



The 2021 FlipBook Series INTRODUCTION



This is parcel to our 2021 series
of FlipBook-formatted educational publications.
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The organization destined to become Bible Explorers Club LLC was founded on March 4, 2006, in a public library meeting room in the Southern Crescent Region of Atlanta, Georgia. On that day, 19 multidenominational Christians, including five clergymen respectively ordained by four different mainstream denominations, met together to begin searching the scriptures to discover what God's written word really says. Why? All seminaries teach "what 'we' believe." Their graduates preach "what 'we' believe." Those who warm their pews believe "what 'we' believe."

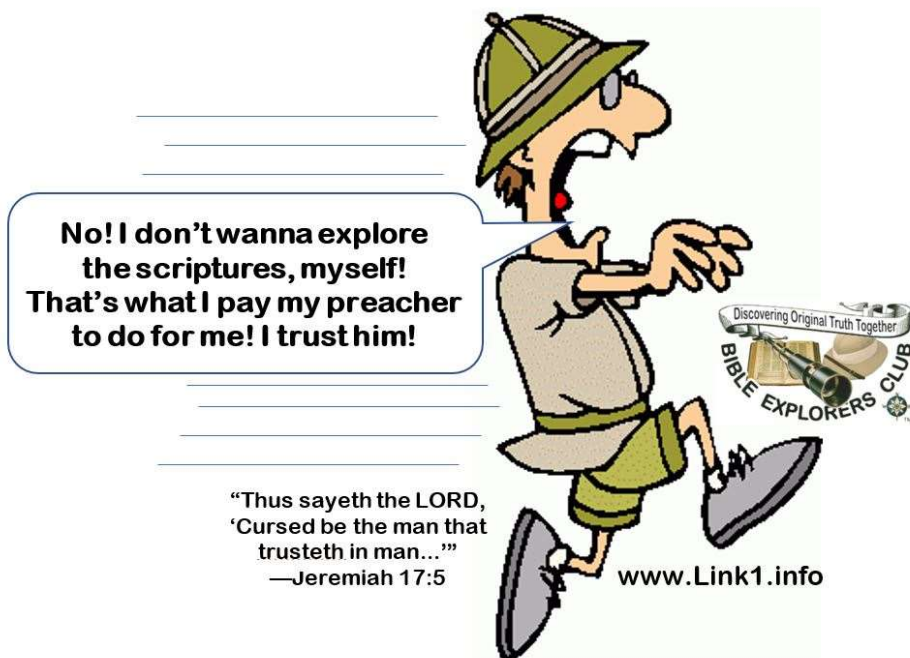


The critical question remains: "Would God, as supremely intelligent as He is, really have left us his written instructions in a form that could only be interpreted by sectarian "experts" whose interpretations differ so curiously?

"In religion and politics, people's beliefs and convictions are in almost every case gotten at second hand, and without examination."

—Samuel Clemens

Sad but true: Most church folk have abdicated their Bible studying, "the ministry" and their critical thinking to professional christians.



Together, we wondered whether we might learn and then be able to teach others how to read the Bible as-if-no-one-had-ever-explained-what-it-means: Our seminaries teach our preachers only **WHAT** to study...to confirm sectarian doctrines. Laymen typically learn from their preachers **WHAT** to study, for the same reason. We agreed that, because our time is short, we must all learn **HOW** to study God's written word, to discover the Original Truth—the only truth that has the capacity to make men free.

We resolved to learn only from God's written word. The arguments and commentaries of Bible “experts” were not to be admissible in our forum.

It was to be a fully interactive Learning Forum with no preaching or lecturing. The forum leader would moderate our discussions. He'd introduce each Bible Discovery Experiences_{SM} topic and then ask a thought-provoking question or two to kick off the interactive learning.

Once a session was underway, he would often probe our responses to prompt us to new levels of interactive discovery. That yielded synergy. It was invigorating, especially when it became Holy Spirit synergy...often.



The Link1_{TM} Bible Research Team was founded in December of 2008, in an executive meeting room at the offices of a local petroleum distributor. Because we had discovered what appeared to be critical, but wildly popular scriptural error within the mainstream visible church, a much smaller group of Bible Explorers_{SM} decided to start digging to learn much more about those errors.

That was to require a lot of serious scholarly research. While our focus was squarely on objective comprehension of God's written word, we concluded that we must also start researching the historical record – to learn where and how those apparent errors had gotten started and taken root.

Our early deliberations included whether and/or how we should expose any critical error, to the benefit of Christ's lambs. We defined "critical error" as any doctrine that will cause sincere Christian believers and their preachers to eventually worship the wrong christ. (See 2 Thessalonians 2, keeping in mind that unbelievers simply cannot "fall away.")

Such doctrinal errors might become unstoppable once they've reached critical mass. Might they have already surmounted that pinnacle? Have most who profess Christianity invested their *Faith Equity*_{SM} unwisely? Might Satan's first, second and third rounds of mass deception be complete?

We have discovered five (5) such Weapons of Mass Deception, but have extensively researched just three (3) of them at this point. You'll want to learn as much as you possibly can about our shocking discoveries.

The **Getting Saved!** FlipBook features critical conclusions regarding just one of those WMDs. The **Why 1830?** FlipBook contains much of what you'll NEED to know about two of them. Because of its title, we think most readers will tackle our **Dirty Laundry** FlipBook first. Why? Well...you know. Find a hotlink to the collection on our HOME page: <https://www.Link1.info>.

You'll be wise to **be skeptical of our conclusions** and then do your own due diligence to yield personally-derived conclusions. The key to your success

may well be the profound message of **Acts 17:11**. Read that in several versions of the Bible.¹

¹ I was an NIV fan for years. A thoughtful business associate gave me a copy of G. A. Riplinger's book, New Age Versions, first printed in 1993. My copy is of the 11th printing. I am now convinced that the **KJV** is the most trustworthy Bible version that's available to us today. Many of the other versions aren't translations, at all; they're either clever commentaries or paraphrases. You'll be surprised to learn how many of the most popular Bible versions are from highly questionable original-language manuscripts...and how many are substantially influenced by Occult practitioners.

Quick! How many different children's party games can you recall? Ever play the one called "Gossip?" This description of it will amuse you all over again. If "No," you may catch up on loads of fun and gain some valuable insight, to boot!



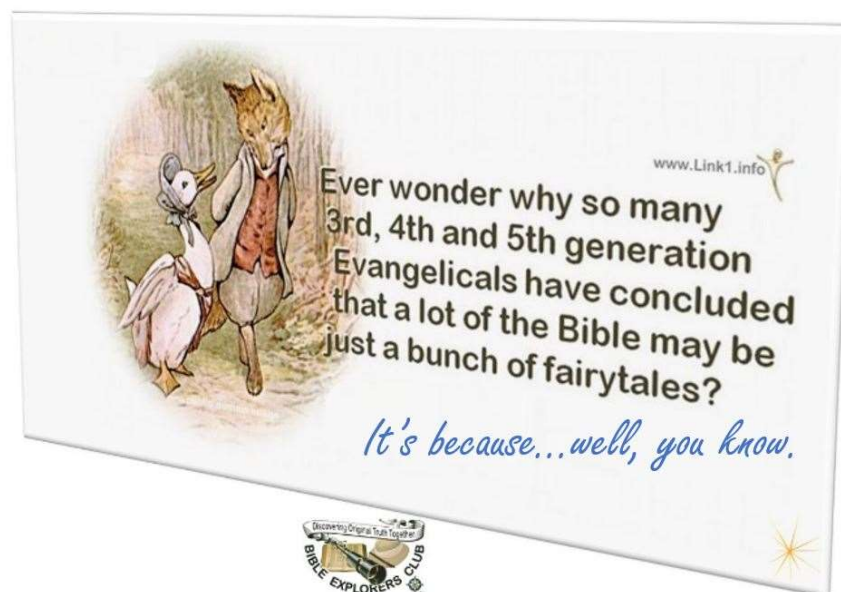
With the children lined up single-file, an adult leader explains the game's two rules and its objectives: "The important thing is (a) to listen very carefully, so that you'll be able (b) to whisper the message accurately to the next person in line. Then, from the last player in line, we'll learn how well you have all listened and how accurately you've delivered the original message, as a team."

After reading a short written message, the first player returns it to the game leader and the game begins.

More players mean longer games. Longer games always yield hilarious distortions of the original messages. Remember that, please—and this, too: Throughout most of the 2,000⁺ years since Jesus walked here, literacy was the exception. Today, it's the civilized norm. Still, though, millions of Believers trust “experts” to interpret scripture for them, as if they can't read, themselves, for comprehension. The people they trust with all their hearts, their preachers, trust denominational *experts*. Those theologians hold one another accountable to...well, their respectively franchised “what ‘we’ believe” platforms.

What could possibly have gone wrong with that scenario over a period of two millennia? Suffice it to say that Satan is surely ecstatic. The gates of Hell have observably prevailed against the organized visible church. The Church – the one against which the gates of Hell will not prevail – is fully alive and well, but largely invisible. God will always have a faithful remnant.

Is the Bible just a bunch of fairytales? If not, why have so many people concluded that it is? Don't most church folk *behave* as if it's a collection of fairytales?



Remember how you felt when you first learned that your parents had lied to you about Santa, the Tooth Fairy and the Easter Bunny? Remember when you first doubted those stories and they said “You just have to have faith to believe it, Baby!”? Remember hearing that same worn-out talking point in

church? Then, later, when you asked a few of those Bible questions that were burning holes in your head and your heart, they labeled you a “Doubting Thomas,” so you stopped asking questions?

That’s how I felt decades later, when I discovered that those whom I had loved and respected most had misinformed me about the scriptural nature and meaning of faith. I was disillusioned, embarrassed, angry and confused.

I think, now, that they didn’t intentionally lie to me but that they were driven by the evil forces that yield abusive behavior in adults who were, themselves, abused as children. (I was an Agnostic, for a dozen years...never could muster enough faith to become an Atheist, so I was just a wannabe Atheist.)

When believers express doubt within the visible church, they typically get those “The just shall live by faith!” lectures. The message? Even if it makes absolutely no sense at all, you must have faith to believe it!

I stopped asking questions, too, but those questions kept gnawing at me. No, there was nothing wrong with me, but I was forced to learn, much later, how to gain peaceful resolution on my own. Need help doing that?

<https://www.Link1.info>

I’m often called TC Newsome. That’s a penname: I wish not to promote myself, especially when publishing derivative works from God’s Holy Word. Perhaps you’ll perceive value in that. As a former newspaper editor, my job as resident scribe for the Link1™ Bible Research Team has been to faithfully record and publish our conclusions on each scholarly research initiative.



“Our conclusions” is likely not the best term for that, because when everyone in any collaborative group claims to have drawn the same conclusion on a matter, some (often most) have subordinated their critical thinking to dominant members. Not smart.

In the visible church there are “special” people and “little” people. In The Church, nobody is special. As you read what follows for full comprehension, you’ll discover a myriad of sensible rationale for the conclusion that the gates of Hell have prevailed against the organized visible church.

We often do not agree on every point but, more often than not, we are able to come to reasonable consensus. The team is gracious enough to permit me to be the tiebreaker most of the time.

After committing to writing what I think to be a reasonable consensus, the team votes to accept or reject what I have written. You guessed it; I have to do lots of rewriting!

Is agreement on every scriptural interpretation necessary? Consider this...

“We’ve been married for sixty years and we’ve never had a cross word between us.” Ever hear anything like that? Did you believe it? Did you wonder silently, “Bless your old hearts, how do y’all communicate?”

Disagreement should play the same role in Christian fellowship as in a marriage relationship. It’s an integral part of healthy interaction. It can yield mutual growth. Not sure about that? Remember this? “...reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.” —2 Timothy 4:2

So how are we to respond when we find ourselves in disagreement with fellow Christians on matters as important as interpretation of Scripture? First, understand that Christian labor and fellowship that’s mutually productive is not necessarily dependent upon our same interpretation of every scripture. That leaves us with a much simpler problem: How to manage those inevitable conflicts. The next paragraph can help with that. It’ll require some practice, though.

As with team sports, practice amounts to well-managed confrontation with other players on the same team. Each participant should emerge from those experiences with improved skills.



If it's something on which we must agree and we don't agree, then one of us may spend eternity in Hell because of it. If we need to agree, but we don't, one of us may send someone else to Hell because of it. If it would just be nice if we could agree and we don't, we may be less effective in accomplishing The Great Commission together. If it doesn't really matter whether we agree or not...well, are you buying lunch?

This entire discovery adventure has been and continues to be a marvelous and fruitful learning experience for me. I was personally surprised to discover, early on, that I was to learn volumes more from laymen than from the preachers in our larger collaborative discussion group.

Some readers may know that I was a Bible teacher for decades...large sanctuary classes. Was I a diligent seeker of Original Truth during that time while pursuing secular careers? I was sincere, but sincerity doesn't get it:

Like most all the other Bible teachers and preachers I've encountered, I was almost totally dependent on my presumed superiors within our denomination for what I taught to the also-sincere folk who faithfully followed my lead. I really wish, now, that I could have a chance to help all those fine people

understand that I had not done my personal due diligence and neither have most of their preachers:

- ✓ “The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn.” —Alvin Toffler

Per Hebrews 11:6, God rewards folk who “diligently seek him.” Those laymen from whom I learned most had been digging diligently for Original Truth considerably longer and more intelligently than I had. The hands-down standout among them was a local mechanical draftsman: Dan McGee.

In the earliest meetings of our larger Bible Discovery group, his knowledge and understanding astounded everyone in the room, including the professional christians. He could quote scriptures verbatim and he could flip right over to them in his Bible! That’s something that I still can’t do very well, even today. Much respect is due, and given freely to Dan McGee.

Two of my former pastors, Kenneth Vanderford and the late Hugh Smith, served with Mr. McGee on our executive advisory board during the organizational and early post-organizational times. Each of them contributed value.

After conducting extensive prayerful, scholarly research and analysis, we publish our conclusions and how we came to those conclusions.

With new information and insight, those conclusions can change.

When everyone thinks alike, somebody’s not thinking at all.

God’s gift of a sound mind is a terrible thing to waste!



The **HOTLINKS**

won't work while you're in the FlipPamphlet or FlipBook mode. But they'll work in the PDF mode. To change to PDF, find the really small row of menu icons just under the image and click on PDF.

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It's true that you could explore our site every day for a year and still be asking yourself, "Why hasn't somebody shared this critical information with me before now?"