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Checks may be written to Bible Passages,  
287 Beulah Road; Dripping Springs, TX 78620

## Dear supporters and friends,

On one of our most recent trips to the Bible lands, we passed near Pella, Greece, the birthplace of Alexander the Great. Throughout our journey we also encountered numerous statues and iconography memorializing this great hero of the ancient Greeks. Born in 356 B.C., his conquest in the continents of Europe and Asia resulted in one of the largest empires in ancient history. His legacy with the spread of Greek culture (e.g. a common language, democracy, rhetoric, and philosophy) along with the influences of the later Roman empire were major factors enabling the advancement of the gospel in the first century after Christ. Alexander's reign was extremely short, and after his death, his kingdom was divided among his generals into four separate lesser domains. Did you know that the book of Daniel, some 250 years earlier, foretold of these exact events?



Bible Passages and Polishing the Pulpit Expedition 2024

While the prophet Daniel was a captive in Babylon, he interpreted King Nebuchadnezzar's dream which foretold of the rise and fall of four successive empires, and the establishment of God's eternal kingdom during the fourth (i.e. the Roman empire). Daniel also received a series of visions relating to the same prophecy which gave additional details about each kingdom. One of them was the empire of Alexander the Great. Daniel 8:5 and following reads: "...a male goat came from the west across the face of the whole earth...And the goat had a conspicuous horn between his eyes...Then the goat became exceedingly great, but when he was strong, the great horn was broken, and instead of it there came up four conspicuous horns toward the four winds of heaven." The horn represents Alexander and the horn "broken off" was a prophecy of Alexander's untimely death. The single horn is replaced with four new horns, which are "four kingdoms that will emerge from his nation but will not have the same power" (Daniel 8:22). This is precisely what happened as confirmed by history. The four new kingdoms are referenced again in Daniel 11:4, which says "his [Alexander's] empire will be broken up and parceled out toward the four winds of heaven. It will not go to his descendants, nor will it have the power he exercised." Again, these passages describe, two centuries in advance what would ultimately occur, thus in part proving the verity and validity of the Bible.

Our aim at Bible Passages is not only to guide people to Jesus but also to fortify their faith and confidence in scripture. One of the ways we attempt to do this is through helping them to see the connections and proofs I mentioned in the previous paragraphs. Walking with individuals through the Bible lands and

discussing the evidence for the veracity of scripture is an important part of our work. We also seek to document and write about these truth—not only to fortify their confidence in scripture but in turn to help them grow closer to the Lord as they seek to be more like Him. Because of supporters like you, we've been given the opportunity to accomplish these tasks.

As we look back over the past few months, we've also been blessed to be a part of several other important endeavors. First, and most exciting, we were able to observe from a distance the graduation of 22 students from Bear Valley Bible Institute (inclusive of both graduate and undergraduate programs). Eleven of these were those with whom we have worked closely during their two-year enrollment. We deeply love and appreciate these men and women who have given their life to serving the Lord and knowing more about His word. We will miss them, but we look forward to hearing about the ways in which God will use them to glorify His name.

During April we spent 5 nights in San Marcos, Texas speaking and working with the Jones and Dilbecks in assisting with the preachers' workshop called Focal Point. After this, we travelled to Kentucky where Carla and I gave lectures at the Equipped workshop, directed by Neal Pollard and Hiram Kemp. From there we travelled to Ooltewah, Tennessee where Carla spoke to the ladies, and where I preached a series of lessons Sunday through Wednesday under the theme "Filled up or Fed Up?" We were blessed to stay with Ken and Martha Parker, and able to see many good friends who are faithfully serving the Lord in congregations near Ooltewah. In May I conducted a seminar on the archaeology and geography of the Bible lands in Kimberly, Idaho where the McClellands have faithfully labored for many years. And finally, tasks at home with counseling, writing, and preparing for future classes and lectures have kept us very busy.

Once again, thank you for all your love and support. Your participation in this work has been a blessing and joy beyond compare. God bless each one of you, and please, please keep us in your prayers. *John*

## Check out the improvements in our website!



Brian Ketchem has done a wonderful job refreshing our website, adding content, keeping our tours updated, and making things look so much better. Go check it out! Find us at [www.biblepassages.net](http://www.biblepassages.net).

## 2024 Schedule:

July:

Video & Writing Projects

July 10-15

Polishing the Pulpit

Branson, MO

August 2-15

Bear Valley Orientation and

Short Course

August 16-22

Polishing the Pulpit

Sevierville, TN

September 19-22

BVBI Lectureship

October 17-20

Linder Rd (ID) Lectureship

October 25-27

Marriage Seminar

Brown Trail, Bedford TX

November-December 2023

WVBS and other TX

projects

Ongoing / Weekly

Commitments:

Looking Up Podcast

Write On My Heart Every

Word (Scripture Writing)

WVBS Temple Book

## Carla's Comments

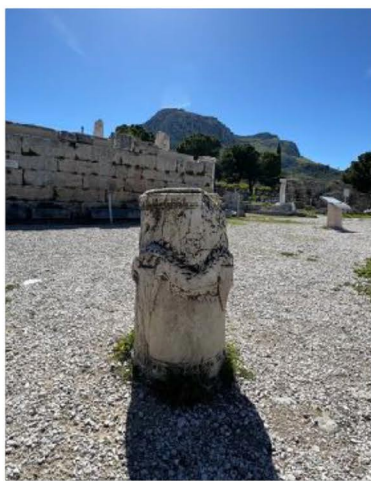
Dear friends,

Fifteen or twenty years ago, I read a book simply called Paul by Walter Wangerin. It was a historical fiction account of the life of Paul. I loved the book then, and I wanted to go back and read it again before our tour of Rome and Greece last month, because I knew we would be in several of the places where Paul had been: Rome, Philippi, Athens and, in particular, Corinth. Much of the book centered around what could have happened during Paul's 18 months in Corinth and his time laboring alongside Aquila and Priscilla. Acts 18 gives the account of Paul in Corinth and mentions many names: Crispus, the synagogue leader who became a Christian (later mentioned in 1 Corinthians 1:14); Gallio, the proconsul of Achaia (whose name was found on an inscription in Delphi which helps to confirm the timing of when Paul was in Corinth); and Sosthenes, another synagogue ruler and probably the same man who Paul later refers to as "brother" in 1 Corinthians 1:1. The bema, or the judgment seat, is prominently featured in the center of the remains of Corinth (see photo below). There is also a large stone embedded into the ground with the name "Erastus" engraved into it. The details surrounding this inscription and the man Erastus, mentioned in Acts 19, Romans 16 and 2 Timothy 4, once again confirm the veracity of scripture. Having written through Acts and Romans and the letters to Timothy in previous years of scripture writing, having read these Bible texts many times, after reading Paul and seeing these very real sites with my own eyes—the Bible comes alive again and again. It is such a blessing to be able to visit these places. I hope all of you will someday be able to travel with us! These truths and confirmations of the word are what drive John to produce video and written content that continually confirm God's truth.

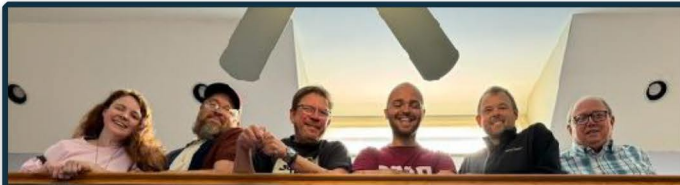


This is how John looks at all of our grandchildren - with adoration!  
(This is our precious two-year-old Livi.)

In April, we were blessed to take part in the preacher workshop called "Focal Point" in San Marcos...and to make our lives a little less hectic, we borrowed my brother's RV and parked it at the church building in San Marcos. It saved us driving back and forth every day and we enjoyed it! After Focal Point we went to Kentucky for the "Equipped" workshop (Kathy and I recorded our podcast in front of a live audience!) and then went to Ooltewah, TN for John to preach a gospel meeting. We have many friends in that area and loved being able to visit with them - we are beyond blessed by the bonds that we have because of Jesus. At the end of April I spoke at a ladies day at the Weber Road congregation in Corpus Christi, Texas (where I got to see some very dear friends, including Bre Vestal and Aleasha French!) We had some fun family time in May with our grandchildren...we got to keep Turner for several days and loved the one-on-one time. We got to watch Emmy ride her horse and we had Clara for a couple of days and we celebrated Livi's second birthday. (We are looking forward to some Jackson and some Darcy time!) At the end of May we traveled back to Rome and Greece for a study tour along with some absolutely wonderful people that we have grown to love. Kathy and I finished our third season of "Looking Up" and now we are in Dripping Springs for a while, mowing the grass, helping my Mom, preparing for Polishing the Pulpit, reconnecting with our home congregation here in "Drippin'", and just enjoying being home.



At this moment, Brian Ketchem is here while we dream and make plans for Bible Passages' future. Our desire is to bring glory to God and help others see Him in as many ways as we possibly can. We humbly ask for your help and your prayers as we seek to do these things. Love, *Carla*



AND EVERY DAY, IN THE TEMPLE AND FROM  
*House to House*  
THEY DID NOT CEASE TEACHING AND  
PREACHING THAT THE CHRIST IS JESUS.  
ACTS 5:42



(L-R) We visited the HQ of House to House Heart to Heart... Depiction of the temple spoils



taken from Jerusalem inside the Arch of Titus... John with Diane and Dan Winkler at Focal Point... in Cenchrrea, the women who traveled with us on the PTP BP tour... John demonstrating one of his human timelines in Thessoloniki... Jared Hueter, Luke Griffin and John... We are going to have another grandbaby! Micah and Courtney expect a baby in November... Carla and Kathy filming a live podcast at Equipped in Bowling Green, KY... enjoying some time in TX with Wayne and Shana Kaye Jones