



Bible Student's Notebook™

The Herald of His Joy!

Showcasing all humanity finished in Christ Jesus. Colossians 1:28

Volume 46

There is still much light to break forth from the Scriptures. A.E. Knoch (1874-1965)

Issue 1127

The Importance of Lineage

by — Mike Owens

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

How crucial is lineage in Scripture? Well, it's extremely important. You wouldn't be here without it! It's paramount!

The genealogy and ancestry of Jesus, also referred to as "*the last Adam*" by Paul, is the teflon thread that weaves the Old Testament together.

Our relationship to Adam (the first Adam) is the very basis of Paul's declaration that we are sinners. It's not because of our personal outward actions of sin that we are declared sinners. We are sinners as the result of our lineage.

This is important to understand if we truly want to digest what THE APOSTLE is telling us.

Most of us sense that it is our sinful actions that make us into "sinners." But this is inaccurate – It is our *lineage*!

Sure, we have sinned all of our lives – and it seems logical that those who sin would be deemed sinners. After all, if someone runs, they would accurately be called a runner. Or someone who gambles is a gambler.

However, Paul tells us clearly in Romans 5 and I Corinthians 15 that our lineage to Adam is what makes us a sinner.

Because of our inheritance from Adam, we have a propensity to sin. It's our biological relationship to Adam that deems us worthy of death.



The most important thing any of us needs is to be taken out of Adam's lineage, because the inheritance is death.

Our Father does this!

He has taken us out of Adam's generation and placed each and every one of us into the lineage of The Last Adam – His son Jesus Christ – and His inheritance is *life*!

Paul's explanation of this foundational truth helps us to see that our position is 100% the work of our Creator and it relies on Him – NOT US!

Just as you had absolutely nothing to do with your birth and lineage – you likewise have no control or effect on your transfer from one lineage to another.

And your transfer from the first Adam's generation to the last Adam's generation is *the most important thing* that happened.

Our transference from the lineage of Adam to the Last Adam was initiated and completed by our Creator. It is not the result of our efforts or decisions.

[\(see LINEAGE, page 9445\)](#)

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Bible Student's Notebook™

Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal

ISSN: 1936-9360

Volume 46, No. 1127 – July 6, 2026

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

Bible Student's Press™

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Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr. – Publisher

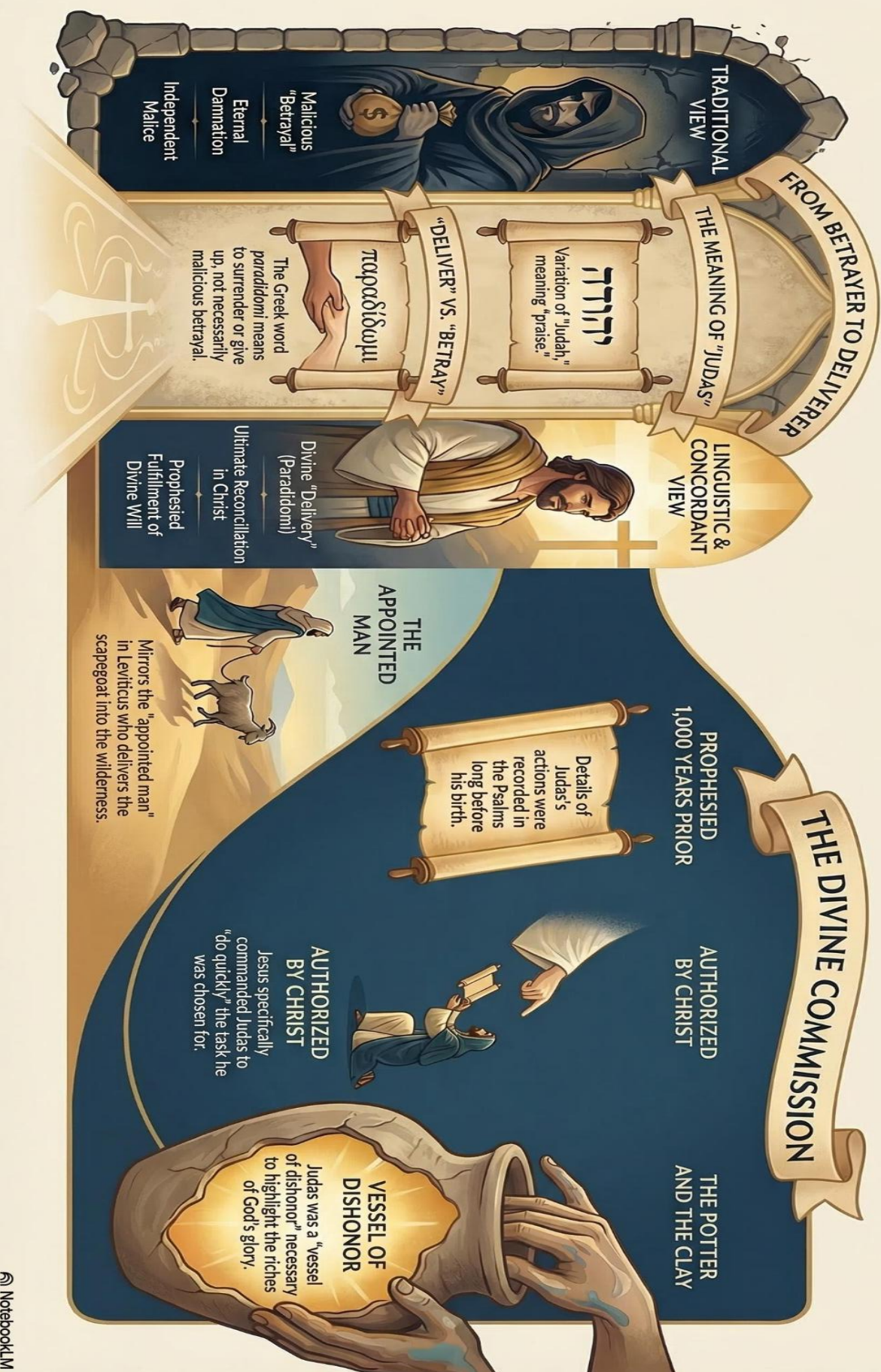
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REFRAMING JUDAS: THE APPOINTED DELIVERER





Tidbits of Truth #90

"Tidbits" is a column dedicated to short comments, thoughts, studies and excerpts.

I suppose that all who do biblical research wish at times that they could set forth fragmentary and unfinished ideas in printed form without people thinking that a final and definitive conclusion has now been chiseled into imperishable granite which shall stand forever as the final word on the subject dealt with. Any such conclusion will be far from correct. — Otis Sellers (1901-1992)

WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?

In the popular sense, a Christian is any follower of Christ. But the student of Scripture always tests popular ideas by the inspired Word. There it is used only three times, and never in connection with the Nations or present truth.

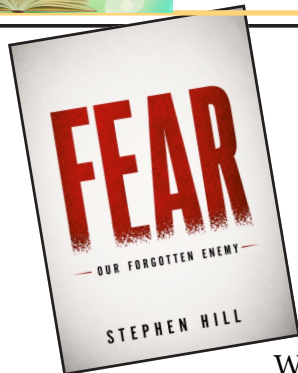
In fact, Peter uses it of his Jewish brethren (I Peter 4:16) in such a way as to show that it was a term of *reproach* applied to a Jewish sect. In brief, the "*Christians*" of Scripture were Jews or proselytes.

The termination *ian* is Latin, and the term was used in relation to the Roman government. It was applied in derision by Roman politicians to those who believed in a Christ Who had failed to carry out the political program of the prophets.

In Antioch, where the disciples were first styled "*Christians*," there had been a very slight approach toward the great truth of blessing apart from Israel, but it is evident from later developments, such as Saul's *severance*, and the opposition to his later evangelization to the Nations, that there was nothing to which the Jews objected. Though outside the land, it was a Jewish ecclesia, though not composed of Jews exclusively (Acts 11:26).



Check out a **NEW BOOK!**



Fear: Our Forgotten Enemy

by — Stephen Hill

FEAR ENSLAVES. FAITH SETS FREE.

Fear is everywhere. It shapes decisions, distorts relationships, fuels anxiety, and quietly governs the lives of millions – often without them even realizing it.

But what if fear isn't just a struggle?

What if it's the ENEMY?

In *Fear: Our Forgotten Enemy*, Stephen Hill exposes fear for what it truly is: not a natural companion to life, but a destructive force that opposes love, peace and faith at their very core.

YOU'LL DISCOVER:

- Why fear entered the human story, and why it doesn't belong
- How fear disguises itself in everyday life
- The hidden ways fear controls decisions, relationships and beliefs
- Why faith, not control, is the true antidote to fear
- How to live with unshakable peace, even in uncertain circumstances

THIS IS NOT A CALL TO MANAGE FEAR.

IT'S A CALL TO CONFRONT IT, UNDERSTAND IT, AND ULTIMATELY CAST IT OUT.

Agrippa's use of the term shows the contempt in which this Jewish sect (for such it had become) was held (Acts 26:28). These are all the occurrences.

The fact that Paul could convey all the truth for us without once using the term shows how far our present channels of expression have diverged from his.

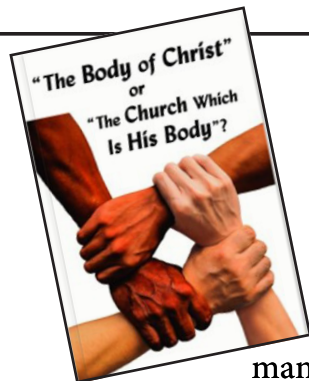
— A.E. Knoch (1874-1965)
Unsearchable Riches, Vol. 13 (1922)

“THE BODY OF CHRIST”: ITS PAST & FUTURE

“The Body of Christ” were the individual assemblies during the Acts period (I Corinthians 12:27; Ephesians 4:12). This will be true again in the Pre-Millennial Kingdom. And then those are specifically in the Middle East area (*i.e.*, as named in *The Unveiling (The Book of Revelation)*). They will be comprised of Jews (and Jewish proselytes). The wall will be back up and the Nations will be subject to Israel once again.

— André Sneidar

[Note: For a closer look, see the book: [*“The Body of Christ” or “The Church Which Is His Body”? A Compilation on the “One Body” of the Current Administration*](#)]



“The Body of Christ” or “The Church Which Is His Body”? A Compilation on the “One Body” of the Current Administration

In the Pentecost Administration, during the Acts period, there were many ecclesias, in the plural – “all the ecclesias” (Romans 16:4, 16; I Corinthians 7:17; 14:33; II Corinthians 8:18; 11:28, CV). Each of these ecclesias were, in and of themselves “the body of Christ” – an integrated “one body,” while today in the Secret Administration there is but one single ecclesia, in the singular – “the Ecclesia which is His Body” (Ephesians 1:22-23, CV). This ecclesia is universal and not local. This ecclesia of the Secret Administration has no bearing whatsoever on locality, and is of necessity, the only “One Body” universal (Ephesians 4:4). This “One Body” of Ephesians and Colossians (Ephesians 2:16; 4:4; Colossians 3:15) is the Post-Acts “church,” of which Christ alone is Head (Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:15; 5:23; Colossians 1:24; 2:19). This is the only Ecclesia of the Secret Administration. This short compilation has works from three authors: Tom L. Ballinger, G.J. Paupit (1889-1962), and Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr. 49 pages.

THE DECREE OF THE JERUSALEM COUNCIL (Acts 15:29)

To elaborate on the order of the Jerusalem Council, I present this from the *Moody Bible Commentary* of which Dr. Michael Rydenick was both a writer and editor.

James also recommended the council send a letter to the Gentiles asking them to refrain from practices especially offensive to Jews (15:2-21). The council asked Gentiles to abstain from (1) idols; (2) fornication; and (3) eating meat that has been strangled or has large amounts of blood in it. The request for Gentile abstinence raises questions about the nature of these restrictions. Were the restrictions essentially a reiteration of the ceremonial aspects of the law of Moses? If they were, then the council was contradicting its decision not to impose the law on Gentiles. The best solution is to relate the restrictions to the cultic worship in pagan temples where worshipers would strangle animals, cut their jugular veins to drink their blood, eat the meat that had been offered to idols and conclude with temple prostitution. This interpretation is consistent with Paul's teaching to the Corinthians about participating in idol worship (I Corinthians 10:14-22).

The intent was to prevent the syncretism of paganism and the new faith. Although Gentiles did not
(see [TIDBITS, page 9445](#))

God Bends Our Will to His

Bible Student's Courses

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

Course 1: God / Unit 8: The Logos / Lesson 3: God Bends Our Will to His

by — Mark D. Vogt

The perception is that people are free to choose what they want to choose. We all live and operate making hundreds of choices daily in our lives. Sometimes the choices are good and sometimes they are bad, but our perception is that we had the freedom to make those choices.



plans and choices, God establishes the outcome according to His will. The Scriptures emphasize that man devises his way, but God's counsel alone stands firm.

From Jehovah are the steps of a man. They have been prepared ... (Psalms 37:23, YLT).

"If only I had known what I know now I would have chosen differently" is a common mantra. That is the problem. The individual didn't know then what they know now, and if they had the same limited information they originally had, they would have made the same decision.

A man's heart, it devises his way, yet Yahweh, He establishes his steps (Proverbs 16:9, CV).

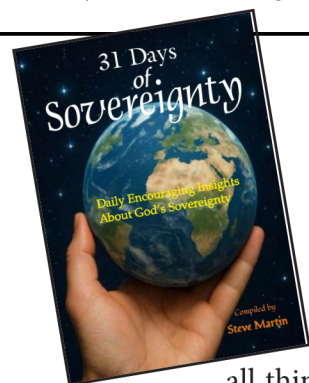
Many are the designs in a man's heart, yet the counsel of Yahweh, it shall stand firm (Proverbs 19:21, CV).

The reality is that, as human beings, we have extremely limited knowledge about anything, and most of the time that knowledge is incomplete or it is wrong, to one extent or another.

The design is that people feel independent, so they can learn through life's experiences, especially through failure and poor decisions. Over time, God uses these experiences to bend human will toward His Own purposes, most often without people realizing it. This truth is seen even in Adam's sin, which was a vital part of God's larger plan. Adam's fall created mankind's need for God and for a Savior, making possible a deeper appreciation of God's love, grace, and provision.

So, while people believe they freely choose their own paths, God ultimately directs and shapes every human life according to His purpose. Human knowledge is limited and imperfect, so people make decisions based only on what they know at the time. Scripture shows that "*the steps of a man*" are prepared by God, meaning that even while people make

At the center of this plan, this ([see BENDS, next page](#))



31 Days of Sovereignty: Daily Encouraging Insights About God's Sovereignty

compiled by — Steve Martin

A Devotional. This book is a curated selection of 31 of the most powerful and insightful chapters from the book *The Absolute Sovereignty of God: A Comprehensive Compilation*, emphasizing God's complete sovereignty – His absolute control over all things. The goal of the book is to help readers overcome fear, guilt and pressure, and instead find peace in God's unwavering rule. It is hoped that these readings will inspire deeper trust and confidence in God's sovereignty, bringing comfort and reassurance. 81 pages.

"TIDBITS" ([continued from page 9443](#))

need to convert to Judaism, they were required to leave pagan idol worship (*cf.* I Thessalonians 1:9). This would preserve the testimony of the church among Jewish people, where the Torah and its strict proscriptions against idolatry are "*read in the synagogues every Sabbath*" (Acts 15:21). The decision was important for three reasons. First by not requiring Gentiles to convert to Judaism it protected the doctrine of salvation by grace through faith alone. Second, it preserved the purity of the church so that paganism would not be blended with true faith. Third, the messianic faith, by not tolerating idolatry, set an important precedent of maintaining the messianic faith's testimony before Jewish people. The wisdom of the decision was reflected in the response of the Gentile church at Antioch. When Paul and Barnabas, along with two respected men from the Jerusalem church, Judas and Silas, read the letter to the church at Antioch, the believers rejoiced. The potentially divisive issue of the law had been officially resolved and unity was preserved.

James D. Fine

THE EXACTNESS OF REALIZATION

I've been thinking for several days and evenings about the unmerited favor angle. It just doesn't fit. In fact, it *cannot* fit. If God is Sovereign – and He is – then *He alone* is responsible for everything that takes place.

There is NOTHING that we can GIVE to God or to each other that originates from ourselves, because, **ALL**

BENDS ([continued from previous page](#))

Logos, is Jesus Christ, through whom God works to undo the effects of Adam's sin. God's ultimate purpose is to bring all creation into harmony with Himself so that, in the Consummation, He will be "*All in all*." Thus, God's sovereign will is always at work

LINEAGE ([continued from front page](#))

The very basis of our assurance that we will be involved in the resurrection and the restoration of all things is 100% the result of our transfer from the lineage of Adam to the lineage of the Last Adam.

Our salvation, according to Paul, has nothing to do with our good works or decisions. In fact, he refers to

comes out of God – NO matter how we perceive it to be of us.

We can only learn this truth as He grants us the realization of Who He is – the Sovereign – and what He alone has DONE and is DOING.

When we get right down to the bare bones of it – Jesus Christ, via His own words – had the realization that He could ONLY DO what He saw the Father DOING.

*Jesus, then, answers and said to them, "Verily, verily, I am saying to you, **The Son can not be doing anything of Himself if it is not what He should be observing the Father doing, for whatever He may be doing, this the Son also is doing likewise**" John 5:19 (CV).*

That, my friends, is the exactness of REALIZATION!!!

For, who knew the mind of the Lord? or, who became His adviser? or, who gives to Him first, and it will be repaid Him? seeing that out of Him and through Him and for Him IS ALL: to Him be the glory for the eons! Amen! (Romans 11:34-36).

— Deverlain L. Trefethen

BSN

TOPICS:

Major: [What is a Christian?] Christian; ["The Body of Christ": Its Past & Future] Body of Christ [The Decree of the Jerusalem Council] Decree; Acts 15 [The Exactness of Realization] Realization

throughout history, guiding humanity toward that glorious outcome. **BSN**

TOPICS:

Major: Free Will; Logos; Sovereignty
Minor: Consummation

these as "*dung*," or what my Texas rancher friends refer to our attempts to please God: *bullshit*. **BSN**

Edited

TOPICS:

Major: First Adam; Last Adam; Lineage; Salvation of All
Minor: Death; Life; Restoration; Resurrection

WHAT ARE THE “ALL THINGS” IN THE GREAT COMMISSION?

They are **everything** Christ taught
Israel under the **Law** and the **Kingdom** program:



REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED (Mark 1:4)



KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS (Matthew 19:17)



SELL WHAT YOU HAVE (Luke 12:33)



PRAY FOR THE KINGDOM TO COME (Matthew 6:10)



ENDURE TO THE END (Matthew 24:13)

These are **not** random instructions.

These are **KINGDOM REQUIREMENTS**
tied to **ISRAEL'S PROPHETIC PROGRAM.**