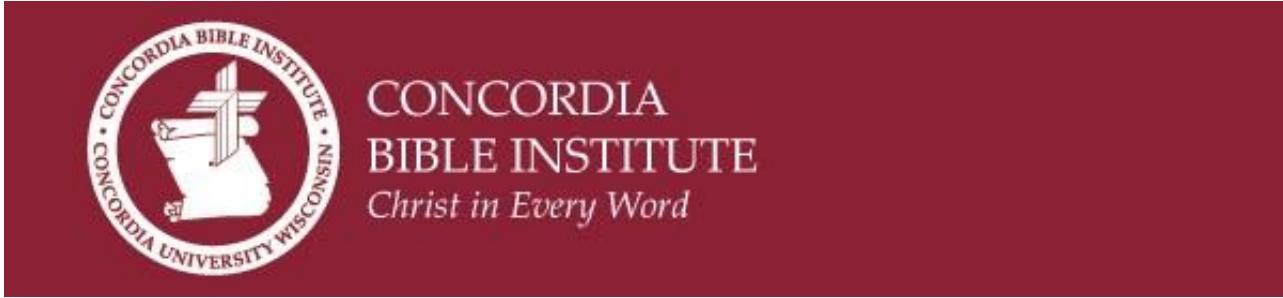


## This month's Concordia Bible Institute e-Bulletin



# CBI e-Bulletin

## March 2017

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

## Upcoming Events



### Spring In-Depth Bible Studies

March 6, 20, 27, April 3 from 3:00-5:30pm

\*April 10 from 6:30-8:30pm\*

Friends of Concordia Room

Concordia University Wisconsin

\$20 per class, per person

**FREE for CUW Students/Faculty/Staff**

Bring a Bible and a Friend!

These In-Depth Bible Studies are wonderful opportunities to learn from university professors and special guest lecturers about important topics related to the Bible and the Christian faith. We pray that you would consider joining us for this Christ-centered instruction.

### Special One-Day Seminar with Dr. Nathan Jastram & Dr. Jeffrey Kloha "The Origins of the Bible"

Saturday, April 22, 2017

8:45am-3:15pm

Pharmacy Building PH008

Concordia University Wisconsin

\$40 per person

**\$10 for CUW Students/Faculty/Staff**



Join us as we hear from Dr. Nathan Jastram on "The Growth of the Old Testament" and "A Case Study of Textual Transmission," and Dr. Jeffrey Kloha on "Gospels, Eyewitnesses, and Jesus" and "Manuscripts and the Reliability of the Text."

For more information on upcoming events, please visit our website  
[www.concordiabible.org](http://www.concordiabible.org)

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## Website

Visit our website at [concordiabible.org](http://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](http://CBI website).

# Society of Creation 2017 Conference

## The Age of the Earth 2017 Creation Conference

July 7-8, 2017

The fifth annual Creation Conference will be held July 7-8, 2017. Come enjoy a series of presentations on the Doctrine of Creation and the Age of the Earth, including strong evidence that the earth and universe are thousands of years old, but not billions as the evolution model supposes.

The keynote speakers, Dr. Don DeYoung and Dr. Russ Humphreys, are both well-known scientists who have thoroughly investigated the creation model and found it to be a true explanation for origins. Society of Creation co-founders Dr. Joel Heck and Dr. Gary Locklair will also present.

### For registration, contact:

Prof. Josh Locklair

[joshua.locklair@cuw.edu](mailto:joshua.locklair@cuw.edu)

262-243-2141

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## 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 64:1-9 Numbers 16-18	2 Psalm 85 Numbers 19-21	3 Psalm 86 Num. 22-24	4 Psalm 87 Num. 25-27
5 Psalm 88 Num. 28-30	6 Psalm 89 Num. 31-33	7 Psalm 90 Num. 34-36	8 Psalm 91 Deut. 1-3	9 Psalm 92 Deut. 4-6	10 Psalm 93 Deut. 7-9	11 Psalm 94 Deut. 10-12
12 Psalm 95 Deut. 13-15	13 Psalm 96 Deut. 16-18	14 Psalm 97 Deut. 19-21	15 Psalm 98 Deut. 22-24	16 Psalm 99 Deut. 25-27	17 Psalm 100 Deut. 28-30	18 Psalm 101 Deut. 31-34
19 Psalm 102 Luke 1	20 Psalm 103 Luke 2-3	21 Psalm 104 Luke 4-5	22 Psalm 105 Luke 6-7	23 Psalm 106 Luke 8-9	24 Psalm 107 Luke 10-11	25 Psalm 108 Luke 12-13
26 Psalm 109 Luke 14-15	27 Psalm 110 Luke 16-17	28 Psalm 111 Luke 18-19	29 Psalm 112 Luke 20-21	30 Psalm 113 Luke 22	31 Isaiah 64:1-9 Luke 23-24	

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## Ask Dr. Saleska

To ask Dr. Saleska a question, please visit the "[Ask Dr. Saleska](#)" page on CBI's website and he will get back to you.

**Question:** In the Bible class I am attending something tripped me up a bit. In John 10 Jesus says that he is the Good Shepherd and that his sheep know him and that no one can snatch them out of his hand (John 10:27-28). The lecturer stated that once we are his we can never be lost again. Is this the "once saved, always saved" theology? Is this true?

**Answer:** You have correctly identified the false theology "once saved, always saved." The Bible teaches no such thing. Here are some passages that refute that teaching: "They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy: and these have no root, which for a while 'believe,' and in time of temptation fall away (aphistemi, which means to "fall away"; Luke 8:13); "So people who think they are standing firm should be careful that they don't fall" (1 Corinthians 10:12). The statement is superfluous if it is not possible for them to fall. Why would the Holy Spirit cause Paul to write it? Paul is obviously warning the Corinthians and us not to trifle with God's gift of faith. The Old Testament teaches the same thing. For instance, Isaiah 1:2 & 4: "...I have nourished and brought up children and they have rebelled against me...they have forsaken (abandoned) the Lord."

This is Calvinism pure and simple. Since the Calvinists deny universal grace (they teach particular grace-grace only for some), they have no way of being sure of their salvation. Consequently they use passages like John 10:27-28 to comfort people in despair over their salvation. For the Calvinist, no matter how heinous a crime a person may commit, he does not lose faith. Faith may be inactive, but it still exists. In view of this you can see how a "once saved, always saved" theology becomes necessary. Otherwise you cannot be sure of anything. However, even this can create uncertainty because a person in spiritual distress is often unsure if he ever really did believe, and in fact he may conclude that he is not one of those for whom "particular grace" was even intended. It is hard to describe how hopeless a situation that is. Volumes more could be written on this subject, but I think you get the point.

Scripture, however, clearly teaches universal grace: "(God) will have all men to be saved, and to come to a knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 1:4); "...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (II Peter 2:9). Then there are a host of passages describing God's grace in Christ for the whole world.

Now I want to demonstrate how to deal with 2 passages which seem to be in conflict. First, the passage in 1 Corinthians 10:12: "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." Second, the passage in John 10:27 & 28: "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."

There is no conflict; they are both true. The first is Law and the second Gospel. The Calvinists choose the John 10 passage because it fits their theological preconceptions, and they explain away the second. Obviously both passages apply. The first (Law) warns us not to trifle with God's grace, and if a person falls it is his own fault because of his willful rejection of God's grace. The second (Gospel) assures us of God's everlasting love for us in Christ and that God in his grace is able and willing to keep us in the faith. And how are we able to "endure to the end" (Mt.10:22)? His Word is the means by which this is accomplished. This is God's work and you can trust him to do it. (I hope this is somewhat helpful.)

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## Contribute

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 writing a check to Concordia University Wisconsin with CBI e-Bulletin and A913 on the memo line, or follow the link to contribute online: [Support Concordia Bible Institute](#).

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

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