

THE GREENWOOD BULLETIN

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The World's Best Book

Author Unknown

This book contains the mind of God, the state of men, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrine is holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy.

It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter.

Here Paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the ways of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand object, our good its design, and the redemption of man its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, a river of pleasure.

It is given to you in life, will be open in the judgment, and will be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibilities, will reward the greatest labor, and condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents.

"How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God!"

Psalm 139:17

"The Preacher's Mother"

By Van Morris

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. A friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked. "The front row please,"

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she answered. "You really don't want to do that," the usher said. "The preacher is really boring." "Do you happen to know who I am?" asked the woman. "No," said the usher. "I'm the preacher's mother," she replied. "Do you know who I am?" the usher asked. "No," she said. "Good," he said as he disappeared into the crowd.

"Rejoice in the Lord always"

Philippians 4:4

Out Thinking God

By Steve Niemeier

In man's perceived need to know what God knows we find many who believe they need to "out think" what God wants them to know. Deuteronomy 29:29 states, "***The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.***" Do you find yourself spending precious time trying to figure out things that God states and we should accept and let go?

Do you remember the great controversy of a few years ago of how long it actually took God to create the world? Who would call into question the days of creation and whether they were 24 hours each or years each? Do we not believe that God could create this world in the time frame that His inspired word says He did it in?

Maybe we get caught up in trying to figure out if the mark of Cain was a change of the color of his skin and that is where different skin colors originate. Could we be perplexed over the Biblical record of the great flood of Noah's time? Many have tried to come up with different "theories" of how this happened. What about those who are busy trying to figure out just where God had the Israelites cross the Red Sea? Here we are a few thousand years later and man is trying to substantiate where that event occurred. Why? Do we not believe the fact that it occurred?

Why do we spend time in trying to figure these things out and neglect the "weightier" issues that pertain to our salvation? John 20:30-31 states that Jesus did many other signs that are not written for us. It is not our duty to try to think how, neither when nor why God or Christ did these things. It is our duty to have the faith that

They did do them. Our short time on the face of this earth needs to be spent in humble obedience to God through His Son Jesus Christ. Too much time trying to “out-think” God will lead us to neglect the issues of salvation that will then haunt us all of eternity.

“O Lord, I know the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.”

Jeremiah 10:23

***The Miracles of Jesus* – (A Selected Article)**

Miracle: It may suffice here to define miracle as any deviation from or transcendence of the order of nature, due to the interposition of a supernatural cause.” (James Orr, *The Faith of a Modern Christian*, page 65) It is more than something amazing, or something hard to explain. A miracle is more than simply something that is attributed to God. It is something beyond the realm of natural possibility and involves the setting aside of the laws of nature.

Biblical miracles are drastically different from the pseudo-miracles you see on TV. Jesus nor the apostles never requested or demanded money. Their miracles were not easily explained away as having been a trick or sleight of hand. Even enemies could not deny the reality. They were never for self-glory. They suffered no failures. There was never the beginning of a miracle or a slow developing miracle.

Purpose of Miracles:

Why did Jesus perform miracles? John sums up the purpose for miracles is John 20:30-31: Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the *Son of God*, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

When John the baptizer asked if this One was the Christ, Jesus sent word back of the miracles he had performed. *Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what*

you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.” (Matthew 11:2-5)

By the power of miracles Jesus declared to be the Son of God (Acts 2:22). We can have confidence in the identity of Jesus – He did what no ordinary man could have done. He did for us what no man could have done – make salvation from sins possible.