

Plain Bible Talk

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In Memory

With the publication of this volume, I sadly, lovingly, and affectionately honor the memory of our son Jack—Kenneth Eugene Butterworth II—who died on May 16, 2010. I struggle to put in words my (our) love for him. We miss him so much, and each day brings awful pain, sorrow, hurt, and anguish that torment our souls. Every day is filled with memories of yesteryear. His mother and I now know first hand the full, crushing, and horrible impact of a broken heart. I thank God for each sunrise, even though it is another day of feeling as if I have been buried alive. Jack was our firstborn, and provided us with a multitude of fond, happy, and loving times. Yes, precious memories, how they flood my soul. He loved his family, and adored his two children (our grandchildren). Jack and I never ended a phone conversation without telling each other, “I love you.” We never parted without a hug and an “I love you.”

As is usually the case, he loved his mother so very, very much. I confess that I never realized how a soul could be so intensely tormented day by day, until Jack died. I would not wish this heartache on anyone, and I pray that mothers and daddies everywhere will cherish each and every opportunity they have with their children, regardless of their ages. I implore all parents to seize the moment with the little ones they brought into the world, to hug, love, and teach them God’s ways.

Our faith has never wavered one iota. Satan will not “beat” us, but Jack’s mother and I know that we will never again know true peace in our earthly bodies. God is so good to us. He blessed us with three other children, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. We are indeed blessed.

I pray this book will help many to a clearer understanding of what is really important. May we all realize that the only thing that really and truly matters is to die in the Lord.

Dedication

This book is affectionately, lovingly and respectfully dedicated to every brother, sister, and congregation who has encouraged me to write, and then supported me to do so. Without you, I could not have put these materials into book form. Thank you for doing your part for the Master's cause.

I especially appreciate the *Beaches* congregation in Mexico Beach, Florida. You may be small in number but you are known personally by heaven's hosts. You brethren are a great source of encouragement to me and my wife. With the exception of *my wife* and three precious friends in Birmingham, Alabama—*Elizabeth Brown, Jerry Monosky, and Gerri Monosky*—you brethren were the first to encourage me to write. Thank you! You are a faithful, dedicated, sweet, and determined congregation. When our heavenly Father allowed you to become a part of my life, it was indeed a special and unique blessing. I am a better person because of you. You have always made our heavenly Father proud, and you continue to serve the Master with respect and love. You are indeed a glory and honor to our heavenly Father, and I sincerely love, appreciate, and respect you so very much. Because of you, God is glorified, Christ is magnified, the cross is sanctified, and the church is alive and well in Gulf County, Florida. My prayer is that you brethren will never give up, give out, or give in. Stay the course, and God bless you allowing multitudes to know the ways of God.

*Your Brother in Him,
Ken Butterworth*

*Acts 28:15
And from thence, when the brethren heard of us,
they came to meet us as far as Appii forum,
and The tree taverns; whom when Paul saw,
he thanked God, and took courage.*

1

Plain Bible Talk

ABOUT GOD

PURPOSE

To maintain and strengthen our faith in the one true God (Isa. 45:21).

GOAL

To accept the fact that God does exist and He made it all (Ps. 19:1–3).

CHALLENGING THOUGHT

God made everything in six literal days (Gen. 1:1–31).

KEY WORDS

God	evolution	one
creation	atheism	inspiration

CHOICES BEFORE US

Either God exists or atheism and evolution are right.

THREE GREAT TRUTHS

There is a God in heaven (Dan. 2:28).

He is able to deliver (Dan. 3:17).

He rules in the kingdom of men (Dan. 4:25).

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SCRIPTURES TO BE READ AND STUDIED

Genesis 1:1	Exodus 3:14
Ecclesiastes 12:13	Isaiah 44:8
Isaiah 45:5, 12, 18	Habakkuk 2:20
Acts 17:24	Ephesians 4:6

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Our heavenly Father, we acknowledge Thee as the one true, great God who created all things. We bow before Thee and give Thee praise for it all.

God, the Creator

To know anything about God we must know there is a God. He has always existed (Exod. 3:14). He is omnipotent (all powerful), omnipresent (everywhere), and omniscient (all knowing). He is the creator of everything (Isa. 45:5, 12, 18). He is great, good, holy, loving, just, and wrathful. He means what He says. He is longsuffering but He will not tolerate sin and immaturity forever. He cannot lie; He will always do right (Gen. 18:25). Simply put, God dictates the rules that govern His creation. That is the reason a potato will never produce a tomato and a fish will never produce a gorilla (Gen. 1:11–12).

What a great God we serve! (Ps. 95:3). While man can never fully explain God, he can proclaim Him. A failure to recognize that God is in control of His creation will cause man to depend on himself (Rom. 1:21). From our prospective, God sometimes delays in the fulfillment of His promises, but He will not deny us what we truly need. He created us, loves us, and knows what is best for us (Ps. 139:13–14).

Respecting God

The Bible—God’s breathed words—sustains the fact that 5,972 years ago, as of 2013, God made it all (Gen. 1:1). Yes, I believe in the “big bang” theory. God said it and “BANG!” it happened. Everyone should believe there is a God, believe in Him, and believe what He says. God challenged the people in Isaiah’s day to prove that He does not exist (Isa. 41:21). We should have the same mindset and put the infidel on the defensive! There is an abundance of proof concerning the existence of God. God laughs at

About God

man's futility in thinking that he has found a different and better way (Ps. 2:3–4; 37:13; 59:8). Man must fear, respect, and revere the God of heaven (Job 23:15–16). When man begins to make changes concerning the Bible, church, worship, creation, obedience, and such like, he is saying that his way is better than God's. One of the primary reasons the Bible was written is to prove the existence of God. Yes, God does exist and His holy and great name is due our respect (Ps. 111:9; Eccles. 12:13).

The Biggest Fool of All

Atheism says there is no God; pantheism says the whole universe is God; polytheism says there are many gods; deism says there is a supreme being but he does nothing for man; and agnosticism says the existence of God cannot be proved or disproved. All those who hold these philosophies are fools (Ps. 14:1; 53:1). There will be no atheists in hell, but all too-late confessors will be there (Phil. 2:10–11). As for me and my house, we will serve God (Josh. 24:15). Organic evolution can neither be proved in a laboratory nor demonstrated outside one (1 Cor. 3:19). Those involved in these "isms" will face God in judgment, and He will not let their unbeliefs slide (2 Thess. 1:7–10).

Proof That God Exists

Ten reasons for believing in God:

1. The Bible is based on His existence (Gen. 1:1).
2. Jesus proclaims this truth (Matt. 10:32–33; 19:4; 24:37–39; Mark 10:6), and we can know that Jesus lived among earthly creatures.
3. A denial of God is the only alternative to faith (Ps. 14:1).
4. Nature affirms God (Ps. 139:13–14).
5. The world about us is a witness for God (Rom. 1:20; Acts 14:17; 17:25).
6. Inspiration supports God's existence (2 Tim. 3:16–17; 2 Pet. 1:20–21).
7. Common reasoning affirms that God made all things (Job 38:1–4).
8. Science defends the reality of God and proves He is in control (Job 37:6; Isa. 40:22).
9. The universe confirms God's existence (Heb. 3:4; Ps. 102:25).

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10. Morality proves God exists because sin violates His law (Eccles. 7:29). Did Hitler break the moral law of Germany, England, or the United States when he murdered thousands of Jews? No. He broke God's law!

A Challenge

Questions: If there is no God, then evolution is true. Is this what you affirm and believe? If so, have you ever seen a half man or half ape? Would such an animal have a half soul? Where would he get his half soul? Could he say half the alphabet? Who taught him? Would you please explain how woman and baby evolved? What was the bee before it became a bee? A pre-bee? Can you show us a fossil that depicts one animal changing into another? Can a living being come from non-living matter? Of course not! So prove your case. What new proof will you offer that God does not exist? (Isa. 41:21). Or could it just be that the Bible is true after all?

QUESTIONS

1. God has always _____ (Exod. 3:14).
2. One of the major reasons as to why the Bible was written is to prove the _____ of _____.
3. God is _____ (all powerful), _____ (everywhere) and _____ (all knowing).
4. _____ cannot be demonstrated or _____ (1 Cor. 3:19).
5. God challenged the people in _____ day to prove that He does not _____ (Isa. 41:21).
6. _____ says there is no God, _____ says the whole universe is God Himself, _____ says there are many gods, _____ says there is a supreme being, but he does nothing for man, and _____ says one cannot prove nor disprove God's existence.
7. God made everything in _____ literal _____ (Gen. 1:1-31).

About God

8. There is a _____ in heaven (Dan. 2:28), He is _____ to _____ us (Dan. 3:17) and He _____ in the _____ of men (Dan. 4:25).
9. Man cannot _____ explain _____, but can proclaim Him.
10. God cannot _____ and will always do _____ (Gen. 18:25).

TRUE OR FALSE

1. ____ There are times that God laughs at man. Give scriptural proof for your answer. _____
2. ____ Even though God created man, He does not know what is best for him. Give scriptural proof for your answer. _____
3. ____ Jesus proves that God exists. Give scriptural proof for your answer. _____
4. ____ There will be folks in hell who were atheists while on earth, but in hell there will be no atheists. Give scriptural proof for your answer. _____
5. ____ It is possible for a tomato to produce a potato. Give scriptural proof for your answer. _____

FIVE SIMPLE QUESTIONS

1. How many “half man, half ape” sightings have been reported?
2. What was the bee before it evolved into a bee?
3. What evidence does the evolutionist have that horses grew taller so they could outrun tigers? What reason does he give for the tigers not growing taller—and faster—so they could catch the horses?
4. Where have fossils of animals in the process of changing from one kind to another been unearthed?
5. How can the evolutionist explain how woman and baby evolved?

2

Plain Bible Talk

ABOUT BIBLE TERMINOLOGY

PURPOSE

To understand the eternal importance of using Bible language.

GOAL

To learn what God demands and requires concerning our speech.

CHALLENGING THOUGHT

In order to convert others, one must speak Bible language.

KEY WORDS

doctrine	speech	authority
corrupt	sound	

CHOICES BEFORE US

Either speak sound doctrine (use Bible language) or use the religious language of man.

THREE GREAT TRUTHS

A person is known by his speech.
Speech not based on God's teachings is corrupt.
God is pleased when one uses Bible language.