



Bible Student's Notebook™

The Herald of His Grace

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

Volume 25
Issue 610

Rooted in Him

by — Frank Neil Pohorlak (1907-1988)

Christ to dwell in your hearts through faith, that you, having been rooted and grounded in love, should be strong to grasp, together with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and depth and height - to know the love of Christ as well which transcends knowledge - that you may be completed for the entire complement of God (Ephesians 3:17-19, Concordant Literal Version).

As, then, you accepted Christ Jesus, the Lord, be walking in Him, having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being confirmed in the faith according as you were taught, super-abounding in it with thanksgiving (Colossians 2:6-7, CLV).

All growth takes time. Time-lapse photography visually accelerates the life process which otherwise seems so slow as to mask the miracle of growth taking place before our unseeing eyes.



Our understanding of “*rooted and grounded in love*” (Ephesians 3:17) and “*rooted and built up in Him*” (Colossians 2:7) is enhanced by learning that “*root*” is defined as “be firmly fixed and nourished” (*Concordant Keyword Concordance*, p. 252).

There is no limit set for this ever-widening “*root*” system to develop in the love of Christ. Our continuous growth in love will be apparent to all one day, just as the simple rye-grass is growing both underground and above ground.

Consider this exquisite extract from *The Web of Life* by John H. Storer.

A root system is a really incredible thing. Many studies have been made of its extent. In one study,

a plant of winter rye-grass was grown for four months in a box with less than two cubic feet of earth. In that time the plant grew twenty inches high, with about 51 square feet of surface above the ground. But underground the root system had developed 378 miles of roots and an additional 6,000 miles of root hairs! This meant an average growth of three miles of roots and 50 miles of root hairs for each day of the four-month growing season.

Let us emulate Paul’s prayer that we may be “*rooted and grounded in love,*” so that we may realize the transcending love of Christ. In the same manner, then, let us be “*rooted in Him*” and “*built up in Him,*” superabounding in thanksgiving. ■

Major Topics: Edification, Growth, Love

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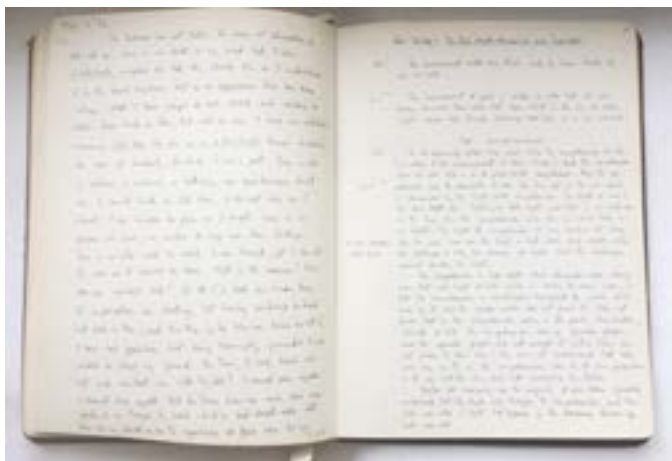


Editor's Desk

Dr. Frank Neil Pohorlak

In this issue we have another installment by Frank Pohorlak. We ran our first article written by him in 2010, *The Sequel Which Sustains*. Since then we have taken on the task of collecting and compiling his works. In 2012 we published the first assortment of his articles, entitled: *The Sequel Which Sustains: The Pohorlak Papers, Volume I*.¹ We are now working on Volume II.

A few years back, during my efforts to research his writings, I was able to track down a family member who had closed out Pohorlak's estate after his death. His niece had a small box of his things (articles, pictures, journals, etc.) which she had stored in her attic. She had a keen sense that one day someone would come asking about him and want the items in the box. So, she kept them tucked away until the inquirer contacted her. I was that man, and she graciously entrusted me with the box, which I considered a great honor.



One of Pohorlak's personal study journals.

This box not only contained many studies from Pohorlak that I'd been seeking, but also a nice collection of items that helped me piece together a record of his life.

1. See order form.

During a 2011 visit from our Canadian friends Don and Marja Bast, I mentioned my story of researching Pohorlak and his writings. To my great surprise, Don then relayed to me how he had organized loose studies of Pohorlak into a notebook years earlier while working at *Concordant Publishing*. Upon returning home, Don graciously sent me a copy of that collection.

Needless to say, God willing, as time and labor permit, many more Pohorlak volumes should result.

Biography



Pohorlak as a child.

Son of Frank and Mary Pohorlak, Frank was born in 1907 in Cleveland, OH. In his early career he served as a Jr. High School teacher for the Cleveland City Schools.

After studying for the ministry at *Bob Jones College* in Bay County, FL (now *Bob Jones University* of Greenville, SC) he assisted John R. Rice (1895-1980; founder of the *Sword of the Lord Publishers*) in estab-



1934

lishing a Baptist Church in Waxahachie, TX, in 1932.

He was ordained in 1934 by Dr. J. Frank Norris (1877-1952; pastor of *First Baptist Church*, Fort Worth), at which time he became the pastor of *Galilee Baptist Church* of Dallas.



1941



Youth Tent Rally, Overton, TX



1947



Early Radio Ministry: KOCA, Kilgore, TX

In the early 1940's he taught a daily, 15-station network radio program, *Crossroads Counselor*, became an editor of *The Differentiator*, and was contributor to periodicals such as, *The Link*, *Revelation*, *Our Hope*, *Revelator*, and *War Cry*.

Pohorlak continued his education at *St. Andrews University* (1945) and *Shrieham University* (1946) both in Scotland, and then at the *Los Angeles Baptist Seminary* (1946), serving as class president and substitute teacher. He received a Th.D and Ph.D. from *Pioneer Theological Seminary* (1950).



1948

For many years he served as editor of *The Torch*, and as Los Angeles newspaper columnist of *Think of These Things*.

In the 1960's he founded and ministered at *Grace* ►

Fellowship in Los Angeles, began serving as Contributing Editor of the *Unsearchable Riches* Magazine, and was a featured *Concordant* conference speaker. He was among those who assisted A.E. Knoch (1874-1965) with various phases of work on the *Concordant Version*.



1950



Pohorlak's home and office: 209 E. Ellis Ave, Inglewood CA (where the dining room had been transformed into a classroom for weekly studies).

During his association and ministry with *Concordant Publishing Concern*, which began in the 1930's and spanned some 50 years, he served in various other positions: Research Consultant for the *Concordant New Testament*, Editor of the *Concordant Old Testament*, and assisting in correcting and revising the *Keyword Concordance*.

He also authored the scholarly defense, *Proponents for a Literal Translation of the New Testament*, as well as co-authored with A.E. Knoch *Concordant Studies on the Book of Daniel*.

Pohorlak continued to enjoy an active teaching ministry until his death in 1988.



1976

One of the joys of our work here is to discover and preserve the great truths written in the past, and in the process learn a bit more about the men that God used and the journey of their lives. Over time I start to feel as though I know these authors, and they begin to become friends – friends that I long to meet at His appearing in Glory.



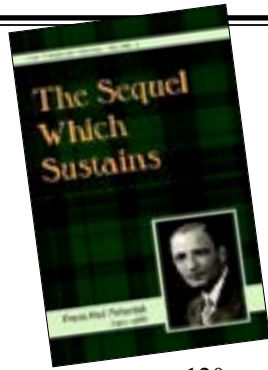
One of Pohorlak's many drawings.

Your servant,



Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

Topics: Biography



The Sequel Which Sustains – The Pohorlak Papers: Volume 1

by — Frank Neil Pohorlak

120 pp., PB

See order form.

In cooperation with his estate, this is the first in a series of collected articles on various scriptural themes by Frank Pohorlak (1907-1988). In associations with men such as Bob Jones, John R. Rice, J. Frank Norris and A.E. Knoch, he enjoyed a long, illustrious, colorful life and teaching ministry spanning many states and foreign countries.



This is a website where you can enjoy select videos containing wonderful truths from Scripture, some of which are single topics, while others are part of a series. The videos are great to watch alone or with family and friends. Among the teachers is your editor Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr. Some of his more popular videos are:

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www.StudyShelf.com/videos/



A Look at Alcohol in the Scriptures

by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

[God brings forth] *wine which makes man's heart glad* (Psalm 104:15).

54 pp, PB

See order form.

Wine was a blessing in Scripture (Proverbs 3:10), something to be received gratefully from God (Psalm 104:15). Like many things that God has graciously given to man, alcohol can be used or abused.

However, it is important that we do not confuse use with abuse, or drinking with drunkenness. To prohibit the use of alcohol, by pointing to verses about its abuse, would be like condemning the eating of food because of gluttony, or requiring sexual abstinence because of carnal sins. This is deceptive and erroneous religious reasoning.

This study briefly surveys alcohol related Hebrew and Greek words and some of their contexts, considers passages usually used to condemn the use of alcohol, and looks at a few common objections.



I was listening to an ancient language scholar recently and one of his topics led me to the largest annual theologians' conference web site where hundreds of papers are presented each year. These are supposed to be the most cutting edge of thought in theological research.

As I was combing through the titles, I ran across one on Galatians 2:16 entitled *What if Paul Meant what He Said?* I was immediately drawn to it thinking that someone would acknowledge "the faith of Christ." I was hoping to hear the journey of a blind scholar given spiritual sight.

Unfortunately what I got was a talk on whether Paul said that righteousness came by faith or faith and works, and some deep Greek complexity about uses and exceptions. All of it completely disregarding the phrase at the end of the passage

"the faith of Christ."

I have researched this to see if I am seeing only what I want to see, or if there are legitimate grammatical reasons to change "the faith of Christ" into "faith in Christ." I have yet to find anyone even make an argument for the change. It's just made in their attempt to make the word more readable and modern. The blindness is still stunning to see.

If a man will never be declared righteous by works of the law but by "the faith of Christ," then whether righteousness comes by faith and/or works is immaterial to me. It's neither my faith nor my works. So the question of is it one or the other or both is just a waste of time. Believe it and walk in it.

I now have at least 6 passages that clearly state "the faith of Christ" and yet all are modified in most modern translations. You've already seen all of this before, and I've been aware of it for maybe 2 years now. I was just dumbfounded at how deep and convoluted the conversation gets when the reader is completely blinded to the simplicity right in their face. – TN

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This free electronic publication is dedicated to:

- 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 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 in ages past" (Romans 16:25);
- true freedom and liberty apart from law (Galatians 5:1);
- the organic nature of the Body of Christ (I Corinthians 12);
- the distinct message and ministry of Paul, the apostle to the nations (Ephesians 1:1-3);
- 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 (Romans 6);
- adult sonship position (Galatians 4).

We do not claim infallibility for the contents of this publication. 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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