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"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine."

**God loves you
more than anybody**



April—June 2016

OFF TO A GOOD START

It's hard to believe that one fourth of 2016 is already in the record books, but it is. I'm so glad the Lord let me live and serve him for another three months. Folks, every day is precious. Never take one day or any person for granted.

My year started with a mix of sadness and joy. Tom Bailey was my dear friend for 40 years. He was like a fountain bubbling with joy. His positive, godly outlook was contagious; it was always a joy to be around him. He was a fine Christian model. This fine specimen of health began to have stomach trouble. He lost weight. For about three or four months doctors couldn't find it until he got to M.D. Anderson Hospital. He had lymphoma. We had his funeral on Friday, January 8. I'm saddened by his early departure, but I'm overjoyed that he's with the Lord. On March 4, I conducted the memorial service for another of my dear friends, Corky Smith. A month earlier he was going strong, unaware that anything was wrong. The pain in his neck turned out to be a cancer in his upper right lung. Just that quick he was in heaven. He had turned 66 on New Year's Day. Dear ones, don't take your friends and loved ones for granted. I see too many weep at the casket. They let the door of opportunity close on them; they should've expressed their love when their love one could hear it. Now the best they can do is weep and send flowers.

I was able to spend the

second weekend of January in Midland, Texas representing the [Christian Law Association](#) with [Home Line Baptist Church](#) and Pastor Robb Foreman. It was a blessing to see the good hand of God upon this young church. The fourth weekend of January we had a really good Missions Conference at [Northwest Baptist Church](#) in Houston. It was during that Conference that Pastor Tim Dulany made his decision to go as a missionary to Panama. On Monday following the conference, Mrs. Hutson and I drove to Beaumont where I conducted a Monday-Friday *Reliability of Your Bible Seminar* at the [Creekwood Baptist Church](#). It was a blessing to become better acquainted with Pastor Jeremy Nobles. Mrs. Hutson and I arrived back in Houston at about midnight on Friday night and then drove to [Friendship Baptist Church](#) in Hurst, Texas on Saturday. It was good to be a part of their Missions Conference, and see the good hand of God upon that church and Pastor Jerry Power.

In February I was blessed to spend two days with four young preacher-friends of mine. We spent some very intense time dealing with the preparation and delivery of sermons, and with a number of the practical aspects of church administration. During February, we also spent some very precious time with Pastor Don McFarland in the Parkview Baptist Church of Childress, Texas. I was

privileged to conduct my *Improving Your Home Seminar*. The Lord truly blessed the effort.

March found us with our home church in Houston. On March 6 Pastor Tim Dulany announced his decision to go as a missionary to Panama. He asked Northwest Baptist Church to sponsor him. Needless to say, the ramifications of that decision are huge. Please pray for our church. We are posturing to send the Dulany's to the mission field. At the same time, we have begun the work of finding our next pastor. There's lots of work to be done. In the interim, I will be quite consumed with helping the church with all that a time like this entails.

While helping Northwest Baptist Church with her needs in the days ahead, I will also keep several prior commitments. April 3-6 I will be with Pastor Lamar Denby at the [Highway Baptist Church](#) in Huntington, Texas near Lufkin. This is the church where I was saved, and we are having an old-fashioned revival meeting. Later in April I will be with Pastor Ed Neal at [Midway Baptist Church](#) in McKinney, Texas. This year's seminar is *Improving Your Home*. Lord willing, in early May I will have the privilege of presenting that same seminar at [Faith Baptist Church](#) in Brownsboro, Texas. Brother McJohn Bagley is the pastor.



*We must never forget who gets the credit
for the freedoms we have!
of which we should be eternally grateful.*

A blind person asked, "Can there be anything worse than losing eye sight?"

"Yes, losing your vision."

TIM AND MANDY DULANY TO PANAMA

On Sunday morning, March 6 Tim Dulany announced his decision to go to Panama as a missionary out of Northwest Baptist Church of Houston. On Wednesday night, March 23 the church voted to sponsor him. For this church, sponsoring a missionary is a blessing, but it is a huge undertaking. We humbly request the prayers and support of God's people around the country.



The Dulanys are already transitioning to mission status. They are preparing their house, and will soon put it on the market for sale. They are liquidating personal assets, putting together a presentation of the work they will be doing and printing prayer cards. Brother Dulany is scheduling appointments in churches to present his work and building an itinerary.

Brother Dulany will transition from Pastor to missionary status effective July 1. He will then be on the road to raise support until such time as he is able to move to Panama. We at Northwest Baptist Church in Houston would appreciate your partnering with us in this effort. To schedule him for an appointment, call his mobile number which is 713-806-4222. He can also be reached at his email address: odulany@hotmail.com.

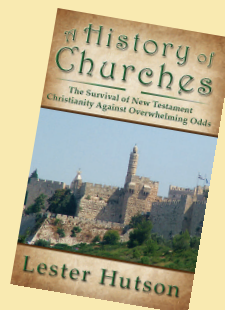
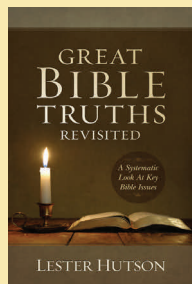
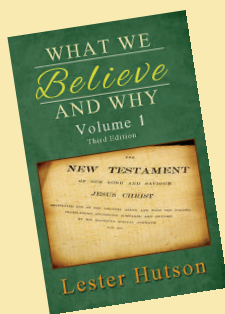
MY BOOKS ON AMAZON

You may not be aware that many of my books are available on Amazon in both electronic and paper formats.

Recently I released the third edition of *What We Believe and Why 1*. I am currently in the process of editing *What We Believe and Why 2*. I expect it to be ready for release later this year.

Over the years, *What We Believe and Why 1* has proven to be a blessing to many people. Copies can be purchased directly from Amazon. Paper copies can also be purchased directly from me for \$10 each plus postage and a mailer. Contact me at lesterhutson@gmail.com.

I have a number of available books which do not appear on Amazon. You can view them at my website: www.lesterhutson.org. Go to the *Products* tab and click on *Books*.



TAX TIME

JUST AROUND THE CORNER

The IRS returned the Tax Return of a man in New Jersey after he apparently answered one of the questions incorrectly. In response to the question, *"Do you have anyone dependent on you?"* The man wrote, *"2.1 million illegal immigrants, 1.1 million crackheads, 4.4 million unemployed scroungers, 80,000 criminals in over 85 prisons plus 650 idiots in Washington and the entire group that call themselves Politicians"*.

IRS stated that the response he gave was unacceptable. The man's response back was, *"Who did I leave out?"*

They say this one is true



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SOME PEOPLE ARE JUST NOT AS SMART AS THEY CLAIM

"Well informed people know it is impossible to transmit the voice over wires & that were it possible to do so, the thing would be of no practical value." Editorial in the Boston Post in 1865.

"Everything that can be invented has been invented." Charles Duell, U.S. Commissioner of patents in 1899. He closed down the U.S. Patent office for 3 years.

SOMETHING EXTREMELY SPECIAL TO ME

Last December 21, our daughter and son-in-law (Dena and Scott Shugart) celebrated their 16th wedding anniversary. Completely on his own as a big surprise to his parents, our grandson Nathan worked and raised \$100.00. On the morning of their anniversary he gave them the money and a reservation he personally made for them at the restaurant along with the following handwritten note. It should be noted that Adam is Nathan's younger brother, Churrascos is a very nice South American restaurant in Houston and "tanki crystals" have to do with a computer game.



Happy Anniversary!

December 21, 2015

"I am overjoyed that I have been privileged to have spent 13 years of the last 16 years of your marriage with you. Your relationship has allowed you to raise me and Adam (something that I am very thankful for)! I hope that you continue to have a long and prosperous relationship for the rest of your lives; so I would like you to use this money to reflect on your fabulous relationship at Churrascos this evening. With the money you have left over, donate half of it to our friend Raphael in Africa, and with the money you have left, buy as many tanki crystals as you can! (Dad) I love you so very much and hope you continue to share your beautiful relationship."

Nathan M. Shugart

A BOOK I HAVE RECENTLY READ & HIGHLY RECOMMEND

Choosing a Bible: Understanding Bible Translation Differences

Leland Ryken

Crossway

P.O. Box 5567

Wheaton, Illinois 60187

ISBN-13: 978-1-58134-730-2

ISBN-10: 1-58134-730-8

For its size this is one of the most remarkable books I have ever read. In 32 pages, Dr. Ryken masterfully presents the superiority of formal equivalency translating over dynamic equivalency translating.

The little book is divided into three chapters. Chapter one shows how Bible translations differ from each other: *thought-for-thought* versus *word-for-word*. Chapter two presents *Five Negative Effects of Dynamic Equivalency*. The third chapter presents *Ten Reasons We Can Trust Essentially Literal Bible Translations*.

A weakness of the book is its failure to address the huge issue of *source texts*. It's all about translating, but no translation from a corrupted source text can be better than the source text. All of the problems with modern translations do not exist because of poor translating; many of them are a direct result of a corrupted source text. A translation is doubly poor when a bad source text was used coupled with a poor method of translation.

I highly recommend Dr. Ryken's book. It does not cover the whole scope of translating; but it is the best, most to-the-point work I have ever seen on the matter of transporting information from one language to another. Regardless of the Bible translation you use, you owe it to yourself to read this little book. You can finish the whole thing in about 30 minutes.

"A reporter once asked me why I didn't talk a lot about race. I said because I'm a neurosurgeon . . . You see, when I take them to the operating room and cut the scalp and take off the bone slab, I'm operating on the thing that makes the person who they are. The cover doesn't make them who they are. When are we going to understand that?"

Dr. Ben Carson

Many years ago, I heard the late, great Dr. S.M. Lockridge preach a wonderful sermon at Greenwood Baptist Church in Houston. I'll never forget his words, *"If you're alone at night in a deep, dark ally; and hear footsteps over your shoulders, you're not worried about what color his skin is; you're concerned about what's in his heart."*

Jack and Benny were lifetime 90-year friends. When it was clear that Jack was dying, Benny visited him every day. One day Benny said, "Jack, all our lives we both loved playing softball. We played from the time we were kids all through High School. Please do me one favor: when you get to Heaven, somehow you must let me know if there's softball there." Jack looked up at Benny from his deathbed and said, "Benny you've been my best friend for many years. If it's at all possible, I'll do this favor for you." Shortly after that, Jack passed on.

A few nights later, Benny was awakened from a sound sleep by a blinding flash of light and a voice calling out to him, "Benny, Benny." "Who is it?" asked Benny in a terror. "Who is it?" "Jack, it's me. Jack." "You're not Jack; Jack just died." "I'm telling you, it's me, Jack" insisted the voice. "Jack! Where are you?" "In Heaven," replied Jack. "I have some really good news and a little bad news." "Tell me the good news first," said Benny. "The good news is that there's softball in Heaven. Better yet all of our old buddies who died before us are here, too. Better than that, we're all young again. Better still, it's always springtime, and it never rains or snows. And best of all, we can play softball all we want, and we never get tired." "That's fantastic," said Benny "It's beyond my wildest dreams! So what's the bad news?" "You're pitching Tuesday."

O boy! Be ready. You never know just which day it will be!

The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the ability to reach it; and as long as there are tests, there will be prayer in public schools.

VOTE CHRISTIAN

On November 8 of this year, every Christian will vote for President of the United States of America. Yes, we will all vote either by ballot or by abstinence. All who do not vote by ballot will by default automatically vote for whoever wins.

Every Christian should vote Christian. Our allegiance is to God, not to the Democratic or the Republican Party. God forbid that party allegiance blind us to reality and the truth!

We all know there will be no perfect candidate. We will have to accept some things we don't like. That's the nature of a democracy, which is far superior to a dictatorship or any form of totalitarian government.

The stakes are especially high in this election. The system of government which we have known from the inception of this country could very well disappear. We are hearing open, unabashed calls for socialism. The candidates are not hiding their plans to change the dynamics of America. Christians, I plead with you to pay attention.

Below I have created a little grid to help you vote Christian. I have listed 23 hot button current political issues. Beside each issue I have shown the Christian position on that issue. I have also cited at least some biblical support for the Christian positions. There is much, much more support; however, space does not allow me to offer great detail.

I ask you to consider the issues before us, and then see where the Bible stands on each issue. Compare the stances of each candidate to the Christian/biblical stance. See for yourself who is more in line with what the Bible teaches. No doubt, as a Christian your vote will become obvious. Let God through His Word be your guide.

Current Political Issues	The Christian Position	Bible Proof
Abortion/Women's Rights	Help women, but don't kill babies	Gen. 9:6. Ahaz sacrificed his children. 2 Chr. 28:1-5
Border/Homeland Security	Nations; not a world without borders	Secure borders, a vintage Bible concept. Ps. 147:14
Freedom of Religion	Worship by choice	Volunteer worship & service to God. Josh. 24:15
Freedom of Speech	Liberty to speak truth without injury to others	Speak the truth in love. Eph. 4:15
Free Trade Agreements	Equitable, non-corrupt agreements	Honesty in the sight of God & man. 2 Cor. 8:21
Global Warming	Has been made a political tool to gain power	Responsible behavior, but God in control. Gen. 8:22
Gun Control/Self-Defense	Right of self-defense; evil in people, not guns	David & Goliath. 1 Sam. 17. Exo. 22:2. Deut. 28:7
Homosexuality	Heterosexuality	Condemned in the Bible. Rom. 1:26-27
Immigration	Obedience to the law by everyone	Let every soul be subject. Rom. 13:1-7
Individual Liberties/Civil Rights	Respect & justice for all citizens	Peaceable lives good in the sight of God. 1 Tim. 2:1-3
Israel	Stand by God's chosen people	God blesses those who stand with Israel. Gen. 12:3
National Debt	Live within your means	The borrower is servant to lender. Prov. 22:7
National Defense/Military	God delivers, but often through military might	Armies & military mentioned often in Bible
National Security	Nations responsible to protect their people	Watchmen mentioned 12 times in the Bible
Political Corruption	Honesty & integrity in all things	Corruption condemned at all levels. Isa. 1:1-9, 59:9-15
Racism	Absolutely wrong & rejected	God is no respecter of persons. Acts 10:34
Same-Sex Marriage	Only marriages between males & females	God defined marriage. Mark 10:6-8
Separation of Church & State	No state church or state control of churches	Keep Caesar out of the church. Mt. 22:21
Size of government	Small & minimally intrusive	The ills of an oppressive king. 1 Sam. 8:5-18
Student Loans/Free Education	A welfare state is rejected	Everyone to carry his own weight. Eph. 4:28
System of Government	Free Enterprise, not socialism	Righteousness & a level playing field. Prov. 29:2
The Economy	Sound fiscal policies	Stewards required to be faithful. 1 Cor. 4:2
Universal Health Care	Help the poor, demand personal responsibility	No freeloaders. 2 Thes. 3:10-11. Prov. 20:4

"Free Enterprise has done more to reduce poverty than all the government Programs dreamed up by Democrats"

Ronald Reagan

"We must reject the idea that every time a law is broken, society is guilty rather than the lawbreaker. It is time to restore the American precept that each individual is accountable for his actions"

Ronald Reagan