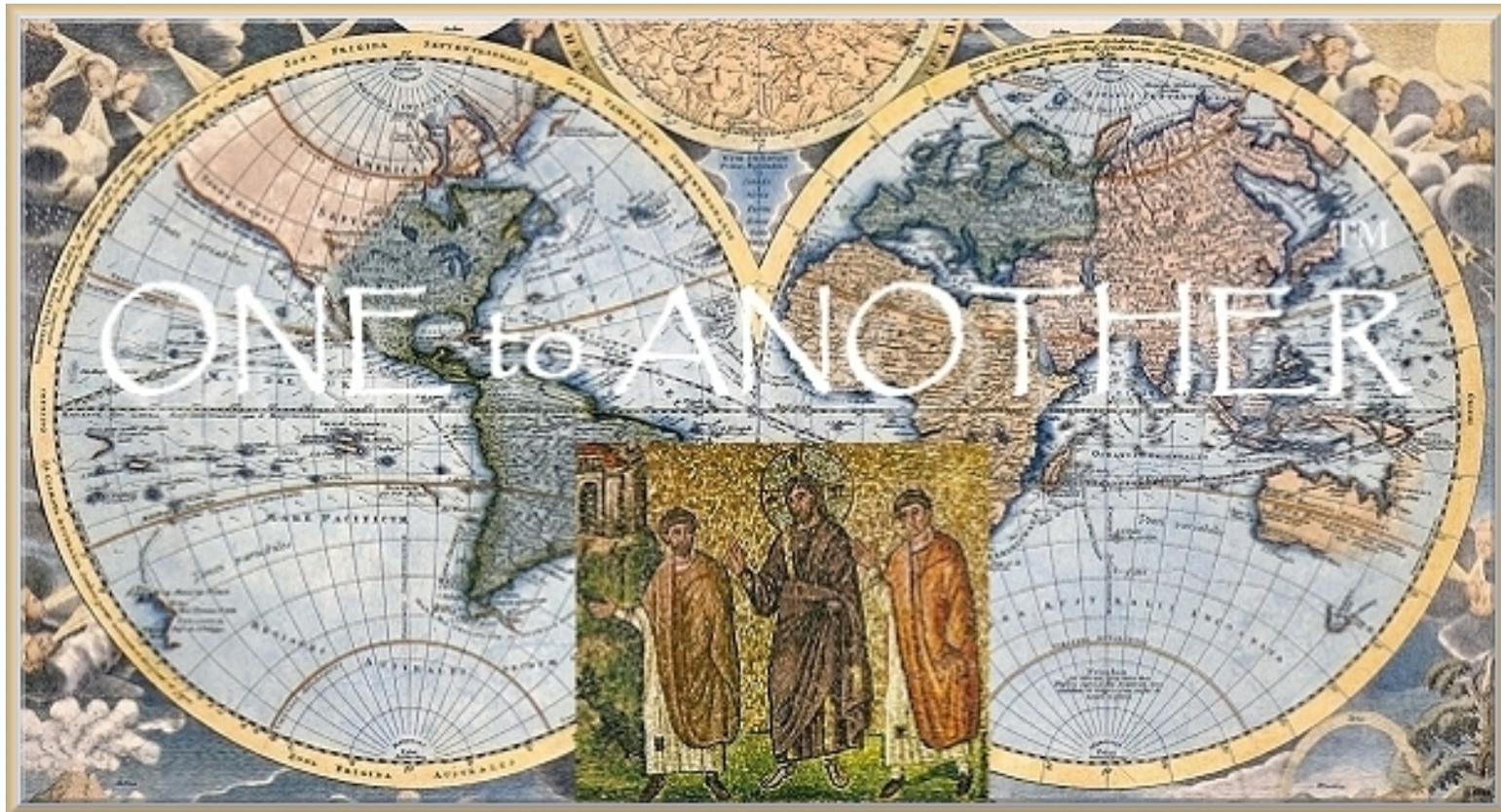


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August 2015 ~ Volume I ~ Issue 5



"And they said one to another, did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the Scriptures?"
Luke 24:32 KJV



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When God Hides His Face

by Terry Mason*



Recently my wife, Robbie, and I stopped to order takeaway on our way home one evening. While we were waiting for our burgers, the young rabbi working at the counter engaged us in conversation. He asked us where we were from and we told him we lived in the neighborhood. "How long do you plan to stay in Jerusalem?" We responded, "God willing, a long time!" His immediate response was, "Well, Mashiach (Messiah) is coming, you know, and it is going to be soon!" A sparkle of hope and anticipation filled his eyes.

We regularly have such interactions with Israelis or overhear similar conversations as people talk among themselves on the bus or in cafes. Jewish people in Israel today are openly, regularly talking about the imminent arrival of the Messiah. After centuries of difficult waiting, the Jewish people are reading the signs.

As God prophesied long ago through the prophets, and Jewish sages have confirmed, God seems to have hidden His face from the Jewish people for a time, but now He is making Himself known for the sake of His name. God also promised a great restoration for His people, and that all the nations of the earth would be blessed through them. How can we, as Christians, participate with God as He restores His people?

Hester Panim

When God hides His face it is referred to as hester panim (••••• ••••). The root of hester is satar, which means "hidden." It is used both literally and figuratively in Scripture. Panim means face. David Nekrutman, an Orthodox Jew and Executive Director of the Center for Jewish

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Christian Understanding and Cooperation, teaches that "hiddenness" is an important theological concept in the Tanakh (Gen.-Mal.). We see numerous instances when God hides His face from His people, and it's important to explore why.

God hides His face for two reasons [[continue reading](#)]

*Terry Mason is a member of the Bridges for Peace International headquarters team in Jerusalem, Israel, and is nearing the completion of the Master of Arts in Judeo-Christian Synergism degree with Master's International School of Divinity.

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Biblical Theology

Meet the Holy Spirit

Part II

by Raymond L. Parker, Ph.D.*

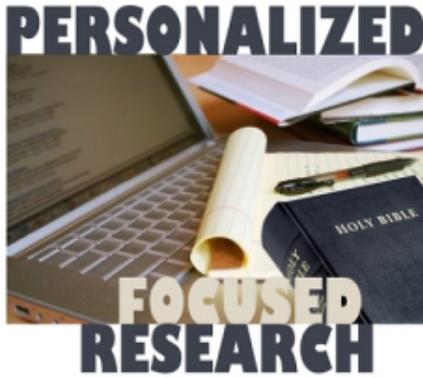


Last month we noted that the Holy Spirit is a person. He is not mere force, or influence, or ethereal substance. He is a person. In addition, the Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit is Deity.

The Bible is very clear regarding the Deity of the Holy Spirit. In the essence of His being the Holy Spirit is the same as the Father and the Son. The biblical writers associate the Holy Spirit equally with the Father and the Son.

The only baptismal formula we have is Scripture is preserved for us by Matthew. Matthew quotes Jesus' instructions to His disciples just before He ascended back into heaven. Jesus

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said, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

For two thousand years the Christian church has brought individuals to the baptismal waters and the words are always the same, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." These three (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) are the same in the essence of their being and are the one eternal God we worship and serve.

These members of the Godhead have always existed. They are without creation. Before angels; before sun, moon, and stars; before man walked in the Garden of Eden; before all the creative order, there is God -- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

In addition the members of the Godhead are without end. When this creative order falls into decay and the last page of history has been written, and the souls of humanity are assigned either to Heaven or Hell, there is God -- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Here is the mystery of the Trinity.

The Apostle Paul gave this Apostolic benediction, "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen" (II Corinthians 13:14).

Thus the Holy Spirit is a person and the Holy Spirit is Deity. The Holy Spirit indwells every believer. Our responsibility is to live in dependency on and sensitivity to the initial promptings of the Holy Spirit. This is the way to a life of peace, joy, satisfaction, and fulfillment.

Excerpt from [The School of the Spirit: A Sermonic Study of the Holy Spirit](#), by R.L. Parker.

*Raymond L. Parker, M.R.E, Ph.D., is the Academic Dean of Master's International School of Divinity, member of the Board of the [Council of Private Colleges of America](#), recipient of numerous academic awards, and respected author.

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Biblical Counseling

Children Are A Blessed Gift

by David M. Tyler, Ph.D.*



God's design is that all children are blessed gifts. Children should not be seen as a hardship, but a benediction from God to grace our lives with fulfillment, meaning, and happiness. Parenthood is God's gift to us.

Even in a fallen world contaminated by sin, children are living proof of God's love and mercy. Adam and Eve's rebellion toward God occurred before they had conceived any children. Nevertheless, God preserved them and permitted Adam and Eve to fulfill the command given before the fall; *"Be fruitful and multiply"* (Genesis 1:28). In these words God would set in motion a plan of redemption embracing *"a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues"* (Revelation 7:9). Adam and Eve's children embodied the hope that fallen sinners could be redeemed.

Adam and Eve recognized children as God's blessing to them. When Cain was born Eve said, *"I have gotten a man from the Lord"* (Genesis 4:1). Once again Eve bore a son and said, *"For God hath appointed me another seed"* (Genesis 4:25). Even the children of unbelievers are tokens of God's blessings. *"As for Ishmael... I will bless him."* How will God bless Ishmael? God will *"make him fruitful and multiply him exceedingly"* (Genesis 17:20).

God has given parents the duty of raising their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. They are not given the prerogative of delegating that duty to school teachers, peers, or child-care workers. Parents must involve themselves in their children's lives.

Parenting is time consuming (Deuteronomy 6:6-7). It is not an easy assignment. The difficulty comes when parents fail to follow the simple principles set forth by God. In neglecting their God given duty they forfeit the blessing inherent in parenting. Parenting then becomes a burden God never meant for them to bear.



Public wind blows many politicians in one direction, and then in another.

To determine which way it's blowing at the moment, catch the breeze from their speeches!



Pastor Joe ran into Pastor Glow at a denominational conference. Neither had seen one another since graduating from seminary. Pastor Glow was anxious for Pastor Joe to pop the question.

Pastor Joe already knows what's coming, and tries to avoid the subject. Pastor Glow was not about to pass up the opportunity, and managed to get the question asked anyway.

Pastor Joe took the bait, and asked, "So, how are things going at your church?" "Great, we tripled attendance this year!" "How about you Joe?" "Oh, doing okay," comes Joe's reply with a just a hint of disinterest.

"So, what's your attendance?" asks Glow with more than a hint of interest. "Oh, about the same," says Joe.

Glow now has the upper hand.

*David M. Tyler, M.Min., Ph.D., is Dean of the Department of Biblical Counseling at Master's International School of Divinity, [noted author](#), founder of [Gateway Biblical Counseling and Training Center](#), and President of the [American Academy of Biblical Counselors](#).

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Fresh from the Desert

by James B. Solberg, D.D.*



Leviticus 12:1 -15:33 Tazria/Metzora

Leviticus 12:1,2,8

*1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Speak to the people of Israel, saying, 'If a woman conceives and bears a male child, then she shall be unclean seven days. As at the time of her menstruation, she shall be unclean.
8 And if she cannot afford a lamb, then she shall take two turtledoves or two pigeons, one for a burnt offering and the other for a sin offering. And the priest shall make atonement for her, and she shall be clean.'"*

In this world, it seems that every aspect of our lives contains a mixture of both the wonderful, and the messy. Perhaps nowhere is this more obvious than in childbirth.

And, as today's reading makes clear to us, God wants to be involved in every aspect of our lives, both the parts we see

Joe knows, and Glow knows that Glow's chances of committee appointments are better than Joe's.

And, you know what? They are!

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THE SCOTUS DECISION ON HOMOSEXUAL MARRIAGE

NOTE: Due to the critical nature of the tragic decision by the U.S. Supreme Court, we have decided to repeat this article that was first published in July 2015.

Will It Impact Christian Higher Education?

as wonderful, and the parts we see as messy. As a loving father, he wants to be an intimate part of the blessing of a new birth.

He sets out rules here to protect the new mother and to give her time to recover from the physical strain of childbirth, as well as to have a special time to focus on her new child.

And He establishes a public procedure to announce her commitment to the Lord, and the completion of her time of separation from her husband. This is not just a private recognition, but a public act involving the priest and the tabernacle.

As Christians, we recognize this as the command fulfilled by Mary and Joseph when they presented the baby Jesus at the temple:

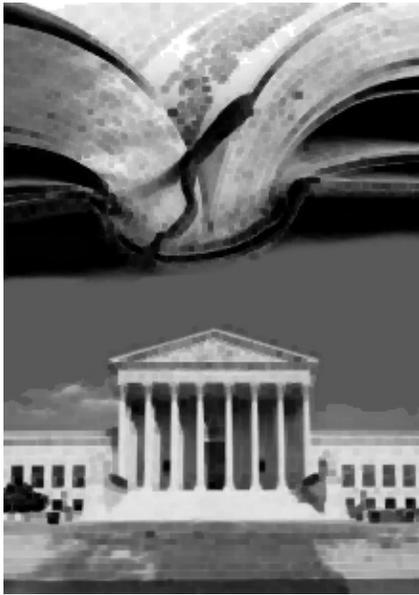
Luke 2:22-24

And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord")24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."

Prayer: Lord, May we today recognize your interest in every moment of our lives, and rejoice that there is no blessing we enjoy that You do not provide, and no situation we encounter that is too messy for Your involvement. As Mary and Joseph, and countless others before them, let us seek to honor You in our actions, to follow your direction for our lives, and to recognize Your presence.
Amen.

*James B. Solberg, M.A., D.D. is U.S.A. National Director for [Bridges for Peace](#). He serves on the adjunct faculty of MISD, and is the author of the highly acclaimed devotional book [Sinai Speaks](#).

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The short answer is yes. The longer answer will not be known until events play out in the arena of admissions, staffing, and faculty.

Accredited Christian colleges, universities, seminaries, and Divinity schools that take Title IV money from the U.S. Government (and that is functionally all of them), will be the first to face stiff challenges.

High quality unaccredited schools like Master's, while not 100% assured of getting a pass, are less likely to face issues since our students do not qualify for government funded or guaranteed financial aid.

At Master's we saw this coming many years ago. Our decision to refrain from being drawn into an accreditation quest, though misunderstood by many, has given us, and our students a distinct advantage.

On the other hand, we are an affiliate member of the Association for Biblical Higher Education. Even though we have no plans to become an ABHE accredited member, we ask our students, graduates, and friends to hold up in prayer the godly leadership of ABHE, and its accredited member schools with prayers of support. They will face

Places in the Land

Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu

Excerpt from the ISRAEL Tour Journal



Site Summary:

Modern archaeology supports this church as the location of one of the priestly families' homes from the first century - this is the location of the house of Caiaphas, who was High Priest of Israel during Jesus' arrest and trial.

Gallicantu, means the cock's crow, and the name of the church commemorates Peter denying any association with Jesus three times that evening before the "cock crowed."

Not only may Jesus Himself have been imprisoned here during the early stages of His arrest, but John and Peter may also have been imprisoned in these caves during their arrest following the resurrection.

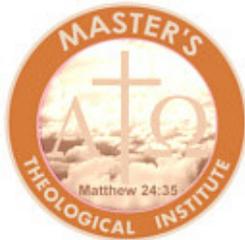
The high stone courtyard above the church provides an excellent overlook of Jerusalem and its surroundings. Inside the lower level of the church, stairs lead to an ancient set of caves thought to have been used as a prison at the time of Jesus.

Outside the lower level of the church, a garden area contains ruins of the Byzantine church, and ancient stairs which the High Priest may have used to reach the temple area.

The current church was built in the 1930's; but churches have existed on this site since a Byzantine church was built here in 457A.D.

many ungodly challenges in the days to come.

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Key Scripture - Luke 22:57-61

"But he denied it, saying, 'Woman, I do not know Him.' A little later, another saw him and said, 'You are one of them too!' But Peter said, 'Man, I am not!' After about an hour had passed, another man began to insist, saying, 'Certainly this man also was with Him, for he is a Galilean too.' But Peter said, 'Man, I do not know what you are talking about.' Immediately, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had told him, 'Before a rooster crows today, you will deny Me three times.'"

Additional Scriptures

Matthew 26:30-35, 69-75

Mark 14:26-31, 66-72

Luke 22:31-34, 54-62

John 13:36-38; 18: 15-27

Thoughtfully and Prayerfully:

How could this have happened? At Caesarea Philippi, Peter had declared Jesus as *"the Christ, the Son of the Living God."* Now, in a courtyard behind the house of Caiaphas in Jerusalem, he brings down curses upon himself declaring that he does not know Him.

Actually, the reason for Peter's denial is simple - he took his eyes off Jesus. The arrest of his Lord had so shaken him, that he started focusing on those powerful enough to take Jesus captive, and when he did, he could not help but fear them. Yes, he would be restored, but only after he had again looked to Jesus.

There is a warning here for us, and that warning has never been framed better than by the writer of the of Hebrews 12:1-3:

"Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him who endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."

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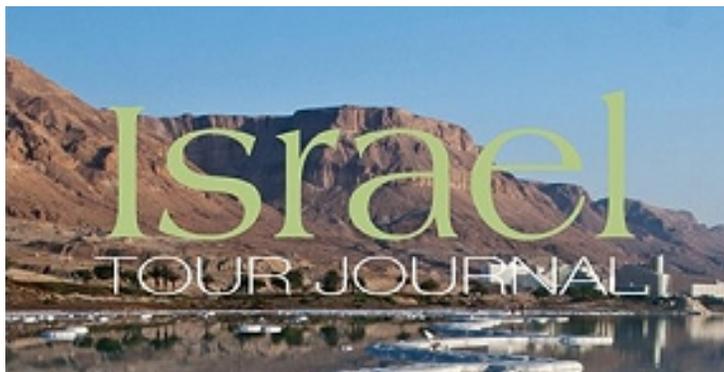
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Lord Jesus, I know in my own strength I am weak, but I know also that as long as I look to You, my vision will be clear, my mind will be fixed on truth, and I will never grow weary and lose heart.



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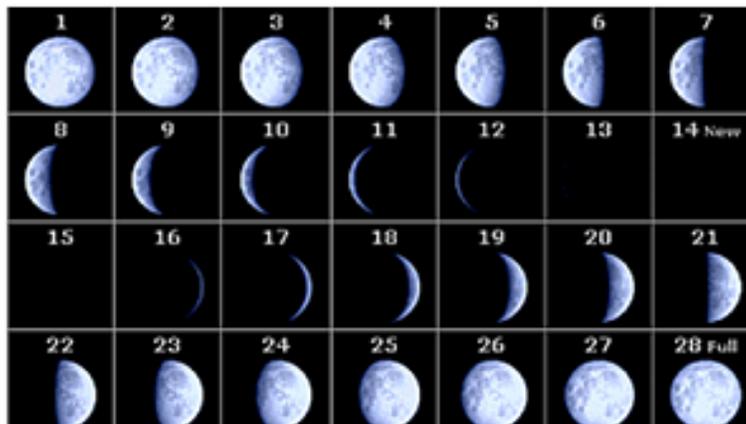
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Biblical Apologetics

by James J. Johnson, J.D., Th.D.*

Looney Tunes



Earth is partially "ruled," literally by looney (i.e., lunar) rhythms. How? Earth is thus "looney-tuned" to the moon's periodic rhythms (diurnal and monthly cycles) and to annual

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equinox-to-equinox seasons. This illustrates Genesis 1:16, that God purposefully programmed the moon to "rule" the night.

In particular, the inanimate moon rules, mechanically, in at least two ways: (1) by gravitational attraction - which is literally quite forceful; and (2) by physically providing reflected light - to Earth, which rotates so one side is always facing the moon.

Lunar light regulates Pacific salmon movements and plant chlorophyll activity. Moonlight intensity and daylight/moonlight ratios (which vary with the seasons) regulate salmon migration, growth and development.

It's that time again... !



Lunar rhythms cause tides, worldwide. Barnacles, as sessile filter-feeders, depend on tides to wash up planktonic nutrients (meals on waves, not "meals on wheels"). Lunar phases regulate when Christmas Island red crabs go on mating migrations, dumping the next generation into high-tide waters.

The moon's monthly cycle regulates water in cultivated soil, triggering seed-swelling, seed-bursting, seed germination, leaf and root growth, -- which is why the lunar cycle-timed Jewish feasts (Leviticus 23) coincide with spring and autumn harvest cycles.

As Genesis indicates, Earth is "looney-tuned," ruled by lunar rhythms.

*James J. S. Johnson, J.D., Th.D., is the Chief Academic Officer, and Associate Professor of Apologetics, Bible, Forensic Science, and History at the [Institute for Creation Research](#).



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O.T. Hebrew Word Study

by Rev. Rebecca J. Brimmer*



Chokmah - Wisdom

I frequently pray for wisdom, as I am sure all leaders do. Often, only the most difficult problems reach my desk since everything that can be solved by others has already been dealt with. I simply could not do my job without wisdom from the Lord. When King Solomon became king, he also recognized his need for wisdom. The Lord appeared to him one night and said, "*Ask! What shall I give you?*" Solomon responded, "*Now give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people; for who can judge this great people of Yours?*" (2 Chron. 1:7, 10).

The most common Hebrew word for wisdom is *chokmah* (כֹּחַמָּה). Its root forms the word *chakam* (חָכַם), which is translated "wise," and *chakamim* for wise men (or sages). These Hebrew words include the concepts of wisdom, skill, shrewdness, insight, moral discernment, understanding of justice, intelligence, and prudence. The *Encyclopedia Judaica for Youth* summarizes wisdom this way: "It was a way of thinking and attitude of life that emphasized experience, reasoning, morality and the concerns of man as man rather than as Israelite. Wisdom, however, was not considered to be just intellectual ability or capacity; true wisdom had to be based on the fear of God and on a moral way of life."

The Bible is replete with references to wisdom, the wise, and wise ones. We are told that wisdom is a treasure (Prov. 8:11); those who find it will be happy (Prov. 3:13); it is better to have wisdom than gold (Prov. 16:16); those who find wisdom find life (Prov. 8:35); and wisdom is better than weapons of war (Eccles. 9:18).

Other Word Associations

Wisdom is often closely associated with knowledge, although it is possible to have great knowledge and not possess wisdom. I have heard it said that it is better to have no education and be wise than to be highly educated and not have wisdom. The American industrialist David Sarnoff said,



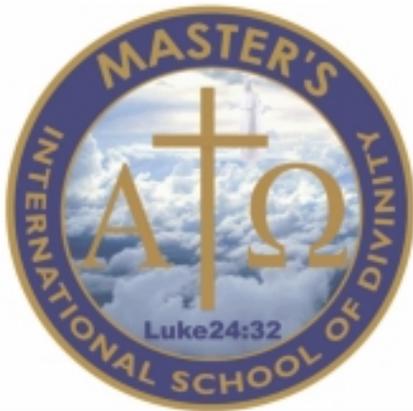
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"Knowledge is not enough unless it leads you to understanding and, in turn, to wisdom." I have known people of great intelligence, even possessing doctorates, who didn't know how to apply their vast knowledge wisely.

Jewish understanding is that it is not possible for a person to acquire wisdom through their own intelligence. He must attain wisdom through studying the *Torah* or by learning from sages. Elijah Gaon (1720-1797), a scholar of the *Talmud* (rabbinic commentary on Jewish tradition and the Hebrew Scriptures) from Lithuania, acknowledged God as the source of wisdom when he said, "Wisdom and Torah [Gen.-Deut.] flow from one source."

Seven times in Scripture, the concepts of the "fear of the Lord" (*yireh Adonai*) and wisdom (*chokmah*) are linked, such as in Proverbs 9:10: "*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.*" In the ArtScroll commentary on Proverbs, Rabbi Eliezer Ginsburg says, "This frequent repetition indicates the importance of the link between the two. God is the creator of the universe and life; all wisdom emanates from Him. It is impossible to understand man's place in the design of the universe without reverential awe of God and submission to His will, indeed it is the only starting point that will lead man to his true goal." He goes on to quote the *Mishnah* (first written record of Jewish tradition): "If there is no wisdom, there is no fear of God" (Avot 3:21).

The term *mussar* (instruction, discipline, ethical teaching, or affliction) is often connected to wisdom in the Bible. In Proverbs 1:2-3, King Solomon says, "*To know wisdom and instruction, to perceive the words of understanding, to receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, judgment and equity.*" Rabbi Ginsburg says, "Given man's natural tendency toward the negative as the Torah states, 'since the imagery of man's heart is evil from his youth' (Genesis 8:21), he needs mussar." When we fear God, we are in awe of His greatness, mercy, salvation, and also His righteous judgment. Indeed, God may use difficulties, rebukes, and afflictions to bring us to the place of wisdom attained by fearing God.

Wise Men

The word *chakamim* (sages or wise men) is most often used to describe the scholars of the *Mishnah* and the *Talmud*. The *Mishnah* says, "Seven characteristics distinguish the wise: he does not speak before his superior, does not interrupt, is not hasty to answer, asks and answers to the point, talks about first things first and about last things last, admits when he

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does not know, and acknowledges the truth" (Avot 5.7).

In the book of Matthew in the story of the incarnation, we see wise men coming from the East. Many scholars believe that Matthew was originally written in Hebrew. One of the most compelling arguments is that when translating the book from Greek to Hebrew, the translation is very smooth, which is very unusual. Could it be that in the original Hebrew language, the word for "wise men" was *chakamim*? Perhaps *Jewish* wise men came from Babylon to view the baby Yeshua (Jesus). It certainly makes sense that they would be interested.

Just like the wise men sought Yeshua, all wise men seek. Such seekers of wisdom produce much good fruit. Jewish poet Joseph Kimki (1105-1170) from Spain once said, "Wisdom without action is like a tree without fruit." He must have been thinking of Solomon's words: "*She* [wisdom] *is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, and happy are all who retain her*" (Prov. 3:18).

*Rev. Rebecca J. Brimmer is International President and CEO of [Bridges for Peace](#). This word study is taken from the book "Hebrew Treasures", and can be [purchased online](#) through Bridges for Peace.

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N.T. Greek Word Study

by Gary Crossland, M.Th., Th.D.*

Α α Ω ω
Alpha Omega

Genos (race) is probably the most common word in the news media today. And yet very few people understand the meaning behind the Greek word typically translated "race" in the Bible.

The word *genos* is used 21 times in the New Testament, and yet it never refers to what a person looks like. It always connotes another indelible quality, whether it is pedigree, nationality, or kind.

In other words, the New Testament never regards race as referring to a person's physical appearance, but only their

association, country of origin, or lineage.

This means that your race is not actually about you. It is about where you came from, who you associate with, or with what group or clan to which you are aligned.

Nowadays, race is generally reduced to a discussion of color - black, white or red.

But according to the Bible, race has nothing to do with appearances. When discussing race, it would be Biblically accurate to use the terms Afro-American, Caucasian, or Native American. [Editor's note: In today's politically charged climate, unfortunately, even these terms may be unacceptable to some.]

*Dr. Gary Crossland is [Professor of N.T. Greek](#) at Master's International School of Divinity, the author of the internationally acclaimed [The Merged Gospels](#), and frequent teacher in Israel.

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Creation Speaks

by Gary K. Fair, M.Min., D.P.Th.*



BRIDGES

We are familiar with bridges in our daily lives. We travel from place to place and eventually we need to cross a river, a creek, or other waterway. Bridges provide the way for that passage.

Think of the people of Israel and their flight out of Egypt. What appeared to be an obstacle when they approached the Red Sea, became a safe roadway leading them to safety. We can easily observe that God did not provide a bridge for their escape. Instead, He called upon His creation power to provide dry land for safe passage.

His action allowed His people to experience His power and to see the salvation He offers to those who trust in Him to carry them through any and all trials. But Moses said to the

people, "Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the LORD which He will accomplish for you today....." Exodus 14:13 NASB.

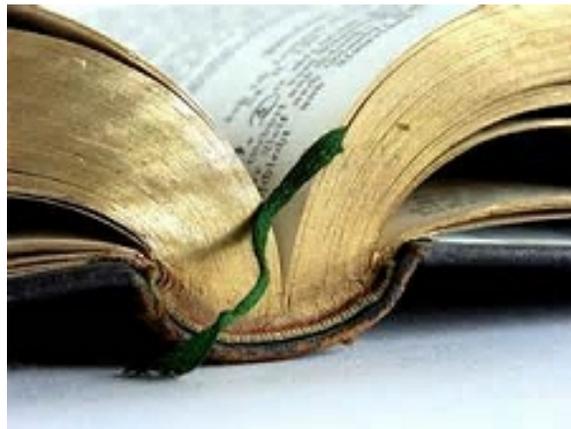
God may not erect a physical bridge to bring us across to safety or deliverance from adversity. However, we can well rest in the knowledge and understanding that He has provided His Son, Jesus Christ as the bridge through whom we receive our salvation.

*Dr. Gary K. Fair is the Vice President of Master's International School of Divinity, and an amateur photographer with a gift for finding the beauty of God's creation in common, and often overlooked places.

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Biblical Inerrancy & Authority

PILFERED WHILE WE SLEPT: Sacred Things Stolen by the World by Dennis D. Frey, Th.D.*



Pilfered - intransitive verb: steal; especially: to steal stealthily in small amounts and often again and again.

We slept, and in small amounts again and again, the world pilfered the true meaning of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Now, the cross is a symbol of religious intolerance, and we are left with cute bunnies and colored eggs.

We slept, and in small amounts again and again, the world pilfered the true meaning of Divine creation. Now the idea

of creation is considered dangerously regressive mythology, and we are left with mocking cartoons of two naked people wearing fig leaves.

We slept, and in small amounts again and again, the world pilfered the true meaning of Christmas. Now, we cannot have a nativity scene on public property, and we are left with earlier and longer holiday shopping hours.

We slept, and in small amounts again and again, the world pilfered the dignity of virginity. Now, the idea of abstinence is considered a form of sexual repression, and we are left with rampant promiscuity, and STDs.

We slept, and in small amounts again and again, the world pilfered the sanctity of human life. Now the idea of the sanctity of human life is considered an attack on the right of choice, and we are left with the unknown graves of tens of millions of human beings denied the right to life.

We slept, and in small amounts again and again, the world pilfered the power and purpose behind the reason God created us male and female. Now the very idea of the gift of gender permanency has become an attack on the freedom of human expression, and we are left with only a memory of when the symbol of the rainbow was a beautiful reminder of the promise of God to never again destroy the world by water.

Did all sleep? No, but enough slept that the pilfering went largely unchallenged, and continues unabated. It started with the pilfering of our *reasons* for what we believe. Next goes our *rights* associated with those beliefs.

- The right of Christians in public office to open meetings by praying in the name of Jesus.
- The right of a Christian public school guidance counselor to lead a troubled student to Christ.
- The right of the Christian biology teacher to even suggest that there is a scientifically supportable alternative to evolution.
- The right of the Christian business owner to refuse service to people committing sodomy.
- The right of the pastor and a congregation to publically endorse a godly candidate for public office.

And there is more to come - much more. Such as the loss of the tax exempt status of the church, and related ministries, clergy housing allowance, tax deductible giving, real estate and personal property tax exemptions, religious freedom provisions and protections.

Is all of this the results of sleeping? Well, who changed the rules - those sleeping or those wide awake? Or, to ask it another way, *Who* is it that changed the truth of God into a lie, and is promoting worshipping and serving the creature more than the Creator (Romans 1:25)? You name him, but here is a hint - he never sleeps - he prowls.

"Arise o sleeper - awake..." (Ephesians 5:3-20 NASV).

*Dennis D. Frey, M.Div., Th.D., is the President of Master's International School of Divinity. Dr. Frey is a member of the [International Board of Bridges for Peace](#), the Governing Leadership of the [American Academy of Biblical Counselors](#), the Advisory Board of the [Council of Private Colleges of America](#).

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Issues of Life and Death

Prolife Clergy Connector

by Bradley Mattes*



LIFE ISSUES INSTITUTE, INC.

Here is a collection of some of the best resources available to help you preach and minister to your congregations regarding life issues and assemble a life issues church service and ministry.

[READ MORE...](#)

YOU CAN EARN AN ACADEMIC CERTIFICATE IN
Life-Issues & Abortion Recovery Counseling

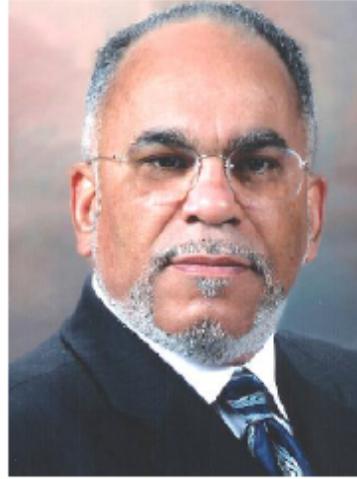
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*Bradley Mattes is President and CEO of the Life Issues Institute, and holds a Master of Biblical Studies Degree from Master's International School of Divinity.

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Graduate of the Month

Dr. Ronald L. Owens
Metuchen, New Jersey



I want to say a few words about the influence that Master's has had on my life. I had the opportunity and blessing to graduate from the Doctor of Divinity program in 2006. The experience was not just in the class work, but in the vision.

Because of the investment of the Master's program in my life, I have been privileged to serve on many boards; such as the board of Brunswick Theological Seminary, New Brunswick, N.J, the oldest historical Seminary in North America.

In January 2015, I was appointed to the Board of directors of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A, Inc. with a membership of 8.5 million members, and 30,000 congregations. The NBC is the second largest protestant fellowship in the world.

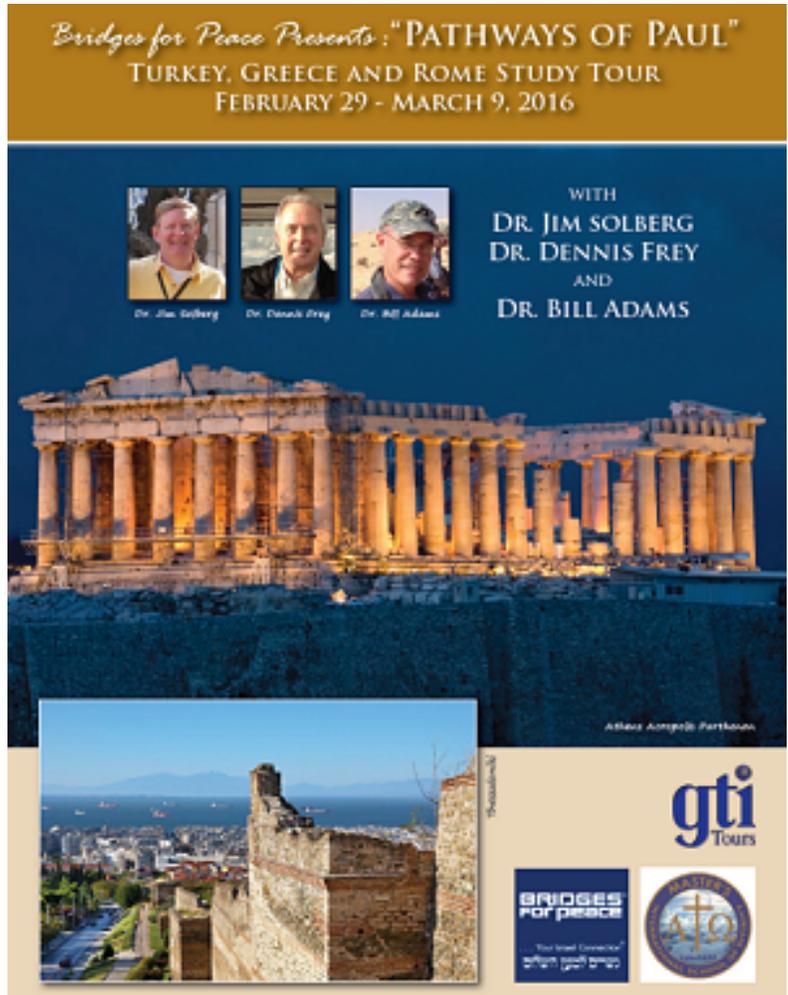
I am privileged to have pastored one of the leading churches of New Jersey for the last 25 years of a total of 38 years in pastoring. I want to personally thank Masters for their ministry of excellence and inspiration, because of MISD I am a better witness.

Your brother for eternity,
Dr. Ronald L. Owens, Senior Pastor
New Hope Baptist Church
Metuchen, N.J.

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Pathways of Paul Tour

TURKEY, GREECE & ROME STUDY TOUR
February 29 - March 9, 2016



The poster features a gold header with the text "Bridges for Peace Presents: 'PATHWAYS OF PAUL' TURKEY, GREECE AND ROME STUDY TOUR FEBRUARY 29 - MARCH 9, 2016". Below this is a dark blue section with three headshots of the tour leaders: Dr. Jim Solberg, Dr. Dennis Frey, and Dr. Bill Adams. To the right of the photos, it says "WITH DR. JIM SOLBERG DR. DENNIS FREY AND DR. BILL ADAMS". The main image is a night view of the Parthenon in Athens, with the caption "Athens Acropolis Parthenon" at the bottom right. Below the main image is a smaller inset photo of a coastal city with a stone wall in the foreground. At the bottom right of the poster are three logos: "gti TOURS", "BRIDGES FOR PEACE Your Great Connection" (with Arabic text below), and a circular logo with a cross and the word "MASTERS" at the top.

We cordially invite you to join us in 2016 for eight exciting days as we walk in the footsteps of the Apostle Paul from Ancient Asia Minor through Greece, and eventually to his death in Rome.

You Do Not Need to be A Student
or Graduate to Join us.
HOWEVER THERE IS AN OPTION
TO EARN SIX ACADEMIC CREDITS!

Now is the Time to Register

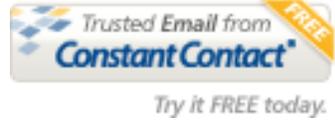
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