

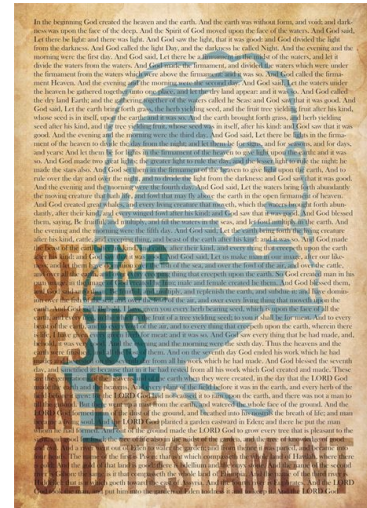


CONCORDIA
BIBLE INSTITUTE
Christ in Every Word

CBI e-Bulletin August 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.



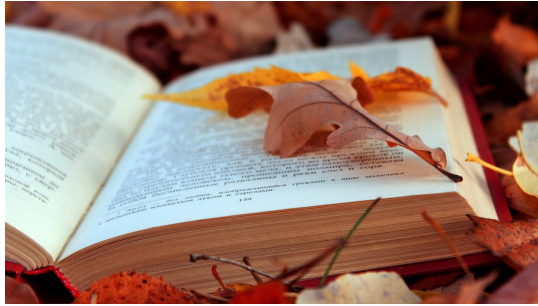
"For the whole Christ is in every word and wholly in each individual word. When He is denied, therefore, in one word, He is totally denied, for He is in every word."

-Martin Luther (*Luther's Works*, 25:238).

Subscribe To "Christ In Every Word" Podcast

Click the button above to sign up for a weekly email update on newly published "Christ in Every Word" podcasts.

Upcoming Events



Fall In-Depth Bible Studies

September 11 and 18 from 6:30-8:30pm

September 25, October 2, 9, 16 from

3:00-5:30pm 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.

A Special One-Day Seminar

with Dr. Phillip Cary

"Luther and the Word of God"

Saturday, September 30, 2017

9:15am-2:30pm

Pharmacy Building PH008

Concordia University Wisconsin

\$40 per person

\$10 for CUW Students/Faculty/Staff


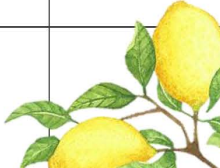


Come listen to Dr. Phil Cary, a renowned Luther scholar and popular Christian writer from Eastern University, in honor of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Don't miss this rare opportunity!

For more information on any of our upcoming events, please visit our website
www.concordiabible.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 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 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://concordiabible.org).

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 downloaded to your device. Just click [here](#) to subscribe through our website or click the image below!



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 Apostles' Creed we say "He descended into hell." What are the Scripture verses that indicate Christ descended into hell, and for what purpose? A few of us have had several discussions about this and we would appreciate your insights.*

Answer: To begin with, it is important to note that Christ's descent into hell is not part of his "State of Humiliation," but of his "Exaltation." That fact will help to understand more fully the primary Scripture passage used to support the doctrine and the purpose of the descent.

1 Peter 3:18-20 is the primary passage describing the event and its purpose: "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit (18) by which also he went and preached to the spirits in prison (19); which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water" (20).

The reason I mentioned the "descent into hell" as part of Christ's exaltation is that most people when reciting the Apostles' Creed assume that the descent into hell was the conclusion of his suffering, but verse 19 says that he went and "preached" to the spirits in prison after being made alive by the Spirit.

The question, then, is what did he preach? It is evident from the context that he did not descend to preach the Gospel. He preached the Law. Two Bible passages confirm this: 1) "...if you believe not that I am he, you shall die in your sins" (John 8:24); 2) And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). These passages indicate that there is no "second chance" to be saved once death occurs. This is confirmed by the reference to the flood (1 Peter 3:20). The people at Noah's time refused to hear Noah, a preacher of righteousness (2 Peter 2:5). Christ appeared then in hell as their Judge whose word they had stubbornly refused to believe. These ungodly people had scorned him and now he is proclaiming his victory and that they deserved their eternal punishment. This proclamation is accusatory, not evangelical.

The "descent" is also intended as a proclamation to the devil and his legions. Jesus says in Revelation 1:18, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore, Amen; and have the keys of death and hell." The devil doesn't reign in hell either; Christ has the keys. Luther says that Christ took over the devil's pulpit. My own thought on the Revelation 1:18 passage is that John was smitten with the fear of death and hell and Jesus tells him not to be afraid because he (Jesus) is Lord there also. The apostle Paul enhances this truth in Philippians 2:8-11 when he says that Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death on the cross. This is why "God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth (the realm of devils and the damned)." All will bow to him and confess that he is Lord. Like it or not, they did bow and confess him as Lord.

Paul in Colossians 2:15 sheds light on this idea: "And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it." And Paul adds this in Ephesians 4:8: "...he led captivity captive."

The following passage from the Lutheran Confessions will put the finishing touches on the “descent into hell” question and its implications:

“I believe in the Lord Christ, God’s Son, our Lord, dead, buried, and descended into hell. For in this (Confession) the burial and descent of Christ to hell are distinguished as different articles; and we simply believe that the entire person, God and man, after the burial descended into hell, conquered the devil, destroyed the power of hell, and took from the Devil all his might. We should not, however, trouble ourselves with high and acute thoughts as to how this occurred; for with our reason and our five senses this article can be comprehended as little as the preceding one, how Christ is placed at the right hand of the almighty power and majesty of God; but we are simply to believe it and adhere to the Word.”

There will be a final judgment. All of this is a foreshadowing of that event on the last day.

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](#).

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

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