



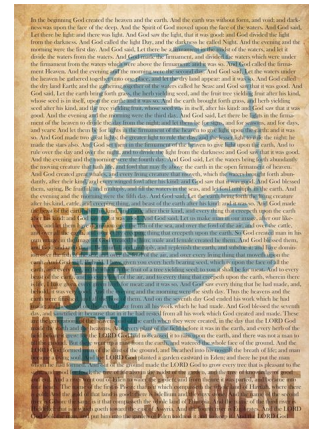
CONCORDIA
BIBLE INSTITUTE
Christ in Every Word

CBI e-Bulletin

April 2020

Welcome to this month's edition of the Concordia Bible Institute (CBI) e-Bulletin.

CBI exists to provide Christ-centered Bible instruction through distinguished experts who teach "Christ in Every Word" of the Old and New Testaments. Under the direction of Dr. Brian German and in cooperation with the Department of Theology at Concordia University Wisconsin, CBI offers podcasts, face-to-face seminars, and other special events to strengthen faith and spread belief in the one true God.



"For the whole Christ is in every word and wholly in each individual word. When He is denied, therefore, in one word, He is totally denied, for He is in every word."
-Martin Luther (*Luther's Works*, 25:238).

Subscribe To "Christ In Every Word" Podcast

Click the button above to sign up for a weekly email update on newly published "Christ in Every Word" podcasts.



The Book of Joel and COVID-19

We're in the midst of a pandemic, as everyone knows. But everyone should also know that this pandemic is in the midst of the book of Joel. Here's how...

The book of Joel, just three chapters long, recounts a locust plague unlike ever before. "Has such a thing happened in your days," Joel asks, "or in the days of your fathers?" (1:2). The destruction was unprecedented: "What the cutting locust left, the swarming locust has eaten. What the swarming locust left, the hopping locust has eaten, and what the hopping locust left, the destroying locust has eaten" (1:4). The effects of the plague lasted for years (see 2:25).

The priests of the time were ready and willing to serve, but prohibited from doing so. "The grain offering and the drink offering are cut off from the house of the Lord. The priests mourn, the ministers of the Lord" (1:9). Sound familiar? Pastors all over the land are ready and willing to be with their people and give them the sacrament, but services have been cut off. They mourn.

As a prophet, Joel is able to see well beyond the charts and graphs on social media trying to explain what is happening. This affliction, Joel proclaims, is actually a foretaste of the day of the Lord (1:15; 2:1-2, 11), a signal of an even greater day that is yet to come (2:28-32; 3:1, 14, 18). What's happening now, in other words, hints at a day of even greater affliction, yes, but also a day when the Lord will gather all nations, restore fortunes, give justice, and dwell with his people forever (see Joel 3).

With this in view, Joel preaches a message far more urgent than empty grocery shelves or limited toilet paper: “Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and *he relents over disaster*” (2:13). It’s not a coincidence that these words are part of the Old Testament reading appointed for Ash Wednesday. The book of Joel is essentially a template of repentance for the church of all times and places, especially in the midst of a pandemic.

“Then the Lord became jealous for his land and had pity on his people” (2:18). Fascinating! Joel is totally surrounded by unsettling news, isolation, and even devastation, but God shows him the end of the story, and it’s one of promised deliverance for the faithful.

We may feel surrounded by COVID-19, but the book of Joel, as the word of God, totally encompasses this pandemic, too, and keeps it in its proper perspective. It’s time to remember our frailty, and return to the Lord our God. Even in unprecedented times, he will preserve a people for himself. Our pastors may be mourning, but the word of the Lord still goes forth to accomplish all the purposes he has in mind (Is. 55:11). We may feel isolated, but we know who was completely cut off from our heavenly Father so that we could triumph even over death. When we abide in God’s word and confess God’s promises in Christ—wherever we are—we partake of a great and awesome day that has no end.

Dr. Brian German
Director of the Concordia Bible Institute

Upcoming Events

Spring In-Depth Bible Studies:

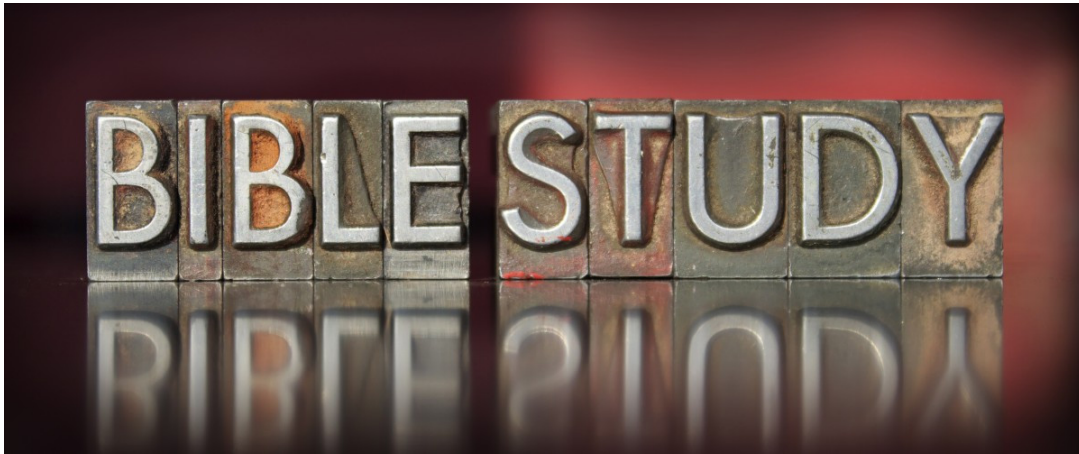
The Concordia Bible Institute is saddened to cancel its remaining spring “In-Depth” presentations, but please continue to check out concordiabible.org in the meantime for our latest podcasts, newsletters, and event updates.

Mark your calendar for our Fall In-Depth Bible Study Series!

September 14, 21, 28, October 5, 12, 19

**6:30pm to 8:30pm
Friends of Concordia Room
Concordia University, Mequon, WI**

Watch future e-Bulletins and concordiabible.org for more information



Read the Bible in a Year

Looking to add to your devotions this year? Or simply want to accomplish the goal of reading the Bible in a year? Follow along with the calendar below! A new calendar will be sent in each newsletter.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Isaiah 25:1-9 Romans 1-3	2 Psalm 114 Romans 4-6	3 Psalm 115 Romans 7-9	4 Psalm 116 Romans 10-13
5 Psalm 117 Romans 14-16	6 Psalm 118 1 Cor. 1-3	7 Psalm 119:1-8 1 Cor. 4-6	8 Psalm 119:9-16 1 Cor. 7-9	9 Psalm 119:17-24 1 Cor. 10-11	10 Ps. 119:25-32 1 Cor. 12-14	11 Ps. 119:33-40 1 Cor. 15-16
12 Ps. 119:41-48 2 Cor. 1-4 Happy Easter!	13 Ps. 119:49-56 2 Cor. 5-7	14 Ps. 119:57-64 2 Cor. 8-10	15 Ps. 119:65-72 2 Cor. 11-13	16 Ps. 119:73-80 Galatians 1-3	17 Ps. 119:81-88 Galatians 4-6	18 Ps. 119:89-96 Ephesians 1-3
19 Ps. 119:97-104 Ephesians 4-6	20 Ps. 119:105-112 Philippians 1-2	21 Ps. 119:113-120 Philippians 3-4	22 Ps. 119:121-128 Colossians 1-2	23 Ps. 119:129-136 Colossians 3-4	24 Ps. 119:137-144 1 Thess. 1-3	25 Ps. 119:145-152 1 Thess. 4-5
26 Ps. 119:153-160 2 Thess. 1-3	27 Ps. 119:161-168 1 Timothy 1-3	28 Ps. 119:169-176 1 Timothy 4-6	29 Psalm 120 2 Timothy 1-2	30 Isaiah 25:1-9 2 Timothy 3-4		

CBI Spring Seminar Rescheduled for September

Saturday,

September 26, 2020



The CBI Spring Seminar that was scheduled on Saturday, May 2, has been **rescheduled to Saturday, September 26**. Dr. David P. Scaer of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana will make an all day presentation on the Sermon on the Mount. Scaer put forth his views in his book *The Sermon on the Mount: The Church's First Statement of the Gospel* published by Concordia Publishing House in 2000 which as the title indicates sees this treasured section of Matthew (chapter 3 - 5) as descriptions of the lives of believers in the community of believers. Ideas put forth in *The Sermon on the Mount* are further developed in the remainder of the gospel of Matthew especially as this section of Matthew

pertains to Christ himself. These thoughts are set forth in Scaer's *Discourses in Matthew: Jesus Teaches the Church* in 2004, also published by Concordia Publishing House. In the Confessional Lutheran Dogmatic Series he is the author of the volumes on *Christology* (1989), *Baptism* (1999), and *The Law and the Gospel and the Means of Grace* (2008). He recently published his life story in *Surviving the Storms: The Memoirs of David P. Scaer* (427 pages) available in hardcover and kindle from Amazon and paperback from lulu. This book contains his extensive bibliography. His service at the seminary spans 54 years and for the last 20 years has been "The Scaer Professor of Biblical and Theological Theology." Serving as an instructor in dogmatic theology, his greatest love is for the gospels and he is currently working on a manuscript on the resurrection of Jesus. He and his wife Dorothy will be celebrating 60 years of marriage in June and have five children. Attendees are encouraged to bring their Bibles. Pastors may want to bring their Greek New Testaments. This event will be held on the Concordia Mequon campus.

Watch future e-Bulletins and
concordiabible.org for more information

Website

Visit our website at concordiabible.org to learn more about CBI.

Podcasts

CBI offers thirty- to forty-minute long podcasts on biblical passages and religious issues that you can listen to any time through the CBI website.

Now Streaming on iTunes & Google Play!

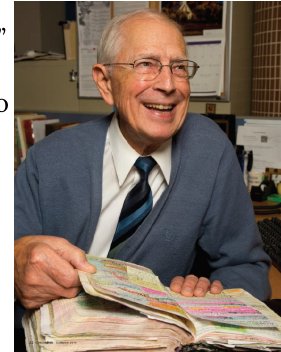
You can listen to our weekly podcasts by subscribing on iTunes or Google Play.

When new episodes become available they will be automatically be downloaded to your device. Just click [here](#) to subscribe through our website or click the image below!



Saleska Scholarship Endowment

In honor of Rev. Dr. John Saleska's legacy of teaching "Christ in Every Word" among us, CBI has established "The Concordia Bible Institute Saleska Scholarship Endowment," whose purpose is to provide financial assistance to pre-seminary students at Concordia University Wisconsin. In an age of biblical illiteracy, it is hoped that this endowment will help future pastors carry forward Dr. Saleska's lifelong conviction of teaching "Christ in Every Word" as they read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the Scriptures.



Please join me in spreading the word about the origination of this endowment and by praying for its growth. For ways to contribute, please visit concordiabible.org/saleska and designate "Saleska Scholarship Endowment" on your method of giving.

NEW!!! Please utilize our *new page* on the website to learn more about the Saleska Scholarship Endowment and find resources to help spread the word about this powerful opportunity. concordiabible.org/saleska

Contribute

Concordia Bible Institute thrives because of generous supporters, like you! If you find value in this e-Bulletin and other CBI offerings and would like to support our mutual desire to spread God's Word to wide audiences, please consider making a contribution to CBI. There are many ways to contribute, from writing a check to CUW Foundation with CBI e-Bulletin on the memo line, or following the link to make a one-time or reoccurring gift online: [Support Concordia Bible Institute](http://SupportConcordiaBibleInstitute).

Mail checks to:

Concordia University Wisconsin
Attn: Office of Advancement
12800 North Lake Shore Drive
Mequon, WI 53097



"Seeing Jesus in the Old Testament" photo courtesy of <http://www.prayercollege.org/tag/messiah>

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