



Bible Student's Notebook™

The Herald of His Grace

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

Volume 36
Issue 894

Dispensational Continuity of Major Bible Events

by — Ray I. Psalmonds (1909-1984)

A “Dispensation” (or “Administration”) is a “Household” and its “Management” (or “Stewardship”). There are two basic Households that encompass God’s plan: the *Household of the Celestials* and the *Household of the Earth*. The one is the *Household of the Secret*, while the other Abraham’s *Household of Faith*.

BEFORE AGE-TIMES

“Before Age-Times”¹ is that period before the beginning of the ages (Genesis 1:1; John 1:1-2). The present *Household of the Celestials*, which was the “Secret ... hid in God” (Ephesians 3:9), has connection back to “Before Age-Times.” Such terms as “the Joint-Body” (Ephesians 3:6), “the Household of the Secret” (Ephesians 3:9), all relate back to this point before the ages.

The Primal Creation of the Universe (Genesis 1:1)

1. [Editor:] This is *πρό αἰώνιος χρόνος* (*pro aiōnios chronos*), literally, “before age-times,” or “before eonian times.”

Citations for “before age-times”:

- Dr. E.W. Bullinger (1837-1913), *Companion Bible*, Appendix 151;
- Arthur P. Adams (1847-1920), *Definition of Bible Terms* (Æon);
- Vladimir Gelesnoff (1877-1921), *Unsearchable Riches*, Volume 6 (1915);
- Charles H. Welch (1880-1967), *Alphabetical Analysis: Dispensational Truth* (*Plērōma*);
- Stuart Allen (-1998), *The Early and Pastoral Epistles of Paul*;
- Dr. Vincent Bennett (1903-1981), *Our Calling in Him*;
- Dr. William H. Walker (1840-1924), *Unsearchable Riches*, Volume 15 (1924);
- Russell H. Schaefer (1919-1999), *The Mystery Ministry of Paul*;
- Zane C. Hodges (1932-2008), *Do Not Be Ashamed*.

Citations for “before eonian times”:

- A.E. Knoch (1874-1965), Adlai Loudy (1893-1984), William Mealand (1873-1957), John H. Essex (1907-1991), George L. Rogers (1869-1947), Frank Neil Pohorlak (1907-1988), Alexander Thomson (1889-1966): *Unsearchable Riches* (throughout).

was “the world that then was” (II Peter 3:6). The first satanic-led rebellion resulted in the Earth’s being “without form and void” (Genesis 1:2). God created it not without form and void (Isaiah 45:18). Thus, the Celestial Household (Dispensation) was interrupted.

The restoration of the Earth began (Genesis 1:3), man was created in the image of God (1:26-28), and the restoration was completed (Genesis 2:2): “The Heavens and Earth which are now” (II Peter 3:7).

After God restored the Earth, and placed man on it, He also introduced a new dispensation. This new “household and its management” was to be related to the Earth and controlled by the covenants which God would make with His earth-bound family. This household is *God’s covenant people* identified as “the Household of Faith” (Galatians 6:10). There are many Scriptures which indicate that this earthly *Household of Faith* dates back to the point when God restored the Earth (cf. Matthew 25:34; Luke 11:50; Revelation 17:8; Hebrews 11:39-40; Deuteronomy 32:7-9.)

From the above it can be seen that God’s *Celestial Dispensation* (household and its management) began **before** the overthrow (disruption) of the world.²

2. [Editor:] For more information about “the disruption,” see:

- [The Disruption of the World](#), see on the order form under “Compilations.”

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It continued until interrupted by the first rebellion lead by Satan.

FROM ADAM TO ABRAHAM

Sin entered the restored Earth through the unbelief and disobedience of man, but God revealed His provision to supply a remedy for sin through the promise of a Savior (Genesis 3).

The exceeding sinfulness of man brought another satanic rebellion on the Earth resulting in the flood and destruction of mankind except for Noah and his family (Genesis 7-8).

Many years later God called Abraham to head the earthly "Household of Faith." When Abraham obeyed God's call he was promised that his seed would be used as a channel of blessing to all of the nations of the Earth. God also made a covenant with Abraham, assuring him that he and his seed would inherit the Earth (Genesis 12:1-3; 13:14-17; 17:1-13).

Abraham's "Household of Faith" included only those

who expressed faith in the God of Abraham (Genesis 17:14; Galatians 3:6-7).

FROM MOSES TO THE CRUCIFIXION OF CHRIST

The *Law of Commandments* was given to Moses and added to the Covenant made with Abraham and his *Household of Faith* (Exodus 20:1-17; Galatians 3:18-19).

The descendants of Abraham were identified as "Israel," and those who believed were called the "congregation" or "church in the wilderness" (Genesis 28:3; Psalm 22:22; Acts 7:38).

God sent many prophets to Israel with messages from Himself. The messages were given to the seed of Abraham in order that they might know God's will. After years of trials and tribulations, brought on by their disobedience, God announced that He would make a *New Covenant* with them (Jeremiah 31:31).

Many generations later, God announced the birth of

Bible Student's Notebook™

Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal

ISSN: 1936-9360

Volume 36, No. 894 – November 1, 2021

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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For definitions of abbreviations/acronyms, see the [online key](#).

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Messiah (Matthew 1). This announced birth did not herald the beginning of the New Covenant which was promised to the descendants of Abraham. The Book of Matthew did not introduce the New Covenant. God was still operating under the Old Covenant, and those events of Matthew's Gospel only give a record of many things which God had predicted would happen under the Old Covenant (see, Matthew 1:17; 2:5-6; Romans 15:8; Hebrews 8:6-10; 9:15-17).

Notice that God was still dealing with the earthly "Household of Faith" and offered to them the Kingdom (Matthew 3:1-2; 10:5-6). This "Household of Faith" was identified as the church of the Kingdom (Matthew 15:24; 16:18; 18:17).

Many signs, miracles, and wonders were displayed by the Lord Jesus Christ and His disciples (John 21:25). Water baptism was required (Mark 1:4-5), baptism in spirit was promised (Mark 1:8, John 1:33; Acts 1:5). The Lord's Supper was instituted as part of the Passover Feast, and the shed blood of the Messiah was revealed as the *basis* of the New Covenant (Matthew 26:26-29; I Corinthians 11:23-26).

The Kingdom program under the Old Covenant was rejected by the descendants of Abraham, and the Messiah of Israel was crucified (Matthew 26:3,4; 26:35-37, Luke 19:14; John 19:6).

FROM THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST TO THE CLOSE OF THE BOOK OF ACTS

The Lord Jesus Christ was resurrected, and the commission was given to the Twelve Apostles as the basis for conducting the Kingdom program under the New Covenant (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:3-8).

The Kingdom program was again offered to the descendants of Abraham (Acts 2:36-39). The re-offer was made under the New Covenant and was introduced with baptism in spirit (Acts 2:1-4; 3:18-21).

Abraham's "Household of faith" was still present and identified as the church of the New Covenant (Acts 2:41-47). The signs, miracles and wonders were a necessary accompaniment to the re-offer of the Kingdom program under the New Covenant (Mark 16:17,18; Acts 2:16-19, 43).

In accordance with prophecy, the Gentiles were invited to become members of Abraham's "Household of faith" (Genesis 22:18; Isaiah 49:6; 60:3; Acts 10:24-35, 43-48; 11:17-18; 15:14-17).

Although the descendants of Abraham had *priority* to the New Covenant message, many Gentiles were saved, baptized in water and in spirit, and received gifts of signs and miracles (Acts 3:25-26; 10:45-46; 11:19; 18:8; 19:5-6).

Paul was saved, made a minister of Israel's New Covenant, and sent primarily to the Gentiles (II Corinthians 3:6; Romans 11:13; 15:16).

The message of reconciliation and the gospel of the uncircumcision were revealed through the Apostle Paul, thus he refers to these revelations as "my gospel" (Romans 2:16; Galatians 2:7-9; Romans 16:25-26; II Corinthians 5:18-21). The message of reconciliation is declared to be a *mystery* "hushed" in the Scriptures but revealed to the Apostle Paul (Romans 16:25,26), but certainly it is not *THE MYSTERY* "hid from ages and generations, but now made manifest to the saints" mentioned in Colossians 1:26.



The Transfiguration

A Compilation

A helpful compilation of three studies on the meaning of "the Mount of Transfiguration," by E.W. Bullinger, M. Thomas Wark and Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

38 pp., PB

See [order form](#) under "Compilations."

The message and ministry of the Apostle Paul during the Acts Period³ was in accordance with the New Covenant program (see, II Corinthians 3:6; Galatians 1:23; Acts 28:17-20; Romans 11:1-3). Paul declares the saved Jew and Gentile in each locality to be “one body” in Christ (Romans 12:5) and reveals the hope of all believers under the New Covenant (I Corinthians 15:22-26; 49-53; I Thessalonians 4:13-18).

Several mysteries were revealed to the Apostle Paul during the Acts Period:

1. Mysteries of God (I Corinthians 4:1);
2. Mystery of the change of “the end” (I Corinthians 15:51-52);
3. Mystery of Paul’s “my gospel” message of reconciliation (Romans 16:25-26);
4. Mystery of the grafting of Gentiles into the good olive tree (Romans 11:24-25).

All of the mysteries and hopes revealed during the

3. [Editor:] For more on the period covered by the Book of Acts, see:
 - The Acts Transition and the Pentecostal Dispensation, Sir Robert Anderson, [Bible Student’s Notebook #507](#);
 - The Acts of the Apostles And Paul’s Epistles: Considered Historically and Dispensationally, J.J.B. Coles, [Bible Student’s Notebook #613](#);
 - The Earlier and Later Chapters of the Book of Acts, Sir Robert Anderson, [Bible Student’s Notebook #526](#);
 - The Acts Period and the Acts Period Epistles, Tom Ballinger, [Bible Student’s Notebook #604](#);
 - The Dispensational Frontier of Acts 28:23-31, Charles H. Welch, parts 1-3: [Bible Student’s Notebook #639](#), [#640](#), [#641](#);
 - *The Dispensation of the Grace of God, and Acts 28:28 – A Dispensational Boundary Line*, Otis Q. Sellers (see order form);
 - *The Acts Dispensation*, Otis Q. Sellers, Parts 1-3, [Bible Student’s Notebook #727](#), [728](#), [729](#);
 - Different Conditions Before and After Acts 28, David Tavender, [Bible Student’s Notebook #747](#);
 - The Book of Acts (Israel’s Place in God’s Plan: A Brief Survey of the Greek Scriptures), Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., (Part 10) Section 1 - [Bible Student’s Notebook #570](#); (Part 11) Section 2 - [#781](#).

Acts Period were given under the authority of the New Covenant and related to Abraham’s “Household of faith” (Galatians 3:7-9, 29). All Gentile believers of the Acts Period were to share in the spiritual blessings granted to Israel (Romans 15:27).

Judgments were in evidence because of the improper observance of the Passover remembrance (“Lord’s Supper,” cf. I Corinthians 11:27-30). This Passover remembrance was to be observed by only those believers who were looking for the Second Coming (Greek, *Parousia*) of Jesus Christ to set up the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth (Matthew 26:28-29; I Corinthians 11:25-26).

Notice that, during the Acts Period, *all* who are counted as “in Christ” – Jews and Gentiles – are identified as “Abraham’s seed” (Galatians 3:29) and declared to be heirs of his promise. All believers of that time belonged to Abraham’s “Household of faith.”

In an effort to provoke the natural descendants of Abraham to jealousy, God declared that the believing Gentile was grafted into the “good olive tree” to take the place left vacant by an unbelieving Jew (Romans 11:18-20). Regardless of this provocation attempt, the natural descendants of Abraham continued to reject the New Covenant Kingdom program (Romans 9:1-5; 10:1-4).

Because the natural descendants of Abraham refused to be provoked, God temporarily interrupted the New Covenant Kingdom program (Romans 10:16-21, Acts 28:24-27). God’s New Covenant calling, which was a part of Abraham’s “Household of faith,” was set aside until a future time when He will again



The Resurrection of the Body: How the Dead Are Raised

by — E.W. Bullinger

The Bible has much to say about the resurrection of the body. In fact it is the hope of each and every believer in Christ – as Paul wrote in Philippians 3:20-21. That being the case, what does the Bible say about The Resurrection of the Body? When will this resurrection take place? How are they raised? With what bodies? These, and many other questions, Bullinger answers with his usual thorough and accurate handling of the Bible.

40 pp, BK

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activate that calling and finish its program.

All signs, miracles and wonders ceased because the family and program of which these were a part has been set aside. The Acts Period was officially closed, and the Dispensation (Household and its management) under the covenants was interrupted and God is no longer dealing with the descendants of Abraham as a nation (Acts 28:25-28). After the close of the Acts Period, there is no water baptism, baptism in Spirit, Passover Feast, or Covenant relationship for any believer.

THE PRESENT TIME

God's earthly Household and its management under the covenants was interrupted, and God's Celestial Household and its management, under Grace, was reactivated with the final ministry of the Apostle Paul.

The Celestial Dispensation (Household management), which is all of Grace, which had been kept "hid in God" (Colossians 1:25-26), was NOW revealed to the Apostle Paul (Ephesians 3:1-5). Until this time no mention had been made in Scripture concerning this Household/dispensation (Ephesians 3:5, 9).

God's present Celestial Household management is a continuation of that which God began before the overthrow (disruption) of the world but interrupted at the first rebellion of Satan (Ephesians 1:1; Colossians 1:2; Ephesians 1:4, 9-10).

The only message applicable for the world at the present time is the good news of Reconciliation. This

is a carry-over of Paul's "my gospel" from the Acts Period (Colossian 1:20; II Corinthians 5:18-21; 15:1-4).

The heavenly *Household of the Secret* is not only "One-Body," but a "Joint-Body" (Ephesians 4:4; 3:6, *Concordant Version*; cf. Romans 12:5; I Corinthians 12:12-14, 20.) The term "Joint-Body" is used of no other household in the Bible (cf. Ephesians 1:4; 3:15; Colossians 1:5, 20).

God's present Household of the Secret has both baptism and circumcision performed by "the operation of God" (Colossians 2:11,12). This baptism is identification with the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, not identification with the gifts of the Spirit as enjoyed by believers during the Acts Period (Colossians 2:12; cf. I Corinthians 12:1-13). This circumcision is not a sign in the flesh of a covenant relationship to God as enjoyed by Israel in the former dispensation (Colossians 2:11; cf. Genesis 17:9-10).

The **position** of the *Household of the Secret* is with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Heavens, not on the Earth (Ephesians 2:4-6).

The **hope** of the *Household of the Secret* is to be manifested with Jesus Christ in the Heavens, not to be raptured in order to return with Christ to the Earth for the Kingdom reign (Colossians 3:4; cf. I Thessalonians 4:13-18).

There are no prophetic signs pointing to the time of this manifestation since the present Dispensation has no signs. The prophetic clock stopped with the setting aside of the Covenant Household.

(see *CONTINUITY*, last page)



48 pp, PB

The Gospel

by — Dr. Wilbert "Bert" G. Bauman (1925-2008)

"It is human nature to assume that the particular Gospel we have been taught and are preaching, is unimpeachable. It does not occur to us to see if it truly is. Error tends to be perpetuated in tradition. The only defense is to allow the refreshing breeze of God's Word to aerate our teaching periodically. This work will inspire you to a fresh investigation of the Gospel, perhaps even help you to re-evaluate things you never thought to question." – Bert Bauman

See [order form](#) under "Facsimile."



Tidbits of Truth #25

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

Substitution or Sacrifice?

[To D.R.:] It is always very difficult to make paradigm adjustments: the transition from “substitution” to “sacrifice” is no exception. Challenging the erroneous view of “substitution” in no way diminishes the importance of Christ’s sacrificial work at Calvary, and in fact, it brings it into its proper focus. The DEATH, burial and resurrection of Christ is the foundation of Paul’s gospel (I Corinthians 15:1-4). So, when “substitution” is exposed, it is not done so at the expense of the Gospel. Indeed, it exalts the true nature of the Gospel!

What happened at Calvary was the ultimate “approach present” (Ephesians 2:8; 5:2), for which the entire Hebrew Scriptures testified, and prepared the way. It was not an angry deity punishing and killing Christ, as our substitute. Instead, it was the offering up sacrificially of Christ in love, Who was then in turn rejected and with *wicked hands slain* (Acts 2:23). It was the entire story of a loving God and humanity at enmity with Him graphically demonstrated.

— Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

If We Had All the Facts

“God’s will is what you would choose, if you had

all the facts.” – Adrian Rogers (1931-2005)

[To G.K.:] I love this quote! We often think that we know how things “should” go, and know what we really “need,” or even what we genuinely “want”; but what we desperately lack are all of the facts to make such determinations. When this life is all hindsight, we will see the genius of the Creator. We will see that the will of God never violated what our true “choices” would have been if we had had all of the facts, and neither did the “choices” that we made ever in any way violate the will of God.

— Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

Gelesnoff: “Originator” of “Hyper-Dispensationalism”

In BSN #864 we discussed the early role that Vladimir Gelesnoff had in the uncovering of the truth of the Secret Administration¹ found in Ephesians and Colossians. We have recently uncovered another historian who even goes so far as to credit Gelesnoff, rather than Bullinger, as being the supposed “originator” of “hyper-dispensationalism”:

Historically, the doctrine [of hyper-dispensationalism]

1. “Early Authors and the Secret Administration Documenting the Advancement of Dispensational Truth” (part 2 of 2), Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., [Bible Student’s Notebook #864](#).



Death, Resurrection, Immortality

by — Joseph E. Kirk

This work deals with the problem of death and God’s solution of resurrection and immortality through the work of the Lord Jesus Christ. The widely accepted teaching of the immortality of the soul, which makes resurrection unnecessary and detracts from the value of our Lord’s sacrifice, is shown to be unscriptural

111 pp, PB

See [order form](#) under “Kirk.”

alism] had its origin in the teaching of [Vladimir] Gelesnoff who taught there is a basic distinction between the Bride and the Body of Christ. – James O. Henry, *The History of BIOLA University*, n.d., page 68.

— Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

Five Determining Factors in Bible Study

[*Excerpt:*] As a suggestion, we offer five determining factors in Bible study:

- (1) Dispensational,
- (2) Contextual,
- (3) Textual,
- (4) Verbal,
- (5) Literal.

The first point to be settled is the Dispensational question. In what dispensation does a text occur?

The next matter to be settled is that of the Contextual. What is the subject of the related texts?

Next in order should be a study of the text itself. Just what does the text say? That one may arrive at a proper Textual conclusion, he must note carefully each word used. This method of procedure will involve not only the Verbal, but the Literal also.

— Howard N. Bunce (1879-1954)

The Same Yesterday and Today and For Ever

Deer in the Headlights

[*To: J.F.:*] We are all so familiar with the way these conversations unfold. The religious system places constraints on people to always be “evangelizing” – and it often starts with the soft-sell, “Where do you go to church?” The conscience of this guy with whom you spoke probably had bothered him during the time that had lapsed from your first conversation. It likely troubled him that he had not asked you this “all important” lead question. I feel for him, for I surely remember the weight of those days in my own early life.

The upside to this story is that you were able to ex-

pose him to a wealth of new information, things that he has probably never heard before. In fact you may well be the first *outsider* that he has ever encountered, so of course he had no clue what to make of you, let alone any insight to what you were saying.

I certainly used to be in his shoes. I would have had that “deer in the headlight” look in my distant past. Even to this day I can still remember a few conversations from many years ago, where some little seed was planted that could not be dismissed from my heart and mind, and that would eventually germinate into helping me progress to where I am today.

Another upside is that all of our lives (including our conversations) are not actually an end unto themselves. They are far more than *meets the eye*. Our ultimate *ministry* is among the Celestials – so even more than for him, that conversation you had with the contractor was for Celestial beings!

It was a real game-changer when this truth finally really settled in with me. These Celestial beings are watching us intently, and we in turn are teaching them of Father’s loving and gracious wisdom – for it is these heavenly beings, not so much our fellow earthlings, that are the ultimate intended recipients of our lives, actions and conversations. Amazingly did Paul write,

That NOW may be made known to the sovereignties and the authorities among the Celestials, through the Ecclesia, the multifarious wisdom of God (Ephesians 3:10, CV).

This understanding can have a profound effect on us. After finally having a deep realization of this, for the first time I was able to have a significant shift in my daily perceptions – seeing things well beyond their earthy shadows, and on into the glorious Celestial light. I wrote a very short piece about this: “Our Advance Work Among the Celestials” in [Bible Student’s Notebook #841](#) (see also John Essex’s “The Ministry of the Ecclesia,” [Bible Student’s Notebook #840](#)).

— Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

(see *TIDBITS*, next page)

CONTINUITY (continued from page 7573)

FROM THE CLOSE OF THE PRESENT DISPENSATION TO THE CULMINATION OF THE EVENTS RECORDED IN SCRIPTURE

After the heavenly *Household of the Secret* is manifested with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Heavens, God will again resume His dealings with Abraham's *Household of Faith*. These future events are outlined in some detail in the Books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Revelation and in Matthew 24, etc. The sequence of these events is difficult to determine, but much evidence indicates that immediately following the "time of Jacob's trouble," or "the Great Tribulation," Israel's Messiah will return to Earth to begin His Millennial reign. This reign of Messiah with Israel will bring to fruition that primary Hope which permeates all of Israel's history.

After the Thousand-year reign, the Heavens and Earth will be cleansed with fire and there will appear to the Earth the New Jerusalem "coming down out of Heaven." **BSN**

Psalmonds was an associate of [Russell H. Schaefer](#) (1919-1999), [Howard N. Bunce](#) (1879-1954), Robert A. Hadden, and [William B. Hallman](#) (1903-1985).

Other works of Psalmonds in the *Bible Student's Notebook*:

- How the Word of Truth May be "Rightly Divided" ([#883](#));
- Abraham's Magna Charta ([#884](#));
- Panorama of God's Revealed Program (As Related to His Purpose in the Earth) ([#886](#)).

TOPICS:

Major: Administration; Household Management; Right Division

Minor: Ages; Ecclesia; Israel; Kingdom; Mystery; Prophecy; Reconciliation; Salvation of All

TIDBITS (continued from previous page)

No Heavenly Destiny Revealed Before Ephesians

[*Excerpt:*] We have been reading this mystery [the Secret Economy] into previously revealed truth. Earlier Scriptures have been so colored by its presence that their true import is difficult to entertain.

Search the Scriptures and see, where is there any license for introducing a heavenly destiny and hope before Paul wrote Ephesians? All things shall be heavenly as to character, but this refers to position.

It was a secret, not only unrevealed, but actually concealed. **BSN**

— A.E. Knoch (1874-1965)

The Divine Mysteries (The Secret Economy)
Unsearchable Riches. Volume 1; page 56 (1909)

Topics:

Major: [*Substitution or Sacrifice:*] Substitution; Sacrifice [*If We Had All the Facts:*] Sovereignty, [*Gelesnoff: 'Originator' of 'Hyper-Dispensationalism':*] Gelesnoff, Vladimir, [*Five Determining Factors in Bible Study:*] Study [*Deer in the Headlights:*] Celestials; Ministry; [*No Heavenly Destiny Revealed Before Ephesians:*] Ephesian; Celestials; Mystery



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).

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.

54 pp, PB

See [order form](#) under "Clyde Pilkington."