



Bible Student's Notebook™

The Herald of His Joy

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

Volume 44
Issue 1092

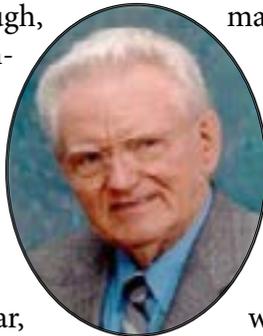
“God Is Working All Together for Good”

by — Peter Feddema (1930-2015)

For us, who love God, who are the called according to His purpose, there is an awareness that He is working all together for good (Romans 8:28, BSV).

Now we are aware that, to those who are loving God, God is working all together for good, to those who are called according to the purpose (CV, 2016 Revision)

Concerning Romans 8:28, Dean Hough, when he was speaking at our Kitchener Concordant Conference, explained that he was surprised by the way the late brother Knoch had rendered Romans 8:28 in the *Concordant Literal New Testament*.



Dean said that according to Greek grammar, Romans 8:28 tells us that those who love God are aware that God works all for the good of all.

Checking in some of the back issues of the *Unsearchable Riches* magazine, it is very interesting to see how Dean used Romans 8:28 in his writings, as follows:

In volume 85 (1994), page 231:

God is the One Who is operating all together for good (cp. Romans 8:28; Ephesians 1:11).

In volume 87 (1996), page 140:

God does not do anything without a reason. God is operating all in accord with the counsel of His will (Ephesians 1:11), and this is for good (Ro-

mans 8:28).

In volume 90 (1999), page 22:

For us who are called there is an awareness that God is working all together for good (cf. Romans 8:28). This is why we claim that in creating the Heavens and the Earth, God was beginning a good work that will ultimately bring Him glory in every aspect, in everyone, everywhere, and always.

In volume 90 (1997), page 240:

But we who have heard the evangel of God's right-
(see [WORKING](#), last page)

“God Is Working All Together for Good”	9157
The Bloody Truth, Chapter 7: The Champion, Not the Substitute	9159
God Isn't Impressed by Greatness – And That's Good News	9161
One God, Out of Whom Is All (Bible Student's Courses)	9162
Our Mailbox	9164
Giving Forth God's Word (quote: E.W. Bullinger)	9164

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Bible Student's Notebook™

Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal

ISSN: 1936-9360

Volume 44, No. 1092 – October 20, 2025

Scripture education in a weekly format!

This free electronic publication is dedicated to:

- the absolute sovereignty and deity of God (Romans 11:36);
- the proclamation of the riches of God's abundant, exceeding grace (Romans 5:20; 11:6; Ephesians 1:7);
- the affirmation that God will save all through the death, burial and resurrection of Christ (I Timothy 2:3-4; 4:10; Titus 2:11);
- the universality of death and resurrection (I Corinthians 15:21);
- the unique gospel of Paul – which he calls "my gospel" (Romans 2:16; 16:25; II Timothy 2:8; I Corinthians 15:1-4; Acts 13-28; Acts 20:24);
- the "preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret in ages past" (Romans 16:25);
- the epistles of the present Secret Administration being Ephesians & Colossians (Ephesians 3:2, 9; Colossians 1:25);
- true freedom and liberty apart from law (Galatians 5:1);
- the organic nature of the One Body (Ephesians 4:16);
- the Secret Administration, being the operational revelation for today (Ephesians 3:9);
- the unprophesied, Celestial hope and calling of the One Body (Colossians 3:4);
- the distinct message and ministry of Paul, the apostle to the nations (Ephesians 3:1-3);
- the importance of receiving all whom Christ has received (Romans 14-15);
- the recovery of rich Biblical truth that has too long remained hidden under the veils of traditionalism, prejudice,

misunderstanding and fear (Mark 7:7, 13);

- the completeness of the believer in Christ (Colossians 2:10), with:
 - total freedom from sins (Colossians 1:14);
 - union in His death, burial and resurrection and ascended seated position among the celestials (Ephesians 2:6);
 - adult sonship position (Ephesians 1:5).

This publication is the product of humble efforts of saints 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

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The Bloody Truth

[Click here to listen to this article](#)

Chapter 7 – The Champion, Not the Substitute

by – Stephen Hill

If you've ever watched a championship game where one player seemed to carry the entire team, you know the feeling of victory-by-association. The star player does the impossible, the scoreboard seals the win, and suddenly the whole team is crowned champions – whether or not every player even touched the ball.



story, but includes us in His triumph. And when we stop to ponder the PSA notion that justice is in any way served by a righteous judge punishing an innocent while letting the guilty go free, we are left in utter confusion based on a complete reversal of the meaning of “justice.” In such a case, how is the judge just? How does the innocent victim benefit? How are the guilty made right?

This is the perfect picture of Christ's role in our salvation. He is not our substitute in a cosmic courtroom. He is our Champion on the field of battle.

Christ didn't take our place so we could watch from the sidelines; He won the victory as *one of us* so we could share in it.

WHY THE DISTINCTION MATTERS

Penal Substitutionary Atonement says that Jesus stood in our place to take the punishment we deserved. That's the courtroom model. But the biblical picture is richer: Jesus entered the contest as a fully human participant, faced our enemies – sin, death and the powers of darkness – and defeated them.

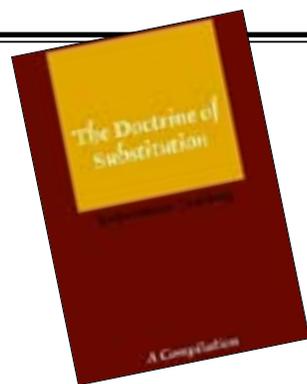
A substitute can be replaced; a champion is unique and irreplaceable. He doesn't remove us from the

THE LAST ADAM

Scripture calls Christ “*the last Adam*” (I Corinthians 15:45). Adam was the first specimen of the human race, and his single act of disobedience brought sin and death into the human condition. As his descendants, we inherited the consequences – not by choice, but by inheriting death – death that was passed on to us through Adam.

In the same way, Christ – our conquering Hero – acted as the Head of the *new* humanity. His obedience, faith and sinless life secured the victory for all who belong to Him, and this “all” indeed includes *all* of mankind.

*Consequently, then, as it was through one of
fense for all mankind for condemnation, thus*



115 pages

The Doctrine of Substitution: An Erroneous Teaching

A Compilation

This is an exposé of Christianity's erroneous doctrine of “Substitution.” Though it is widely accepted, it is not the teaching of Scripture. This is a compilation of authors, including: *A.P. Adams, Vladimir Gelesnoff, Andrew J. Jukes, A.E. Knoch.*

“The best book I've read in ten years.” – Richard Kirsch

also it is through One just award for all mankind for life's justifying. For even as, through the disobedience of the one man, the many were constituted sinners, thus also, through the obedience of the One, the many shall be constituted just (Romans 5:18-19).

In truth, Scripture revolves primarily around two men – Adam and Jesus – and the inclusion of the rest of humanity under the first man's failure and the last Man's triumph.

It seems natural to question God's "fairness" in subjecting the rest of us to a mortal, corruptible condition brought about by another man; that is, until we read the Apostle Paul's glorious explanation in Romans 11:32:

God locks all up together in stubbornness, that He may be merciful to all.

Our inclusion in Adam resulted in our subsequent inclusion in Christ, and a proper understanding of God's intention in "locking us up" under both men will inevitably cause us to be grateful beyond expression.

VICTORY THAT COUNTS FOR ALL

Think of a gold medal in a relay race. Every member of the team gets one, even if one runner blazed the track faster than the rest. The team's win is credited to all. Christ is that runner – our untouchable MVP – Whose perfect obedience is credited to the entire "team" of humanity.

And unlike the star athlete who might be replaced in the next season, Christ is irreplaceable. There will never be another who can qualify as the Champion of the human race, although our calling seats us *with* Him far above all Heavens as we fill up what is lacking in His afflictions (Colossians 1:24). We are, indeed, *in* Him. He is perfect, and we, too, shall be perfected. He is the Father's only begotten Son, but we are also *sons of God* eagerly awaiting our unfathomable allotment in the Super-Heavens.

NOT JUST REPRESENTATIVE: FULLY ONE OF US

A representative can act on our behalf without fully sharing our experience. But a Champion must face the same trials, play by the same rules, and win within the same limits as the rest of the team.

(see [CHAMPION](#), page 9163)

Check out a **NEW BOOK!**



The Bloody Truth

(Pre-publication notice)

by — Stephen Hill

Blood runs like a crimson thread through the pages of Scripture – from the first sacrifice in Eden to the death of Christ. But what if its purpose has been misunderstood for centuries? What if blood was never about appeasing a wrathful God, but about healing, cleansing and reversing the curse of sin and death?

The Bloody Truth uncovers one of the Bible's most profound and shocking reversals: that God Himself supplied the antidote to humanity's greatest disease.

Pre-Publication Sale Through vivid storytelling and careful attention to Scripture, this book reveals how the sacrifices of old pointed, not to divine anger, but to a divine cure. It shows why Christ's blood was poured out, not to satisfy vengeance, but to restore life, reconcile creation, and draw us near to God.

This is not another book of theological jargon. It is a bold journey into the heart of God's plan—a plan that overturns human assumptions about punishment, atonement, and the very nature of salvation. If you've ever wrestled with questions about why blood is so central in the Bible, or if you've longed for a picture of God that is consistent with love, justice, and grace, this book will open your eyes to a truth both ancient and revolutionary.

God Isn't Impressed by Greatness – And That's Good News

[Click here to listen to this article](#)

by – Steve Martin

“We do speak wisdom,” Paul writes, “but not the kind the world admires. The influential leaders of this age? They’re on their way out” (I Corinthians 2:6).



And here’s the breathtaking part: those He’s calling now – those the world thinks are insignificant – are being trained to rule the Universe with Christ. That’s right. You are part of a plan so grand that it makes today’s power structures look like dust. God is preparing you to reign with Him in the ages to come.

This world, with all of its glitz and counterfeit glory, is fading fast (I Corinthians 7:31). Its wealth, its power players, its proudest minds – they’re not part of God’s end plan. In fact, God is intentionally setting them aside.

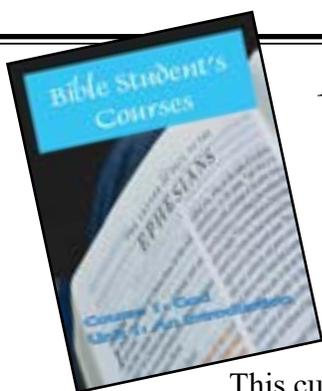
So, the next time you feel small, left out, or unnoticed – remember this: you’re exactly the kind of person God is getting ready for His ultimate purpose. While the “great ones” of today are quietly being moved offstage, He’s preparing you to step into something far greater.

Instead, He’s chosen something better: you. Not because you’re mighty or impressive by the world’s standards, but because you’re not. God deliberately selects the weak, the overlooked, and even the despised to carry out His purposes. Why? So that no one can brag or take credit. It’s all about showcasing His grace, His strength, His glory (I Corinthians 1:26-29).

So, stay the course. Keep your head up and your heart steady. The best is yet to come. **BSN**

Topics:

Major: I Corinthians 2:6; Calling; Humility; Reigning
Minor: Preparation; Wisdom



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Unit 2, The Sovereignty of God

Unit 4, God as Father

One God, Out of Whom Is All

Bible Student's Courses

[Click here to listen to this article](#)

Course 1: Creation / Unit 1: God the Creator / Lesson 2: One God, Out of Whom Is All

by — Mark D. Vogt

*For us there is **one God**, the Father, out of Whom all is, and we for Him ...*
(I Corinthians 8:6, CV).

When we open the Bible, we see the word “god” used in different ways. Sometimes it refers to powerful beings – like spiritual rulers or even human leaders. But Scripture makes a clear distinction: there may be **many gods** (*small g*), but there is only **one true God** (*capital G*).



This is the foundation of our faith: **There is one God – the Father – and everything comes from Him.**

ALL POWER COMES FROM ONE SOURCE

Even Satan is described in the Bible as “*the god of this age*” (II Corinthians 4:4). But don't be fooled – Satan has only the power that God decreed. He is not a rival to God. He is a created being, with a divinely predetermined role to play in God's plan.

For example, in Exodus 7:1, God tells Moses,

See, I have made you a god (elohim) to Pharaoh

...

This doesn't mean that Moses became divine – rather, it means that God gave him authority. In I Corinthians 8:5, Paul says:

There are many gods and many lords ...

But then he adds something powerful in the very next verse:

For us there is one God, the Father, out of Whom all is, and we for Him ... (I Corinthians 8:6, CV).

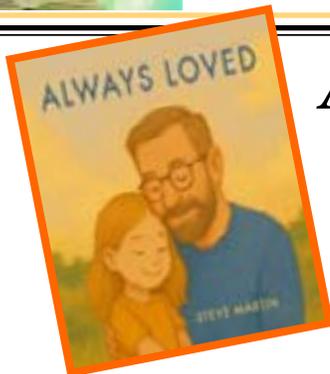
There are spiritual powers, rulers and authorities – but **they all come from God**. They are not equal to Him. They are not outside of His design and control. **All power, all authority, and all creation come from one ultimate Source: God the Father.**

THE LIE OF TWO COMPETING POWERS

Many religious traditions teach that there's a cosmic war happening: God vs. Satan. Good vs. evil. Two powers fighting over humanity – and we're caught in the middle.

But if we follow that logic, we end up with a strange conclusion. Religion says that only a small number

Check out a **NEW BOOK!**



32 pages

Always Loved (The Lucy Series, Book 1)

by — Steve Martin

In *Always Loved*, Lucy discovers that God's love is bigger than mistakes, stronger than fears, and with her every single day. This heartwarming story reassures kids of all ages that nothing can make God stop loving them – ever.

A perfect gift for bedtime reading or encouragement, *Always Loved* wraps young hearts in the truth that God's love never lets go.

Full-color paperback, with illustrations.

of people will be “saved,” and the rest will be lost forever. This would mean that Satan wins far more souls than God does. How is that victory? The truth is far more comforting – and far more powerful:

There is no competition. God is the only true God, and everything is from Him, even the things we don’t yet understand.

EVERYTHING IS OUT OF GOD – EVEN THE HARD STUFF

The Bible doesn’t hide from the tough stuff. It teaches that **all things – both good and bad – flow from God’s hand for a purpose.** That includes:

- Satan and his hosts
- Suffering and joy
- Loss and love
- Failure and success

Everything is part of God’s plan. Everything serves His purpose. And everything is working toward His goal of ultimate restoration.

All is of God ... (Romans 11:36).

God is using **all people, all events, all creation** – even pain, loss and failure – to bring about something glorious. He’s showing us that apart from Him,

CHAMPION ([continued from page 9160](#))

This is why it’s so vital to understand that Christ had to be fully human – sharing in our nature in every respect – in order to be our *true* Champion. The victory had to be won from within humanity, not imposed from outside by a celestial visitor.

THE JOY OF SHARED TRIUMPH

Since, then, the little children have participated in blood and flesh, He also was very nigh by partaking of the same, that, through death, He should be discarding him who has the might of death, that is, the Adversary, and should be clearing those whoever, in fear of death, were through their entire life liable to slavery (Hebrews 2:14-15).

we are nothing. And in doing that, He’s preparing us to be raised up – not by our strength, but by His.

GOD’S PLAN WAS SET BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN

Before the world was ever disrupted by sin or death, God had a plan. He didn’t react to evil – He wrote the story with purpose from the beginning.

Some people get a glimpse of this plan now. Others will experience it later – at the resurrection. But **everyone will one day see that everything truly was “out of God.”** And that’s where we find peace.

REST IN THIS TRUTH

The truth that **“there is One God, out of Whom is all”** – is not just theology. It’s rest. It’s comfort. It means:

- Nothing is random.
- No one is outside of God’s plan.
- Even evil has a purpose and a limit.
- God will make all things right.

This is not a belief we argue about. It’s a reality we rest in. **BSN**

TOPICS:

Major: Creation; Sovereignty
Minor: Evil; Good; Satan

Notice the language – He *“partook of the same things.”* He didn’t “visit” humanity; He was part of it. And in doing so, He won the decisive victory over death, sin and Satan. That victory belongs to Him – and to us in Him.

Chapter 7 Key Takeaways

- ◆ *Christ won as our Champion, not as our courtroom replacement.*
- ◆ *His victory counts for us because He was fully human and one of us.*
- ◆ *Justice is revealed not in punishing the innocent, but in overcoming sin and death.* **BSN**

TOPICS:

Major: Adam; Champion; Christ; Substitution; Two Adams
Minor: Blood; Calling; Christ’s Faith; Identification; Union; Victory



The way you break things down in your books are very simple to understand, you have inspired me to read and

study again, it's been 12 years since I attended any assemble, as I also believe we are the "church." - NY

[Re: *Daily Email Goodies* – "The Certain God in Uncertain Times":]¹ So encouraging. No greater peace than KNOWING He runs the show and every detail of our lives, no matter what FEELINGS we have in the midst of the suffering or in the midst of the joy we experience from His hand. – CO

1. [Editor:] Audio: <https://www.studyshef.com/goodies/20200329.mp3>

Article: Tidbits of Truth #26 ([Bible Student's Notebook 895](#))

WORKING (*continued from front page*)

teousness and love in the giving of His Son for sinners, the truth of a good purpose and consummation is no longer like a shadow. For "we are aware" – it is clear to us "who are loving God" that God is working all together for the good (Romans 8:28).

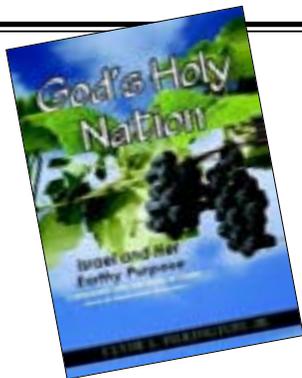
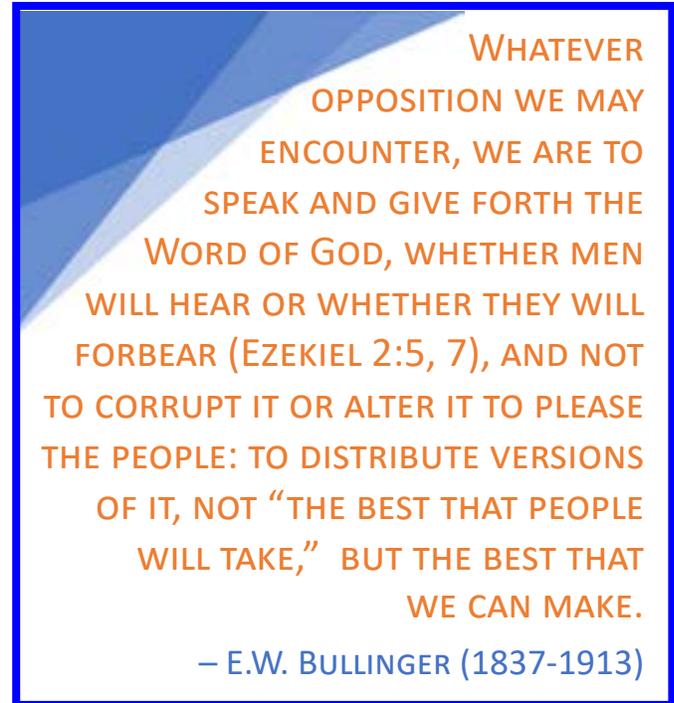
In volume 90 (1997), page 242:

We are aware that God is working all together for good (Romans 8:28), so that whatever occurs we are thankful for it as God's provision ... **BSN**

[Editor:] For further study, see, – "We Are Aware," Dean Hough, [Bible Student's Notebook 997](#).

Topics:

Major: Hough, Dean; Romans 8:28
Minor: Called; Sovereignty



360 pages

God's Holy Nation – Israel and Her Earthly Purpose

Contrasted with the Body of Christ and Its Heavenly Purpose

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

Israel plays a key role in God's plan of the ages. Though currently she has been set aside "until the times of the nations be fulfilled," He is by no means done with her.

Today, God is operating His purpose in the ecclesia – the Church, the Body of Christ. The Scriptures provide us with the clear, critical distinction between God's *earthly* nation and Christ's *celestial* body.

Christendom, however, has diminished Israel's divine significance in an attempt to advance their artificial homogenization of Scripture's grand theme, thus obscuring the glorious evangel of our day – "the Good News of the Happy God" committed to the trust of Paul, our Apostle.

This work highlights some of the more prominent distinctions which belong to God's literal, physical, earthly nation. In so doing, it is our desire to allow the reader to see more clearly God's dealings with God's favored nation, so that they may in turn embrace a *far greater* calling and purpose.