This month's Concordia Bible Institute e-Bulletin



CONCORDIA BIBLE INSTITUTE Christ in Every Word

CBI e-Bulletin November 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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Blessed Is the Man

A couple years ago I wrote an e-Bulletin article reflecting on how Psalm 1 is a fitting introduction to the book of Psalms (this was in the October 2018 edition, for what it's worth). Recently I was assigned to preach on this same psalm and was struck by how it speaks of "the way of the righteous" (Ps. 1:6). Have you ever wondered what this "way" is all about? Either way (no pun intended), this psalm may surprise you!

Let's start from the top: "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers..." (Ps. 1:1). Interestingly, the way of the righteous is first described by what it *doesn't* do: *not* the counsel of the wicked, *not* the way of sinners, *not* the seat of scoffers. With all those negatives in there, one gets the impression that the other way, "the way of the wicked" (Ps. 1:6), is by far the more common way, the way that must continually be refused. Jesus once said: "The way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many" (Matt. 7:13). The first thing we learn about the way of the righteous, then, is that it *stands firm* against the more popular way. (Note also how the way of the wicked is described in Ps. 1:4 as chaff before the wind, floating around without any grounding at all.)

The next thing we learn about the way of the righteous is this: "His delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night" (Ps. 1:2). Fascinatingly, here's a *way* that involves *returning* again and again—day and night—back to the same place! You might think of the way of the righteous as a running track that keeps coming back again and again to the same starting point. A little ways out into our vocation, and then back again to God's word. Then repeat.

Finally, the way of the righteous is also described "like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither" (Ps. 1:3). Once again Psalm 1 depicts a way that's planted, grounded, and not moving anywhere. The way of the righteous is really rooted!

From all this we can see how the way of the righteous is more of a *place* than a path, more of a *junction* than a journey. Why is this way like this? Well, because *the* way is actually a Person (Jn. 14:6)!

Yes, stay rooted in Christ, and you are most certainly on the righteous way. In fact, let's reconsider the "blessed man" of Psalm 1 along these lines: "Blessed is the man who walks not in the distant heavens, nor stands only in equality with God, nor sits at his Father's right hand until the job is done. But his delight is in *you*, and on *you* he meditates day and night. His crucified body is a tree, planted in you by streams of baptismal water, that yields the fruits of the Spirit at the proper time, and his purposes for you will not whither. In all that he does with you, *you* prosper."

What a *way* to go!

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: <u>https://youtu.be/vqLfzI9Wlkw</u>



Thank you! Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Ron Mudge

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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	2	3	4	5	6	7
Exodus 15:1-18 Hosea 8-10	Psalm 122 Hosea 11-14	Psalm 123 Joel	Psalm 124 Amos 1-5	Psalm 125 Amos 6-9	Psalm 126 Obadiah, Jonah	Psalm 127 Micah 1-3
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Psalm 128 Micah 4-7	Psalm 129 Nahum	Psalm 130 Habakkuk	Psalm 131 Zephaniah	Psalm 132 Haggai	Psalm 133 Zechariah 1-5	Psalm 134 Zechariah 6-10
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Psalm 135 Zechariah 11-14	Psalm 136 Malachi	Psalm 137 Matthew 1-2	Psalm 138 Matthew 3-4	Psalm 139 Matthew 5-6	Psalm 140 Matthew 7-8	Psalm 141 Matthew 9-10
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Psalm 142 Matthew 11-12	Psalm 143 Matthew 13-14	Psalm 144 Matthew 15-16	Psalm 145 Matthew 17-18	Psalm 146 Matthew 19-20 Happy Thanksgiving!	Psalm 147 Matthew 21-22	Psalm 148 Matthew 23-24
29 Psalm 149-140 Matthew 25-26	30 Exodus 15:1-18 Matthew 27-28	*		VENB	FR	*

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 <u>here</u> 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 <u>concordiabible.org/saleska</u> and designate "Saleska Scholarship Endowment" on your method of giving.

NEW Donor Match Opportunity Available!

There is a NEW opportunity to magnify your generosity! Now, and for a limited time, gifts of \$2,500 and greater will be matched dollar for dollar, if donated to establish or add to named or general endowments. This would include the Saleska Scholarship Endowment! Please, prayerfully consider taking advantage of this unique opportunity to help your donation go farther to provide financial assistance to pre-seminary students at Concordia University Wisconsin. 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.

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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