

The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment

A NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO MAGNIFYING THE "For You have magnified Your Word above all Your Name."

WORD OF GOD Psalm 138:2

BLUE LETTER BIBLE MAGNIFYING **GOD'S WORD**

WINTER | 2021

Become Part of the One in 2021

"For in this case the saying is true, 'One sows and another reaps."

אמואונינישותלטולחיצי

מצריסהליוההדבר אשר רוברט א במירי שלאמר הול מבט ונעבדה ווד לוו עבו

In Scripture, we often see the principle of investing for the sake and spiritual benefit of others, whether it be in efforts, resources, time, or prayer. In 2 Corinthians 12:15, Paul writes that he would "most gladly spend and be expended" for the spiritual benefit of the Corinthian church. In Philippians 4:15-17, Paul recounts the generous giving of the Philippian church towards his needs, which ultimately benefited the recipients of Paul's evangelistic mission. And in John 4:34-38, Jesus instructs His disciples to reap the harvest others have sown before them. He says, "I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored and you have entered into their labor."

This principle of sowing for the spiritual benefit of others is no

- JOHN 4:37 -

less true today; a truth that we are reminded of every day as we witness the generous giving of our users.

Did you know only one-tenth of one percent of our users support BLB financially?

And praise God, although onetenth of one percent may be a small percentage, it is a small percentage of a very large and growing number of users. BLB has grown to a staff of over 20, and our annual operating budget now exceeds two million dollars.

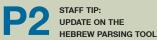


One Sows & Another Reaps • JOHN 4:37

You might say, "Wow, only onetenth of one percent? That's a tiny percentage!" However, we view this as the ratio God has provided, for ultimately it is God who leads users to support BLB.

We thank God for our financial partners who make everything you see on the BLB website, BLB Institute, our Apple and Android apps, and ScriptureMark.org possible for the other 99.9% of

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Become Part of the One in 2021

Cover Story (continued from page 1)

our more than 20 million users, of which roughly 40% reside outside of the United States.

We are committed to strengthening and equipping God's people through His Holy Word by broadening our array of in-depth study tools and improving our website and apps. We have plans to greatly expand our Greek and Hebrew language tools, add a number of courses to the BLB Institute (Study.Bible), and provide resources in other languages. It is our prayer that the financial support needed to accomplish all this will come from new partners who will join the one-tenth of one percent of users who have supported BLB financially.

In an effort to make potential new partners aware of our need for their support, we have launched the "Become a Part of the One in 2021." Our prayer is that God will lead BLB users who have never supported the ministry financially to partner with us now. Ultimately, if BLB were to have the financial support of just one percent of its users, we would have the resources needed to do all the things mentioned above and more.

Here is how you can help. As a member of the one-tenth of one percent of users who have already partnered with us, we humbly ask and encourage you to share BLB's need for support with others. We have developed a quite simple way for you to do so online through a new BLB crowdfunding tool; a straightforward template which you can customize with your own text, photo, or brief video to tell others why you support BLB and to encourage them to prayerfully consider joining you. It is quite easy to do and takes just minutes. Once it is set up, you can share the online address with your peers via email, Facebook, Twitter, and other social media outlets.

To find further details and instructions on how you can help, please visit: **BLB.org/Onein21**





UPDATE on the Hebrew Parsing Tool

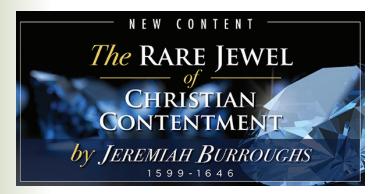
In the Winter 2018 newsletter, our staff tip covered how to use our Greek Parsing Tools. We would like to take a little time to go over the newly improved Hebrew Parsing Tools. You can now identify critical aspects of all Hebrew words, including inflected and root words in the original language, audio pronunciation of root words, and Strong's numbers. Also included is an abbreviated parsing code for those familiar with Hebrew parsing, and a morphology table that shows different parts of speech, stem, type, gender, number and state. And lastly, you will now find Hebrew helps which consist of a Simplified Hebrew Grammar that explains the significance of the parts of speech.

We trust this helpful feature will bring more clarity and depth to your study of the Old Testament. Watch our short tutorial to learn more: BLB.org/HebrewParsing

New Content / Announcements

Puritan Classic The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment

-Now in Digital Format



New on BLB is a digital edition of Jeremiah Burroughs's *The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment*. Originally published at some point between 1648 and 1659, Burroughs offers an exposition of Philippians 4:11 through a series of published sermons that deal with the topic of contentment.

In this Puritan classic, Burroughs discusses true contentment as sourced in the heart. He writes,

"Christian contentment is that sweet, inward, quiet, gracious frame of spirit, which freely submits to and delights in God's wise and fatherly disposal in every condition."

Since contentment comes from the inward state of the heart rather than circumstances, Burroughs encourages Christians to be content in any circumstance as they submit to and desire God's perfect will in all things.

This work is certainly timely for our day.

You can enjoy this new resource for free at BLB.org. It is also available for purchase if you would like to read it in EPUB, MOBI, or PDF formats. Additionally, it is available at the Amazon Kindle Store. Visit BLB.org for all related links.

"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." (Philippians 4:11) or

About BLB's Digitized Resources

Blue Letter Bible offers a digital product that has been thoroughly proofread and carefully edited to improve the readability of this ancient publication, including: modernized word spelling, modern numerals, authors' marginal notes, spelled out Bible book names, Scripture hyperlinked to Blue Letter Bible's Bible search database, and a Scripture Index of all Scripture references.

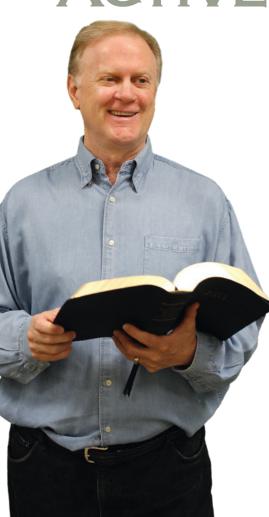
SERMON I

"For I have learned, in whatever state I am, therewith to be content" (Philippians **4:11**).

Introduction

Here is a very seasonable cordial to revive the drooping spirits of the saints in these sad and sinking times. For the 'hour of temptation' is already come upon all the world to try the inhabitants of the earth. In particular, this is the day of





Seeking God's Word for Comfort

Well, 2020 is a wrap, and we have now entered a new year. This has been a season of growth for many people. As difficult as it has been, we at Blue Letter Bible are grateful to see how the body of Christ has been going to God's Word for comfort. This is evidenced in our numbers for 2020.

BLB reached two incredible milestones in 2020: unique users crossed over the 20 million mark, and page views shot past the one billion mark! See below for a list of how God has been using BLB to minister to the lives of so many:

• Unique users grew from 18,000,000 to over 20,000,000.

Roughly 40% of BLB's website traffic comes from outside the USA. If you're interested in seeing where and how BLB is being used in real time, check out BLB.org/LiveMap2.

- Over 1 billion page views! That is over 3 million page views a day.
- Over 90,000 BLB Institute unique users; a 53% increase over 2019

God has used users and partners like you to make the growth of BLB possible. As a ministry, we have even bigger plans for 2021, which you read a bit about in our cover story. Our prayer is that Blue Letter Bible will continue to be an ever-growing, free resource of God's Word and study tools.



Jim Milligan C.E.O. and Co-Founder

User Testimony

I can't tell you how much my husband and I appreciate and use your site, all the time! Looking up verses, cross references, definitions of Hebrew and Greek words, commentaries, word studies...we use it just about every day and would be lost without it. How thankful we are for such online resources, so easy to use, and so much information available at the click of a mouse! There is just no excuse today for anyone to not be studying the word using all these resources – *Karen & Tom*

BlueLetterBible.org

If you are led to give, you can do so easily at our secure website: BlueLetterBible.org/give Or mail your gift to: Blue Letter Bible 29 Rancho Circle Lake Forest, CA 92630–8324 Youtube: BLB.org/YouTube Blue Letter Bible Institute: Study.Bible facebook.com/BlueLetterBible