



A NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO MAGNIFYING THE
"For You have magnified Your Word above all Your Name."
WORD OF GOD
Psalm 138:2

FALL | 2016

BLUE LETTER BIBLE MAGNIFYING GOD'S WORD

Sowing God's Word on Foreign Soil

"So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase." (1 Corinthians 3:7 NKJV)



This is a favorite verse of an avid Blue Letter Bible user named Robbie Gordon—a more humble or gracious servant would be difficult to find. Robbie, a native of Southern California, began using Blue Letter Bible in its formative years. He had a genuine passion for studying the Word, yet he never considered himself qualified for ministry. But the Lord had plans for Robbie on foreign soil; from Ireland to Poland, to Sudan, Kenya and Samoa he has planted and watered the seeds of God's Word.

As a missionary, Robbie told us he always traveled with his "go bag," which contained life's essentials for emergency evacuations. That hefty bag also held his Bible, a Strong's Concordance, a Bible Dictionary

and the Treasury of Scripture Knowledge. In 2002, when BLB produced its first CD version of the website, Robbie's "go bag" lost a lot of weight! All of his favorite reference books and much more were digitally loaded onto a small disc. Robbie said that God used the BLB CD to help equip him to teach, while pastoring on the mission field.

During Robbie's ten years in Kenya, he helped host a live radio program where callers could ask questions relating to broadcast Bible studies. He told us the BLB "search tools" helped him quickly find answers in the Scriptures, and he thanked us for enabling him and the listening audience to do as the first-century believers did:

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STAFF PICK


Searching Through F.E. Marsh Materials



Tony Romero

One of the ways that I enjoy using Blue Letter Bible is in the creation of short messages. I am able to quickly find topic ideas that are concise and have impact. I especially enjoy the writings of F. E. Marsh.

I was preparing a message for a small group of volunteers on service and devotion. Using the search tools within the F.E. Marsh materials, I entered the term 'devotion.' Browsing through the search results, I found an article entitled, "Two Followings." This outline contrasts cold, self-confident service with service borne from a cleaving to Christ with affection and devotion. It lists seven downward steps in the fall of Peter, followed by six characteristics of following closely after the Lord. This fit my need perfectly.

I was able to quickly finish the message, which was a blessing to myself as well as the volunteers. 


Sowing God's Word on Foreign Soil

Cover Story (continued from page 1)

"...They received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so." (Acts 17:11 NKJV)


After 15 years of missionary work abroad, Robbie has returned to America with his Kenyan wife and daughter. He no longer carries around that heavy tote bag, but with a smile he said,

"Now Blue Letter Bible is always in my shirt pocket, on my phone."

We are so thankful for testimonies like Robbie's. We know God is truly bringing about a harvest of increase, and we are awestruck that He uses ordinary people, like us, to accomplish His plans. Please pray about joining our team of partners, who help us provide Bible study tools for missionaries and believers around the world. 




God Answers a Prayer in an Unexpected Way

It was just an average Thursday at the BLB office when our front desk administrator, Pam, answered the phone and it was the wrong number. However the woman on the other line decided to ask what Blue Letter Bible was. As Pam explained to her BLB and tools that are available on the site for free, the woman joyfully exclaimed that she had been praying that very morning for the Lord to work in her heart, as well as to provide a way to study and dig deeper into His Word. This was an encouragement to the woman on the phone and all of us here at BLB. It is a privilege to know that God answers the prayers of His people. Sometimes those answers come in unexpected ways. 



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You can now help support Blue Letter Bible while shopping on Amazon! All you need to do is visit smile.amazon.com, select Blue Letter Bible as your “charity,” then start your regular shopping. Automatically, a percentage of your purchases will support BLB. The key is that every time you shop you’ll need to be logged into smile.amazon.com, which is the same exact shopping experience as amazon.com.

We’ve made it easy to set up, see how at BLB.org/AmazonSmile. 

New Content: Don Smith and Thomas Ice


A Study Through the Book of Esther with Pastor Don Smith

God’s providence has been defined as, “The means by which God’s hidden hand directs all things.” Pastor Don Smith’s outlines of the Book of Esther clearly illustrate God’s hidden hand at work behind the scenes in the life of Esther, and ultimately the entire Jewish race.

The story of Esther communicates God’s faithfulness to His promise; He protects, propagates and preserves His chosen “seed,” by a work of His sovereign grace.

An Interpretation of Matthew 24–25 from Dr. Thomas Ice

In his 39-part series, “An Interpretation of Matthew 24–25,” Dr. Thomas Ice provides an extensive Biblical analysis of the Olivet Discourse. Dr. Ice addresses Christ’s response to His disciples’ questions, “Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?” (Matthew 24:3).

Dr. Ice draws from passages in the Old and New Testaments, and presents a premillennial perspective that may prove to be very insightful to those who share his view, as well as those who may not. 



GOD'S WORD IS ALIVE & ACTIVE

Until the Whole World Hears

What a joy it is to share the story of my good friend Robbie Gordon with our Blue Letter Bible family. I hope you will take the time to read our cover story. Robbie is a tremendous example of how God can use one person to reach so many people for His glory. In Robbie's case, God called him to ministry and service in a number of countries abroad. We are greatly encouraged to know BLB has played a role in Robbie's personal spiritual growth, and in his ministry to multitudes of others, while being so far from his Southern California roots. By God's providence, BLB has truly become a worldwide ministry. To see a live look at where users of BLB around the world are accessing our website, please visit BlueLetterBible.org/LiveMap.

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.
Matthew 24:14 NKJV

The Staff Pick in this issue comes from Tony Romero. The search tool, within the text commentaries for F.E. Marsh, is an excellent way to find portions of his works that directly relate to your needs. Currently, the search tool option also exists for the text commentaries of Chuck Smith. God willing, we hope to add this search feature to the works of all our commentators.

Lastly, I pray the new content we have added from Thomas Ice and Don Smith will be a blessing to you.

We thank God for the many faithful supporters He has led to partner with us. Today, more than ever, BLB depends on the support of its users. Our financial partners help make all we do possible.

Until the whole world hears,

Jim Milligan
President/CEO



User Testimony

"This is simply the best e-Bible I've found; Blue Letter Bible has essentially become my Bible. I read, study, preach and teach from it. Its seamless access to the study helps, especially the interlinear, has been used by the Spirit to take me down many "rabbit holes" of revelation and inspiration. Even in our Bible study groups, as we study our Scripture, BLB has become a verb in our vocabulary, for example, 'Let's *Blue-Letter* this verse,' or 'Have you *Blue-Lettered* that Scripture?' Thank you Blue Letter Bible for your ministry to the body of Christ." — Stan

Tell Us Your Story

This testimony came to us through our "Tell Us Your Story" page. Has God used BLB in your discipleship and teaching? Have you been personally ministered to through a deeper study of God's Word? If so, please visit BlueLetterBible.org/YourStory and tell us your BLB story today.

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