This month's Concordia Bible Institute e-Bulletin

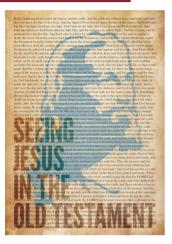


CONCORDIA BIBLE INSTITUTE Christ in Every Word

# CBI e-Bulletin January 2022

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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# **Come**, **Desire** of Nations

It's still Christmastide, and you've likely sung (at least once) a hymn (or two) that mentions the "desire of nations." Have you ever reflected on what these words teach us about the person and work of our Savior? The phrase comes from—you guessed it—the little book of Haggai! (I know, it's been "Haggai Appreciation Day" for three months now.)

First it should be pointed out that in Haggai's day, the temple didn't look like much. In fact, it didn't look like anything at all. "Is it not *nothing* in your eyes?" (Hag. 2:3), the Lord even asks.

But in the midst of this emptiness, God reassures his people that he is still with them (Hag. 2:4–5), and ends up promising them something that makes for the most celebrated part of Haggai: "Thus says the Lord of hosts: Yet once more, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land. And I will shake all nations, so that *the desire of all nations shall come*, and I will fill this house with glory, says the Lord of hosts" (Hag. 2:6–7).

So it is that the Lord "shakes" (repeated) things up to get his divine plan into motion, whether that's all of Jerusalem at the birth of his son (see Mt. 2:3) or our own lives here and there as he sees fit. Yes, sometimes his "shaking" that comes our way really rattles us and comes with some angst, maybe even much heartache, but through it all, our heavenly Father brings our desires again and again to our greatest refuge and hope in every need.

C. S. Lewis once wrote that "if we consider the unblushing promises of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels, it would seem that Our Lord finds our desires, not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling around with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea" (from "The Weight of Glory").

So it is that the Lord shakes in us a desire that *comes*, one that is oriented—not just at Christmastime, but 'round the calendar—toward his house. A love of earthly riches is shaken up to draw us toward heavenly riches (see Lk 12:21). A desire for bread alone is brought to the bread that does not perish (Jn. 6:27). A desire for knowledge is directed toward the wisdom of God on the cross (1 Cor 1:24). A desire for status before others is brought to the place where we are put in a right relationship with God (Rom 3:24). And repeat.

As another new year starts up, what are you desiring the most? Whatever it is, keep your eyes fixed on the true Desire of all nations, who continues to be our greatest rest in all restlessness.

Dr. Brian German Director of the Concordia Bible Institute



# 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 <u>concordiabible.org/Saleska</u> 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: <a href="https://youtu.be/vqLfzI9Wlkw">https://youtu.be/vqLfzI9Wlkw</a>



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 <u>ronald.mudge@cuw.edu</u> Office Phone: (262)243-4301

## 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.



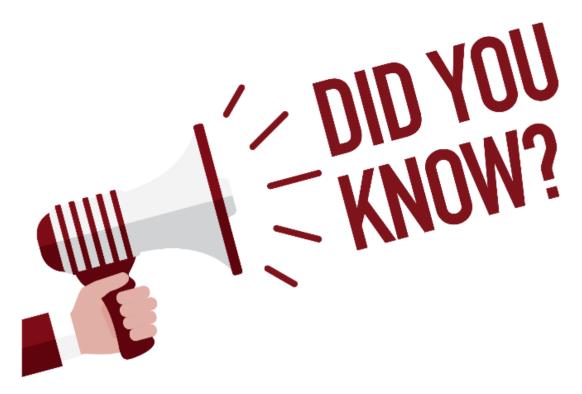
Please join me in spreading the word about the origination of this endowment and by praying for its growth. For ways to contribute and resources about this endowment, please visit <u>concordiabible.org/saleska</u> and designate "Saleska Scholarship Endowment" on your method of giving.

Please contact Jeff Klocko, Director of Donor Relations, for details about this exciting opportunity. He can be reached at 262.243.2170 or jeff.klocko@cuw.edu.

# 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.

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
** **		JANUAR			HAPPY NEWYEAR	<b>1</b> Luke 1:68-79 Mark 2
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Psalm 30 Mark 3	Psalm 31 Mark 4	Psalm 32 Mark 5	Psalm 33 Mark 6	Psalm 34 Mark 7	Psalm 35 Mark 8	Psalm 36 Mark 9
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Psalm 37 Mark 10	Psalm 38 Mark 11	Psalm 39 Mark 12	Psalm 40 Mark 13	Psalm 41 Mark 14	Psalm 42 Mark 15-16	Psalm 43 Genesis 1-3
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Psalm 44 Genesis 4-6	Psalm 45 Genesis 7-9	Psalm 46 Genesis 10-12	Psalm 47 Genesis 13-15	Psalm 48 Genesis 16-18	Psalm 49 Genesis 19-21	Psalm 50 Genesis 22-24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Psalm 51 Genesis 25-27	Psalm 52 Genesis 28-30	Psalm 53 Genesis 31-33	Psalm 54 Genesis 34-36	Psalm 55 Genesis 37-39	Psalm 56 Genesis 40-42	Psalm 57 Genesis 43-45
30	31					
Psalm 58 Genesis 46-48	Luke 1:68-79 Genesis 49-50					
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Dr. Brian German and the Concordia Bible Institute have a partnership with Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) Learn? If you love to learn about the Bible and grow in your faith, LHM Learn is a wonderful resource! These free online adult learning courses can be done during individual devotion time or with a group. Courses cover all kinds of topics you're interested in – from the basics of the Christian faith, to understanding other cultures, to the ways faith impacts our daily lives. New lessons are added all the time!

Dr. German's newest course "The Sent Life: A Study of Sending in the Gospel of John" is available now, along with his first course "Watch.Read.Reflect: Christ in the Old Testament."

**LHM Learn** 

#### Website

Visit our website at <u>concordiabible.org</u> 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 <u>CBI website</u>.

### 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!



## 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: <u>Support Concordia Bible Institute</u>.

#### 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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