



NEW

Thayer's Greek Lexicon [?]

STRONGS NT 25: ἀγαπάω

ἀγαπάω, (ᾶ); (imperfect ἠγάπων); future ἀγαπήσω; [1 act... perfect active (1 person plural ἠγαπήκαμεν, 1 John 4:10 With... ἠγαπήσωμαι); (Fick, 1 future ἀγαπήσομαι; (akin to ἀγαμαί... ἠγαπήθησ... ἠγαπήθησ... to love, to... ἠγαπήθησ... to lo

BLB New Content and Updates page 3

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

FALL | 2017

Strengthened in Christ



It might surprise you to know that a large number of people tell us they first discovered Blue Letter Bible by doing a Google search for topics like "Bible studies." Our friend, Carol Tardiff, from southern Texas is no exception. Carol loves Biblical history and she wrote to tell us that she had been reading *The One Year Chronological Bible* by Tyndale Publishers and wanted a Bible study to enhance the daily readings. It was then that she searched the internet and found BLB.

Because we enjoy getting to know our BLB users, who come from just about everywhere, we naturally wrote back to learn more about Carol. We found that she is retired from her life's work in the medical field as a nurse quality and risk management director. She is very involved in her church and attends a Sunday school class. Her love for Biblical history took her and her husband, Morris,

to Israel. And finally, she uses our BLB app on her iPad where she saves Scriptures that impact her personally, and special quotes that she likes—particularly from Charles Spurgeon.

When we asked if she has a favorite Bible verse she said...

I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength (Philippians 4:13 NLT)

God is always faithful to show Himself strong on our behalf and Carol is a living testimony of that truth. Two years ago, after 32 years of marriage, her husband Morris died suddenly and very unexpectedly. This left a drastic void in Carol's life and that of her adult children and her five grandchildren. She knew in her heart she needed God's strength to help her through the grief. The Tardiffs had been very committed to doing morning devotions

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The Light of God's Word

Cover Story (continued from page 1)

together every day, reading and studying the Bible, and then having a time of prayer.

Carol remembered just how much she missed those mornings, until one day, she said...

"I found that I needed to continue the daily devotions and our prayer time with our Lord. It was then that I purchased a Chronological Bible and found the BLB website. Each morning I read the Daily Scriptures and then I turn to the commentaries to make sure I understand correctly, and they never cease to give me new insights. Then I end by praying (often out loud)—just like Morris and I always did."

What a sweet and tender moment she shared with our staff! We can only turn to God with thankful hearts for allowing us to make the Bible available to believers everywhere, and that Carol is one of them who is being blessed by the Word. 



STAFF TIP

Into the Word on Mobile Devices



John Davide

I feel incredibly blessed today to have the Bible in digital format on mobile devices. Blue Letter Bible makes finding a verse or passage very quick and easy. With the power of God's Word at our fingertips, we can often get to the desired verses in less time than it takes to turn the pages in a leather-bound Bible.

For me, navigating to a key passage is the single most important feature of the BLB mobile app, when digging deeper into God's Word. There are a few ways to navigate through the Scriptures from the top navigation bar, but my favorite is the "Passage Lookup." This feature was designed to recognize abbreviated book names and books with partial chapter and verse references. Just tap the magnifying glass on the top left of the screen, then type in a verse reference, or keywords, or a Strong's number.

When I enter ps138:2 into the Passage Lookup, the app takes me right to that passage in the Bible. I can then quickly navigate to a different chapter in the current book by entering just a chapter number in the Passage Lookup or by clicking the right arrow at the top. After I get to the desired place in the Bible, I can then begin reading or studying the text.

Being in God's Word has never been more convenient than it is today. We are encouraged in 2 Timothy 2:15 to "rightly divide the word of truth" and that begins by being able to navigate through His Word. 

BLB New Content and Updates

BLB Is Now Mobile-Friendly!

At Blue Letter Bible, we strive to make our site helpful and useful to everyone who visits. To make it even better, we have recently optimized it from the ground up for mobile phone and tablet devices. With the new mobile-friendly site, we have:

- Formatted content for maximum readability
- Created a “thumb-friendly” navigation
- Optimized images to fit the device that you are using

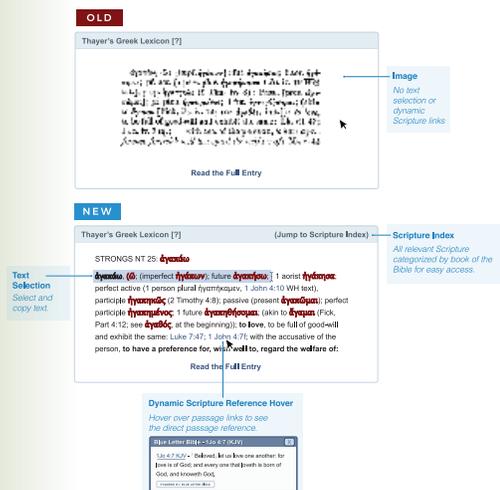
You get the same powerful study tools that you use on your desktop with the all-new, mobile-friendly design. In addition to the iOS and Android apps, you now have the option to browse the BLB directly from the mobile phone or tablet browser of your choice.

We want to continue to make the BLB experience better all of our users, so if you have any feedback on the new update, please let us know by clicking the little feedback button on the bottom right corner of the site. 

New Digital Edition of Thayer's Greek Lexicon

Blue Letter Bible is announcing a new digital edition of *Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*. This new edition is now enhanced by a BLB derived Scripture index for every Greek entry. This feature is accessed by clicking on the “Scripture Index” link at the top of the lexicon entry.

Additionally, the Thayer's entry is text based, rather than a static image. Now anyone can select, copy, and paste relevant information into their study notes. This can be a tremendous timesaver. We hope this will open up the lexicon and its benefits to many users who want to know more about Greek when digging deeper into their study of God's Word. 



The screenshot displays two versions of the Thayer's Greek Lexicon interface. The top version, labeled 'OLD', shows a static image of a lexicon entry with a callout box stating 'Image: No text selection or dynamic Scripture links'. The bottom version, labeled 'NEW', shows a text-based entry for the Greek word ἄγαπᾶω (agapao). It includes a 'Scripture Index' link and a 'Dynamic Scripture Reference Hover' feature that provides a direct passage reference when hovered over. A 'Text Selection' callout indicates that text can now be selected and copied.

Treasury of David

It is an honor for Blue Letter Bible to offer our 1881 edition of Charles Spurgeon's *The Treasury of David*, a seven-volume commentary on the entire Book of Psalms. This verse-by-verse presentation includes Spurgeon's sermon expositions, teaching outlines, notes from other highly respected commentators, and “pastoral hints to preachers,” for a deeper understanding of the Psalms. 

Celebrating 500 Years of the Reformation

As we approach the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we cannot help but look back in awe of the innumerable ways God has used the writings of Martin Luther. In October, we will be releasing *Concerning Christian Liberty* and *A Treatise on Good Works*, two of Martin Luther's most popular works, along with an assortment of his sermons. *Concerning Christian Liberty* deals with the issues of freedom in the life of a Christian. Luther states that, while we are free from sin in Christ, we are also called to be the lowest of the low and serve everyone dutifully. *A Treatise on Good Works* gives an overview of the Ten Commandments given to Moses by God on Mount Sinai. It goes in-depth, explaining each commandment, or as Luther sometimes refers to them, “good work,” in detail. The sermons cover a wide variety of subjects based on Scripture. Overall, you will find these myriad of writings to be very convicting and enlightening. We hope that as you read through the different resources and think about the truths of what Martin Luther is addressing, it will cause you to worship Christ in a deeper and more magnificent way. 





GOD'S WORD IS **ALIVE** & **ACTIVE**

**“For You have magnified Your Word
above all Your Name.” Psalm 138:2**



I cannot believe we are already gearing up and heading into the end of the year. Needless to say, things have been quite busy around here. God has been working in amazing ways, allowing us to accomplish much for the furtherance of His Gospel and a deeper knowledge of His Word. We now have more than 40% of users accessing BLB in a browser on their phone or tablet. So in an effort to make navigating BLB on your device easier, we have transitioned the site so it is now mobile responsive. We have also replaced the Thayer's Greek Lexicon, with a new digital edition, enhanced with a "Scripture Index." You can read how this will benefit your study of God's Word on page 3.

As you can see, Blue Letter Bible has been experiencing a few changes. With those changes, come new content. This year is the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. In an effort to celebrate the incredible ways God has used events in Martin Luther's life, we have added a few different works of his that we pray will point you to the cross.

You may have seen that *The Treasury of David*, a seven-volume commentary through the Psalms, has been added to Blue Letter Bible's ever increasing library of Charles Spurgeon.

Lastly, my prayer is that you would be immensely encouraged by Carol's story. Carol found deep comfort and strength in the Word of God as she experienced an incredible loss when her husband passed away and how Blue Letter Bible helped her through this difficult time.

As we head into the busy holiday season, we as a staff are praying for you; that your love for Christ would increase and that God would reveal Himself through His Word in manifold ways in your lives.

Jim Milligan
President/CEO

User Testimony

The Blue Letter Bible is an awesome website that I am using more and more each day as I read and study the Word of God. It is like having a whole library at my fingertips, and I love just clicking on "Tools" next to a verse to look things up and then right back to the verse without losing my place. What a tremendous time saver! I also appreciate the verse highlight feature. I am telling friends about BLB and

encouraging them to start using it for Bible study. After I learned that I could have 0.5% of my Amazon purchases of eligible products donated directly to Blue Letter Bible, I immediately signed up for Amazon Smile so that we could help support your work in this way, since we order from Amazon on a regular basis. — Carolyn Maddux

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