

"For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to battle?" 1 Corinthians 14:8

KJV

**KING JAMES BIBLE
USED FOR ALL
REFERENCES TO
GOD'S WORD IN
THIS NEWSPAPER**

The Original BAPTIST OBSERVER



"Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls..." Jeremiah 6:16

Sounding Out The Faith JUNE 2014 Issue



THE MASTER BOOKKEEPER



"...my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh." (Ecclesiastes 12:12)

Study is a weariness to the flesh for man, but to GOD, the keeper of many books, it is a source of joy and ease. Within the sixty-six books of the BIBLE, we can dig out the different "books" He keeps. We will discuss the four best known here.

BOOKS WITH NAMES THAT CAN BE BLOTTED OUT:

The Book of the Living: This is the book GOD uses to record the name of every human being alive in the world at any given time. This book continually has names added in and names blotted out. Examples of this book in the Scriptures are: Exodus 31:33; Psalm 139:15-16; Psalm 87:6; Psalms 69:28a.

The LAMB'S Book of Life: In this book, GOD writes those names of His called-out, local New Testament,

Church members who have faithfully served Him. These souls will be counted in the Bride of CHRIST, living in New Jerusalem with CHRIST in eternity. Among these are likely many of the saints we read about in the NEW TESTAMENT. Since GOD still has New Testament Churches today, He provides for names to still be added into this book. Some Scriptures that demonstrate this book are: Revelation 3:5; Revelation 22:19b; Revelation 21:27.

BOOKS THAT ARE CONTINUALLY GROWING LARGER

The Book of Remembrance: In this book, GOD records the prayers, acts of love, and service of His special people. It is up to each local New Testament, Church member to make sure GOD can add to this book each and every day. We want this book to be His largest volume. Find this book in Scriptures: Malachi 3:16; Psalm 56:8.

The Book of Life: This book is the one where GOD records the name of every soul who has ever been born again. The very instant a soul is born again, his name is recorded. Once a name is recorded in this book, it will never be blotted out, even if the said soul never contributes to the Book of Remembrance. (Revelation 17:8; Revelation 20:12b; Revelation 13:8)

Even though study is a weariness of the flesh, can you place the following "Books" into their proper place within GOD'S vast library?

Revelation 5:1; Daniel 7:10

Luke 10:20 (Book of Life, or Lamb's Book?)

Daniel 12:1 (Book of Life, or Book of the Living?)

Philippians 4:3 (Book of Life, or Lamb's Book?)

Hebrews 12:23 (Book of Life, or Lamb's Book?)

TWO-FOLD SACRIFICE

The sacrifice of CHRIST was twofold in its purpose: to obtain redemption for each individual sinner and also to purchase for Himself a Bride.

Why did JESUS allow Himself to be sacrificed?

INDIVIDUALLY, FOR EACH PERSON

For all men: "For the grace of GOD that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men," (Titus 2:11)

For you and me: "Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to

sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." (1 Peter 2:24)

For His enemies: "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to GOD by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life." (Romans 5:10)

CORPORALLY, FOR HIS NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

For the Church: "Husbands, love your wives, even as CHRIST also loved

the Church, and gave Himself for it." (Ephesians 5:2)

For His friends in the Church: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13) Before salvation, each person is the enemy of GOD, not His friend. (Romans 5:10)

To purchase the Church of GOD: "Take heed therefore, unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the HOLY GHOST hath made you overseers, to feed the Church of GOD, which He hath purchased with His own blood." (Acts 20:28)

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THE DICTATOR

COMING TO A WORLD NEAR YOU



Text: Matt. 24:5-8; Luke 21:25

All of us understand what is meant by a dictator. The time is coming when one man will rule the world. There is much planning to bring about a world federation.

Christ is God's remedy for individuals and for nations and will one day rule the world.

The master imitator, the devil, will rule first through his "christ", the antichrist. He will be from Syria. (Isa. 10:1-34; 30:27-31)

WHEN will this world dictator start his rule?

When the Holy Spirit in His present office work is taken out of the way. The antichrist will start his rule. (2 Thess. 2:7-8) When His local churches (the light of the world, the salt of the earth) are caught up to meet the LORD in the air; then the antichrist will start his rule. (Dan. 9:27; Rev. 6:2)

WHAT kind of a personality will this world dictator be?

He will be a man. (2 Thess. 2:3; John 5:43) He will possess super-intelligence. (Dan. 8:23) He will be able to solve difficult problems. He will possess the wisdom of man plus the wisdom of Satan. (Ezek. 28:1-10) He will be a great orator. World leaders must be good speakers. There is power in the human voice. (Dan. 7:20; Rev. 13:2) He will be a super politician. His spirit is seen today. The way is being prepared for him. (regimentation) People still believe campaign promises.

(Dan. 11:21) He will be a wizard in economics. This is a needed characteristic. People want prosperity. Nations are following in the steps of the prodigal son. Nations in economic distress will follow leaders promising prosperity. Hitler was a product of German demand. Antichrist will control the world's commerce. (Dan. 8:25; Rev. 13:17) The antichrist will be a military genius. He will be able to control the military machine of the world. Doubtless he will head an international army or police force. (Rev. 13:4) He will be a religious man. He will claim to be "god" and demand worship. (2 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 13:15) He will work miracles like Elijah on Mt. Carmel. (2 Thess. 2:9; Rev. 13:13)

WHO will follow this world dictator?

"... all the world wondered after the beast." (Rev. 13:3-7) The antichrist will receive what Jesus refused. (Matt. 4:8-9)

HOW long will this dictator rule?

His reign will be short, 7 years. (Rev. 13:5) He will be destroyed by the brightness of Christ's coming. (2 Thess. 2:8; Rev 19:20)



THE PRINCIPLES OF CHURCH GOVERNMENT

TEXT: Matt. 16:19; John 20:19-23

THREE FORMS OF CHURCH GOVERNMENT:

- 1) One man governing many. (Catholic)
- 2) Few governing the many. (Presbyterian)
- 3) The many governing themselves. (Baptist)

ONE MAN RULE - JESUS CONDEMNED:

"... it shall not be so among you." (Mark 10: 42-45; Matt. 20:25-26)

FEW GOVERNING MANY - GOD CONDEMNED:

"Neither as being lords over God's heritage..." (1 Peter 5:3)



MANY GOVERNING THEMSELVES - GOD APPROVED:

"And when they were come to Jerusalem they were received of the church and of the apostles and elders." (Acts 15:4) "Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church." (Acts 15:22)

The church sent out the missionaries. (Acts 15:1-3)

The missionaries reported their work to the church. (Acts 14:27)

The church chose the first deacons. (Acts 6:1-6)

The church chose one to fill the place vacated by Judas. (Acts 1:12-26)

The church decides one's fitness for baptism. (Romans 14:1; Acts 10:47; Matt. 28:19-20)

The church is to exercise discipline over its members. (1 Corinthians 5:1-4; 2 Thessalonians 3:6) "... tell it to

the church..." (Matt. 18:15-17) When personal matters cannot be settled by the persons directly concerned, and before one or two others, then tell it to the church.

The church is to restore repentant members. (2 Cor. 2:5-7; Gal. 6:1)

SOME QUESTIONS?

To whom did Jesus give the right to baptize except to His New Testament Churches? (true Baptists)

Who objects to anyone, or everyone being baptized except New Testament Churches? (true Baptists)

Who grants the apostolic right of baptism to anyone except New Testament Churches? (true Baptists)

What other baptism was ever approved by the Holy Spirit but New Testament Churches' baptism? (true Baptists) (Mark 1:9-11)

THE COYOTE PRINCIPLE

The Governor of California is jogging with his dog along a nature trail. A coyote jumps out and attacks the Governor's dog, then bites the Governor.

The Governor starts to intervene, but reflects upon the movie "Bambi" and then realizes he should stop because the coyote is only doing what is natural.

He calls animal control. Animal control captures the coyote and bills the state \$200 for testing it for diseases and \$500 for relocating it.

He calls a veterinarian. The vet collects the dead dog and bills the state \$200 for testing it for diseased.

The Governor goes to the hospital and spends \$3,500 getting checked for diseases from the coyote and on getting his bite wound bandaged.

The running trail gets shut down for 6 months while Fish & Game conduct a \$100,000 survey to make sure the area is now free of dangerous animals.

The Governor spends \$50,000 in state funds implementing a "coyote awareness program" for residents of the area.

The State Legislature spends \$2 million to study how to better treat rabies and how to permanently eradicate the disease throughout the world.

The Governor's security agent is fired for not stopping the attack. The state spends \$150,000 to hire and train a new agent with additional special training re: the nature of coyotes.

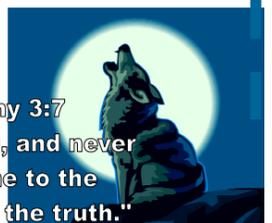
PETA protests the coyote's relocation and files a \$5 million suit against the state.

The Governor of Texas is jogging with his dog along a nature trail. A coyote jumps out and attacks his dog.

The Governor shoots the coyote with his state-issued pistol and keeps jogging. The Governor has spent \$0.50 on a .45 ACP hollow point cartridge.

The buzzards eat the dead coyote.

AND THAT, MY FRIENDS, IS WHY CALIFORNIA IS BROKE AND TEXAS IS NOT.



2 Timothy 3:7
"Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."

ELECTION

Election is understood by many to mean that God foredoomed some to Hell, and foreordained some to Heaven; personal choice does not enter into salvation. This is an error. Augustine was the first to advocate "unconditional" election. He began to preach it about the turn of the fifth century.



God elected Jesus Christ. (Rev 12:8; 1 Peter 1:18-20)

God elected national Israel. (Rom. 11:28)

Personal election is determined by the believer when he believes in Jesus. God foreknew all of this, but did not elect arbitrarily. Election is for believers, not the unbelievers. God elected the plan of salvation and elected to save all who will believe in Jesus.

1 Peter 1:2 teaches that personal election comes through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus.

2 Thess. 2:13 declares the believer is "chosen" (elected) through the belief of the truth.

Eph 1:13 declares ". . . after that ye believed, ye were sealed. . ."

From this it is clear that election cannot be made to teach fatalism - that the choice is all of God and none of man.

GOD HAS AN ETERNAL PURPOSE

"According to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our LORD:" (Eph 3:11)

Although He is not the author of wicked acts, God may use the wicked acts of men in carrying out His purpose. (Acts 2:23; John 6:70) This does not make God the author of wickedness, but it does exalt Him as He turns wickedness to His glory. (Psalm 76:10)

GOD DOES NOT TURN FROM HIS PURPOSE

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of Lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." (James 1:17)

GOD HAS NOT FOREDOOMED ANYONE TO HELL

John 3:16-17; 12:47-48; 7:37; Rev 22:17

ELECTION MEANS TO MAKE A CHOICE

God willed the salvation of all men in eternity (1 Peter 1:20) and in the time, He sent forth His Son. (John 1:29)

God gave man a will and expects him to exercise it. (John 3:16-18)

God's election or choice of a person to eternal life is on the basis of what that person does with Jesus. God's foreknowledge of what a man will do with Jesus does not influence the choice. (Eph. 1:4-5, 13) Jesus died according to God's election, but the death must have taken place. His death was for all men. (Heb 2:9)

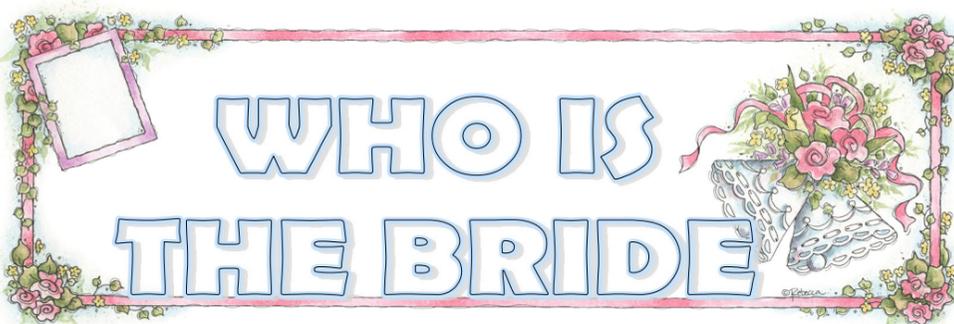
Every believer in Jesus is born (again) of the Holy Spirit. (John 3:7-8) This happens in time and according to the foreknowledge of God. God seals every believer in Jesus. (Eph 1:13)

GOD'S ELECTION ASSURES SECURITY FOR THE BELIEVER (ROM. 8:28-34)

It is a guarantee. An admonition worthy of our notice: "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure. . ." (2 Peter 1:10)

GOD'S PURPOSE DOES NOT DESTROY THE FREE MORAL AGENCY OF MAN

Ezekiel 3:10; 2 Peter 3:9; Isaiah 55:9; Acts 17:30



Text: Rev. 19:7-10

ARE THE JEWS THE BRIDE OF CHRIST?

The Jews are the wife of God. (Isaiah 54:4-7) She was a harlot. God gave her a bill of divorcement. (Jeremiah 3:1-14) Can the Jews be the virgin Jesus will marry? (Hosea 2:1-14)

ARE ALL THE CHURCHES THE BRIDE OF CHRIST?

We find the candlestick being removed in churches. (Revelation 2:1-5) In the tabernacle the candlestick typified the presence of Christ. There was not to be any other kind of light. Jesus said, "I am the light." Jesus is in the midst of the churches. (Revelation 1:13) "And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed

with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle." (Revelation 1:20) ". . . the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches." (Matthew 18:20) "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Oil in the lamps of the candlestick represents the Holy Spirit. When the candlestick is removed, so is the oil (Holy Spirit) as a Guide or Anointing. It is possible to have the light in a church removed, but salvation of an individual can never be removed.

ARE ALL THE SAVED IN THE BRIDE OF CHRIST?

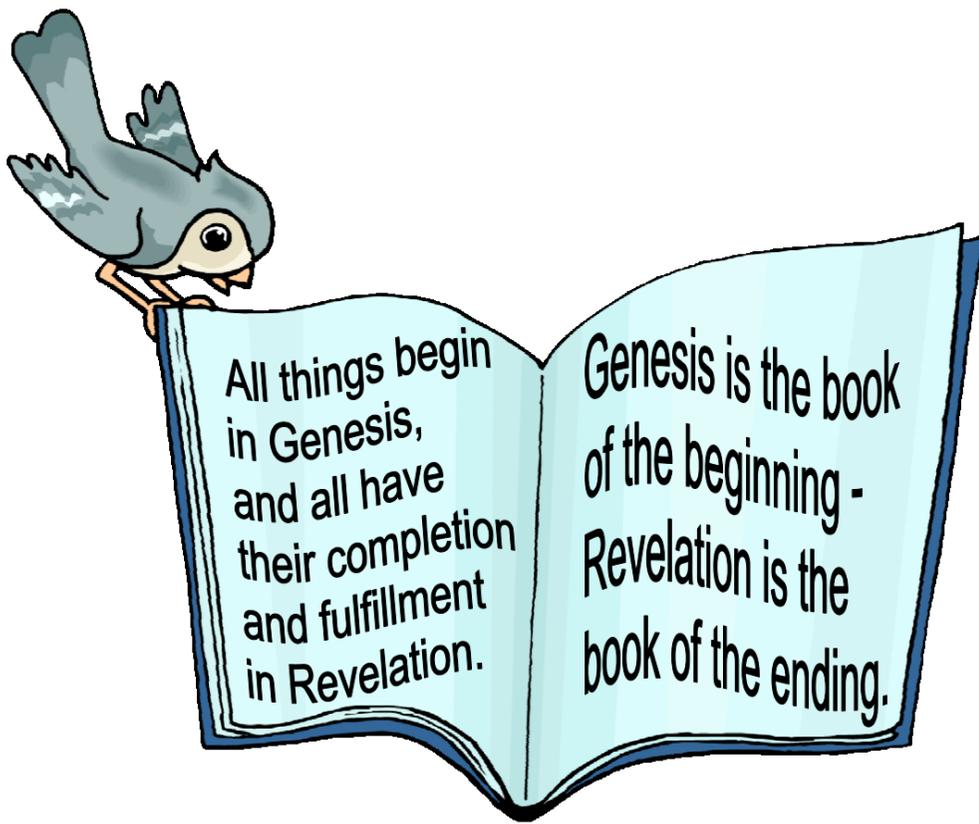
John 3:29-30 shows the relationship of John to Christ. John was saved. Revelation 3:1-4, implies some are not worthy though they are saved. Only a few had clean garments. (righteousness) If it is possible that some churches can have the candlestick removed,

(Revelation 2:1-5) then certainly these would not qualify to be in the Bride of Christ even though they are saved.

DO ONLY A FEW COMPOSE THE BRIDE?

2 Corinthians 11:2, to whom was Paul speaking? Were they saved? Did they have Scriptural baptism? Read Ephesians 5:22-32. Christ loved His church. He gave Himself for her. (Acts 20:28) "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood." Read John 14:1-4. Is not Heaven already prepared? To whom was He speaking? Was He speaking to all the saved? Jesus was going to prepare a special place for His church, the Bride. John saw the Bride. This is the special place referred to in John 14:1-4. Not all shall dwell in that place. (Revelation 21:9-27)

GENESIS FINDS ITS COMPLETION IN REVELATION



All things begin in Genesis, and all have their completion and fulfillment in Revelation. Genesis is the book of the beginning. Revelation is the book of the ending.

The earth created. (Gen 1:1) The earth passed away. (Rev 21:1)

Genesis records Satan's first rebellion. Revelation records Satan's final rebellion. (Rev 20)

The sun, moon and stars were created for earth's government. (Gen 1:14-16) The sun, moon and stars are connected with earth's judgment. (Rev 6:13; 8:12; 16:8)

The sun created to govern the day. (Gen 1:16) There is no need of the sun in the eternal day. (Rev 21:23)

In Genesis there is darkness, called night. (Gen 1:5) In Revelation there is "no night". (Rev 22:5)

In Genesis the waters are called seas. (Gen 1:10) In Revelation there is "no more sea". (Rev 21:1)

In Genesis there is a river for earth's blessing. (Gen 2:10-14) In Revelation there is a river for the new earth. (Rev 22:1-2)

In Genesis man is created in God's image. (Gen 1:26) In Revelation men are governed by one in Satan's image. (Rev 13)

In Genesis sin makes its entrance. (Gen 3) In Revelation is recorded the full development and end of sin. (Rev 21 and 22)

In Genesis the curse is pronounced. (Gen 3:14-17) In Revelation there is "no more curse". (Rev 22:3)

In Genesis death entered. (Gen 3:19) In Revelation there is "no more death". (Rev 21:4)

In Genesis cherubims are first mentioned with man or in connection with man. (Gen 3:24) In Revelation is the final mention of cherubims in connection with man. (Rev 4:6)

In Genesis man is driven out of Eden. (Gen 3:24) In Revelation man is restored. (Rev 22)

In Genesis the Tree of Life is guarded. (Gen 3:24) In Revelation man has a "right to the Tree of Life". (Rev 22:14)

In Genesis sorrow and suffering enter. (Gen 3:17) In Revelation there is no more sorrow. (Rev 21:4)

In Genesis religion, art and science are resorted to for enjoyment apart from GOD. (Gen 4:21-22) In Revelation religion, art, science and luxury are in their full development and they are judged and destroyed by GOD. (Rev 18)

In Genesis Nimrod became a great rebel, king, and hidden anti-god, the founder of Babylon. (Gen 10:8-9) In Revelation the beast, the great rebel, king and manifestly anti-god revives Babylon. (Rev 13 and 18)

In Genesis a flood from GOD destroyed an evil generation. (Gen 6:9) In Revelation a flood from Satan attempts to destroy an elect generation. (Rev 12:13-16)

In Genesis the rainbow appears as a token of God's covenant with the earth. (Gen 9:13) In Revelation the rainbow betokens God's remembrance of His covenant with the earth. (Rev 4:3; 10:1)

In Genesis Sodom and Egypt are places of corruption and temptation. (Gen 13:19) In Revelation Sodom and Egypt are used to represent the spiritual corruption of Jerusalem. (Rev 11:8)

In Genesis a confederacy against Abraham's people is overthrown. (Gen 14) In Revelation a confederacy against Abraham's seed is overthrown. (Rev 12)

Genesis records the marriage of the first Adam. (Gen 2:18-23) Revelation records the marriage of the last Adam. (Rev 19)

In Genesis man's dominion ceased and Satan's began. (Gen 3:24) In Revelation Satan's dominion ends and man's is restored. (Rev 22)

In Genesis the old serpent is causing sin, suffering and death. (Gen 3:1) In Revelation the old serpent is bound for a thousand years. (Rev 20:1-3)

In Genesis the doom of the old serpent is announced. (Gen 3:15) In Revelation the doom of the old serpent is executed. (Rev 20:10)

REVELATION 22:6 "AND HE SAID UNTO ME, THESE SAYINGS ARE FAITHFUL AND TRUE: AND THE LORD GOD OF THE HOLY PROPHETS SENT HIS ANGEL TO SHEW UNTO HIS SERVANTS THE THINGS WHICH MUST SHORTLY BE DONE."