



Bible Student's Notebook™

The Herald of His Grace

Presenting every man perfect in Christ Jesus. Colossians 1:28

Volume 40
Issue 986

The Creation Commission

by — A.E. Knoch (1874-1965)

He said to them, "Go into all the world; herald the evangel to the entire creation" (Mark 16:15, CV).

Key Points:

Mankind has many characteristics with animals.....8307
Jesus' resurrection has implications for the entire creation.....8309

Will humans be able to communicate with animals?8310
Christ's resurrection was proclaimed not only to humans but to all of creation.....8310

The resurrection of the Son of God has a wider range of beneficence than we are accustomed to considering. God's glory demands that not only mankind who sinned and marred His glorious creation, but every part of that creation itself shall be restored to Him in more than pristine perfectness. **Mankind has many characteristics in common with the lower creatures and is linked to them by the possession of a body made alive by a spirit, resulting in a living soul.**



the entire creation. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved, yet he who disbelieves shall be condemned. Now these signs shall fully follow in those who believe: in My name they shall be casting out demons; they will be speaking in new languages; they will be picking up serpents; and if they should be drinking anything deadly, it should under no circumstances be harming them; they will be placing hands on those who are ailing, and ideally will they be having it."

The Lord, indeed, then, after speaking with them, was taken up into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God. Now they, coming away, herald everywhere, the Lord working together with them and confirming the Word by the signs following them up (Mark 16:14-20).

As we consider this commission, we note the absence of almost everything which might be termed *spiritual* and the large place given the *physical* creation. It was given while they were satisfying the natural hunger, it was directed to be proclaimed to every creature (not man alone) and the signs all had reference to bodily blessing.

Now subsequently, at their lying back at table, He was manifested to the eleven, and He reproaches their unbelief and hardheartedness, seeing that they do not believe those who gaze on Him having been roused from among the dead. And He said to them,

"Go into all the world; herald the evangel to

The hindrances to perfect physical bliss may be concluded under five heads. To remove these hindrances, (1) the power of demons to obsess the human body must be abolished; (2) the fellowship between the

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Bible Student's Notebook™

Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal

ISSN: 1936-9360

Volume 40, No. 986 – September 11, 2023

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 (Romans 6; Ephesians 2:6);
- adult sonship position (Ephesians 1:5).

This publication is the product of humble efforts of ordinary men 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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PO Box 265, Windber, PA 15963

Office: (800) 784-6010 – Local: (814) 701-0063

bsn@studyshelf.com

Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr. – Editor-in-Chief
André Sneidar – Executive Editor

Associate Editors: J. Blake Botner, Steve Martin, Mark Peters, Mark Vogt

Assistant Editors: James Fine, Will Marshall

Managers and Assistants

Clyde L. Pilkington, III, Nathan H. Pilkington, Stephen Hill

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lower creatures and mankind must be restored; (3) the venom of serpents and the poisonous elements must be rendered harmless; (4) and the present tendency to disease and (5) death must be abolished.

THE ENTIRE CREATION

The removal of all of these are not only provided for in Christ's sacrifice, but assured by His resurrection. This is the reason why He did not simply tell them to go to every "nation" or all "men" in this particular commission. Instead Using a word of special emphasis, He tells them to go into "*all the world*" and proclaim the good news of His resurrection to the "*entire creation*." Man is not the only creature on the Earth. He is not the only one to be blessed by the resurrection of the Son of God. The lower creatures have suffered with man in his plight. They share in the corruption, bondage and death which is his due – and theirs, only because they were put under him.

CREATION FREED FROM CORRUPTION

For the premonition of the creation is awaiting the unveiling of the sons of God. For to vanity was the creation subjected, not voluntarily, but because of Him Who subjects it, in expectation that the creation itself, also, shall be freed from the slavery of corruption into the glorious freedom of the children of God. For we are aware that the entire creation is groaning and travailing together until now (Romans 8:19-22).

Let us rejoice then, that these who suffer on our account shall obtain deliverance, too, by the same power which delivers our mortal bodies. Paul tells us that the creation has a "premonition" of God's unveiling of His sons.

We also note that the creation was subjected to vanity, not voluntarily, but because of Him Who subjects it, in expectation that the creation itself, also, shall be freed from the slavery of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

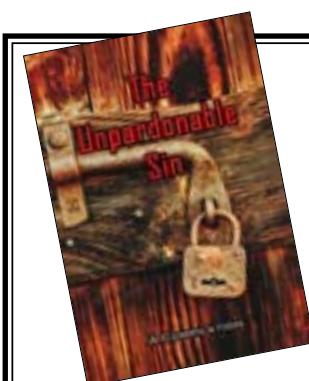
NEW LANGUAGE

But you say, "How could the gospel be proclaimed to these of the lower creation? How could they be reached?" Let us consider a possibility.

Among the signs which were to accompany the proclamation was that of speaking with "*new tongues*," or "*languages*." The word "*new*" here can hardly refer to foreign languages, such as were spoken at Pentecost (Acts 2:4), or the gift of languages which the Corinthians possessed (I Corinthians 12:28). These languages were not recent or novel or "*new*" in this sense. The Arabic spoken at Pentecost was probably older than the Greek in which the later Scriptures are written. This word "*new*" denotes that which is different from what already exists; that which is unheard of. But what would be the use of a mere babel of sounds to the spread of the tidings of His resurrection? What *significance* (a *sign* always means something) can be attached to it?

ADAM AND THE ANIMALS

In the beginning, before Adam sinned, he was on intimate terms with the animals about him. The very fact that they were all brought before him, with a view of finding a complement for him, as well as the naming of them, shows that there was mutual understanding (Genesis 2:20) When the serpent *spoke* to the woman, it did not seem to surprise her; it was evidently a common occurrence. If the animals could not converse with human beings, and Satan gave



The Unpardonable Sin

A Compilation

Is there really such a thing as an "Unpardonable Sin?" Is there any sin that will never be forgiven? This is a compilation work of liberation and right division from five authors: A.E. Knoch, H.W. Martin, M. Jaegle, J.W. Williams and Phillip Garrison.

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one of them such a miraculous power, this very fact might have spoiled his whole scheme, by putting the woman on her guard. But **she evidently saw nothing out of the ordinary in the serpent's speech and entered into the conversation quite at her ease.**

Even in our own ruined scene, the remarkable feats performed by trained animals come so near that of speech, that it is not difficult to bridge the gulf in our imagination and conceive of them having a language which men might speak. That they are capable of communicating with one another of like species is beyond denial. Even soulless instruments as the piano and organ, may voice a sentiment. The bugle call has a sharp and certain meaning. Each animal has its peculiar voice and none of them is without significance (I Corinthians 14:7-10).¹

Here then, we can see a need for "new" languages, and here too, the need is met. It is proclaimed to them as "good tidings," for they, too, like mankind, will reap the benefits of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Not that they enter into the blessings reserved for mankind alone. Yet, Isaiah 11:6-9 shows clearly that the animal creation will profit by the work of the cross. Romans 8:19-22 is equally clear that the "*entire creation*" has a present "*premonition*" (an intuitive opinion) of "*expectation*" of a future deliverance from the slavery of corruption.

CHRIST'S RESURRECTION UNIVERSALLY PROCLAIMED

The thought that the resurrection of God's Son is

1. "There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification" (:10, KJV).



Bible Proofs of Universal Salvation

by — J.W. (John Wesley) Hanson

137 pages

This work presents Bible proof of universal salvation, containing the principle passages of Scripture that teach the final holiness and happiness of all mankind. The author attempts to present the prominent considerations that are contained in the Bible in support of the final redemption of all souls. See [order form](#) under "Hanson."

proclaimed to other creatures is not confined to this passage alone. The angels (i.e., messengers) that sinned in Noah's day have heard that He is Lord, even in their jail (I Peter 3:19; II Peter 2:4). He is exalted above all, and His lordship has received a suitable proclamation in every corner of the Universe. Angels, elect and rebellious, demons, wicked spirits, men, birds, beasts – all have heard that He is Lord, to the glory of God, His Father.

POISONS POWERLESS

Venom and poison was harmless to those who had this commission ministry. The serpent's power to harm was nullified as it will be in the future kingdom bliss.

Paul had many ministries. That he had a prominent part in the proclamation of Mark's Creation Commission is abundantly evident from his marvelous experiences recorded in the book of Acts, especially on the island of Melita, just before coming to Rome (Acts 28:1-9).

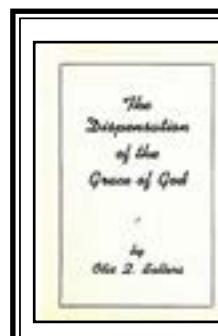
When Paul was wrecked on the island, a viper fastened on his hand. He shook it into the fire and escaped all harm, even though the natives expected him to fall dead any minute (Acts 28:3-6). On this same island Paul healed the father of Publius and many others (Acts 28:8).

- *Unsearchable Riches Magazine*
Volume 3 (1912), pp. 172-176;
- *The Mystery of the Gospel*
Concordant Publishing Concern (1914), pp. 108-112

(combined, edited)

TOPICS:

Major: Animals; Commissions; Creation
Minor: Suffering



The Dispensation of the Grace of God & Acts 28:28 – A Dispensational Boundary

by — Otis Q. Sellers (1901-1992)
60 pages (See [order form](#) under "Sellers.")

Two works published in one volume.

The Animal Kingdom

by — E.W. Kenyon (1857-1948)

In the animal creation there are today approximately twenty-five domestic animals. 8311
God knew that man would need domestic animals that would

respond to the touch of love, animals that would pine and yearn for human companionship and that would gladly obey the human voice. 8314

In the animal creation it will be interesting to note that there are today approximately twenty-five domestic animals.

Scientists have tried to tell us that the dog and house cat were formerly wild and have simply been domesticated, but nature contradicts it.

There is a dog to meet every need of man from the Arctic to the equator and from the rising to the setting of the sun.

The strange thing about it is that no wild animals as yet have ever been able to take the place of our domestics.

They tell us that the dog belongs to the wolf family, but who has ever been able to take a wolf of any species and tame it to make a lapdog of it, a guard and companion to his children, or a daily associate on the farm or home? You may keep him twenty generations, and he is still a wolf.

If you let our faithful friend of the human go wild in

the forest for twenty generations, then capture and take him to your home, within a week he is your servant and friend and slave who will lay his life down for you.

The dog was created by God Almighty to be the faithful servant companion and lover of man.

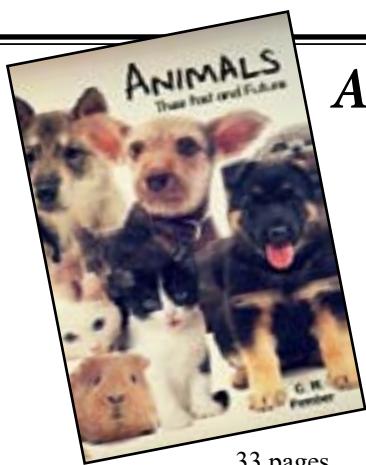
Our common housecat was created to be the household friend and chum of children and childhood, and pet of the aged.

When the wise Master Builder made the horse. He designed him purposely to meet the needs of his man as servant and beast of burden.

He left a place in its mouth where no teeth grow so that a bit might be held without inconvenience, that the horse might be able to eat its food with the bit still in its mouth.

Had the cow been given the fierce disposition of a hyena or lion, she would have been totally unfit for domestic purposes.

(see *ANIMALS*, last page)



33 pages

Animals: Their Past and Future

by — G.H. Pember (1837-1910)

This short, yet insightful Scripture study of the animal kingdom is from the author of the classic, *Earth's Earliest Ages*. Although he approaches this subject from the erroneous, traditional teaching of the 'immortality of the soul' which he extends to the animal kingdom, he nonetheless aptly dispels other myths and mistranslations that have barred a proper understanding of animals. He correctly contends that both man and animal are *nephesh chayyah* – "a living soul," and that resurrection extends to the animal kingdom. In elementary fashion he makes a notable addition to the theme of God's grand

See order form under "Other Authors." plan of redemption that includes animals, by what he calls "the Scriptural proof of the immortality of all God's creation." He also stresses the theme of the just treatment of animals, proposing that our current dealings with animals are to be vested, like ours, in their glorious future.

A Summary of Israel's New Testament Commissions Compared to the Present Dispensation

by — A.E. Knoch (1874-1965)

THE FIRST KINGDOM COMMISSION

These Twelve Jesus commissions ... (Matthew 10:5-8, CV).

The various commissions vary in character, in scope, in the benefits conveyed, in the means used to carry them on, in the effect upon those who received their message, and each had a distinct history.

The First Kingdom Commission was characteristically Jewish. The Apostles were forbidden to carry it beyond the narrow pale of Israel. It brought temporal blessings, which signified the nearness of the earthly Kingdom. It was proclaimed by the King Himself as well as those He commissioned, having been made known by public proclamation in the cities of Israel. He gathered out of the apostate nation a remnant in view of the coming Kingdom. Its proclamation is divided into three periods.

(1) The Master Himself began it and enlisted the Twelve Apostles. It was rejected and He stops its proclamation. In the interval He seeks to occupy them with His sufferings and death.

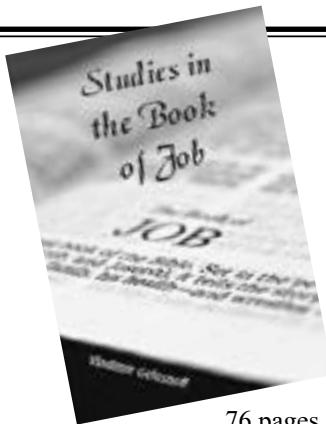
(2) At Pentecost the proclamation was renewed and continued throughout the period covered by the book of Acts. Finally, it is rejected again, and now once more our Master stops its proclamation and as before seeks to occupy us with the deeper truths which flow from His death.

(3) Before the Kingdom comes it must be proclaimed again.

THE SECOND KINGDOM COMMISSION

... Jesus speaks to them saying, "Given to Me was all authority in Heaven and on the Earth ... Going, then, disciple all the nations ..." (Matthew 28:16-20, CV).

The Second Kingdom Commission presupposes that Israel has received the First Kingdom Commission and as a result has jurisdiction over the other nations. It is national, including all the nations except Israel, and assures them a righteous government if they obey the delegates of the great King. In that day the King will reward His suffering servants by giving them jurisdiction over the nations. It brooks no



Studies in the Book of Job

by — Vladimir Gelesnoff (1877-1921)

Contents: Correct Principles of Exegesis; The Great Lesson; Antiquity and Majority Are Not Divine Evidence; Education and Erudition Are Usually in Error; Human Merit Is Inadequate; Job's Answer; The Friends' Failure; Evolution and Involution; Elihu; "God Is Greater than Man"; The Storm Rises; The Storm Ceases; The Speech of Deity; Infinite Sympathy; The Creator's Care; The Father's Care for the Groaning Creation; God's "End" Is Glorious. See [order form](#) Under "Gelesnoff."



opposition and will be [fully] enforced with power during “*the Day of the Lord*.”

THE CREATION COMMISSION

He said to them, “Go into all the world; herald the evangel to the entire creation” (Mark 16:15, CV).

Mark’s Creation Commission is based upon the resurrection and is directed to the recovery of the entire creature realm. It is worldwide in its scope, conveying only material benefits. It will find its fruition when creation is released from the bondage of corruption when the sons of God are manifested.

LUKE’S COMMISSION FOR MANKIND

“... and there is to be heralded in His name repentance for the pardon of sins, to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem” (Luke 24:46–49, CV).

Luke’s Commission for Mankind is based on the sufferings of Christ. While it embraced the whole human family, it depended upon the authority of the Son of Man and His delegates for its exercise. It extended a probational pardon for sins upon the condition of repentance. The power to pardon was delegated to the apostles as well as others. Its history is recorded in the book of Acts.

Many who were pardoned drew back to perdition. The authority to pardon ceases until the Kingdom is once more the subject of proclamation.



The Concordant Commentary on the New Testament

by — A.E. Knoch (1874-1965)

407 pages

*See order form under
“Commentaries.”*

First published more than 60 years ago, this work is more valuable than a seminary education! A must-have for every student of Scripture!

PAUL AND THESE COMMISSIONS

Paul, in his early ministry, seems to have had part in all of these various commissions. But the time came when he was separated from the rest and given added revelations. He first preaches *justification* to the Jews outside of the land and also to the other nations. But, unlike pardon, this depended entirely upon grace and was received by faith apart from any works. Justification’s history is quite the opposite of pardon because God, and not man, is its strength. It forms the foundation upon which all further favor has been built. This is exhaustively discussed in the earlier chapters of the epistle to the Romans and in the Galatian epistle. Justification is preparatory to *reconciliation*, which is unfolded in Romans 5-8 and in II Corinthians 5.

To the Romans he writes that he had “*fully preached the gospel of Christ*” (i.e., that Christ was Israel’s Messiah), accompanied by “*mighty signs and wonders*.”

Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ (Romans 15:19).

Thus, we find that Paul, during the greater part of this itinerant ministry, has been acknowledging the physical ties which link Christ to the nation of Israel.

Yet, “*the mystery of the gospel*,” as the conciliation is called, is a separate secret from the present administration, the Secret Economy, though it was enriched and included in it. The conciliation was made known in a letter to Rome while the apostle was still at liberty. During his imprisonment in Rome he makes known the truth of the present [dispensation] in his trinity of prison epistles.¹ What, then, is the differ-

1. [Editor:] Knoch here refers to Philippians, Ephesians and Colossians. Most who came to see the Secret Administration included Philippians with Ephesians and Colossians. It is easy to understand why they did. Yet, rather than being a part of the Secret Administration, Philippians stood on the threshold of the grand Ephesian-Colossian writings. It was the gateway epistle to the Celestial writings of Paul. For a look at the unique nature of Philippians, see:

[— Ephesians & Colossians: Scripture for the Present Administration](#), Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., Bible Student’s Press. (See Study Shelf [order form](#) under “Pilkington.”)



ence between the administration of the conciliation before the present grace and now?

Israel's supremacy had two aspects: they were to be a royal nation, and a priest nation. In view of Israel's apostasy, their priestly functions fail and God opens up the way into His presence by proclaiming peace to all the nations and access by faith apart from any mediacy whatever. And when the secret is made known of Christ's heavenly exaltation in that celestial realm, the physical supremacy of Israel has no place. A new humanity is created without the jarring elements that the old contains. Thus, when the present Secret Administration is revealed, there is reconciliation not only with God, but there is peace between the faithful of Israel and

— “*Philippians: Paul’s Pivotal Letter Pressing Toward the Mystery*,”
Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., [Bible Student’s Notebook #788](#).

ANIMALS (continued from page 8311)

Had the dog been given the disposition of the wolf or fox, or had our cat been given the disposition of the tiger, they would have been unsafe for our home.

Had the horse been given the disposition of the zebra, it never would have been man’s beast of burden and inseparable friend.

No, He who created man knew that man would need domestic animals that would respond to the touch of love, animals that would pine and yearn for human companionship and that would gladly obey the human voice. **BSN**

— *The Father and His Family* (1916)



258 pages

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“Clyde Pilkington.”

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

the nations also.

Nullifying the law of precepts in decrees, that He should be creating the two, in Himself, into one new humanity, making peace; and should be reconciling both in One Body to God through the cross, killing the enmity in it (Ephesians 2:15-16).

BSN

— *Unsearchable Richs Magazine*
Volume 3 (1912), pp. 273-286
(abridged & edited)

TOPICS:

Major: Calling; Commissions; Dispensational; Mystery
Minor: Gospel; Kingdom; Paul;

Kenyon was an evangelist, pastor, president of a Bible Institute, and author who embraced the Pentecostal/Holiness doctrines. His early mentors included: A.J. Gordon, George Muller, D.L. Moody, A.T. Pierson, R.A. Torrey, A.B. Simpson, G. Campbell Morgan, Andrew Murray, and F.B. Meyer.

He developed the teaching of the so-called “Prosperity Gospel” to the extent that he would become recognized as the “Father of the Word of Faith Movement,” of which Kenneth E Hagin and Kenneth Copeland took up the mantle. While we certainly reject these approaches to Scripture during the current Secret Administration, we nonetheless find his comments on the animal kingdom useful.

TOPICS:

Major: Animals; Creator; God; Pets
Minor: Companionship

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

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?