

# The BBI BULLETIN

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## *Training Workmen that Need Not Be Ashamed*

### THE INSTITUTE UPDATE

It was a blessing to be part of the *Berean Bible Fellowship* annual Bible Conference at Cedar Lake, Indiana again this year. Along with the "preaching of Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the mystery" from God's Word, we enjoyed the fellowship afforded by a well-attended conference. It was good to spend time with old friends and make new ones.

A personal highlight of the conference for me was the fact that four of the men bringing messages were former students of **Berean Bible Institute** and a fifth is currently a student. All are serving in local churches as pastors. Justin Lynn (a graduate of **BBI**) is pastor of Grace Bible Church in Castle Rock, Colorado; David Siegmann (a graduate of **BBI**) is pastor of Fellowship Bible Church in Orlando, Florida; Paul Turner (a graduate of **BBI**) is pastor of Grace Bible Church in Oshkosh, Wisconsin; Wes Barteck (a former student of **BBI**) is pastor of Grace Bible Fellowship in Inverness, Florida; and Kevin Sadler (a current student at **BBI**) is associate pastor of Kettle Moraine Bible Church in West Bend, Wisconsin. To have these five men together in a national conference like this one demonstrates the fact that **BBI** is having an impact on the Grace Movement. It is very encouraging to see younger men stepping up to fill the void left when the older leaders of the Grace Movement move on to other ministries or to be with the Lord. There are also many others who have received training at **BBI** serving the Lord in various locations and capacities. We thank the Lord for every one of them.

*(continued on page 7)*

## *Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth*

### THE BASICS OF SERVICE Part III

*By Dr. W. Edward Bedore*

*The following is the third and final installment of an article published in the Winter 2006-2007 and Spring 2007 editions of the BBI Bulletin (Volume 8, Issues 3 & 4). Copies are available upon request.*

**7. THE UNCOMPROMISING STAND FOR THE DISPENSATIONAL VIEW OF SCRIPTURE.** We believe that this is a vital requirement for serving God in the Dispensation of Grace. There are no doubt more than a few who would argue otherwise, pointing out that successful ministries exist that do not hold to a dispensational view of the Bible. In fact, some of those same ministries are even openly hostile towards Dispensationalism. We agree that there are large ministries that are successful in attracting large numbers of people but, far too often, this is the result of doing what is popular rather than what is Biblical. There are different methods that may be used to draw people to a church, but it is only the Gospel of the Grace of God that has the power to put individuals into "The Church, which is Christ's Body" and to change their lives.

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Mail Received  
at  
Box 587

**FROM KANSAS:**

"We so appreciate your work in the Lord with the school, (especially to equip pastors) the newsletter to educate those of us that years before would have liked to have had some good training. Also the missions work. You so plainly placed the Message that by Grace alone we are saved and we are ambassadors for Him to give this message to others. But why are we so timid to give it?.....Keep going, we all are with you. Thank you for the light, may the Lord be praised."

**FROM FLORIDA:**

"The entire staff, faculty, and students at BBI are in our prayers. Though we are miles apart, you are still all very close to us."

**FROM GEORGIA:**

"To all at **Berean Bible Institute**, thanking you for sending me your quarterly newsletters. They are edifying and a great study material. I read it cover to cover. They help keep me grounded along with my Bible reading and study. I feel blessed to financially support the school and the Berean work."

**FROM NEVADA:**

"Could you send me a photo of BBI so I can hang up the photo to remember the school in my prayers?"

**FROM GHANA, AFRICA:**

"I've heard of your teachings and I will be glad if you do send me some of your teaching books to help me understand what God expects from us in this Dispensation of Grace."

THE BULLETIN BOARD

*News & Announcements*

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Plan to attend a Bible conference this year! It is a great way to enjoy your

**CELEBRATE GRACE CAMP**

**Dates:** July 22nd-27th, 2007

**Location:** Montrose, Colorado

**Contact:**  
Jerry Worthley at:  
(719) 276-2469.

**GRACE BELIEVERS BIBLE CONFERENCE**

**Dates:** July 27th-29th, 2007

**Location:** Bitely, Michigan

**Contact:** Pastor Ken Lyon at:  
1921) 715-0505

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN GRACE CAMP**

*New Dates & Location!*

**Dates:** August 13th-18th, 2007

**Location:** Westcliffe, Colorado

**Contact:** Julie Cotner at:  
(262) 689-6890.

**BEREAN BIBLE INSTITUTE**  
*Fall Bible Conference*

**Dates:** October 19th & 20th, 2007

**Location:** BBI, Slinger, Wisconsin

**Contact:** Dr. W. Edward Bedore at:  
(262) 644-5504.

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

(THE BASICS OF SERVICE III continued from page 1)

*a. The Dispensation of Grace was specifically and uniquely revealed to the Apostle Paul by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.* It is only to the extent that Grace truth is presented that a ministry can be faithful to the revealed will of God in the present Dispensation of Grace that we are living in. And, we believe that the Grace Gospel Message has been exclusively revealed through the writing ministry of the Apostle Paul as recorded in the Scriptures (the Bible books of Romans thru Philemon). Thus, we are in agreement with the statement concerning the letters of the Apostle Paul that is found in the original Scofield Study Bible:

“Through Paul alone we know that the church is not an organization, but an organism, the body of Christ; instinct with His life, and heavenly in calling, promise, and destiny. Through him alone we know the nature, purpose, and form of organization of local churches, and the right conduct of such gatherings. Through him alone do we know that ‘we shall not all sleep,’ that ‘the dead in Christ shall rise first,’ and that living saints shall be ‘changed’ and caught up to meet the Lord in the air at His return. (Scofield Study Bible, C.I. Scofield, Editor. Oxford University Press, 1917, page 1189).”

Does this mean that we do not accept the rest of the Bible as having any relevance for the Church today? Absolutely not!!! We believe that the entire Bible is the inspired Word of God and is to be read, understood, and believed. The general doctrines of the faith are taught throughout the Bible such as Bibliology, the Doctrine of God, the Trinity, Creation, etc. But, the doctrines that pertain particularly to the Dispensation of Grace and the Mystery Church (the Body of Christ) are only found in the epistles of the Apostle Paul. On the other hand, the doctrines found in the Old Testament, the Gospel Records, early Acts, and the Kingdom Epistles that particularly pertain to the Kingdom Church and Jesus Christ’s prophesied reign on earth are not found in Paul’s letters.

We readily admit that there are strong similarities between the Mystery of Grace and the prophesied Kingdom program and that the fundamental doctrines of the faith are applicable

to both. This, of course, is because the focal point of both dispensations is the Person of Jesus Christ, Who stands at the center of all Biblical revelation and Who alone has provided the means of redemption for mankind. Regardless of the dispensation that a person has lived in, is living in, or will live in, it is only by the blood of Christ that their sins can be forgiven. Of course, for those who died in faith (believing what God revealed to them) before the Cross, the blood was applied retroactively. Under the Mosaic Law works were required to demonstrate one’s faith (Ex. 19:5,6; 21:1-23:19; etc.). A significant aspect of these mandatory works was the offering of blood sacrifices through the death of animals (see Lev. 1:1-4; 4:1-3, 13-14; etc.), but still the blood of sacrificed animals only provided a temporary covering for sins because they could not take away anyone’s sins (see Heb. 10:3-4). The blood of Jesus Christ alone is sufficient for the remission of a person’s sins that they might be declared righteous in God’s sight (Matt. 20:28; 26:28; Acts 20:28; Rom. 3:24-25; Eph. 1:7; Heb. 9:11-12; I Pet. 1:2, 18-19; I John 1:7; Rev. 1:5; 5:8-9; 7:14; 12:10-11).

Because Jesus Christ and His redemptive work on the Cross is the predominant theme of both the prophesied Kingdom and the Mystery of Grace programs, many have confused the two and thus have failed to see the differences between them. This is often the result of an allegorical approach to the Scripture rather than a literal interpretation. Others have recognized some of the differences, but have wrongly concluded that they are insignificant and not worthy of their attention. Or, at least, not important enough to make an issue over. Still others have come to a more complete understanding of the Grace Message but are not willing to stand for what they know is the truth because they are unwilling to pay the price, being more concerned with pleasing men and material gain than with serving God. Those doing this are not serving the Lord regardless of how busy they are in doing the Lord’s work, or how successful they might appear in the eyes of men (see Gal. 1:10). God cannot honor that which is not done in faith because it is dishonoring to Him when we reject or compromise the truth that He has revealed to us in His Word.

***b. Mixing Law and Grace is contrary to God's will in the Dispensation of Grace.*** The mixing of Law and Grace is a terrible thing because it perverts the Gospel Message. A warning in the strongest of terms against doing this is given in Paul's letter to the Galatians: *"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from Him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you that that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed"* (Gal. 1:6-8).

These are strong words that every believer should give serious thought to. The mixing of Law and Grace effectively puts a barrier between man and the Cross as the mixing of the Law with the Grace Message adds works to the Gospel. When this happens, the focus shifts from Jesus Christ and what He has done for us on the Cross to what we have to do in our own power to earn God's favor. Of course, this can only lead people into a frustrating legalistic system of works that leaves the unsaved trying to earn their salvation through good works, which is impossible. And the saved that are caught up in this kind of legalism are left trying to secure their salvation and/or prove their spirituality through their own efforts, which is equally impossible. A mixed gospel is a reproach to God, who has given His own Son to die on the Cross for our redemption and is offering salvation to anyone who would simply believe the Gospel Message. *"For by grace are ye save through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast"* (Eph. 2:8-9). It is also a reproach when a believer begins doing good works in the flesh and takes credit for his ability to please God when in truth we cannot please God in our own effort and it is the Holy Spirit that produces spiritual fruit in the believer (see Gal. 5:16-26). Those proclaiming a mixed gospel are not serving God because they are not faithful to the truth of God's grace.

***c. God will eventually fulfill all of His promises to Israel.*** The mixing of Law and Grace is the result of either not recognizing the distinctions between the unprophesied Grace Church (the Body of Christ) and the prophesied Kingdom Church or else ignoring them. The

result is the same in both cases promises and instructions found in the Scriptures that are particularly to Israel are applied to the Body of Christ, resulting in confusion. The covenants of promise that belong to Israel are transferred to the Church and it is often claimed that God is through with Israel both as a people and as a nation and that Israel has been replaced by the Church.

With this as a premise for interpreting the Bible, Israel cannot be allowed to have a future role in God's program. This causes a problem because there are literally dozens of specific promises found in the Bible that promise that God will one day restore Israel as His favored nation. To fix this, those passages of Scripture that pertain to Israel's future blessings are said to be allegorical in nature and a spiritual application is drawn out that is redirected to the Church. Thus, both the major prophetic events of Scripture and the future of national Israel are eliminated (in the minds of those who take this approach) in favor of the Church. This opens the door to a whole host of varied interpretations of Scripture because the literal meaning of a great deal of it is denied and replaced with what man "thinks" it really means. What the Bible actually says is made a slave to man's religious opinions.

The theological errors of Covenant Theology, Amillennialism, Post-millennialism, Post-tribulation Raptureism, Reconstructionism, Dominion Theology, Pentecostalism, Preterism, Lordship Salvation, The Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches, the recent Mega, Purpose Driven, and Emergent church movements, and a multitude of cults all have their roots in the failure to rightly divide the Word of God. Failing to distinguish between Prophecy and Mystery, between the Kingdom and the Church, between the ministries of the Twelve Apostles and the Apostle Paul, and between the Great Kingdom Commission and the Mission of the Church will always lead to a comingling of Law and Grace. This, in turn, will eventually result in what Paul referred to as a perverted gospel message that will bring its victims under the bondage of legalism. And eventually, we believe it will lead them away from sound doctrine and even Scriptural authority.

We are not saying that no one can serve God in any capacity unless they understand the Grace Gospel Message. What we are saying is that it is only to the extent that one understands, lives by, and promotes the Grace Message that they are actually serving God. For example, if a believer shares Christ with a lost person and explains to them that salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone Who died for their sins, was buried, and raised from the dead, they are serving the Lord because this is the basic truth of the Grace Message. But if, after that person hears and believes the Gospel and is saved, they tell them that they must be water baptized, join a local church, do good works, or any other thing to prove the genuineness of their faith, they would not be serving the Lord because this would be adding works to the Grace Gospel. Yes, believers should do good works in appreciation for what the Lord has done for us on the Cross (II Cor. 5:14-15). But, there is no mandate to do good works in the Dispensation of Grace for salvation or to prove ones' salvation as there is in the Kingdom Gospel. This is a difficult truth for many to accept, but nevertheless it is true.

Neither are we saying that just because someone comes to an understanding of the Grace Message as revealed to Paul by the risen Lord Jesus Christ and given to us in his epistles, that they will automatically be servants of the Lord. It is only to the extent that they incorporate grace doctrine into their hearts and lives through faith that their service to God will be recognized as such.

If we are going to be faithful in serving the Lord, we must faithfully stand for the Grace Message, boldly proclaim the Grace Gospel, and, by faith, live out grace in our personal lives and in ministry. If we who know and love the Lord Jesus Christ and have come into an understanding of the truth of the "revelation of the mystery" are not faithful now, the Grace Message will be lost to the next generation. We are the only ones who are available to uphold this wonderful message of God's Grace in Jesus Christ and pass it on to those who will follow. By God's grace, may we be found to have been faithful servants when we stand at the Judgment Seat of Christ.



*Elbert Huddard, author said, "God will not look you over for medals, degrees or diplomas, but for scars." How many of us can say with the Apostle Paul, "I bear in my body the marks (scars of service) of the Lord Jesus"? —Gal. 6:17b*

## THE TEMPTATION OF CHRIST

*By Dr. W. Edward Bedore*

The record of the temptation of Jesus Christ by the Devil (Matt. 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13) tells us of an effort by Satan to persuade Him to by-pass God's plan and act for His own self-interest in satisfying "*The Lust of Flesh, The Lust of the Eyes, and the Pride of Life*" (see I John 2:16; cf. Gen. 3:1-6;). Satan was trying to entice the Son of Man, the Second Adam, to sin.

*Lust of the Flesh* = He urged Him to make stones into bread to satisfy His hunger.

*Pride of Life* = He challenged Christ to perform a miracle at the Temple (jump from its roof and not be harmed) to prove who He was to the people so they would follow Him.

*Lust of the Eyes* = He showed Him the kingdoms of the world and offered to give them to Him if He would acknowledge him as supreme ruler over them by bowing down to Him.

Each of these temptations address a particular office that Christ came to fulfill; Prophet, Priest and King. In all three cases the Lord Jesus answered by quoting from the Scriptures. We should notice that Satan also quoted Scripture in the presentation of the second temptation. But he deliberately misused God's Word by offering a promise that was dependent on being obedient to God's will (Ps. 91:11). Presenting Christ as God's Servant (priest), Mark mentions the temptation in the wilderness but gives no details. On the other hand, both Matthew and Luke give us the details of the temptations, but in a different order. Matthew's account ends with Israel's promised King rejecting Satan's offer to give Him the kingdoms of the world. Luke's account ends with Jesus Christ, God's greatest Prophet, resisting the temptation to gain a following by performing a miracle.

Refusing to be sidetracked from His mission as a humble servant, Jesus Christ was "*obedient unto death, even the death of the cross*" (Phil. 2:8). At the proper time Christ would "*set His face to go to Jerusalem*" where He would suffer the shame of the Cross for the sake of fallen man (cf. Isa. 50:4-7; Luke 9:51).

By His obedient life and sacrificial death for sinners this Man, Jesus Christ, demonstrated His right to sit at the right hand of the throne of God (Phil. 2:5-11; Heb. 12:2). Refusing to by-pass the Cross the faithful, suffering, servant of God has

become the most highly exalted King of kings and Lord of lords.

And even surpassing the most exalted Messianic offices of prophecy, Jesus Christ is today seated at the right hand of God *"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"* (Eph. 1:20-21; cf. Col. 1:14-19). We say this because Jesus Christ's position as Head of the Church which is His Body is not found in prophecy. It is a part of God's mystery program, the Dispensation of Grace, that was revealed to the Apostle Paul.



The grace missionary that **BBI** would like to put the "focus" on for your thoughts and prayers this issue is:

### **"BROOK SEEKINS"**

Brook has been serving with *Grace Ministries International* in Tanzania, Africa for 6 years. Her ministry has been to help the churches in Tanzania develop healthy youth programs and outreach. She has been busy training youth teachers and camp counselors, leading seminars, conferences etc.

Brook began a camp program in Tanzania four years ago, and it has developed to where it is staffed completely by the Tanzanians. They are reaching so many for the Gospel! Please keep the continuing camp program, the camp leaders and the campers in your prayers.

If you would like more information about Brook or you would like to learn more about her work in Tanzania, Africa, contact *Grace Ministries International* at (616) 241-5666 or check out their web site at <[www.gracem.org](http://www.gracem.org)>.

Brook's e-mail address is <[tanzaniabrook@gmail.com](mailto:tanzaniabrook@gmail.com)> or check out pictures of the ministry there at: <[www.yieldtoGod.blogspot.com](http://www.yieldtoGod.blogspot.com)>

Brook's Field Address is: PO Box 77, Sumbawanga, Tanzania, or e-mail: <[mumba@uuplus.com](mailto:mumba@uuplus.com)> (Brook in subject line).

## IN DADDY'S STEPS

I watched him playing around my door,

My neighbor's little boy of four.

I wondered why a child would choose

To wear his dad's old worn-out shoes.

I saw him try with all his might

To make to laces snug and tight.

I smiled to see him walk, and then

He'd only step right out again.

I hear him say his voice so glad,

"I want to be just like my dad."

I hope his dad his steps would choose,

Safe for his sons to wear his shoes.

And then a shout and cry of joy,

A "Hello, Dad!" and a "Hi-yu, boy!"

They walked along in measured stride

Each face aglow with love and pride.

"What have you done today, my lad?"

"I tried to wear your old shoes, Dad,

They're big but when I am a man

I'll wear your shoes, I know I can."

They stopped and stood there hand in hand

He saw his son's tracks in the sand,

His words- a prayer- came back to me,

"Lord, let my steps lead him to Thee."



# Student's Corner

Thank you to all that attended our **BBI** 2007 Award's Ceremony, on Saturday, May 19th. It was wonderful to see so many of like precious faith coming out to support the students! We would like to recognize those students that have worked and studied to progress to this point and received a first or second year certificate.

Certificate of: **BASIC BIBLE STUDIES**  
(30 credit hours)

*Daniel Millard*

*James Tollar III*

Certificate of: **GENERAL BIBLE EDUCATION**  
(60 credit hours)

*Randall Brown*

*James Francisco*

*Thomas Mills*

*Kevin Sadler*

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## STUDENTS ATTENDING **BBI** DURING THE 2006-2007 ACADEMIC YEAR

<i>Justin Becker</i>	<i>Patrick Gaetzke</i>	<i>Kevin Sadler</i>
<i>Linda Bedore</i>	<i>Stephanie Gaetzke</i>	<i>Christine Schmidt</i>
<i>Randall Brown</i>	<i>Rachel Holbrook</i>	<i>David Stevens</i>
<i>Nathan Cotner</i>	<i>Brian Jones</i>	<i>James Tollar III</i>
<i>Julianna Cotner</i>	<i>Marla Jones</i>	<i>Cory Wolgast</i>
<i>Gregory Cox</i>	<i>Cindy Millard</i>	<i>Lisa Wolgast</i>
<i>Todd Demman</i>	<i>Daniel Millard</i>	<i>Sheila Wolgast</i>
<i>James Francisco</i>	<i>Thomas Mills</i>	<i>Sandra Wruk</i>

Please keep these students in your prayers as they continue to study God's Word. They have dedicated themselves to learning the Word of God rightly divided in order to go out and minister the Word of God to others. Many of them are not sure where the Lord is calling them, but they do know that they want to prepare to serve Him in the best way possible, laboring in the Lord's work. *"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth."*  
— II Timothy 2:15

(THE INSTITUTE UPDATE continued from page 1)

Most faith-based ministries like **Berean Bible Institute** find their financial support levels falling off during the first two or three months of the year and then gradually going back up again as the year goes on. **BBI** has experienced this cycle every year and it has brought a few anxious moments. But, the Lord has seen us through these times by providing the needed support through the generous giving of His people. However, this year has been different. The giving dropped more sharply than ever before in January and has stayed down for the first half of the year.

We do not know exactly why **BBI's** monthly support has dropped like it has in 2007, but we do know that other faith-based ministries are experiencing the same situation. The economic pressures that affect individuals and families also affect the ministry. Gas prices, inflation, interest rates, health care costs, etc. as well as other factors all come into play and are, no doubt, at least part of the reason. But, ultimately, we believe that the enemy is trying to use this to hinder the ministry of **Berean Bible Institute** because the *"preaching of Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the mystery"* is a threat to his kingdom of darkness, and he will do all that he can to hinder it. The spiritual war that we are involved in is real (see Eph. 6:10-18), and it is for the souls of men and women. It is only through the Gospel of the Grace of God that individuals can be set free from the bondage of sin to walk in the newness of life.

The policy of **BBI** is not to beg for or to solicit funds but to simply let our need be known to God's people so that they can make an informed and prayerful decision about how they can help meet that need.

We believe that the Bible and ministry training provided by **BBI** is important to the Grace Movement and that supporting it is an investment in eternity. We praise the Lord with much thankfulness for all of those who have faithfully supported **BBI** over the years. Please pray with us that the Lord will raise up others to join them in this vital aspect of the Lord's work. And that we would be diligent in continuing to teach *"faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."*

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



**BEREAN BIBLE INSTITUTE**

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