

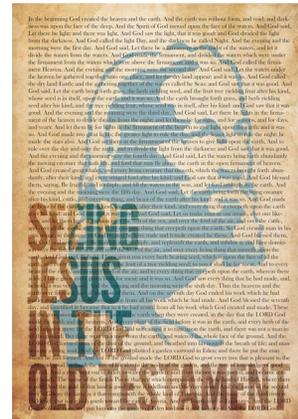


CONCORDIA
BIBLE INSTITUTE
Christ in Every Word

CBI e-Bulletin August 2020

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

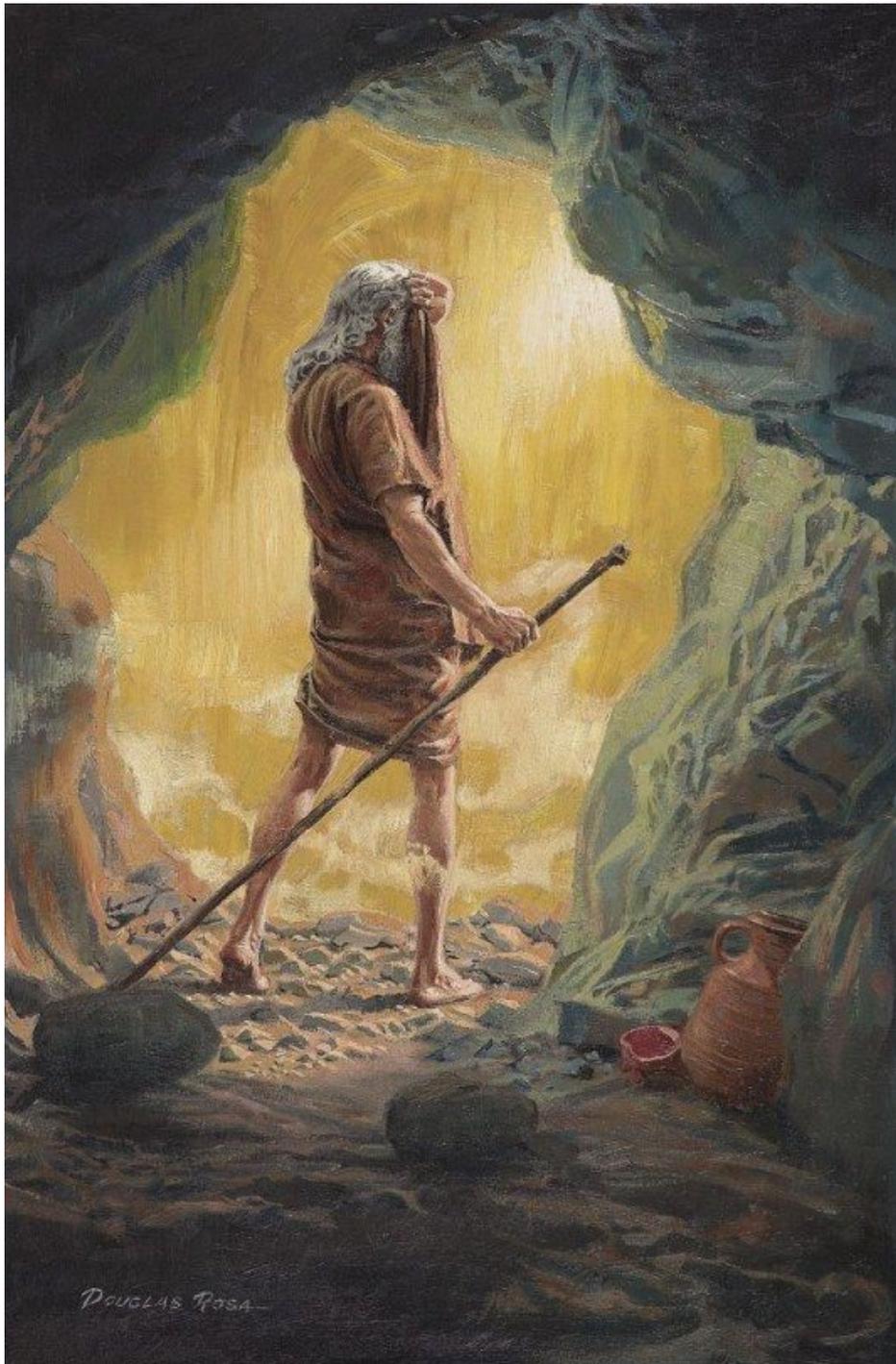
CBI exists to provide Christ-centered Bible instruction through distinguished experts who teach "Christ in Every Word" of the Old and New Testaments. Under the direction of Dr. Brian German and in cooperation with the Department of Theology at Concordia University Wisconsin, CBI offers podcasts, face-to-face 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).

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A Sound of Silence

Recently I was asked why God once spoke to the prophet Elijah in “a low whisper” (1 Kgs. 19:12). Great question! Let’s start with some context...

After a magnificent showing against the prophets of Baal (1 Kgs 18:20–40), Elijah’s own life was soon in jeopardy (1 Kgs. 19:1–2). He was on the run, alone in the wilderness, and things got so bad for him that he even wanted to die: “It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life...” (1 Kgs. 19:3–4). In fact, had the Lord not sent an angel to feed Elijah twice, that’s probably what would’ve happened (see 1 Kgs. 19:5–8).

In response to Elijah's despair, the Lord decides to do something quite remarkable. "And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire *the sound of a low whisper*" (1 Kgs. 19:11-12).

Instead of the kind of natural phenomena that the Lord used during such extravagant events as the great flood (wind [Gen. 8:1]), the plagues in Egypt (wind [Ex. 10:13, 19], fire [Ex. 9:23-24]), the crossing of the Red Sea (wind [Ex. 14:21; 15:10], earthquake [Ps. 77:18]), and the giving of the Ten Commandments (fire [Ex. 19:18]), the Lord chooses to draw near to Elijah in soft speech. In fact, the Hebrew words for "low whisper" have also been translated "a sound of silence." That's fascinating, for a few reasons.

First, more than anything else in all his creation, the Lord wants to be known by his word. We may be tempted to look for some natural "sign" or "proof" that God is with us, but he instead gives us his word that he will never leave us or forsake us, no matter what kind of wilderness we find ourselves in.

At the same time, this word is unlike any other! It is indeed a word—a "sound"—but it's also strikingly different than any other word we know—"silence." It's a word that presses our reason and intellect as far as it'll go, speaking to us even when everything around us looks like the exact opposite of what this word is saying. It may appear to be ineffective, but it actually has great power. It may appear to fall flat, but it's actually living and active (Heb. 4:12).

Yes, the Lord is so concerned that we have *this* kind of word that his *Word* became flesh to dwell among us (Jn. 1:14)! While we journey through the wilderness of this world, depressed or even on the verge of death, the Lord has entered into any depth of our despair in the person of his Son, a Word of great wisdom where the world sees foolishness and a Word of great strength where the world sees weakness. In Christ is the perfect "sound of silence," restoring us even and especially in the midst of circumstances that seem to be the exact opposite of what he has promised. I'd say that's just the kind of "low whisper" we need!

Dr. Brian German

Director of the Concordia Bible Institute

*For more on the prophet Elijah, including his many similarities to the person and work of Christ, check out Dr. German's presentation on Elijah here:

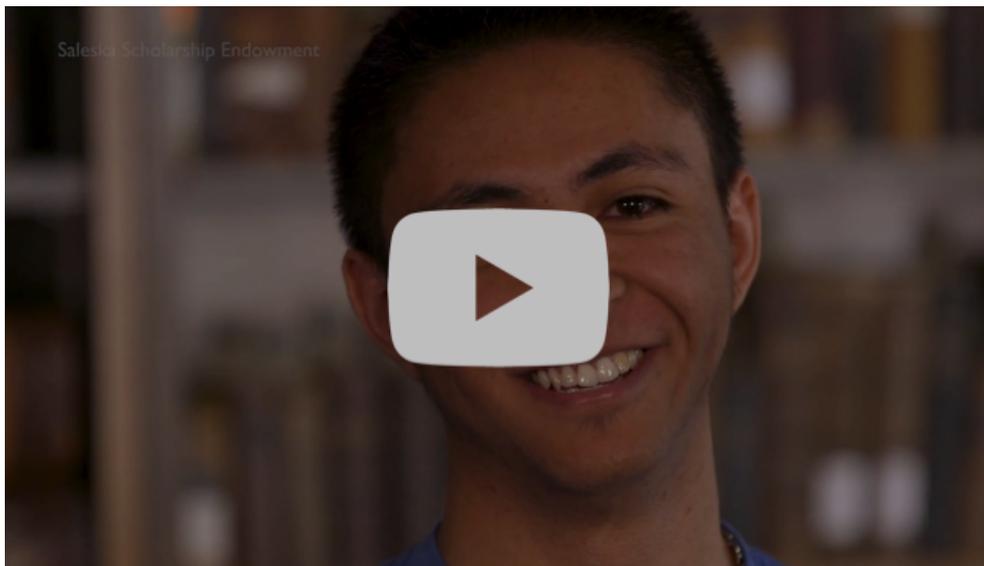
<http://www.concordiabible.org/2017/02/28/depth-presentation-dr-brian-german/>

Saleska Scholarship for Pre-Seminary Students

God's Peace to You!

Please help Concordia University Wisconsin provide more financial aid to Pre-Seminary students by praying for and giving to the Saleska Scholarship Endowment. Lord willing and with your help, we hope to add one million dollars or more to the endowment by June 30, 2022. We urge congregations, groups, and individuals to give.

- Visit concordiabible.org/Saleska for more information and to give (scroll down to the bottom of the page to see all of our resources).
- Help us get the word out to those who want to help Pre-Seminary students and to those who knew Dr. Saleska.
- Click here to watch our video: <https://youtu.be/vqLfzI9Wlkw>



Thank you! Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Ron Mudge

Rev. Ron Mudge, Ph.D.
Rouse Professor of Pre-seminary Studies
Pre-Seminary Director
Concordia University Wisconsin
ronald.mudge@cuw.edu
Office Phone: (262)243-4301

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
	<h1>August</h1>					1 Habakkuk 3:2-19 2 Chronicles 1-3
2 Psalm 57 2 Chron. 4-6	3 Psalm 58 2 Chron. 7-9	4 Psalm 59 2 Chron. 10-12	5 Psalm 60 2 Chron. 13-15	6 Psalm 61 2 Chron. 16-18	7 Psalm 62 2 Chron. 19-21	8 Psalm 63 2 Chron. 22-24
9 Psalm 64 2 Chron. 25-27	10 Psalm 65 2 Chron. 28-30	11 Psalm 66 2 Chron. 31-33	12 Psalm 67 2 Chron. 34-36	13 Psalm 68 Ezra 1-5	14 Psalm 69 Ezra 6-10	15 Psalm 70 Nehemiah 1-3
16 Psalm 71 Nehemiah 4-6	17 Psalm 72 Nehemiah 7-9	18 Psalm 73 Nehemiah 10-13	19 Psalm 74 Esther 1-3	20 Psalm 75 Esther 4-6	21 Psalm 76 Esther 7-10	22 Psalm 77 Job 1-3
23 Psalm 78 Job 4-6	24 Psalm 79 Job 7-9	25 Psalm 80 Job 10-12	26 Psalm 81 Job 13-15	27 Psalm 82 Job 16-18	28 Psalm 83 Job 19-21	29 Psalm 84 Job 22-24
30 Psalm 85 Job 25-27	31 Habakkuk 3:2-19 Job 28-30					

Website

Visit our website at concordiabile.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 and resources about this endowment, please visit concordiabible.org/saleska and designate "Saleska Scholarship Endowment" on your method of giving.



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 recurring gift online: [Support Concordia Bible Institute](#).

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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