jesus Christ is the central subject of God's eternal plan of redemption. He is the Savior, the Only Savior.

To "believe in Jesus Christ" means to totally trust in, to completely rely on, to put all hope in, and give full credit for our salvation to Jesus Christ alone. Christ Jesus died for our sins, was buried, and the third day rose from the dead in complete victory over sin and death. **He is the Living Savior, fully willing and able to save all who trust in Him.**

APART FROM CHRIST THE GLORY OF GOD IS INACCESSIBLE TO SINFUL MAN

Rom. 5:1-2

II Cor. 5:21

Eph. 1:7; 2:8-9

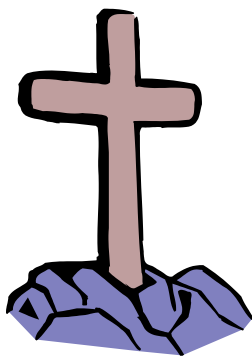
Col. 1:20-22

Titus 3:5-7


"Christ died for our sins" (Rom. 5:8) "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Col. 1:27)


"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23)

Sin creates an insurmountable barrier that separates man from God. The cross of Christ removes that barrier.



By grace, through faith in Jesus Christ, the sinner is forgiven of sins, declared righteous, and has peace with God.

 **The destiny of the saved** is heaven (I Thess. 4:13-18).

The destiny of the lost  is the Lake of Fire (Rev. 20:11-15).

COURSES FOR THE FALL 2001 SEMESTER AT BBI

(August 27th-December 20th)

All classes are held at BBI. No correspondence courses are available at this time

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 diligent 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 - PUBLIC SPEAKING - The ability to communicate effectively is important to all areas of life. The goal of this course is the development of basic oral communication skills to give the student confidence in extemporaneous speaking, giving their testimony, presenting a devotional message, etc. Training in public speaking is an immediate step in preparing for the work of ministry. *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 205 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). *Two 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.*

213 - MANNERS & CUSTOMS OF THE BIBLE: This course studies the manners and customs of the people of the Bible during the time of Christ and the apostles. This background information helps to bridge the culture gap that exists between then and now in order to help the student accurately interpret the Bible. *One credit hour*

1001 - BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES OF FAMILY LIFE: This semester **BBI** is offering a special class on understanding and applying the Biblical principles of personal relationships within the family. With the moral fabric of our nation already badly eroded by the persistent flow of humanistic thought into the mainstream of our culture, the traditional views of the family and moral ethics are quickly fading away. This course is designed for those who are sincerely interested in learning how to protect their families from the destructiveness of worldly philosophies through the application of the Biblical principles of parenting and other family issues. Participants are not required to make the normal formal application to attend this special class. However, since class size is restricted, those desiring to attend should sign up as soon as possible. Single people are allowed to attend. Married couples must attend classes together. For more information call **BBI**. *Two credit hours*

(UPDATE continued from page 1)

These good works of ministry are useful or “profitable unto men,” in two ways. God’s people are to “learn to maintain good works for necessary uses (urgent needs) that they be not unfruitful” (Titus 3:14). First, believers are to minister to the needs of others so that, second, the fruit of Spirit might be produced in their own life (see Gal. 5:13-14, 22-26). Thus, when believers minister to others, both parties profit from it.

And, along with our responsibility is privilege. As believers, we have the opportunity to earn rewards that glorify Jesus Christ when, by faith, we serve Him by ministering to others (I Cor. 3:5-15). What do these rewards consist of? We may not understand exactly how the Lord will honor faithful service at the Judgment Seat of Christ, but the Apostle Paul’s remarks concerning the saints at Thessalonica should give us some insight into the basis of rewards for faithful service. He asks; “for what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?” (I Thess. 2:19). Paul goes on to declare that the saints at Thessalonica themselves were indeed the basis of his “glory and joy” (I Thess. 2:20). This indicates that at the Judgment Seat of Christ there will be great joy in the hearts of those who have faithfully ministered on behalf of Christ when they see how others have profited from their “good works.” And this, whether the result is the salvation of lost souls, or the edification of saints. Paul’s use of the plural personal pronoun “our” tells us that those who ministered with him to the Thessalonians would share this reward. This team concept is evident in Paul’s letter to the Corinthians where he says that “I (Paul) have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase” (see I Cor. 3:5-9).

It was not only those who ministered alongside of Paul in the field that would share in the reward, but those who supported his ministry through giving would also reap eternal benefits from the fruit produced. In thanking the Philippians for their support, he wrote; “Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account” (Phil. 4:17). And those who faithfully pray for those who are in the forefront of ministry are also recognized as being vitally important to the cause. In writing to the Ephesians, Paul asked them to be “praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; and for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open by mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel” (Eph. 6:18-19) and the more that prayed, the better (see II Cor. 1:11; cf. Rom. 15:30-32; Col. 4:2-4).

It takes time and hard work for a ministry to grow. The Biblical knowledge, spiritual maturity, and leadership abilities necessary for an effective ministry are not automatic by completing a course of study. No, it takes time, time engaged in study and

the work of ministry, for these things to develop. And no ministry can stand on the strength of its leader alone, as no minister of the gospel can stand in his own strength. Those who try will fall. Ministry must be a team effort, or maybe it would be better to say ministry must function as a “body” with each member doing its part to be truly Biblical. There must be those who pray, those who give, and those who go. God, in His infinite wisdom, has chosen to use His people to do the work of ministry. Simply put, collectively, as members of the Body of Christ, we have both the responsibility and the privilege of making known the Gospel of God’s Grace to a lost and dying world. It is a responsibility because there is no one else to do it. It is a privilege because in and of our own strength we are neither able nor worthy to carry out such an important task. It has been asked “and who is sufficient for these things?” and the answer is that “our sufficiency is of God” (see II Cor. 2:14; 3:5). We are saved by grace through faith, that we might live to serve God by faith through grace.

The ministry of **Berean Bible Institute** is that of helping individuals prepare themselves to effectively serve God. We are not trying to produce “super ministers” who will set the world on fire overnight and not every graduate of **BBi** will become a pastor, Bible teacher, missionary, Sunday school teacher, or evangelist. But every “sincere” student who takes advantage of **BBi**’s program will gain the knowledge and tools necessary to develop into a balanced minister of God’s Word “rightly divided”, who will, by God’s grace, learn from their mistakes, grow through their trials, and be there over the long run. Those who will serve as the guardians and propagators of the Gospel of Grace in the years to come.

As we have seen, ministry can be carried out through praying, giving, or going. If you have not already done so, I would like to ask you to consider becoming a part of **BBi** in one or more of these ways. Please pray for spiritual and physical strength for the students, faculty and staff of **BBi**. This is an intense ministry that requires endurance in body, soul, and spirit.

If you would choose to support **BBi** financially, it would be greatly appreciated. There is no wiser or more secure investment then to invest in the Lord’s work.

And, if your sincere desire is to prepare for the ministry, please consider attending the **Berean Bible Institute**. We can provide you with a sound Bible education and the skills to put that knowledge into action.

Because Christ Lives,

Dr. W. Edward Bedore
Executive Director

The BBI Bulletin is the official newsletter of the **Berean Bible Institute Inc.**, and is sent free of charge to any who request it.

Berean Bible Institute exists as a non-degree granting school of adult education which endeavors to provide advanced Biblical and doctrinal studies in accordance with the Biblical principle of right division and the revelation of the mystery, along with practical training in ministry and leadership skills in order to help individuals become prepared to do the work of the ministry in local churches and/or the mission field, at home or abroad, with the overall goal of making the Gospel of Jesus Christ known to the lost throughout the world, the edification of believers, and the promotion of personal Bible study.

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Composition and Layout: Jessica S. Sadler

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