

“Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read...” – Isaiah 34:16

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Introduction

It is not my intent, in these newsletters, to get into politics; but rather to continue “shewing” forth the beauty and perfection of God’s book – the King James Bible – that he has given to us of the English-speaking world for these last days in which we are living. But it should be well-noted (and noticed) that God himself, in his written word, deals with politics. He doesn’t use any form of the *word* “politics” – but he certainly does use the word “*government*.” So, to lead off this edition of the newsletter that closes out our calendar year 2021...

God or Government

In these **suddenly strange times** that ...are not just *coming* upon us, but ... are *already* upon us (and worsening) – let us, that believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and his written word, remember these words:

...Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s. (Mark 12:17)

However, whenever there is a conflict betwixt the two:

...We ought to obey God rather than men. (Acts 5:29)

And while we may know that it is sin to knowingly do what is wrong, let us also remember that it is sin as well to knowingly *not* do what is *right*:

...to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin. (James 4:17)

So, what is Caesar’s, and what is God’s? Allow me to give the entire context of the passage from Mark 12:

v13 And they send unto him certain of the Pharisees and of the Herodians, to catch him in his words.

v14 And when they were come, they say unto him, Master, we know that thou art true, and carest for no man: for thou regardest not the person of men, but teachest the way of God in truth: Is it lawful to give tribute to Caesar, or not?

v15 Shall we give, or shall we not give? But he, knowing their hypocrisy, said unto them, Why tempt ye me? bring me a penny, that I may see it.

v16 And they brought it. And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription? And they said unto him, Caesar's.

v17 And Jesus answering said unto them, Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's. And they marvelled at him.

What was it about Jesus’ very simple answer that was so profound that it caused them to marvel at him? The answer is indeed very simple, for those who know the scriptures. Caesar (Government) created the penny and added his image and superscription thereon; and thus it is lawful according to God to give back to Caesar that which bears Caesar’s image and superscription (to pay the “penny” in tribute/taxes).

However...

...God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. (Genesis 1:27)

Because we are made in the image of God, we belong to God and not to Government (“Caesar”). Therefore, if “Caesar” issues an “edict” (as in, an executive dictat, from an emerging dictatorship) to “give” of our very selves (our body or our spirit) to “Caesar” ... we ought to obey God rather than men (Acts 5:29). As God’s word declares...

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

Oh, and let’s not forget, that Jesus asked about the image ... *and superscription*. Regarding mankind, God’s law ...

[not only is] ...written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond:

[but also is] ...graven upon the table of their heart... (Jeremiah 17:1)

[It is] ...the law written in their hearts... (Romans 2:15)

And for those of us, in particular, that believe on the Lord Jesus Christ: we have a special superscription...

... the epistle of Christ ... written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart. (2 Corinthians 3:3)

The point of all this is, that we belong to God... not to Government. While the Government may take tribute

from us or give credits to us (i.e., money – or mammon, as God sometimes calls it – which is “Caesar’s”) ... the Government has no business entering into God’s realm (neither that of the spirit, nor that of the body/blood) either to take or to give (by force or compulsion).

So, to “circle back” to the beginning of this section; these “**suddenly strange times**” have led me to object to men’s **edicts** concerning what to put into my body (which belongs to God and not to men)...and in particular, into my blood. God’s word tells us that ...

...the life of the flesh is in the blood (Leviticus 17:11)

...the life of all flesh is the blood (Leviticus 17:14)

...the blood is the life (Deuteronomy 12:23)

It is one thing (so to speak) for me to put into my blood something I choose (according to my knowledge or ignorance, with God as my Judge); but it is quite another thing for the Government to order me to do it. I choose to obey God rather than men, and let the consequences be what they may. When I called on the name of Jesus, he gave me everlasting life; and from that point onward, I have had no reason whatsoever to fear what man may do unto me whenever I choose to disobey man so that I may obey God.

Not to belabour this section, but I believe the following is important to grasp...

We know that Jesus is the life. As a prelude to the “Science Snippet” (with the analogy being that the life is in the blood, and that in fact the life is the blood per the Leviticus verses above) we know that life was in Jesus, and that Jesus is the life...

In him was life; and the life [*Jesus*] was the light of men. (John 1:4)

I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: (John 11:25)

I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. (John 14:6)

We also know that Jesus is the Word, and that he has magnified his written word above his own name (i.e., “the word” in print is magnified above “the Word” in flesh). It is imperative that we understand this, for we know him (Jesus Christ, the Word) ONLY by his written word. It is extremely noteworthy that we find one occurrence each of ...

1st ... the word of life (Philippians 2:16)

2nd ... the Word of life (1 John 1:1)

[The “Numbers Nugget” would be the place to explore the significance of the numbers of these chapter and verse references, but...

2:16 (a) The Word is mentioned 2nd in reference to the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost;
(b) The number 16 equals $4 \times 4 = 4^2$ (4 raised to the power of 2) ... noting well that the number 4 in God’s book is strongly related to Jesus Christ the Word;

1 1:1 (a) These three 1’s in one reference recalls to us that in Jesus (the Word) dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily (the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost, and these **three are one**);

(b) the LORD our God is **one** LORD (the beginning words of the first of all the commandments).

Something to ponder... or should I say, “Selah”?]

So back to “the life” ... there is something very deep to be understood when Jesus said,

Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. (John 6:53)

His flesh and his blood are *not* the so-called “elements” of “communion” or of “the Lord’s supper” (Jesus is not recommending cannibalism!)... they are his written word.

Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel. (Ezra 3:1)

Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts. (Jeremiah 15:16)

Let us therefore eat (take into us) “this” roll ... the **w**ord of God (the KJB) ... which (to us) is his flesh and his blood, that we might have the life abiding within us.

There is much more to be considered regarding these “**suddenly strange times**” that are upon us, pertaining to God’s coming judgment upon this world. We will consider it briefly in the section “Pronounce it Right”... but first, a special section pertaining to life – the conception thereof ...

Conception of Life

I would venture to say that “everyone” knows that life begins at conception. It is explicitly so-written in God’s book, and God of course is the one who would know the absolute truth of the matter. But even though “everyone” *knows*, I figured it would help to include just a few words from God’s book here, that expressly state this undeniable fact.

Note well that a woman is not merely “pregnant” with a “fetus” or “tissue” (words *not* found in God’s book); but rather, it is a child that is **conceived**...

2 Samuel 11:5 And the woman **conceived**, and sent and told David, and said, I am with child.

Job 3:3 There is a man **child conceived**.

*Notice that God refers to those that are **conceived**, but **not yet born**, as ... **children**.*

Romans 9:10 ...**when** Rebecca also had **conceived**...

9:11 ...the **children** being **not yet born**, neither having done any good or evil...

The meaning here is *exactly* as it is written in the full context of these and the surrounding verses.

And of course, “everybody” knows about the prophet John the Baptist as a **babe**, in the womb, *not yet born*, being conscious and aware... expressing emotion (joy)...

Luke 1:36 And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also **conceived** a **son** in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her...

1:41 And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the **babe** leaped in her womb...

1:44 For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the **babe** leaped in my womb for joy.

And one more, from Judges (Samson’s conception)...

Judges 13:7 But he said unto me, Behold, thou shalt **conceive**, and bear a son; and **now** drink no wine nor strong drink, neither eat any unclean thing: for the **child** shall be a Nazarite to God **from the womb** to the day of his death.

Don’t think for even a split second that “from the womb” refers to after birth (as in, *after taken* “from the womb”)... for the context demands that this refers to the moment of conception. Samson’s mother was commanded to ... “**now**” drink no wine nor strong drink. The “**now**” was even *before* conception, but the point is that a Nazarite is to never take in wine nor strong drink: and we know that if the mother drinks it, it enters into her blood, and from her blood the child in her womb takes it in as well. The life is in the blood, and at conception the blood of both mother and father imbues their child with life (via DNA combination). The life is in the blood... the life is the blood... the blood is the life. Except the child in the womb takes in (“drinks”) of its mother’s blood, it has no life in it. But it does indeed “drink” of its mother’s (and father’s) blood, both from conception via DNA combination, and then via flow of cells and DNA from the mother’s blood through the placenta to the child. Thus its life begins at conception.

There is no argument that can be made to the contrary – neither “biblically” nor scientifically.

Pronounce it Right

Judges 12:6

Think on this, if you will ... regarding the current “**edict**” that is occurring not just here “at home” but “abroad” in the world... the idea that without a “permit” (of sorts) from the Government, people are starting to be prohibited from entering places of business. Today’s “permit” card seems as though it may be a prelude – a trial run, if you will – for something on the horizon and entering into our view, that is revealed to us by God in his written word. Consider just how fast the dictatorial control has been brought about thus far in less than a single year. I wonder just how long will it be until the “permit” card is required to enter a grocery store to buy food? The question is already being asked... what if someone’s “permit” card gets lost or stolen, or what if people create counterfeits? The eventual answer... (?) ... “how about a “chip” (a “mark”) implanted in a person’s right hand or forehead? (Choose which you prefer; or if you’re an amputee, the forehead is it.)

In the KJB, we are warned of such a thing. And it seems to be approaching “suddenly”...

Isaiah 48:3 – I have declared the former things from the beginning; and they went forth out of my mouth, and I shewed them; I did them **suddenly**, and they came to pass.

1 Thessalonians 5:3 – For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then **sudden** destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

God is very precise in his wording, such that those who read/keep/believe his written word in his book (the book of the LORD – the KJB) should not be deceived. God tells us that the “mark” will be “**in**” their right hand or forehead. The word “in” could suggest an implanted “chip” in lieu of a “permit” card, thus eliminating the problem with lost/stolen(etc.) cards.

Revelation 13:16 And **he** [the beast] causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a **mark in** their right hand, or **in** their foreheads:

Revelation 13:17 And that **no man might buy or sell**, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Revelation 14:9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his **mark in** his forehead, or **in** his hand,

Revelation 14:11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his

image, and whosoever receiveth the **mark** of his name.

Revelation 15:2 And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his **mark**, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

Revelation 16:2 And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the **mark** of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.

Revelation 19:20 And the **beast** was taken, and with him the **false prophet** that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the **mark** of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These **both** were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Revelation 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his **mark upon** their foreheads, or **in** their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

To answer the critic (not waiting for the Critics' Corner), the context of God's word determines the meaning of God's word. The word "upon" in this last verse is already defined as also meaning "in" in this context. There are many other occurrences in God's book (the KJB) where the word "upon" *in its context* also means "in" (e.g., Luke 24:1, Acts 20: 7). To the believer, be sure to look carefully at the full context of any word or phrase as it is used in the volume of God's book.

In a study on God's chronology of time, with the jubile being the key to even being *able* to understand it and get it right, I showed that the 70th jubile occurred somewhere around our calendar year (CY) 1987. In God's book, we are told of 70 years to be accomplished in the desolations of Jerusalem. If that prophecy refers to more than one fulfilment (as many prophecies do), it could refer to a time distant from Daniel, in addition to the near-term return of the Jews from Babylon in his days. It could refer to jubile years, in which case 70 jubile years have now already been accomplished as of around CY 1987. The 71st jubile year would be 49 years later, 1987 + 49 = ~2036. If Jesus returns before the year 2036 to bring peace to Jerusalem (and indeed the world) for the thousand years that God speaks of, then the *latest* that the 7-year "tribulation" could begin would be 7 years earlier... 2035 - 7 = 2028. Again,

that's the *latest*... the earliest would be, of course ... any time now, especially seeing just how fast things in the world have devolved from just a year ago ... "**suddenly**" (Isaiah 48:3, 1 Thessalonians 5:3).

In pronouncing the above judgment(s) in Revelation, it is crucially important to ... **Pronounce it Right !!!** ...

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. (Matthew 24:24)

I wonder how many of the very elect (the Jewish people of Israel and around the world) will be deceived and not recognize the mark of the beast when it is "mandated" to be received? Or even the most devout Jew or Gentile believers in Jesus Christ and the KJB (however few may yet remain at that time)?

Science Snippet

1 Timothy 6:20

The "Science Snippet" topic in the very first newsletter, March 1, 2019, was our DNA. DNA is a genetic code. A code is something that is written. The DNA of our blood is the code of life that is written by God. Our heart sends this written code throughout our bodies. Our blood requires oxygen, and so the life, which is the blood, also requires breath whereby our lungs can extract the oxygen and infuse it into our blood. This process was initiated in us by God...

...the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils **the breath of life**; and man became a living soul. (Genesis 2:17)

Remember, though, that ...

...the life of the flesh is **in** the blood (Leviticus 17:11) It is no accident that God uses that little word "**in**." The breath of life – the oxygen extracted therefrom – is indeed **in** the blood. And thus, with the oxygen from the breath of life **in** it, we are then told that ...

...the life of all flesh **is** the blood (Leviticus 17:14) And to say it the other way ...

...the blood **is** the life (Deuteronomy 12:23)

Some people may think that a child is not truly alive until it takes its first breath after being born; and that therefore "abortion" is not the taking of life because life has not yet begun. **That is science falsely so called...** (1 Timothy 6:20).

God's word reveals to us that life is **in** the blood, and that the life **is** the blood... it begins long before a child is born and takes its first breath. God's written word tells us so; and science agrees with God's written word.

Critics' Corner

Jeremiah 23:36, 2 Corinthians 2:17

Let's look at what God has expressly written, and show in comparison what unbelieving text critics have written in an example of their modern per(sonal)versions – their so-called English Standard Version (ESV)...

Revelation 13:16

KJB: ... to receive a **mark in** their right hand, or **in** their foreheads:

ESV: ... to be marked on the right hand or the forehead...

→ You mean, like a tattoo?

Revelation 14:9

KJB: ... and receive **his mark in** his forehead, or **in** his hand,

ESV: ... and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand...

→ Any mark at all? Even that of "the seal of God" (Revelation 9:4)? Even an iron-on tattoo?

Revelation 15:2

KJB: ... victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his **mark**, and over the number of his name...

ESV: ... conquered the beast and its image and _____ the number of its name...

→ Remember Deuteronomy 4:2? Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, **neither shall ye diminish ought from it...**

Revelation 16:2

KJB: ... and there fell **a** noisome and grievous **sore** upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.

ESV: ... and harmful and painful sores came upon the people who bore the mark of the beast and worshiped its image.

→ "**a...sore**" (singular) could be at the site of the mark in the hand or forehead... whereas "**sores**" (plural) could mean something unrelated to the mark, such as boils or cankers. God's wording is very precise, and adding even one letter (e.g., an "**s**") to one of God's words can greatly alter the meaning (i.e., it is no longer God's word).

Revelation 19:20

KJB: ... wrought **miracles** ...

... a lake of fire burning with **brimstone**.

ESV: ... done the signs...

... the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.

→ "signs" are not necessarily "miracles" ... more notably, "**brimstone**" is a word that "everyone" recognizes as a reference to God's judgment, and as a word of God (the KJB).

Revelation 20:4

KJB: ... neither had received his **mark upon** their foreheads, or **in** their hands...

ESV: ... had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands...

→ "upon" in this verse in the KJB was addressed above in the "Pronounce it Right" section.

The point here is that the ESV is again saying "**on**" [not "**in**"] their foreheads or their hands.

Numbers Nugget

Psalms 71:15

Summarizing some numbers in the preceding sections, it is notable that there is **one** occurrence each, and in the order shown, of the exact phrase...

1st ... the word of life (Philippians **2:16**)

2nd ... the Word of life (**1 John 1:1**)

Jesus the Word (in flesh) is inseparable from his word (in print), which he has magnified above his very own name (Psalms 138:2) – the name at which every knee shall bow and every tongue swear/confess (Isaiah 45:23, Romans 14:11, Philippians 2:11). The word first, and the Word last... (e.g., Isaiah 44:6, Revelation 1:11).

2: Jesus the Word is the **2nd** referred to in 1 John 5:7 (the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost)

16: = **4** to the **2nd** power... recalling as noted in prior studies and newsletters that the number 4 has a very strong relationship to Jesus Christ according to the numbers in the KJB.

1: Referring again to 1 John 5:7... we see three as one: the Father (**1,1**), the Word (**2,1**), and the Holy Ghost (**3,1**)... and these three are **one**.

Which we can also see in Deuteronomy 6:4...

Hear, O Israel: the **LORD** our **God** is **one LORD**.

And note well, from Colossians 2:9, that...

...in him [Jesus] dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

And thus we can consider well from Isaiah 9:6...

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and **the government shall be upon his shoulder**: and his name shall be called ...

Wonderful, [the **one** occurrence of this Word]

Counsellor, [the Holy Ghost, (**3,1**)]

The mighty God, [the Word (**2,1**): e.g., Rev 1:8]

The everlasting Father, [the Father (**1,1**)]

The Prince of Peace. [the **one** occurrence thereof]

Zechariah 14:9 And **the LORD shall be king over all the earth**: in that day shall there be **one LORD**, and his name **one**.

Quote to Note

Referring to “God or Government” and considering the final verses in the “Numbers Nugget” ... there will come a day when the government shall be upon the shoulders of Jesus Christ, who shall be king over all the earth. **In** that day, we will no more have to choose between God or Government. **Until** that day comes, we should remember to...

Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's,
and to God the things that are God's.

Except that whenever there is a conflict between the two, we should also remember that...

We ought to obey God rather than men. (Acts 5:29)

[Yes, God does require us to disobey government whenever their edicts or mandates would require us to disobey God.]

Recipe Share

This past Thanksgiving, my daughter Hannah (1 Samuel chapters 1 & 2) and I made a couple recipes – one being Nut Horns, whose recipe I shared in the very first newsletter of March 1, 2019. We did one thing differently, though... we tried using gluten-free flour instead of the usual all-purpose flour. What we found out was that without the gluten, the dough could not be rolled thin as the recipe requires. So, we had to just make them in an open-face thumb-print-like form instead of rolled-&-pinched. The shape, and the lack of gluten, did not diminish the great taste, though.

KJB tie-in for the above??? Uhhh, hmmm, let me see... The closest thing I can come up with is a KJB word that sounds similar to gluten... that word being, glutton. I would venture to say (not merely by pure speculation) ... that people who tend to adhere to a gluten-free diet tend to not be gluttonous. The words gluten and glutton are not related at all in meaning, by the way. But, since I mentioned the similar-sounding word, let me just note that in the KJB, God equates gluttons with drunkards, saying...

Proverbs 23:20 Be not among **winebibbers**; among **riotous eaters of flesh**:

Proverbs 23:21 For the **drunkard** and the **glutton** shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.

Anyway, on to this newsletter's actual recipe share... we also made a Thanksgiving dessert favorite of ours:

Pumpkin Pie (two)

Bake pumpkin – cut side down in ½” of water at 350° for 45 minutes. After scooping out the pumpkin, press and drain very well.

2 tablespoons flour (rounded)

3 eggs – slightly beaten

3 cups pumpkin (2 pies)

1.5 cup brown sugar

4 cups milk

2 teaspoons vanilla

1 teaspoon salt

2 un-baked pie crusts

Pie crusts

2 cups flour

2/3 cup Crisco (rounded)

8 tablespoons water

Mix all the above ingredients together & fill pie crusts.

Sprinkle spice option on top and swirl in gently with fork or spoon, careful to not scrape into the crust.

Spice Option #1 (per pie)

1 teaspoon cinnamon

¼ teaspoon ginger

½ teaspoon vanilla

Spice Option #2 (per pie)

1 teaspoon cinnamon

¼ teaspoon nutmeg

¼ teaspoon allspice

Bake at 350° for 45 minutes.

Check for “done-ness” by gently moving side-to-side. It is done when center still undulates a little but does not appear liquidy. Approach this “done-ness” via 5-minute extra baking increments, as needed.

(I must admit that this time around, we were lazy and used canned pumpkin and frozen pie crusts. But the result was still ... fabulous!)

Oh, yes, KJB tie-in for pumpkin pie? Uhhh, hmmm, let me see... No, there is neither pumpkin nor pie in the KJB. There is, however, “kin” and “kindred(s)” for a total of $8 + 36 = 44$ occurrences. And if this was in the Numbers Nugget, I would point out that $44 = 4 \times 11$, which are the two numbers I've focused on lately: the number **4** being strongly related to Jesus Christ, and the number **11** being strongly related to understanding. And, if you would like a **piece** of **pie**...?...there are 176 occurrences of all forms of the word “piece” in the KJB.

Go ahead, try some math... $176 = 4 \times 4 \times 11$
(or $4 \times 11 \times 4$).

Wrap-up

This has been a rather long newsletter... I hope it has not been over-kill. It will be interesting to see what next year brings... The day and time appear to be drawing near (Ezekiel 7:12, Luke 21:8). Let us take heed.