

BIBLE EXPLORER

News

"Featuring News That Shouldn't Be News But Is News"

www.Link1.info/news-1

Online Newspaper

INTRODUCTORY SERIES

— Why We Believe Whatever We Believe About The Bible —

#int-2 of 2— Introduction to the **Online NEWSpaper**. Each new editorial will build on the aggregate foundation of all the previous ones.



From Intro Article #1—

Denominations and their seminaries employ theologians. Those theologians hold one another accountable to "what 'we' believe." Peer pressure.

Might that be at least part of what Paul had in mind, given his well documented concern that, if "the ministry" were ever to become a career choice (i.e.: a profession), it would become fully corrupt?

Well, today's professional clergy isn't *fully* corrupt, but Jesus spoke of some of the characteristics of many of them that we can observe today—

But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments, and love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets... whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

Matthew 23: 5-12

Naïve seminary graduates teach their own trusting faithful what to study in the Bible—to confirm their respective "what 'we' believe" dogma. Got it.

In the more sophisticated seminaries, instead of focusing on first-hand critical analysis of God's written word, their curriculum is built on analyses of what the great theological thinkers of history – especially "the church 'fathers'" – wrote about God's word. Derivative works.

It is as if they think those people were a lot smarter and maybe even closer to God than anybody today...well, because they lived a few centuries ago! You buying that?

In your mind, would that teaching mindset help or hinder naïve seminary students in their quest to gain the knowledge and skills they'd clearly need for critical thinking—to prepare them for objective scriptural analysis and exposition?

Wouldn't it be smarter to start with God's word, itself, than to start with somebody else's interpretations of it? But that would, of course, presume that one's studying objective would be to eliminate the biased "interpretations" of all others.

We will concede that the actual achievement of such an objective may be impossible...

Back, now, to the ongoing dialog between my teenaged buddy and me...about "what 'we' believe."

We attended schools on opposite sides of town. He

approached me one Sunday evening with this: "Some of my friends at school say that after you 'get saved' you can never backslide, ever!"

Although he and I had been discussing that "backsliding" thing off-and-on for weeks, my internal reaction was, "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is." Is it true? Is it too good to be true? Well, yes...but maybe no!

The Bible answer to that question is probably going to surprise you. It has already shocked some of my correspondents who had been aligned with either of the two wild and crazy extremes of Salvation theology—and even some who were "on the fence." While you prepare your mind and heart for some critical new insight, take comfort in this:

Blessed [are] they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
Mat. 5:6

He could easily have said, "Blessed are the righteous!" We must forever be thankful that He didn't. Whew! Loophole!

Yes, the very first topic we will address [next] is regarding the wild and crazy extremes of Salvation theology. Troubling

confusion about that is beyond abundance.

We hope to help you and all the people you love resolve that confusion forever. There are multiple articles of interest in that series.

We have worked really hard to keep each series reader-friendly and even lighthearted whenever that is possible.

After you've enjoyed each of the articles in the "Salvation" series, you may submit your comments and questions (and even scriptural rebuttals)—www.Link1.info/contact-us

Beyond that first series, you can anticipate several more! There is one about the much-debated **Rapture** and one about **Modern Pentecost** and several more after that!

Each article is the same length as, or even shorter than this one: just **one (1) page** of four columns. They are in the PDF format, for easy online reading...or you can save them and even print them out to read again later.

Enjoy them all and share the link to where they can all be found with everyone you love: <https://www.Link1.info/news-1>

