



Bible Student's Notebook™

The Herald of His Joy!

Showcasing all humanity finished in Christ Jesus. Colossians 1:28 Volume 45
There is still much light to break forth from the Scriptures. A.E. Knoch (1874-1965) Issue III9

NO Rapture for the One Body of Christ of the Secret Administration

by — Deverlain L. Trefethen, with James D. Fine

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



Before the Pre-Millennial Kingdom: The One Body of Christ of the Secret Administration must be manifested together with Christ in glory prior to any of Israel's prophesied events can resume.

Christ Jesus doesn't secretly come to rescue the One Body before the tribulation begins as has been taught. The snatching away passage, in whole, is tied to **God's prophesied purpose for Israel**. We learn from Scripture that when Christ ascended, He was to sit at the right hand of God until God made all of Christ's enemies His footstool (Psalm 110:1; Matthew 22:44; Hebrews 1:13). Christ doesn't descend to Earth until after the tribulation.

Since this is true, where is the logic that Christ will secretly descend to Earth to rapture "Christians" to heaven?

There is none.

- * **Christ will rule from "far above all Heavens" during the Pre-Millennial Kingdom.**
- * **Christ will not leave His place at the right hand of His Father to descend to Earth until God has made Christ's enemies His footstool.**
- * We have been told that the "rapture" is a secret event to transport the members of the One Body to Heaven, however, **when Christ returns to Earth there is nothing secret about it.**
- * At Christ's return to Earth (His Second Coming),

the faithful of Israel will be raised alive, but mortal.

- * Christ will then rule and reign on earth for a thousand years.

Bottom line: the snatching away, as recorded in I Thessalonians 4, is not for the One Body of Christ of the Secret Administration, nor is it a secret.

Have you ever heard a silent shout?

No? Me either.

For we say this to you by the Word of the Lord, that we [the faithful of Israel] who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord [who survive the tribulation of those days] shall not go [be snatched away] before those who are asleep [the dead in Christ]. For the Lord Himself shall de-

(see [RAPTURE](#), 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 joy (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 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).

We're just presenters, not persuaders. – Steve Martin

We are always open for discussion, but never for disputation. – André Sneidar

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God Is Proactive, Not Reactive

Bible Student's Courses

Course 1: GOD / Unit 8: The Logos / Lesson 1: God Is Proactive, Not Reactive

by — Mark D. Vogt

All is out of Him (Romans 11:36).

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

Christianity seems to be of the belief that God created all things and then He just sat back. And with His own intervention and participation in events – sometimes a lot, sometimes not – He, as best He can, is riding the wave of time to see how things will work out.



the “will” of God in this verse is, at best, only the “desire” that all men be saved. The best that God can do is to counteract mankind’s “free will” by doing everything He can do to make sure that as many as possible get to hear the gospel, and then hope that they will respond to this call.

He has set prophesy down in the Scriptures; but, apparently, how to achieve those ends seems to become somewhat of a mystery, even to Him, since, His creatures have supposed “free will” and hence, the outcome of anything that happens in His Universe is somehow subject to His creature’s whims and desires.

The thinking on His part is that whatever His creatures do that is contrary to what He wills (“will” as interpreted by much of Christianity as His “desire”), then God has to come up with something to counter the exercise of the “free will” of His creatures.

For example, I Timothy 2:4 tells us that “*God wills that all mankind be saved and come unto the realization of the truth*” (CV). Christianity will tell us that

All of this is the picture of the *reactionary* god, who is scrambling, as best as he can, to guide his creation along – knowing that at present there are approximately eight and a half billion souls out there making thousands and thousands of “free will” decisions every day. That is quite a monumental task for this god in his effort to try to get his desires to become a reality.

After time to digest what has just been said, hopefully the reader can see how utterly ridiculous the premise is that God is reactionary. Yet, if your premise of an argument is false to begin with, then the outcome or conclusion is guaranteed to be false or untrue as well.

[\(see PROACTIVE, page 9379\)](#)



The Administration of the Secret

A Comprehensive Compilation

The Secret Administration, revealed through Ephesians and Colossians, is characterized and empowered by the dispensing of transcendent grace (Ephesians 1:7; 2:7; 3:2). Now, believing Gentiles are “*no longer guests and sojourners,*” as they were in the Pentecostal and Readjustment Administrations, but are “*fellow-citizens of the saints and members of God’s family*” (Ephesians 2:19). This outstanding work includes 45 chapters, by 17 authors, spanning

nearly 200 years. Author’s include: Oscar M. Baker, Tom L. Ballinger, J. R. Caldwell, E.

H. Clayton, J.J.B. Coles, John Essex, J.H. Evans, H.W. Fry, Vladimir Gelesnoff, William B. Hallman, Richard Holden, John H. Kessler, A.E. Knoch, Adlai Loudy, Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., and Charles H. Welch.

The Warfare State and the High Calling of God

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

A Review of *World Affairs and National Politics and the High Calling of God in Christ Jesus*

by — Steve Martin

In *World Affairs and National Politics and the High Calling of God in Christ Jesus*, Clyde Pilkington lays out a sharp and unsettling contrast: the difference between the kingdoms of this world and the celestial calling of the believer.

At the center of that contrast stands what he calls the “Warfare State.” It is not merely a political observation. It is a theological diagnosis.

WARFARE: THE ULTIMATE UNGRACE ACT

The present administration is characterized by grace – by joy, conciliation, kindness and peace. Believers are called to embody these realities, not as ideals, but as identity. Warfare stands in direct contradiction to this calling.

To take up carnal weapons against flesh and blood is to operate in an entirely different sphere than the one in which believers have been placed. The message entrusted to us is not coercion but conciliation. Not retaliation, but reconciliation. Not the sword, but the Word.

When violence is baptized as righteous, grace is quietly displaced.

Pilkington calls warfare the “ultimate ungrace act” because it seeks to accomplish by force what God is accomplishing through patience. It answers hostility with destruction rather than longsuffering. It trusts power rather than Spirit.

The issue is not patriotism versus apathy. It is identity versus confusion.



THE MYTH OF REDEMPTIVE VIOLENCE

The kingdoms of this world operate on a familiar premise: violence can produce peace. History tells a different story.

Every “peace” forged through bloodshed carries within it the seed of the next conflict.

Violence does not eliminate hostility; it rearranges it. It postpones it. It institutionalizes it. What appears as resolution is often only intermission. This is the endless tit-for-tat cycle of earthly rule.

The hope of the world does not lie in a better version of that cycle. It lies in a Kingdom that refuses to participate in it at all.

The peace of God is not maintained by threat. It is secured by Christ. It does not depend on superior weaponry but on superior authorship. It is not fragile because it is not achieved through domination.

The myth of redemptive violence collapses under the weight of its own repetition.

SPIRITUAL WEAPONS FOR A SPIRITUAL CONFLICT

The present battle is not against flesh and blood. It never has been.

The believer’s armor is righteousness. The weapons are faith, truth, peace, longsuffering, love, and the power of the Holy Spirit. These are not symbolic niceties; they are the only instruments appropriate to our sphere.

The Warfare State manufactures mass-produced tools of destruction. The ecclesia is equipped with Spirit-forged instruments of life.

Carnal weapons can restrain behavior. They cannot transform hearts.

Spiritual weapons operate at the level where real conflict exists – in deception, fear, pride and darkness. The battle is not geographical. It is jurisdictional.

NATIONALISM AND THE JURISDICTION OF DARKNESS

Pilkington does not treat aggressive militarism as morally neutral. He places it within what Scripture calls the “Jurisdiction of Darkness” – the realm where humanity attempts self-rule apart from God.

Nationalism, when fused with militaristic fervor, often cloaks itself in moral language. But its underlying assumption is that man can secure peace through superior governance, superior strength, or superior resolve. The ongoing instability of global politics exposes the flaw.

God is allowing the nations to demonstrate something profound: humanity cannot govern itself into harmony. The Warfare State is not the solution; it is the exhibit.

When believers become enthusiastic participants in this system, they risk being drawn into a jurisdiction that is not theirs.

PROACTIVE ([continued from page 9377](#))

Yet, the true God of Scripture is *not* reactionary, but *proactive*. He doesn't wait until something happens and then reacts; but instead, He is proactive – having all that is going on in His Universe under His control. After all, He is the One Who planned everything – down to the minutest detail.

God not only knows when that leaf is going to fall off the tree in autumn, but He caused it to happen, and *when* it was to happen.

“*All is out of Him*” (Romans 11:36) is not just some pious sounding phrase. It is not “some things,” or

A HIGHER CALLING

The High Calling of God in Christ Jesus lifts the believer above the conflict of competing earthly sovereignties. This does not remove us from the world – it redefines our engagement within it.

We do not conquer enemies; we love them.

We do not defend territory; we announce reconciliation.

We do not advance borders; we advance grace.

The contrast is not subtle.

The kingdoms of this world defend themselves with weapons.

The Kingdom of God advances through weakness, patience and truth.

One perpetuates the cycle.
The other ends it.

The Warfare State is temporary.
The celestial calling is not.

And in that contrast lies both clarity and peace.

BSN

TOPICS:

Major: Kingdom; Nationalism; Politics; Warfare
Minor: Calling; Identity

“most things,” but “all” – no matter how major or minor we may think they are – “*all is out of Him.*”

The understanding that *God is proactively in total control* gives great comfort. He is the only One totally capable of doing *everything* right – always – for His absolute glory and our true and lasting benefit.

BSN

TOPICS:

Major: God; Logos; Sovereignty
Minor: Divine Cycle

New Facsimiles Now Available!

A.E. Knoch's F.B.I. Files

by Jean F. Douglas



A.E. Knoch's
F.B.I.
Files

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the contents of this booklet are the released F.B.I. files on A.E. Knoch and his wife Sigrid. They were released at the request of Mr. Jean Douglas, of Perfect Grace Ministries, December 1999.

In 1940, F.B.I. Director J. Edgar Hoover requested that Special Agent in Charge, R. B. Hood, perform an investigative surveillance of the Knochs, along with the Concordant Publishing Concern, for suspected subversive activities and distribution of German propaganda, as "German Gestapo Agent types."

These historical government documents provide an interesting backdrop, not only to the Knochs and their work, but also to the wartime culture of the 1940s. 43 pages, facsimile paperback.

The Happy Man of Romans 4:8 – Are You One?

by A.E. Knoch (1874-1965)



In 1946 the Concordant Publishing Concern published a 32-page introductory booklet describing the Concordant Version. On the front cover is the question, "Are You One?" followed by the title, "THE HAPPY MAN of Romans 4:8."

In this booklet, Knoch referred to himself as "the happy man." On the inside front and back covers was a letter from "the happy man." In part it reads:

"The happy man and his associates have finished making a concordant version of the Greek Scriptures ..." He refers to himself and his associates as "busy, happy men." 44 pages, facsimile paperback.

Hosea Ballou, and the Gospel Renaissance of the Nineteenth Century

by John C. Adams



A short biographical look at a key figure in the "Universalist" movement the early 1800's. 32 pages, facsimile paperback.

The Life of Christ Dispensationally Considered

by Herbert Van Hessel (1907-1993)



This has a Mid-Act Dispensation approach to the life of Christ. We have had a copy of this book for a long time, but it was MISSING Lessons 5 & 6 (of 10 lessons). We have spent years looking for a complete copy before making it available to the public. We have decided that, due to the importance and value of the subject, we would go ahead with its publication. Therefore, it is being released WITHOUT pages 22-30 (out of 51 pages). We will continue to be on the lookout for another copy that we can use to complete this work. The three main sections of this book are: (1) The Life of Christ in the Gospels (2) The Life of Christ in the Book of Acts (3) The Life of Christ in the Epistles of Paul. 44 pages, facsimile paperback.

Matthew 24 and the Consummation of the Eon

by John C. Ribbens



The next thing on God's prophetic calendar is a period of divine government contrary to the opinions expressed by a number of assumed Biblical scholars. The so-called rapture of the church hails as a myth, and therefore cannot be next; neither, for that matter, is the battle of Armageddon, the Tribulation or the second coming of Christ. Attempts to portray the tribulation as "the worst hour in human history for the world" are at best sadistic tales.

God's present activity, marked by the dispensation of grace, will not terminate in a world government of men, but in the divine assumption of sovereignty. This event will usher mankind into the Day of Jesus Christ, not into the Day of the Lord. The hope for mankind is contingent on God breaking His silence and making it plain to all men that He is the Savior of the world.

This study of Matthew 24 and the consummation of the eon is intended to demonstrate that an era of divine government is next in God's plan, which will precede the second coming of Christ bringing with it hope for every inhabitant on planet earth. This will

bring God's righteous judgments to all men and be the brightest hour of human history. 95 pages, facsimile paperback.



The Mystery of the Gospel

by Art Watkins

This book was written to show the difference between what Paul preached and wrote about the gospel from what the Twelve Apostles preached and wrote about it. It is a mistake to assume that they preached the same things about it. 32 pages, facsimile paperback.



The Nations Trusting in Christ

by John C. Ribbens

Never before in the course of the history of the nations has there been a greater need for divine government. Turmoil, distress, and anxiety have gripped the hearts of world leaders. The prophet Isaiah declared,

“When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him,” (Isa. 59:19) In a moment of supreme triumph God will act openly to affect the salvation of the world. No longer will God permit evil men and seducers to influence and control the lives of innocent men, women, and children. 43 pages, facsimile paperback.



Turkeys and Eagles

by Peter Lord

Hagen and Selin have been abandoned by their parents. But they have been adopted by a flock of turkeys. Are they eagles? Or is it possible that they are eagles that have been turkeyized? But even more important is it possible that the greatest of all tragedies has befallen you? Are you an eagle that has been turkeyized, an eagle that doesn't even know he is an eagle? If so read this story, and be prepared to once again soar the mountain tops. 117 pages, facsimile paperback.



Editor's Desk

The Study Bible Project: Two Translations with Two Approaches

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

I'VE LONG ENVISIONED the production of two translations of Scripture, a literal one (i.e., “Expanded Literal Translation”) and one easy-to-read (i.e., “Bible Student's Version”).

The idea of the first one was to use as many accurately translated words as possible; while in the second one, to retain the use of as many common words as truth would allow (e.g. apostle, gospel, cross, grace).

The purpose of the *Expanded Literal Translation* (with primary word overview and Greek elements) is to help expose much still-hidden wealth from the divine revelation. While there are many literal versions available, they all still carry some taint of traditional baggage, which we seek to eliminate as best as our own journey will allow.

The purpose of the *Bible Student's Version* is for use with the general public. While there are many easy-to-read versions available, they all also carry traditional baggage (e.g., partialism, retribution, torment, substitution, fear, wrath), which we will also seek to eliminate, all the while attempting not to bog down the common reader with “peculiar” vocabulary.

We've been making slow, steady progress. Thank you for all of your faithful encouragement and support.

Joy & Peace,

Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.
The Pilkington Abby
Paint, PA

To contribute to the *Study Bible Project*, visit:
StudyBibleProject.com

TOPICS:

Major: Study Bible Project
Minor: Translation

God Chooses Us

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

A Poem

by — Darson Buckner

God chooses us, as He has so written.
His children won't, forever be smitten.

All people are not in full agreement,
But you cannot question, God's achievement.

God has given all things to our Savior.
Regardless of mine, and your behavior.

All have been concluded in unbelief,
So God can grant mercy, and give relief.

Nothing God gave Him, will He be losing.
All of us will He, Jesus, be choosing.

Christ did die for all, not just for a few,
He died for the sinner, and the man in the pew.

No matter what, anyone might dare say,
Jesus will raise all up, on the last day.

BSN

RAPTURE (continued from front page)

scend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air.

During this present Secret Administration, Christ Jesus is seated at the right of the Father. That is, for NOW.

However, all that has been written will come to fruition as Papa has Divinely Planned and Purposed.

BSN

TOPICS:

Major: Rapture; Pre-Millennial Kingdom; Prophecy; Secret Administration

Minor: Millennial Kingdom; Sovereignty

SOME OF MY FRIENDS
TAKE MY NOTES TOO
SERIOUSLY. I AM ONLY A
FALLIBLE MAN, AND MY WORDS
ARE NOT EQUAL IN AUTHORITY
WITH GOD'S.

– A.E. KNOCH (1874-1965)



World Affairs and National Politics and the High Calling of God in Christ Jesus

Third Edition (2024)

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

When did nationalism begin? What is God's purpose for nationalism? Is the United States a Christian nation? Does any government have *Favored Nation Status* with God today? Should believers support Israel? What did Paul have to say about our citizenship? What is our role in relation to nations? Is our job to rid the world of evil? What should the believer's attitude be toward earthly authority? Should all obedience to earthly magistrates be absolute? Are believers to pay their taxes? Where does voting and jury duty fit in? Why was the apostle Paul executed?

These and many other questions are addressed in this groundbreaking work!