



Bible Student's Notebook™

The Herald of His Grace

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

Volume XIX
Issue 454

A Reply to R.A. Torrey's

The Exact Truth Regarding an Eternal Hell

Part 4 of 4

by — A.E. Knoch (1874-1965)

#3

John 5:28-29

All that are in the tombs shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of judgment.

The third passage to prove that the “issues of eternity” are settled in this life is the Lord’s announcement in John 5.

When once we believe God that “eternity” does not come until the eons are past, we will come to the conclusion that this passage has nothing to do with it at all.

#4

John 8:21

He said therefore again unto them: “I go away, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins; whither I go, ye cannot come.”

The last and most “conclusive” passage remains in John 8. It is inferred that this is final. They never could come. Let us inject this inference into these words on another occasion:

As I said unto the Jews, “Whither I go, ye cannot come,” so now I say to you (John 13:33).



Consequently, all of the apostles (except Judas – he had gone out) were doomed! They will never see Him! They, too, go to the “eternal hell”!

CONCLUSION

After a few personalities, the reasonableness of this “eternal hell” is urged on the ground of the rejection of God’s Son and despising His mercy. Nothing is said of the billions who have not so much as heard of Him or whose hearts have been hardened towards Him through such teaching as the author’s pamphlet. What of the heathen? The children? The infants? What reasoning can exult in their eternal torment? Shall we join in the “*Hallelujah!*” over their doom? God’s “*Hallelujah!*” concerns Babylon; not the “impenitent” (Revelation 19:1).

Testimony from such an eminent source, and by one who is the chief champion of an endless hell, must be given special weight. How does this teaching affect him? Here is his witness:

Time and time again I have come up to this awful
(see *REPLY*, page 4036)

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Bible Student's Notebook™

Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal

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This free weekly electronic publication (52 times a year) is dedicated to:

- the proclamation of the riches of God's abundant, exceeding grace (Romans 5:20; 11:6; Ephesians 1:7);
- the affirmation of God's purpose to save all mankind through the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (I Timothy 2:3, 4; 4:10; Titus 2:11);
- the "preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began" (Romans 16:25);
- true freedom and liberty apart from law (Galatians 5:1);
- the organic nature of the church, the Body of Christ (I Corinthians 12);
- the distinct message and ministry of Paul, the apostle to the nations (Romans 11:13);
- 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);
 - identity in His death, burial, and resurrection (Romans 6);
 - adult sonship position (Galatians 4).

This publication is a joint effort of a few members of the body of Christ. It is a product of our individual lives and ministries together. We do not claim infallibility for its contents. 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."

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The Crux of the Matter

Paul's Radical Revelation

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

Paul's evangel challenges the way we see things. The revelation given to him by our Lord Jesus Christ challenges our false worldview: the way we see God, Christ, ourselves, others, the world around us – *everything!* It brings us to a crux; to a decisive point. Whose version of these will we believe? More pointedly, *who* will we believe?



brace it over all of the lies concerning us.

Paul's letters catalog the Divine Record of who and what we are – the real us. His epistles are an encyclopedia of the truth about us.

We are not self-created, self-made or self-determined. We are exactly what we are because we were so *created*. Being God's *creature*, He has made us precisely who we are.

GOD

Will we continue to believe the lies about God? Will we continue to believe in a "god" who is something less than God? A god who is not the Sovereign of his creation? A god who cannot control his own universe? A god who cannot accomplish his own purpose? A god who purports to be all-wise, all-knowing and all-powerful, but who in reality cannot coordinate these absolute and boundless attributes to accomplish the task of his will? A god that is frustrated, filled with disgust, loathing, repulsion, hatred, bitterness and hostility?

Moreover, in a larger context, He is continually *making* us who we are. His achievement in us is an *ongoing* work that will find its final result only when He is completely done with His masterpiece.

Understanding and believing these glorious truths will allow us the freedom to be at rest about ourselves. Will we embrace this revelation given to Paul? Or, will we allow the lies to bully us out of our divinely designed identity?

CHRIST

Will we continue to believe the lies about the Son of God? Will we continue to believe in a Christ who must attempt to appease the anger of this "god," but who can manage to do so for only a very few? A Christ who is more loving than his god? A Christ who is a failure at taking away the sin of the world? A Christ who is unsuccessful at his role of saving the world?

Will we continue to believe the lies about others? Paul also challenges our religiously-tainted view concerning *everyone* around us.

OURSELVES

Will we continue to believe the lies about ourselves? Will we continue our attempts to discover our true selves apart from the truth?

Ultimately, the only thing that makes us different from everyone else is *timing*. God's steady work in His creation has always involved the *time* element: as in the resurrection, in every aspect of His work in all mankind – whether it is birth, realization of the truth, glorification, etc. – it is "*every man in his own order*" (I Corinthians 15:23).

Paul's revelation radically challenges our true identity, the truth of who we really are. We need to em-

We are simply farther along in Father's handiwork than the rest of His creation. God is doing an *early* work in us. It is only the *timing* of *His grace* that makes the difference.

A CROSSROADS

Paul's good news brings us to the crossroads of all of these views. Will we continue to believe the lies that have us groping in our own dark world? Or, will we live in the light of God's truth?

Paul's evangel is a revelation of a real God, a real Christ, a real world. It's a revelation that challenges every aspect of our thinking to *its core*.

Faith is the divinely induced discovery of the true God and His real world. It's a discovery that challenges every aspect of our thinking.

The fight of faith becomes our daily walk: *Who will we believe?* Will we believe ourselves? Will we believe our education and training? Will we believe Christendom? Will we believe our denomination or church? Will we believe our feelings? Will we believe our human reasoning? Or, will we believe God's revelation through Paul?

God calls us to a transformed mind: a radical repentance – a drastic change in the way we see God,

Christ, ourselves, others and the world around us, as well as God's past, present, future and ultimate plan. Refuse to live in the darkness of lies; embrace the light of divine revelation given to Paul.

If you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me on your account, how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery ... That you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ, which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men ... Of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power ... that I should proclaim ... the unsearchable riches of Christ; and make all men see what is the dispensation of the mystery, concealed from the ages in God ... To the intent that now to the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the called-out-ones the manifold wisdom of God, according to the purpose of the ages which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord: in Whom we have boldness and access with confidence by His faith (Ephesians 3:2-12). ■

REPLY (continued from front page)

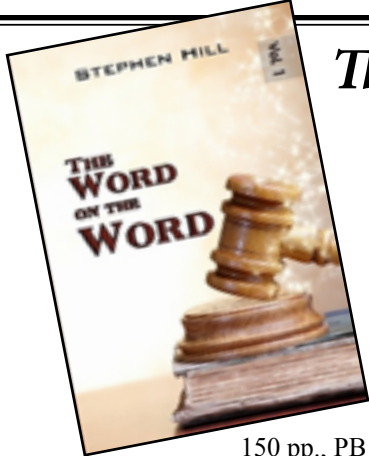
doctrine and tried to find some way of escape from it.

A GLORIOUS DOCTRINE

We rejoice that we have found a way of escape. We rest in a doctrine from which we have no desire to escape, in which we exult; a glorious doctrine of a

blessed and victorious God, whose Son laid the basis of the universal reconciliation in the blood of His cross; a God Who is able, through His Christ, to undo all of the deeds of the devil; a God Whose essence is love, and Whose purpose, during the eons, is to become *All in all*. ■

1922



The Word on the Word – Vol. 1
by — Stephen Hill

This is a collection of articles from the author's blog. In its pages you will learn of many truths from God's Word that you will likely not encounter in the traditional church setting. No topic is off-limits, as Stephen Hill addresses a variety of biblical truths – many controversial – which will likely challenge you to reconsider many of your long-held beliefs.

Discover what the Bible really teaches about love and suicide, honesty and lying, marriage and parenting, grace and judgment, and much more. May this book be an edifying tool for your spiritual growth!

150 pp., PB
See order form.



It is time that I write and thank you (but especially God) for the really good news that you bring! I love the studies, the [videos](#), the [articles](#), the [emails](#). They bring me real peace and joy!

I have to confess something. I often use your studies for making blogs and spreading the really good news. – *The Netherlands*

Thanks so much for the [video shorts](#) included in [Daily Email Goodies](#). They are really a blessing and address topics so relevant to my situation. Please continue them.

As always, thanks for [Bible Students Radio](#) and everything else you bless us with every day. May our Father continue to bless you and your family. – *IL*

I recently read through your book, [The Church in Ruins](#), and I have to say that it gave me the final push to finally end my membership at the church in which I've grown up. To be sure, it was a very difficult decision (especially for my wife), but I know it was the right one. – *SC*

I'm thankful for the role Father had you play in my growth process. It literally changed my life. – *WA*

I just loved [All Creatures](#) by Rick Longva from BSN 437. I was driving along this morning and listening to some music from Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Cats" and I thought of all my beautiful cats I've had over the years. The last one to pass off this mortal coil, his name was actually "Cat," I preached the gospel to him before he died, in my arms.

He was sent to us as a stray when we desperately needed comfort in trials, and he had been through a hard time too, and it was lovely to be able to nurture him in his final frail years. I know God sent him to us. He gave us so much love and had the loudest purr you have ever heard.

Also I love the article by Travis Penner, [The Purpose of Faith's Refining Fire](#). It ties in with everything I have been reading lately, and how wonderful it is in the last few days that I have been able not to panic but actually to praise Father as some very stressful things have happened. This has been made possible by the Scriptures I've been reading prompted by writings of [Arthur P. Adams](#) books I've received from [Study Shelf](#).

We all must press on, our noses in the Word, which will cause us to be instant in prayer and just communicating with our heavenly Fa- ►

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ther, silently, in all situations throughout the day, *knowing* that, no matter what the adversity, all will be well eventually and all is happening for our ultimate good – not just us but all creation. – **Australia**

I just wanted you to know that I'm still here, listening to your videos. I finished your latest one on the family. I will be ordering your books when available. – **WA**

[Fear is Elementary](#) and other [short videos](#) you are putting on your website and YouTube are excellent, as all your teaching. The picture and the sound are excellent also. You are doing wonderful work for the Lord. – **GA**

Your book [Due Benevolence](#) was another breakthrough in seeing what God has actually written to us. – **IL**

Your [articles](#), [audios](#), [daily emails](#) and so forth are such a balm to the soul. Love you brother! – **Canada**

What a wonderful surprise and gift to find in my email today! I hope that you continue with these [videos](#). Your personal love and joy for Father comes across so magnificently! What a powerful and uplifting message presented in just a few minutes! – **LA**

I loved your [Male and Female](#) lectures. You are a great teacher. I love all you do. – **GA**

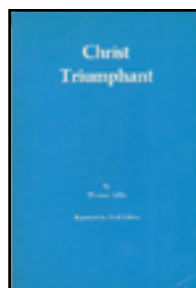
I am writing to thank you very much for always sending me the [Daily Email Goodies](#) and the weekly [Bible Student's Notebook](#). I appreciate them very much, even though I have never expressed it. I especially liked the one on God's plan for animals.

Just a little about me. I am 76 and was in worldwide church of God perhaps 20 years; we left there about 15 years ago. ... We finally have the truth

now after suffering many things. We have listened to your latest [videos](#). Super! Keep at it. – **MN**

I guess my journey into the reconciliation of all began with a Christmas gift of a Logitech Squeezebox internet radio receiver in the Christmas of 2013. This gift, from my son, surely "arranged" by our Father, finally led me to the discovery of [Bible Student's Radio](#) while searching for internet Christian broadcasts. I thought it first to be heresy, but as I looked up the scriptural references, all fell into place for me. Thank you Clyde and family, Dan Sheridan, Martin Zender, James Flanders and all broadcast and tech people behind BSR. You continue to bless, encourage and feed me every time I tune in, which is often!

I also wish to thank you for your faithfulness in sending [Daily Email Goodies](#), and the [Bible Student's Notebook](#) to my e-mail address. It is a blessing beyond words to receive these gifts from you. I look forward to the *Goodies* every single day. May I also say that I really am blessed by the short 10 to 20 minute videos by Clyde that have been showing up in my e-mails as of late. More of these, please; they are a blessing. – **IL** ■



Christ Triumphant

by — Thomas Allin (1838–1909)

327 pp, PB
(See order form.)

Originally published in 1890, this book answers the question of questions: Can evil triumph finally over good? If we answer affirmatively with the popular creed, we are practically falling into Dualism. Men strive to save the popular creed by various modifications: by diminishing the number of the lost, by softening their torments, or by asserting their annihilation. What are all of these but so many unstated confessions that men everywhere feel it impossible to maintain the creed still generally professed?

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258 pp., PB

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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?

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