



Bible Student's Notebook™

The Herald of His Joy

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

Volume 44
Issue 1094

God Purposefully Made Each of Us

by – Darson Buckner

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... Though He [God] be not far from every one of us: for in Him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, "For we are also His **OFFSPRING**." Forasmuch then as **we are the OFFSPRING of God** ... (Acts 17:27-29, KJV).

... Not far from each one of us is He [God] inherent, for in Him we are living and moving and are, as some poets of yours also have declared, "For of that **RACE** also are we." **The RACE, then, is inherently of God** (CV).

A genome is an organism's complete set of DNA. It contains all of the genes and information which creates the organism and makes the organism unique.

According to the National Human Genome Research Institute, a person's DNA matches the human genome 99.6%. This means that there is less than a 0.4% variance between any two individuals.

If we are all 99.6% alike, why are we always so eager to point out the 0.4% differences rather than cherish what we all share? Yet thank God for our slight differences so that we can at least tell each other apart.

You are less than 0.4% different from anyone who has ever lived. You are exactly who God wanted when He made you. There are over 8,245,447,888 people in the world today and your DNA does not exactly match any one of them. There has never been an exact match to you.

According to the Population Reference Bureau, there have been an estimated 117,000,000,000 people born on earth but never a person to match your DNA exactly. Out of all of those people, none of them were over 0.4% different.



If you judge someone else, you are judging 99.6% of yourself! Matthew 23:24 says, you strain out a gnat and swallow a camel. We are so focused on the gnat! Matthew 7:3-5 says, you notice a speck in someone else's eye but cannot see the beam in your own eye! Keep in mind the camel or the beam is like the 99.6%. We are 99.6% like the person we are judging.

We think it is a big deal for God to know the hairs on our head (Matthew 10:30). He knows each of us on such a micro level. He placed every atom in us. He knows each proton, neutron and electron He used to make us.

There are approximately 36 trillion cells in the human body, depending on the individual person. Only God knows the exact number. God placed each cell to make the perfect person you are!

God created everything, and He has complete and entire sovereignty, control, ([see PURPOSE, last page](#))

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Bible Student's Notebook™

Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal

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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 9 – What Christ Actually Accomplished

by – Stephen Hill

When Christ cried out “*It is accomplished*” (John 19:30), He wasn’t declaring that a legal debt had been paid to satisfy the Father’s wrath. He was proclaiming the completion of the mission He had been created to fulfill: the removal of sin, the destruction of death’s power, and the restoration of the union between God and mankind.

The old, recurring sacrifices had provided a temporary shield against alienation, but in His own blood, Christ provided the final, permanent remedy. Christ didn’t just cover the disease – He removed it entirely.

FROM COVERING TO REMOVAL

Under the Old Covenant, sin was covered so that

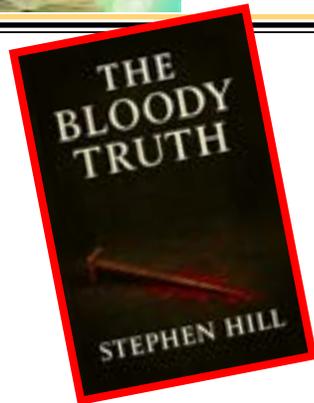


God’s presence could remain among His people. But those coverings never took sin away. Hebrews 10:4 says plainly, “*It is impossible for the blood of bulls and of he-goats to be eliminating sins.*”

When Christ offered Himself, He provided what no animal sacrifice could: a once-for-all removal of sin’s barrier. Hebrews 9:26 says that He appeared “*for the repudiation of sin through His sacrifice.*”

A Greek term worth clarifying is *katallage*, often translated “*reconciliation*” or “*atonement.*” The root means “exchange” or “restoration to favor.” Paul’s use in II Corinthians 5:19 – “*God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself*” – underscores the Father’s initiative to heal estrangement. Nothing here suggests propitiation of wrath; the word instead describes God’s repair of a broken relationship.

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.

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.

Pre-Publication Sale



DEFEATING THE FINAL ENEMY

Paul calls death “*the last enemy*” (I Corinthians 15:26). By rising from the grave, Christ broke death’s hold – not just for Himself, but for the entire human race He represented.

Our Savior, Christ Jesus ... abolishes death, yet illuminates life and incorruption (II Timothy 1:10).

Through death, He should be discarding him who has the might of death, that is, the Adversary (Hebrews 2:14).

Death had entered through Adam; it was overthrown by the last Adam. This is more than personal victory – it’s the pledge of a restored creation.

RECONCILIATION, NOT PROPITIATION

Many translations – even generally reliable, literal ones – speak of “*propitiation*,” as though Christ’s death were a bribe to turn away God’s anger. But Scripture’s emphasis is on *conciliation* – God’s act of removing the estrangement so that reconciliation can follow.

God was, in Christ, conciliating the world to Himself, not reckoning their offenses to them (II Corinthians 5:19).

Notice: God is the One taking the initiative. The barrier was not His hostility toward us, but our alienation through sin and death. Christ’s work removed that barrier once for all, and our loving Father provided His only begotten Son as an *approach present* to draw near to us in an expression of love that far surpasses all comprehension.

FULFILLING THE PATTERN

Every element of the Old Covenant sacrificial system was a shadow of the reality that Christ brought:

- The spotless lamb – His sinless life.
- The altar – The meeting place between God and man, fulfilled in His own body.
- The sprinkling of blood – The application of innocence and life to cleanse what sin and death had defiled.

- The high priest entering the Holy of Holies – Christ entering the true heavenly sanctuary, not with animal blood, but with His own.

Yet This One, when offering one sacrifice for sins, is seated to a finality at the right hand of God (Hebrews 10:12).

A Seat Taken: Priests under the Old Covenant never sat while serving; the work was never done. Christ sat down because His work was *complete*.

SECURING OUR ALLOTMENT

By accomplishing this once-for-all victory, Christ secured an ironclad allotment for humanity: resurrection life, freedom from the bondage of sin, and the ultimate reconciliation of all creation to the Father.

Through Him to reconcile all to Him (making peace through the blood of His cross) ... whether those on the Earth or those in the Heavens (Colossians 1:20).

This is not a partial rescue for a select few – it is the restoration of all things under His headship. And as Vladimir Gelesnoff put it,

Christ is Head in the Heavens as well as on Earth. This fact makes salvation universal, for salvation rests on *headship*.

He is the “*Savior of all men*” (II Timothy 4:10) because He is “*Head of every man*” (I Corinthians 11:3). He is the “*Savior of the Body*” (Ephesians 5:23) because He is its “*Head*” (Ephesians 1:22). He reconciles the thrones, principalities and powers (Colossians 1:20) because He is “*Head*” of every principality and power (Colossians 2:3).

WHY IT MATTERS TODAY

Understanding what Christ truly accomplished changes our entire perspective. We are not trying to earn God’s favor – it’s already ours in Christ. We are not living under the shadow of death – it’s a defeated enemy awaiting its final removal.

(see [BLOODY](#), last page)

All Out of God

Bible Student's Courses

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

Course 2: Creation / Unit 1: God the Creator / Lesson 4: All Out of God

by — Mark D. Vogt

Seeing that out of Him and through Him and back to Him is all: to Him be the glory for the eons! (Romans 11:36).

In the last lesson, we explored what's called **The Divine Cycle**, based on Romans 11:36.

Now we're going to focus on the **first part** of that cycle:

Out of Him ... is all.

This truth is so big, so deep, and so life-changing, that most people – even believers – struggle with it. At first, it might sound too strong. But if we don't understand that *everything* is out of God, we can't truly grasp the rest of the cycle. Without the "out of," there is no "through" or "back to."



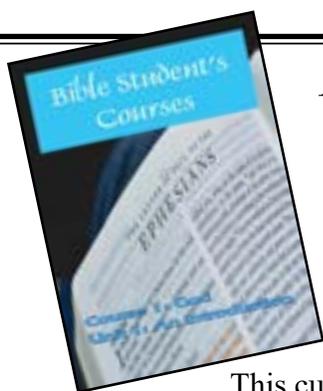
"YES, BUT ..."

Most people have no problem believing that **God created the world** – the stars, the oceans, the planets, the animals.

But when we say that *everything* comes out of God – including human actions, choices, and even suffering – that's when the objections begin.

- "Yes, but people have free will."
- "Yes, but God couldn't have planned evil."
- "Yes, but God only allows, He doesn't cause ..."

These "yes, but" statements come from **our human viewpoint**. But Romans 11:36 gives us **God's view-**



Bible Student's Courses

TRAINING TODAY'S ECCLESIA
FOR TOMORROW'S CELESTIAL ASSIGNMENTS.

A concise, progressive curriculum, designed to address the many gaps in Scripture education, assisting believers in acquiring the necessary comprehension to transition from old religious paradigms toward a true biblical framework of understanding.

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Unit 3, The Love of God

Unit 5, The Attributes of God.

Unit 2, The Sovereignty of God

Unit 4, God as Father

point. And from His side, everything – absolutely everything – is out of Him.

We don't fully understand this because we see from a limited, time-bound perspective. But God sees all things clearly and completely. What looks confusing or wrong to us is part of His perfect, loving and purposeful plan.

PAUL UNVEILS THE MYSTERY

This truth wasn't clearly revealed until the Apostle **Paul** was called to share it.

In his later letters – especially **Ephesians** and **Colossians** – Paul unveils the **full scope** of God's Universal plan. It includes not only the Earth but the entire Heavens, all powers and authorities, and every created being. All of it flows from God.

Paul says in II Corinthians 5:18,

Yet all is of God, Who conciliates us to Himself through Christ ...

That's not just a spiritual statement – it's an **absolute truth**. All is **out of God**.

TWO POWERFUL EXAMPLES

1. Joseph's Story

Joseph's brothers hated him so much that they sold him into slavery. Later, he was falsely accused and thrown into prison. But through all of this, God had a purpose.

Eventually, Joseph became second in command in Egypt and saved his family – and many others – from famine.

Joseph didn't say, "God fixed a bad situation." Instead, he said:

*You meant it for evil, but **God meant it for good***
... (Genesis 50:20)

God didn't *react* to what happened. He *planned* it. It was all out of Him.

2. The Cross of Christ

The betrayal by Judas. The Roman execution. The suffering and death of the Son of God. It was the darkest moment in human history. And yet – it was **God's plan** from the beginning. The crucifixion, as horrific as it was, became the pathway to the resurrection and reconciliation of all.

It wasn't an accident. It wasn't Plan B.

It was out of God.

THE POTTER AND THE CLAY

In Romans 9, Paul compares God to a **potter**, and us to **clay**. God shapes each vessel – some for honor, some for dishonor. And even those He shapes for glory, He allows to be broken.

Why?

Because broken vessels shine brighter. They reveal His mercy, wisdom and love in ways that unbroken ones never could.

EVERYTHING IS OUT OF HIM

This includes:

- Your story
- Your successes and failures
- Your joys and your suffering
- Even the things you don't understand yet

All of it flows from a wise and loving Father. Nothing surprises Him. Nothing is wasted. Nothing is outside His authorship.

Out of Him ... is ALL.

That's the starting point of the Divine Cycle – and the beginning of real peace.

BSN

Topics:

Major: Creation; Divine Cycle; Sovereignty
Minor: Conciliation; Peace; Will

Stupid Because of Christ

by — Steve Martin

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

We are stupid because of Christ, yet you are prudent in Christ. We are weak, yet you are strong. You are glorious, yet we are dishonored (I Corinthians 4:10).

What does it really mean to be “*stupid because of Christ*”? Paul described himself and his fellow workers that way: *stupid, weak and dishonored* in the eyes of the Corinthian ecclesia.

Back in my Christianity days, I thought it meant standing out through odd behavior. We dressed strangely, banned makeup, drove black cars, refused movies and sports, taped Bible verses on everything, and congratulated ourselves when people mocked us. If the world made fun of us, we believed that it proved that we were fools for Christ.

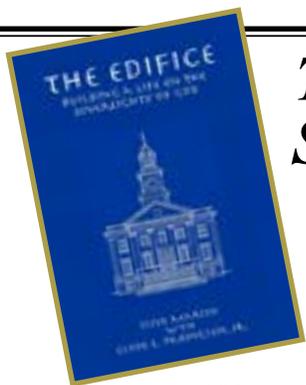
But that wasn't the point. Paul wasn't bragging about eccentric behavior and how it appeared to the world. He was pointing to the scandal of the message he carried to the believers in Corinth.

To Christianity:

- We are **stupid for Christ** when we say there is no eternal hell – that God's plan never in-
- We are considered stupid when we say that

cluded endless torment for most of humanity.

- We are **weak for Christ** when we proclaim a grace so unstoppable that sin cannot outrun it. Religion wants power and control; grace looks weak because it gives everything away.
- We are **dishonored for Christ** when we announce that God will restore all things and that His happiness, not His anger, drives the universe.
- We are called stupid when we say that God sides with immigrants, the poor, the marginalized, and humbles the rich, the proud, and the powerful.
- We are treated as weak when we insist that God is absolutely sovereign, and that even evil itself was created to display His mercy and grace.
- We are dishonored when we affirm that the “cross” was never a patchwork solution, but the heart of God's purpose from before time began.
- We are considered stupid when we say that every knee will bow – not in terror, but in



100 pages

The Edifice: Building a Life on the Sovereignty of God

by — Steve Martin (with Clyde Pilkington)

This thought-provoking book challenges the notion of randomness in life, asserting that every moment is part of a divinely orchestrated plan. Centered on the foundational truth of God's absolute sovereignty, it reassures readers that their lives are not accidents, their failures do not define them, and their faith is not dependent on their own efforts.

Rather than advocating for spiritual self-improvement, *The Edifice* invites readers to recognize the solid structure already beneath them – crafted by God, the ultimate Architect. It explores deep theological concepts, such as God's dual will, the peace found in surrendering to His plan, and the liberating realization that life's script was never ours to control.

Designed for those weary of religious striving, the book offers a call to rest, reminding readers that faith is not about performance but about trust in the God Who has been carrying them all along.

worship, because His love never failed them.

- We are counted weak when we rejoice that death, the last enemy, will be abolished, and life will triumph over all.

The world wants wisdom, strength and honor. God delights to use what looks stupid, weak and dishonored to show the brilliance of His plan.

So yes – call us what you will:

Stupid. Weak. Dishonored – for Christ.

Because in the end, the shame of men becomes the glory of God. **BSN**

TOPICS:

Major: Individualism; Judging (man's)

Minor: Humility; Sovereignty

BLOODY (continued from page 9176)

We live in the light of a finished work, carried out by our perfect Leader, Who fought within our nature, won the battle on our behalf, and now shares His victory with us.

The work is finished, the enemy is defeated, and the victory is ours *in Him*.

Chapter 9 Key Takeaways:

PURPOSE (continued from front page)

responsibility, power and authority over everything, living and non-living.

Most all religions state, "God is in control," but these religions seem to acknowledge only limited control. Yet God is in COMPLETE control. Once we come to realize the magnitude of God's sovereignty, we can better embrace our 0.4% differences.

God has NEVER made a mistake! No matter how bad it looks sometimes, everything we witness in this world is part of God's plan which will eventually help us understand His deep love for each of us and ALL

- ♦ Christ's blood removed sin rather than merely covering it.
- ♦ His resurrection defeated death, humanity's last enemy.
- ♦ Reconciliation **BSN**: God's initiative, not a bribe to appease wrath.

TOPICS:

Major: Allotment; Blood; Death; *Katallage*; Propitiation; Recon-ciliation; Sacrifice; Victory

Minor: Approach Present; Sin

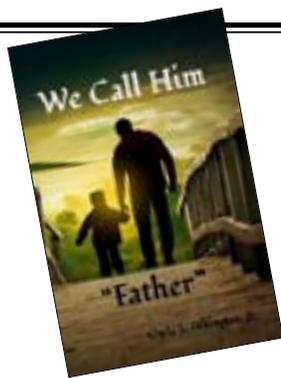
of His creation.

TOPICS:

Major: DNA; Genome; Individualism; Judging (man's); Sovereignty

IF WHAT YOU CALL "THE GOSPEL" ISN'T THE MOST EXCELLENT, MOST JOYFUL, MOST UNBELIEVABLE NEWS YOU'VE EVER HEARD, THEN IT ISN'T THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

– TIMOTHY LEE LANDY



276 pages

We Call Him "Father"

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

One God and Father of all, Who is over all and through all and in all
(Ephesians 4:6, *Concordant Version*)

Jesus Christ came to reveal God's true identity and nature as "Father." This was an advanced revelation concerning God, super-abounding that of any previous one. With radical boldness Christ called Him "Father," and Paul pressed this glorious truth to its grand ultimate, that God was the "Father of all."
31 chapters, 21 appendixes.