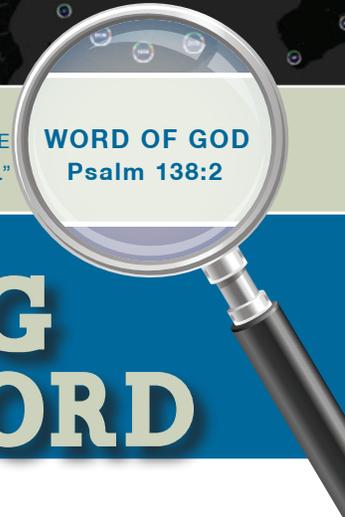




A NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO MAGNIFYING THE  
"For You have magnified Your Word above all Your Name."

**WORD OF GOD**  
Psalm 138:2

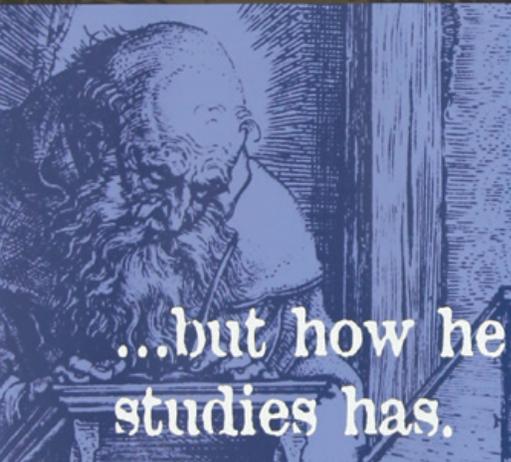


WINTER | 2018

BLUE LETTER BIBLE

# MAGNIFYING GOD'S WORD

A pastor's love for  
studying the Bible  
has not changed



...but how he  
studies has.

## Blue Letter Bible... Invested in Spreading the Word

*But the word of God continued to spread and flourish.  
(Acts 12:24 NIV)*

Sometimes spreading the Word takes us outside of our office workspaces and we get to meet our BLB users face-to-face.

In January, Blue Letter Bible was invited to host an exhibit on the convention floor at the Bethlehem College and Seminary's Conference in Minneapolis. We were very blessed by the crowds of pastors and church leaders who came by our exhibit. The warm reception from all the visitors inside the center, more than made up for the sub-zero weather outside!

In honor of the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, BLB assembled a replica of what a pastor's library would have looked like in 1690, and how he would have studied God's Word. The old desk and bookshelves held antiquarian Bibles and books that were lent to us by various donors.

These works were in languages including: Hebrew, Greek, German, Latin and the King's English. There were yellowed devotionals and study notes, original language helps, and artifacts dating back to the 15th century and beyond. Some of those well-worn study resources would have been hand written by candlelight before the printing press ever existed.

Of course, a pastor's heart for studying God's Word has not changed over the centuries, but the way he studies has changed tremendously. In juxtaposition, on the other side of our booth, was our 21st century BLB website, displaying our powerful digital study tools. The contrast was drastic, but the motive for studying the Word remains the same.

Over the course of three days, many hundreds of conference

*Continued on page 2*

**Experience** a rendition of a pastor's library in 1690.

**Explore** Blue Letter Bible's free digital resource library with advanced study tools.

**Transform** the way you study God's Word.



**P2** STAFF TIP

**P3** BLB NEW CONTENT AND UPDATES

**P4** USER TESTIMONY

# Blue Letter Bible... Invested in Spreading the Word

Cover Story (continued from page 1)

attendees visited our booth—some of them learning about Blue Letter Bible for the first time. Then, of course, there were those faithful BLB users who have been utilizing our in-depth study tools for many years.

One very enthusiastic Canadian pastor told us he loves BLB and uses it every day to prepare his sermons. He also encourages his congregation to use our website for their own personal study time.

A computer programmer from India told us he has been using BLB for over ten years. He was excited to see our ministry represented at the conference, and he even offered to help us with our website if a need arises.

Time and again, ministry workers were in awe at the 1690 collection of pastoral study resources. Naturally, this afforded us the opportunity to share the time-saving benefits of having Blue Letter Bible's study tools at your fingertips.

What we took away from the conference was an overwhelming sense of God's hand upon the Blue Letter Bible ministry. As staff members, we consider it a true privilege to participate in aiding believers, of all ages and in all countries, to enrich their pursuit of knowing God and His Word better. BLB exists to spread the Word and to watch God flourish it in the hearts of His people. 

## STAFF TIP The Parsing Tool



Cameron Morgan

One of the best ways to use the full power of BLB is to dig into the rich set of Greek and Hebrew tools. One of my personal favorites is the Greek parse tool. In this example, I did a search for Philippians 4:6 (ESV).

Once you are at your selected passage, click 'Tools' (1). Then, make sure that the blue Interlinear tab (2) is selected. From there, you'll be presented with the original Greek. Choose the 'Interlinear' tab (3) again and you'll see the English on the right. From there, you'll see the 'Parse' button (4).



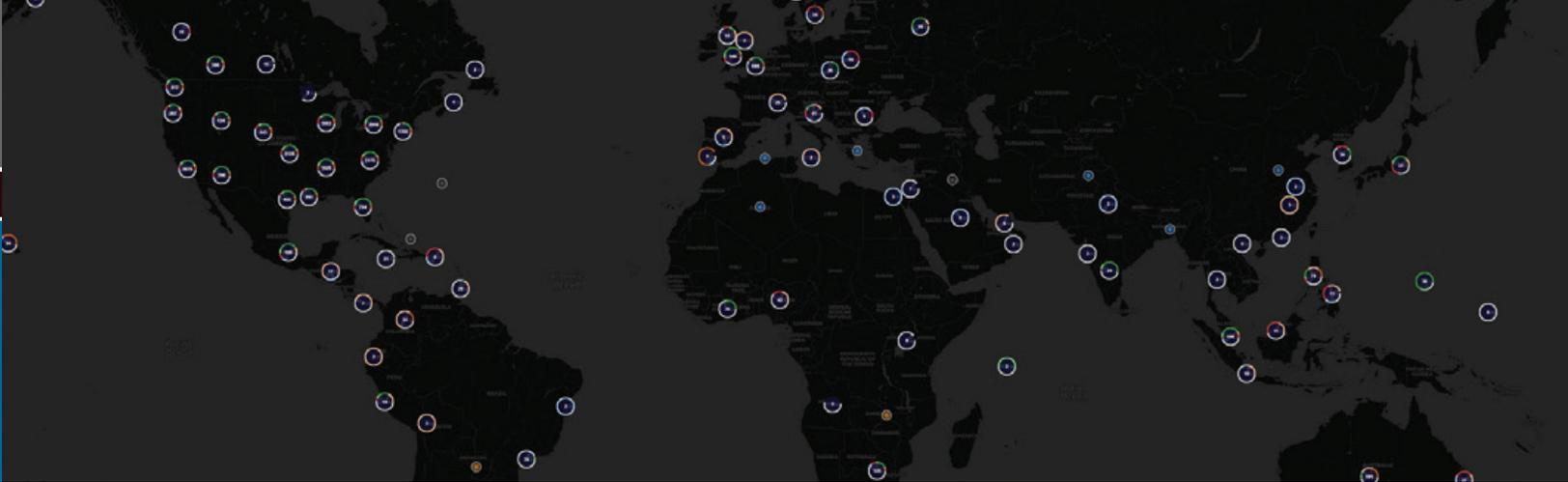
The word in Greek for 'be anxious' is μεριμνάω (merimnaō). To really gain more of an understanding of how Paul is using the word, you can click the 'Parse' button on the right. You get all sorts of additional information like the part of speech (in this case a verb) and also additional information on the 'Parsing'—2nd Person Plural Present (tense) Active (voice) Imperative (mood).

From the parsing data we can see:

- 2nd person plural signifies that Paul is talking to more than one person—the church at Philippi.
- Present imperative signifies that Paul is commanding the church to not be anxious. This is not a command for tomorrow, but a command for today. Be not anxious, but be reminded of all that God has done for you with a thankful heart.

You can get so much more meaning through the words when using this incredible tool. Try it out the next time you would like to learn more about a word you are studying! 





## BLB New Content and Updates

### Live Map Reminder

We praised God as we learned from the latest Google data that more than 12 million unique users a year are coming to our BLB website, and millions more are accessing our mobile apps and the Blue Letter Bible Institute (BLBi).

It is wonderful to know that people around the world are actively using Blue Letter Bible to study the Word of God. We thought we could take this exciting news and remind you of the Live Map feature on our site that highlights everywhere BLB is currently being used around the globe. We have this displayed in our lobby so as staff members walk by, we are reminded to pray for our brothers and sisters who are seeking to draw nearer to God through the power of His Word.

Knowing that millions of people worldwide are gaining a better understanding of God and His Word through our in-depth study tools is an amazing blessing. We know that a big reason for this is because people like you have spread the word about BLB.

Please continue to share about BLB and rejoice with us as the number of users grow. [BLB.org/livemap](https://blb.org/livemap) 

### Dr. J Vernon McGee's *Guidelines for Understanding the Scriptures*

Dr. J Vernon McGee's, *Guidelines for Understanding the Scriptures*, includes all 66 books of the Bible. Additionally, we added over 100 of his topical articles with Scripture links. McGee once said, "The Bible is the only Book to face life with today, and it is the Book which furnishes the only sure route through this world and on into the next world." We encourage you to utilize these deeply insightful Bible study resources. 

### Pastor Bill Acton's *Acts of the Apostles Sermon Outlines*

We also invite you to check out Pastor Bill Acton's Sermon Outlines, *Acts of the Apostles*. These outlines have links to every Bible verse he references, for your quick reading access. You will walk along the paths of the Apostles and first-century followers of Christ, learning how weak humans can be used for divine purposes, as they respond to the grace of God. 

### Pastor Peter Hubbard's Audio Messages

Finally, there is a variety of new audio messages from Pastor Peter Hubbard, of North Hills Church in South Carolina, which you can stream with our improved audio player or download for your personal listening convenience. 

### T-Shirts

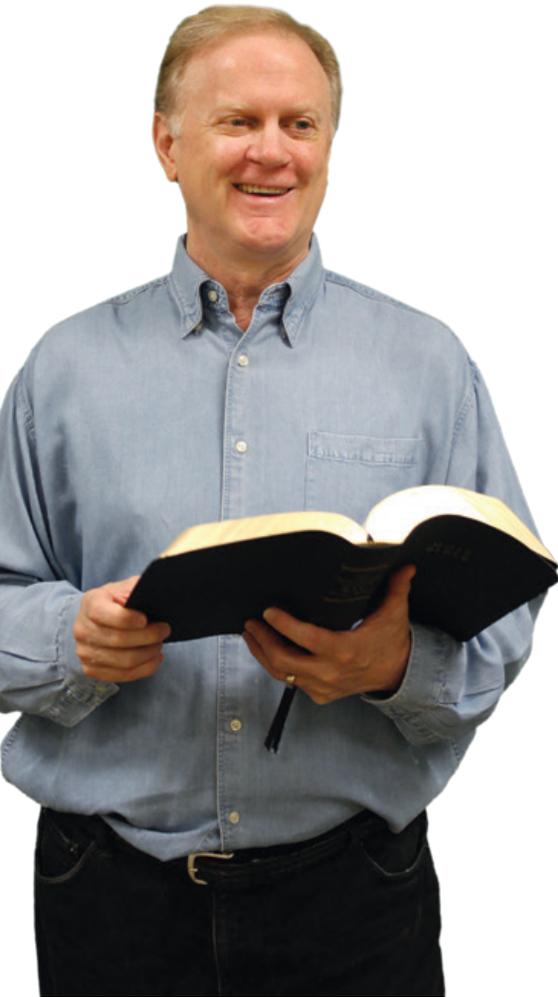
You can now purchase your very own Blue Letter Bible t-shirt through our exclusive partnership with t-shirt provider GiG Graphix. GiG Graphix handles all of your purchase and shipping needs. And with every purchase, GiG Graphix donates \$5.00 back to the ministry. There are a number of colors and styles available, so be sure to check out Gig Graphix's selection today by going to [BLB.org/gear](https://blb.org/gear).

Purchase a BLB t-shirt today, and spread the Word! 



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

## Spreading God's Word by Letting the World Know about Blue Letter Bible



It is hard to imagine that we are already a couple of months into the year 2018. As always, God is good and never ceases to amaze us here at Blue Letter Bible with all that He accomplishes through the power of His Word. As we were closing out 2017 and heading into the New Year, I took some time to review some of the awesome things God has done at BLB. According to Google Analytics, last year we had over 12 million unique users from over 200 different countries visit our websites! That means God's Word is being studied all throughout the world, and it is humbling to know God is using BLB to reach people who may not otherwise have access to His Word and in-depth study tools.

On that note, I would like to remind you of the Live Map feature we have on the website. What a joy it is to be able to see multiple thousands of people accessing Blue Letter Bible at the same time, for the same purpose—to read and study His Word, in order to understand our Lord in a more intimate way.

Our staff tip is brought to you by one of our newest team members,

Cameron. He brings to light for you the parsing tool, which is an amazing way anyone can dig into the richness of the original text.

In our cover story, you will read about the recent opportunity that BLB had to share with hundreds of pastors and church leaders what it was like for a pastor to study in the 17th century. What a joy it was to see these pastors pouring over hundreds of pages of text, and then watch their expression as they realized that many resources like these are now available online, in the palm of their hand, if they wish. The way a pastor studies may have changed over the years, but his heart and purpose for studying the Word remains the same.

I hope you are immensely blessed and encouraged by what you find in the pages of this newsletter. God is at work in the hearts of His people, and we are humbled and grateful for the opportunity to witness it.

**Jim Milligan**  
President/CEO

## User Testimony

Blue Letter Bible is truly an indispensable and instant Scriptural research resource that we are lovingly blessed with at our fingertips. It is truly an integral part of my Christian life that I have dedicated to Jesus, King of kings and Lord of lords! *"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman*

*that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth"* (2 Timothy 2:15). And BLB certainly helps me do this! Hallelujah!

— Dr. Hugo, Malaysia

To tell us your story, go to [BLB.org/YourStory](http://BLB.org/YourStory)

[BlueLetterBible.org](http://BlueLetterBible.org)

If you are led to give, you can do so easily at our secure website:

[BlueLetterBible.org/give](http://BlueLetterBible.org/give)

Or mail your gift to: Blue Letter Bible

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Lake Forest, CA 92630-8324

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