

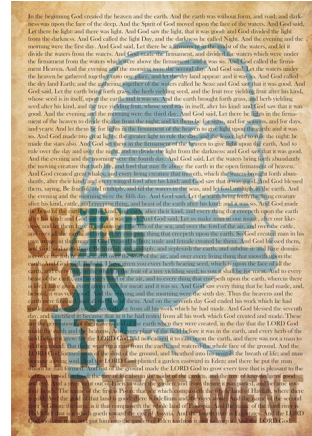


CONCORDIA
BIBLE INSTITUTE
Christ in Every Word

CBI e-Bulletin October 2018

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.

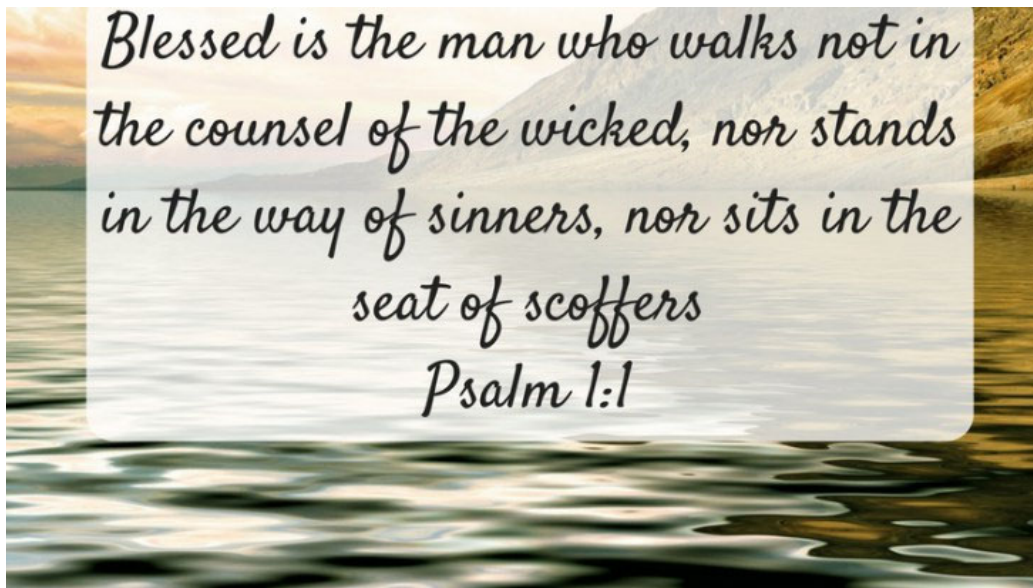


"For the whole Christ is in every word and wholly in each individual word. When He is denied, therefore, in one word, He is totally denied, for He is in every word."

-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.



First Psalm's First

In less than two weeks we'll have the privilege of hosting Dr. Timothy Saleska, son of CBI's founder and first director, Dr. John Saleska. He currently teaches at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis and has written extensively on the book of psalms. Our seminar with him on October 13th should be a great event!

I've been reflecting lately on the very first psalm. Of all the psalms we have in the Bible—the book of psalms contains 150 total, and there are several other psalms in other books of Scripture—I've been wondering why Psalm 1 was placed first. Some earlier interpreters (including Martin Luther) have remarked that Psalm 1 may serve as a kind of introduction to the book of psalms, but in what sense may that be the case?

The psalm begins like this: “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; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night” (Ps. 1:1-2).

By having this psalm first, the first word of the whole book of psalms is “blessed.” Throughout this psalm and the ones to follow, you will see what the blessed life looks like. Far more than just health and wealth, the blessed life revolves around repentance and forgiveness (e.g., Psalms 32 and 51), sorrow and thanksgiving (e.g., Psalms 6 and 138), and even frustration and reflection (Psalms 4 and 49).

In addition, the blessed life consists of meditating day and night on the law (lit., “Torah”) of the Lord (vs. 2). Only by meditating on the words of the Lord am I able to see the fullness of the relationship I have with God. It is one that includes both the regular conviction of sin, as well as the repeated promises of forgiveness. It gives a framework for dealing with despair, and reasons for praise even in the midst of it. In short, *meditating on the word of the Lord yields exactly what the book of psalms contains*: the life of faith on every part of the spectrum, like an anatomy of the soul that knows us better than we know ourselves.

Finally, I find it interesting that the first word of Psalm 1 in Hebrew begins with the *first* letter of the Hebrew alphabet, while the last word of Psalm 1 in Hebrew begins with the *last* letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Some would say that's just a coincidence, but I'm not so sure. It seems to me that Psalm 1 goes from “A to Z,” as it were, speaking to the blessed life in the here and now (“He is like a tree...” [vs. 3]) all the way to the last day (“the wicked will not stand *in the judgment*...” [vs. 5]). In this way, Psalm 1 sets in motion how the whole book of psalms places our sin and repentance, our joys and our sorrows, etc., into the wider context of our eternal life with God. As Psalm 23 beautifully puts it, even if I walk in the here and now through the valley of the shadow of death, I will one day dwell in the house of the Lord forever!

Dr. Brian German
Director of the Concordia Bible Institute

Upcoming Events!



Fall In-Depth Bible Studies

October 1, 8, 15 from 3:00-5:30pm
Friends of Concordia Room
Concordia University Wisconsin
\$10 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.

The Psalms: God's Words to Us; Our Words to God

with Dr. Timothy Saleska

A special One-Day Seminar hosted by CBI on
Saturday, October 13, 2018
9:00am-2:30pm
Pharmacy Building PH008
Concordia University Wisconsin
\$20 per person
\$10 for CUW Students/Faculty/Staff




[Click here to register online!](#)

Join us as we hear from Dr. Timothy Saleska on "The Psalms: God's Words to Us; Our Words to God," including lectures on "Reading the Psalms within Scripture's Story," Reading the Psalms as Poetry," and "A Closer Look." Don't miss this rare opportunity!

For more information on any of our upcoming events, please visit our
website www.concordiabile.org

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 Jonah 2:2-9 Jeremiah 32-34	2 Psalm 114 Jeremiah 35-37	3 Psalm 115 Jeremiah 38-40	4 Psalm 116 Jeremiah 41-43	5 Psalm 117 Jeremiah 44-47	6 Psalm 118 Jeremiah 48-50
7 Psalm 119:1-8 Jeremiah 51-52	8 Psalm 119:9-16 Lamentations 1-2	9 Psalm 119:17-24 Lamentations 3-5	10 Psalm 119:25-32 Ezekiel 1-3	11 Psalm 119:33-40 Ezekiel 4-6	12 Psalm 119:41-48 Ezekiel 7-9	13 Psalm 119:49-56 Ezekiel 10-12
14 Psalm 119:57-64 Ezekiel 13-15	15 Psalm 119:65-72 Ezekiel 16-18	16 Psalm 119:73-80 Ezekiel 19-21	17 Psalm 119:81-88 Ezekiel 22-24	18 Psalm 119:89-96 Ezekiel 25-27	19 Psalm 119:97-104 Ezekiel 28-30	20 Psalm 119:105-112 Ezekiel 31-33
21 Psalm 119:113-120 Ezekiel 34-36	22 Psalm 119:121-128 Ezekiel 37-39	23 Psalm 119:129-136 Ezekiel 40-42	24 Psalm 119:137-144 Ezekiel 43-45	25 Psalm 119:145-152 Ezekiel 46-48	26 Psalm 119:153-160 Daniel 1-3	27 Psalm 119:161-168 Daniel 4-6
28 Psalm 119:169-176 Daniel 7-9	29 Psalm 120 Daniel 10-12	30 Psalm 121 Hosea 1-4	31 Jonah 2:2-9 Hosea 5-7			

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!



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 **CUW Foundation** with **CBI e-Bulletin** on the memo line, or follow the link to contribute online: [Support Concordia Bible Institute](#).

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Mequon, WI 53097



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

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