

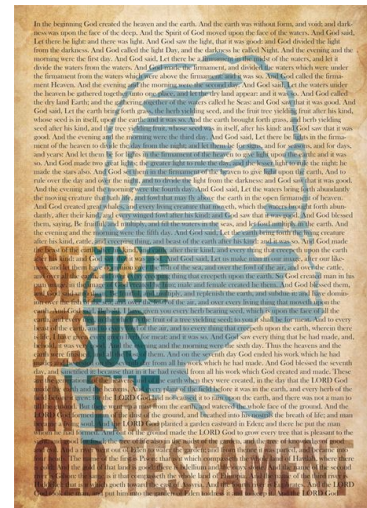


CONCORDIA  
BIBLE INSTITUTE  
*Christ in Every Word*

# CBI e-Bulletin January 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.

# Happy New Year!



I'd like to extend a blessed new year in Christ to all of our CBI participants. We have many exciting events planned for 2017, so I look forward to seeing you!

Peace in Christ,  
Dr. Brian German

## 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.

\*December 31 started in Mark 1, so feel free to read that in addition to the readings on January 1.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Luke 1:68-79 Mark 2	2 Psalm 30 Mark 3	3 Psalm 31 Mark 4	4 Psalm 32 Mark 5	5 Psalm 33 Mark 6	6 Psalm 34 Mark 7	7 Psalm 35 Mark 8
8 Psalm 36 Mark 9	9 Psalm 37 Mark 10	10 Psalm 38 Mark 11	11 Psalm 39 Mark 12	12 Psalm 40 Mark 13	13 Psalm 41 Mark 14	14 Psalm 42 Mark 15-16
15 Psalm 43 Genesis 1-3	16 Psalm 44 Genesis 4-6	17 Psalm 45 Genesis 7-9	18 Psalm 46 Genesis 10-12	19 Psalm 47 Genesis 13-15	20 Psalm 48 Genesis 16-18	21 Psalm 49 Genesis 19-21
22 Psalm 50 Genesis 22-24	23 Psalm 51 Genesis 25-27	24 Psalm 52 Genesis 28-30	25 Psalm 53 Genesis 31-33	26 Psalm 54 Genesis 34-36	27 Psalm 55 Genesis 37-39	28 Psalm 56 Genesis 40-42
29 Psalm 57 Genesis 43-45	30 Psalm 58 Genesis 46-48	31 Luke 1:68-79 Genesis 49-50				

## Website

Visit our website at [concordiabile.org](http://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:

<http://www.concordiabile.org/category/podcasts/>

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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:

How can there be degrees of glory in heaven? Where is this mentioned in the Bible? How can there be degrees of perfect? Won't that cause jealousy to see others with a higher degree of glory? The whole concept boggles my mind. Any clarification would be appreciated.

### Answer:

Here are a few thoughts on the "degrees of glory" question.

First of all it is important to distinguish between the two terms "bliss" and "glory." There are no degrees of "bliss" since all the saints will see God and live forever in his presence and in that respect will be equally blessed; however, since we know that God is just and fair, it only makes sense that he would reward people according to their faithfulness in this life, and the suffering they may have endured for the Gospel's sake. "Degrees of glory," therefore is understandable. As an example, in all fairness the Apostle Paul should be accorded greater glory than I because of his missionary journeys, writings, suffering for the Gospel, etc.

The following lengthy statement by Luther will help explain "degrees of glory" in heaven: "It is true there will be a difference in yonder life, according as they have labored and lived here. For example, St. Paul was an Apostle, Samuel or Isaiah a Prophet, etc. One will have greater brightness than the other because he worked or suffered more in his office...thus everyone will have his distinction and glory according to his office, and still one God and Lord will be in all, and one and the same joy and bliss. In his person none shall be more or have more than the other, St. Peter no more than you and I. None the less there must be differences because of the works. For God did not do through Paul what he did through Isaiah and vice versa. For that reason everyone will bring along his works, through which he will shine and praise God so that people will say: 'St. Peter has done more than I or another...' In short all are to be alike before God in faith and grace and celestial bliss, but they are to differ in their works and honor."

As far as jealousy is concerned, jealousy occurs because of our sinful condition. That condition will no longer exist in heaven. Therefore because of our sinless condition in heaven, when God makes those distinctions we will all agree that He is being just and fair in his decisions.

A couple of the passages used in this connection are the following: 2 Corinthians 9:6, speaking spiritually Paul writes, "But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly, he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."

I Corinthians 15:41-42, speaking of earthly bodies and heavenly bodies Paul writes, "There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differs from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead..."

The idea is also found in Daniel 12:3, where the wise shall shine like the brightness of the stars.

There is more that could be written, but I hope the above will clarify the question somewhat.

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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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