



Bible Student's Notebook™

The Herald of His Joy

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

Volume 44
Issue 1095

“Wintering”

by – Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., Editor

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

And He said unto them, “Come yourselves apart into a desert place, and **rest** a while”: for there were many coming and going, and they had no **leisure** so much as to eat (Mark 6:31).

To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under the Heavens: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pull up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, MKJV).

The term “wintering” refers to the survival strategies that plants and animals use to get through the coldest months.

For animals, this may include hibernation, migration, inactivity, reduced metabolism, growing thicker coats, etc.

For plants, this can consist of dormancy, root energy storage, waxy coatings to decrease water loss, etc.

“Wintering” also refers to periods of rest, retreat and self-reflection, during difficult winter-like-seasons of life. It is a metaphor taken from the natural world.

The concept of “wintering” was made popular by author Katherine May in her book *Wintering: The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult Times*.

The concept embraces a cyclical view of life. Instead of seeing life as a linear progression of constant growth, “wintering” acknowledges that life has cy-



cles of abundance and scarcity, of highs and lows, of growth and fallowness, of activity and rest. “Wintering” doesn’t pretend that difficult times don’t happen, but rather accepts them as natural and necessary phases.

“Wintering” acknowledges the transformative power of rest. In a world where it is easy to glorify busyness, wintering encourages slowing down, getting enough rest without guilt. It recognizes these winter-periods as where transformation can occur.

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Bible Student's Notebook™

Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal

ISSN: 1936-9360

Volume 44, No. 1095 – November 10, 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 10 – Calvary as the Supreme Display of Love and Grace

by – Stephen Hill

Nearly every believer agrees that the crucifixion was the greatest act in human history, but many still misunderstand *why* Christ's sacrifice holds such power. They may picture it as a legal transaction, a courtroom drama where the Judge exacts punishment from the innocent instead of the guilty. Yet the true glory of the cross lies not in satisfying a wrathful demand – it is in revealing the immeasurable, unstoppable love and grace of a loving Creator and Father, displayed for all creation to see.



prince of the power of the air (Ephesians 2:2) – could break the bond between the Father and His creation.

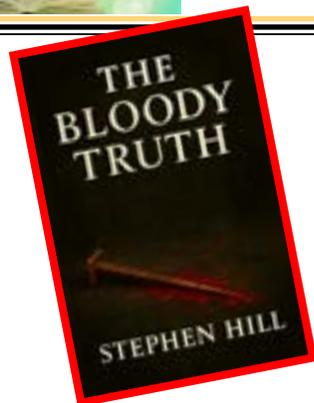
And in that moment, Calvary became more than an event in history. It became a cosmic declaration. Every celestial being – faithful and rebellious alike – witnessed the Most High granting His Son the right to rule, not by force, but by proven love. This was the Father's chosen way to glorify His Son: to make Him the Head over all, *because* He endured the worst that mortality and rebellion could muster, and emerged victorious without a single act of disobedience.

THE BLOOD THAT SPOKE LOUDER THAN WORDS

The Levitical sacrifices had whispered this truth for centuries, though few recognized it. They foreshadowed the day when one perfect offering would break



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

the power of sin and death entirely. The lambs, bulls and goats of the old covenant could provide only a temporary, protective covering – a shield until the true Savior came.

When Christ's blood flowed, it was not to bribe His Father into forgiveness, but to apply the one antidote capable of destroying our greatest enemies. Every drop declared that the reign of sin and death was over. The blood did not change God's heart toward us, because His love had been set from before the disruption of the world. It changed our condition so that we could enter His presence entirely free and without fear.

LOVE PROVED IN SUFFERING

If God had simply willed the removal of sin and death without the cross, His love would still be infinite – but it would remain unseen, unproven. The cross was where the unseen became visible. The pain, the public humiliation, the relentless cruelty – these were not mere accidents of history. They were the Father's chosen stage to display the depth of His grace to every eye throughout creation.

When Christ bore the rejection of men and the agony of the cross, He was not taking punishment in our place; He was conquering every power that stood against us. His victory was not a legal technicality; it was a lived reality.

THE CROWN THROUGH THE CROSS

Hebrews 2:9 tells us that Christ is "*wreathed with*

glory and honor" because of "*the suffering of death.*" That is not the language of a substitute – it is the language of a Conqueror. He did not merely fill a role in our stead; He won on our behalf. And because He is the Head of the human race and of the new creation, His victory is *our* victory, just as Adam's failure was inherited by all mankind apart from choice.

The Celestials now see in Him the perfect ruler – not one who ascended by privilege or inherited power, but One Who earned His crown through relentless obedience, costly love, and triumphant faith.

Calvary, then, is not just the turning point of human history – it is the eternal monument to the truth that love, not fear, is the power that holds the universe together and was the actual coronation of Christ, at which point He was literally clothed like royalty, crowned, and publicly recognized with a posted sign declaring Him "*King of the Jews.*" And the blood shed there is the seal of that truth, never to be erased.

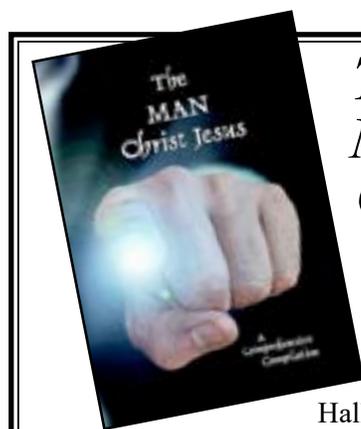
Chapter 10 Key Takeaways

- ◆ The cross revealed the depth of the Father's love, not His anger.
- ◆ Christ's suffering crowned Him as rightful Ruler of all.
- ◆ Calvary **proves** that love, not fear, holds the universe together.

TOPICS:

Major: Approach Present; Calvary; Grace; Love; Sacrifice; Victory

Minor: Antidote; Crucifixion; Death



The Man Christ Jesus: His Birth, Life, Nature, Faith, Suffering and Glory (A Comprehensive Compilation)

430 pages

This book contains 24 authors and 74 works spanning 130 years.

Authors include: Arthur P. Adams (1845-1925), William W. Bentley, Jr., William Tucker Broad (1860-1923), Leon A. Bynoe (1895-1983), E.W. Bullinger (1837-1913), E.H. Clayton (1887-1972), John H. Essex (1907-1991), William B. Hallman (1903-1985), Joseph Edwin Hartill (1909-1981), A.E. Knoch (1874-1965),

Adlai Loudy (1893-1984), William Mealand (1873-1957), Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., Frank Neil Pohorlak (1907-1988), André Sneidar, E. Al Stahl (1926-2011) and Charles H. Welch (1880-1967).

All Through God

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

Bible Student's Courses

Course 2: Creation / Unit 1: God the Creator / Lesson 5: All Through God

by — Mark D. Vogt

Seeing that out of Him and through Him and back to Him is all ... (Romans 11:36).

We've already seen from Romans 11:36 that **everything comes out of God**. Now we focus on the next part of the verse:

... and through Him ... is all ...

This is just as big and just as important. Nothing happens apart from Him – not in Heaven, not on Earth, not even in the quiet places of your own heart.

WHAT DOES “THROUGH HIM” MEAN?

The word “*through*” means a **channel or pathway**. It's like a river flowing through a valley, or electricity moving through a wire. It's not random – it has a direction, a source, and a purpose.



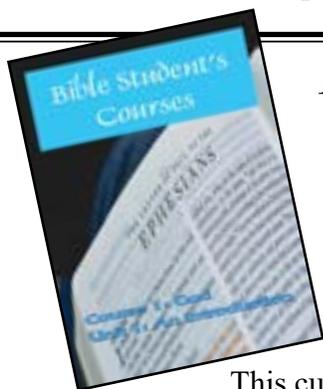
Here's a picture to help us understand:

The writer of this lesson has twin sons who are firefighters. When they fight a fire, they don't just open the fire hydrant and hope the water splashes in the right direction. They connect a hose and **channel** the water exactly where it's needed. The hose directs it with power and purpose.

In the same way, **God is channeling every event, every person, and every outcome through Himself**. He directs it all with precision and purpose – nothing is left to chance.

GOD IS THE SUBJECTOR AND THE PLACER

The Bible gives us two powerful names for God:



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.

This curriculum is available through eBook courses, or as print material. Each course is divided into units containing detailed multimedia resources, with each individual lesson providing quizzes, allowing students to test their knowledge as well as providing documentation for recognition of completion.

Course 1, God: Units 1-5

The first 5 units of course 1. 5-Unit Set, with Unit Resources and Quiz links, 52 lessons, 279 pages, paperback only:

Unit 1, An Introduction

Unit 3, The Love of God

Unit 5, The Attributes of God.

Unit 2, The Sovereignty of God

Unit 4, God as Father

- In **Hebrew**, God is called "**El**," meaning **Subjector** – He subjects everything to His will.
- In **Greek**, the word is **Theos**, meaning **Placer** – He places everything exactly where it should be.

Let that sink in:

God **places** everything (including you), and then **subjects** everything to the conditions He chooses, for as long as He chooses.

That means your life, your circumstances, your story – they're not random. **They're sourced and channeled through Him.**

WHAT ABOUT OUR CHOICES?

You might ask, "But don't we make choices?"

Yes, we do. But our decisions are **influenced** by internal and external factors that God controls.

Here are two examples:

- **External influence:** If you're planning a picnic and a thunderstorm rolls in, you'll probably cancel. The weather changed your decision. But who sent the storm? God did.
- **Internal influence:** Imagine a child who was bitten by a dog. Years later, even as an adult, they might be terrified of dogs. To others, that fear seems irrational. But it was shaped by a real experience – one that God allowed, with a purpose.

In both cases, our choices are shaped by things that **God has placed in our lives.** *Nothing* is outside of His control. *Everything* flows through Him.

GOD NEVER LOSES CONTROL

Some people imagine that God created the Universe and then stepped back to let humans (or angels) run the show. But if that were true, we would have destroyed ourselves long ago.

Think about it: If even one part of creation slipped out of His control, the whole plan could unravel. But it hasn't – and it won't.

All My counsel – it shall stand, and all My desire – I will do (Isaiah 46:10, CV).

God is **not reacting** to what's happening. He's not improvising. He is **channeling everything through Himself**, according to His own script.

WHY THIS MATTERS

If you've ever felt like life is spinning out of control

...

If you've ever wondered why things happen the way they do ...

If you've ever felt powerless ...

Then here's your peace:

God is channeling everything through Himself – for your ultimate good and for His eternal glory.

That means:

- Nothing is wasted.
- Nothing is outside His plan.
- Nothing depends on your ability to figure it all out.

He has written the script, down to the smallest detail. And He's carrying it out, moment by moment, **through Himself.**

THROUGH HIM ... AND BACK TO HIM

Everything is flowing through God – not by accident, but on purpose. And because it's flowing through Him, we can be confident that it will also return **back to Him.**

One Source. One Channel. One Destination.

Out of Him. Through Him. Back to Him.

And that is where we find peace.

ESN

TOPICS:

Major: Creation; Divine Cycle; Placer; Sovereignty; Subjector
Minor: Peace; Will

The Peace God Gives

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

a poem, by — Darson Buckner

We seek out kind people, places and things.
We want to have fulfillment that peace brings.

I used to think joy could be found here.
Now I see just misery in this sphere.

Man is short of days and full of trouble.
Gold we seek but gather only stubble.

No matter how hard we try to make gains.
All we can do is add to our pains.

There is a real peace which we can possess.
It comes from knowing that God truly does bless.

Knowing that Father is in full control.
His will does govern every living soul.

This knowledge gives us an understanding.
That God's grace is truly all abounding.



There is no limit of God's love for us.
His spirit made us all most glorious.

His perfect will for us is where we are.
Accepting this puts you ahead by far.

No speculation of the days to come.
No past guilt we carry, not even some.

An abundance of peace he does now bring,
This peace helps us for our hearts to now sing.

Relax, Relax, think not of tomorrow.
Have faith, hope and love and not much sorrow.

He has it in control, it's all His plan.
It's been written down before time began. **BSN**

TOPICS:

Major: Joy; Peace; Poems; Sovereignty

Minor: Suffering; Trials

Daily Email Goodies Update

Hi friends, André here – Clyde's admin at StudyShelf – with a quick update!

Good news: our email delivery problem is fixed (as far as we can tell). If you're receiving the "Goodies," everything's working again!

A few quick notes:

- Clyde hasn't retired – he's still fully active in ministry.
- To free him for the Study Bible Project, I'll now be sending out the Daily Email Goodies (DeG). Same great content, just from me instead of Clyde.

- We're also moving to a new email and website provider for a cleaner look, easier navigation, and better search tools. The transition should be complete by next summer.

If you don't see our DeG emails, please check your spam or junk folder.

And if you'd like to confirm that you're receiving these, just drop me a quick note at none.lost@studysshelf.com.

Thanks for your patience and continued encouragement!

BSN

WINTERING (continued from front page)

“Wintering” can build resilience and provide space for reflection, and lead to renewal. Just as winter gives way to spring, the period of rest allows for emergence with new energy, clearer perspectives, and renewed purpose.

Plants and animals don’t fight the winter; they don’t pretend that it’s not happening, and attempt to carry on living the same lives they lived in the summer. They prepare and adapt. They perform extraordinary acts of metamorphosis to get them through. “Win-

tering” is a time of withdrawing from the world; but that’s where the transformation occurs. Winter is not the death of the life cycle, but its crucible. **BSN**

(Adapted Book Reviews)

Wintering: The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult Times, by Katherine May

TOPICS:

Major: Believer’s Walk; Life; Rest

Minor: Contrast



Thank you for your faithful [daily messages!](#) – AZ

I have been receiving your [Daily Email Goodies](#) for quite some time, and want you to know how much I appreciate them. Many thanks and every blessing for the work you do in the Name that is above every name, our Lord Jesus Christ. – **Australia**

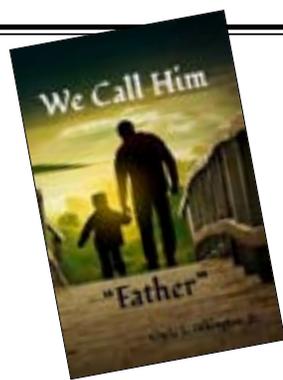
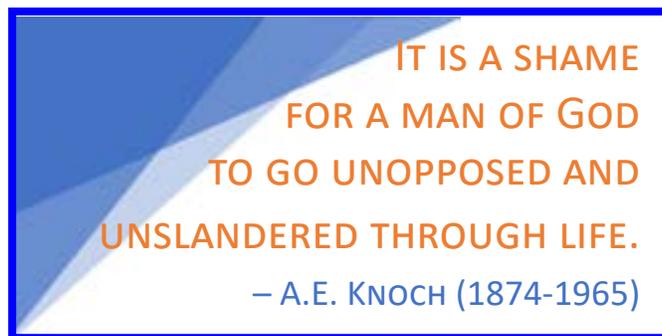
Thank you for continuing to send out these [Daily Email Goodies](#), Clyde – I look for them every day. – CA

Thank you for your teaching ministry from which I have greatly benefited. It is so refreshing to find a heart like yours – genuine, caring, loving the truth and loving sharing it. I viewed your teaching on [The Parable of the Rich man and Lazarus](#) on YouTube and was blessed by it. – **New Zealand**

Really excited for this [[Study Bible Project](#)] work. Obviously, I think that Father making room for Steve to be more involved in this project is great. I appreciate the sharing of the timeline of this project. Let’s see where Father will take us next. – IN

BSN

I just started reading [Present Day Israel](#). ... I find Mr. Ballinger’s section to be excellent. It is a tragedy that many today are blaming Dispensationalism for the Christian Zionism that is popular, when in fact it is the antidote for it. Good job on this book. – OH



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.

Study Bible Project: An Important Update [Click here to listen to this article](#)

“If money were no object, what would you do?”

That simple question over lunch at Ruby Tuesday’s in Somerset, Pennsylvania, on **January 3, 2024**, became the spark for one of the most significant undertakings in our ministry’s history – the **Study Bible Project**.

A CONVERSATION THAT CHANGED EVERYTHING

That day wasn’t planned. Steve Martin was simply passing through Somerset and met Clyde Pilkington for a friendly lunch. But as they talked, Steve asked him that question – a question he often asks people in his work as a fundraiser.

Clyde didn’t hesitate: “I’d create a Bible dictionary and a Study Bible.”

He spoke with a passion that was unmistakable. It wasn’t a passing thought – it was a dream that had lived quietly in his heart for years. That conversation reignited it.

“That question gave me a spark,” Clyde said. “It was something I thought I’d never get to do. But that day, hope came alive again.”

FROM VISION TO REALITY

Over the following months, the dream took shape. By **September 2024**, the two of them recorded *A Vision for the Future*, a video outlining what this Study Bible would become – a tool that would gather decades of research, writings and revelation into one cohesive work.

In **November 2024**, they published the vision in the *Bible Student’s Notebook* and shared the first financial goal: to raise **\$30,000**.

That amount wasn’t for printing or promotion. It was to **hire a full-time assistant for Clyde**, freeing him to dedicate himself completely to the Study Bible.

For years, Clyde had carried a full load – study, correspondence, shipping, video, editing and writing – leaving little room for new research. The goal was to lift those responsibilities off of his shoulders so that he could immerse himself entirely in what Father had written for him to do.

By the end of the year, the goal was reached. Saints from around the world responded with generous gifts – some large, some small – but all given with love.

“You helped me see that this wasn’t about fundraising,” Clyde said.

“It was about partnership. I invest my time; others invest their financial resources. Together, we move forward in God’s energy.”

THE VISION: A BIBLE OF FREEDOM

This Study Bible will be unlike anything else. It will feature **two translations** side-by-side – one ultra-literal and one modern, easy-to-read version. Together they will form a bridge between precision and clarity.

Supporting notes and cross-references will draw from more than **488 published books, 43 volumes** of the *Bible Student’s Notebook*, and **decades of teaching and study**.

It begins with the Scriptures that reveal the present administration of grace – **Ephesians, Colossians, Philemon, and Philipians**.

“This will be a Study Bible for the Secret Administration,” Clyde said. “It’s a Study Bible of freedom – freedom from religion, freedom from tradition, and freedom from bondage.”

BUILDING THE TEAM

Once the initial funds were raised, the next step was finding the right person to help. That’s where Father began writing new chapters none of us expected.

In **January 2025**, Clyde’s granddaughter, **Emma Hawes**, began helping part-time in the office while attending college. Her work quickly became indispensable, freeing Clyde from many daily tasks.

In the spring, a young man named **Austin** reached out, expressing his desire to serve the ministry. Though that particular path didn’t continue, it reminded us that Father has many hearts prepared for this message.

And then, unexpectedly, the answer came from within. As Steve’s consulting work began to wind down, he found himself with more time – and a growing conviction that, perhaps, *he* was meant to step into that assistant role.

“I was afraid to send the message,” Steve told Clyde, “but, what would you think about me taking this position?”

His response was instant: “Duh – yes! You’re the man!” And with that, Father brought the story full circle – the same conversation that had sparked the dream became the path to its fulfillment.

A DREAM WRITTEN LONG AGO

Clyde often says, “Retirement isn’t in my vocabulary.” Now, with Emma’s faithful help and Clyde’s involvement alongside Andre, Steve and others, he will be able to devote **full-time energy** to the Study Bible Project.

“I’m in my element,” Clyde says. “I know five decades have brought me to this point. This is the work that Father has written for me to do.”

THE WORK AHEAD

This Study Bible will serve as a bridge for generations to come. Like the *Companion Bible* of a century ago, it builds on the work of other faithful men, carrying those truths further into the light of freedom and grace.

“The deeper we go, the more joy, the more peace, and the more freedom we discover,” Clyde said.

We’re now assembling everything needed – time, team and resources – to take this as far as Father has written. Volunteers, editors and donors are all part of this unfolding story.

“We’re not just working for today,” Clyde said. “We’re preparing tools for the next generation to stand on our shoulders.”

JOIN US IN THE JOURNEY

The Study Bible Project is a shared calling – built on faith, fueled by love, and sustained by the giving of the Saints.

If you’ve already joined us through giving, thank you. If you’d like to help carry this vision forward, we welcome your partnership. Together, we are making possible a work that will outlast us all.

TRANSITION PERIOD

Between now and January is a transition period during which Steve continues to take different responsibilities off of Clyde’s shoulders. On **January 1**, Steve will step into what we tongue-in-cheek call the **Chief of Staff** role. At that time, **Clyde will be free to work on the Study Bible full time.**

“I can’t begin to express how excited I am to step into this role,” Steve shares. “I genuinely feel that everything in my life – my years in management, communication and fundraising – has been preparing me for this moment. I love this ministry and the message it carries. I’m passionate about the truth of God’s sovereignty, love and grace, and am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve in a way that allows Clyde to focus full time on creating the Study Bible.

“To me, this isn’t just a job – it’s a calling. I believe Father has written this chapter long before either of us saw it coming, and I’m humbled and thrilled to be part of what He’s doing through this work.”

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