

Spiritual Blessings



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The official journal of the Berean Bible Fellowship of Australia

The Importance of the Bible to the Believer. Part 2

.....by John Hutton

WE CAN HAVE NO doubt about the inspiration and reliability of the Old Testament.

As we have already seen the Lord states that the Word of God is true - "Thy word is truth" and He was talking about the Old Testament and quotes from it about seventy five times and refers to the Scriptures time and time again.

He never once says that they are unreliable or that some of them are wrong and should not be listened to. We are told that Isaiah did not write all of his book. The first half is probably written by him and the second half written by someone else. The Lord quotes from both halves and ascribes it all to Isaiah.

Questions

Is it conceivable that God who loved us so much that He gave His

only born Son, and the Son who was willing to come and to die for something that He never did so that we might live, would not point out the errors in the Scriptures if any existed? Wouldn't they correct the error?

The answer to that question will determine our attitude to the Inspiration of Scripture.

Two more questions need an answer. Firstly, can God who is able to create by His Word and do all the things that He is said to be able to do as an omnipotent God, preserve His Word? If He can't, then what is the point of studying it and what is its use to us?

Secondly, is there error in Scripture? If there is, then which part is right and which part is wrong? Are the parts we agree with the right parts and the things we don't agree with the wrong parts? If it is not all right, then what is the point of studying it or taking notice of it when we are looking for guidance in our walk? We might be basing our beliefs and actions on an erroneous part. We might not understand certain parts, but surely that is due to our lack of knowledge. How often is it that we have a problem with a part of Scripture and years later,

when our knowledge has grown, we see the answer in the Book itself.

Can we have confidence in the New Testament?

"I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself: but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak:

.....cont. Pg 3

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The President's Word



Athol Walter

Meetings

Come along and meet with us! All meetings (except annual conf.) are free. All welcome.

Brisbane:

Alternate Sundays 10:00am
Redbank Plains High School.

Study Weekend:

June Long Weekend
June 11-13, 2005
(07) 3297 1981

Sydney:

3rd Sunday of each month.
Lunch 12:30am.
Study 1:30pm.
Community Hall
104 Galston Rd
Hornsby Hts.
(02) 4996 4455

Newcastle:

Every Monday.
7:30pm
34 Aroona St
Edgeworth.
(02) 4950 6708

BBFA Annual Conference 2005

21st, 22nd, 23rd
October 2005 at
Camp Toukley.

We had our annual study conference several weekends ago, and once again we must thank the Lord for a stimulating time spent around the Word of God. The fellowship was even better than usual, and although several regular families were not able to come this year, we were pleased to welcome a number of new people. I want to express my thanks to the men who presented the studies, the folk who shared their testimonies, the committee secretary and treasurer who bore the brunt of the organising burden, and all who attended for the sweet spirit that pervaded the whole weekend. Our new venue proved to be very suitable.

The BBFA committee officers and members are elected for three year terms, and this year was the time for the committee elections. There was some turnover of committee personnel, and I welcome those who are taking their places for the first time. Retiring members stand down with our appreciation for sterling work over the last few years. There would, of course, be no BBFA without the dedication of time, effort and money of our members, and especially if no one was prepared to accept the sometimes onerous task of committee membership. You will read more details about the weekend and the new committee elsewhere in this issue.

I have received several letters from both home and abroad recently, expressing appreciation for our magazine, *Spiritual Blessings*, and in particular, various articles that have been in it. Thank you to those readers who have written. It is heartening to know that our efforts

have been of help. We value all feedback, even if it queries our interpretation of God's Word. We use the word Berean in the name of our little organisation, because we believe it is imperative that we ever come to God's Word with a humble spirit and an open mind ready to learn. This does not mean, of course, that the foundation stones of our faith can be moved, but that we avoid the attitude that can arise so quickly that says, as Elijah did on one occasion, that I am the only one who understands God's revelation and is serving him aright.

In the final analysis, we answer to our Lord and Master as to our service for Him. And this is precisely where our understanding of the Scriptures comes into the picture, for if there is a lack in our understanding of what the Lord requires of us, how can we walk worthy of our calling in Christ Jesus? Apart from our responsibility to help our brothers and sisters in the faith as much as we can, we are not answerable for the actions of other servants of the Master. We will answer only for our own walk and witness.

How important then to heed Paul's admonition in 2 Tim. 2 :15: "Do your best to gain God's approval, a workman who has no need to be ashamed, correctly apportioning the Word of Truth." (My own free translation.)

The year is winding down very quickly now. Signs of Christmas are appearing all around. I trust that there is deep gratitude in our hearts for God's unspeakable gift to us of His only begotten Son, and that we will go forward into the new year, having learnt from the Lord's dealings with us in the past twelve months, confident in His grace and power.

Athol Walter.

The Importance of the Bible to the Believer (Part 2)

by John Hutton



cont from Pg 1.....

and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you" (John 16:12-14).

The Lord told the disciples that He had many things to say to them that they were not ready for at that time but the Holy Spirit would reveal them at a later date.

Luke tells Theophilus that his gospel was a record of the things "that Jesus began both to do and teach" (Acts 1:1). The inference is that this further record is what the Lord continued to do and teach. Surely these teachings and acts must be found in the New Testament writings.

Peter makes an important pronouncement about the writings of Paul but first Peter himself needs some consideration.

Peter was with the Lord from His baptism in the river Jordan to the resurrection. He had heard all that the Lord had said and saw all that He did. After the resurrection he sat at the Lord's feet for forty days and listened to the Lord teach about the Kingdom. What a discourse that must have been. The remarkable thing about those lessons is that the hearers had the eyes of their understanding opened.

"And he said unto them, these are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the

And he said unto them, these are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

Luke 24: 44



scriptures" (Luke 24:44-45).

"To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God" (Acts 1:3).

For forty days they were instructed about the Kingdom with the eyes of the understanding opened. They would not have had to say to the Lord "what do you mean by that Lord?" They would have understood every word.

Peter, who was a part of the above group says of the writings of Paul, "And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction" (2 Peter 3:15-16).

Peter, who had sat at the feet of the Lord for forty days listening to the Lord with his understanding opened could not understand all that Paul was saying but elevates Paul's writings to that of the other Scriptures. He is acknowledging, that although he could not understand all that Paul was saying, Paul was writing scripture.

If we accept that the New Testa-

(continued on page 8)

God Is One

by John Kontos

(John Kontos was a member of the BBFA here in Newcastle, until moving back to live in Greece some fifteen or so years ago. He has kept in touch, and takes every opportunity that comes his way to speak to people he meets, firstly about life only in Christ, and secondly about the Dispensation of the Mystery.)

This is not much different from the way the church has developed today.

They are worshipping so many so-called “saints” that each day in their diaries is reserved for one particular “saint”.

There is also a special “all saints day” which does not differ much to the meaning of the statue offered to the “unknown god” of the Greeks of old.

One of my favourite passages in the Scriptures is in Deuteronomy 6:4 where we read: “Hear o Israel, ‘The LORD our God, is one LORD.’”

It is this passage that I often quote when I get into discussions on religious matters with my Greek countrymen.

You see, in the established “religious” Christianity such as the Orthodox Greek Church, of course they teach Christ, of course they acknowledge His deity, His miraculous birth, His sufferings on the cross, His death, His resurrection and so on, but this is something in the past, nothing to do with the present day and the need of salvation. Their reasoning is that you don’t need to be saved because you were baptized as an infant and, therefore, you belong to the church. The result of this belonging is assurance of a good relationship with God and the possibility and hope that, after death, through the prayers offered by the living ones on your behalf, you may be found in good standing before God. There is no mention of eternal life. The fact is that to their teachings is also added the worship of icons depicting some saint, the worship of the corpses of the so-called “saints” that somehow have miraculously been preserved intact, as if God is manifesting His powers through these “mummies” etc. They pretend that they are worshipping ‘the LORD’ when they are really worshipping their own perception of God, a god that they can live with on their own terms, a god they can manipulate.

My heart cries out whenever I see people worshipping in this way and I am always trying to persuade them from the Scriptures that this way of worship is not of God but is the efforts of man trying to please God. I am not condemning the people themselves, but the establishment. Most of the people are sincere, some of them really seek to serve and please the Lord, but they are under the influence of the dos and don’ts of the church. When you try to lead them to the truth (which truth is very much against the teachings of the church), then you are branded as a heretic.

I always recall the speech of Paul to the Athenians on his visit there at Mars’ hill – Arios Pagos- near the Acropolis, in Acts 17:22. Here we are told that he spoke to them of the many statues of gods they worshipped, and through the statue to the unknown God, Paul got the initiative to speak of Christ. This is not much different from the way the church has developed today. They are worshipping so many so-called “saints” that each day in their diaries is reserved for one particular “saint”. There is also a special “all saints day” which does not differ much to the meaning of the statue offered to the “unknown god” of the Greeks of old.

So my main point always is to direct them to Deuteronomy 6:4 where we are told of who and what God is. **“The LORD our God, is one the LORD (Yahweh our God, Yahweh is One).”**

The word “LORD” in the Old Testament translates *Jahweh (Jehovah)*, which is related to the Hebrew verb *to be*. This

takes us back to Exodus 3:14 where God, having been asked by Moses to identify himself, responded: 'I AM WHO I AM, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.'

When God says his name is I AM, he declares that He is eternal, living, personal and absolute. You will remember the time when the Lord Jesus was in the Garden, in John 18:5, and when the soldiers said that they were looking for Jesus of Nazareth, He answered them, "I AM HE". As one examines all the titles of God in the Old Testament, one cannot help but come to the conclusion that Christ is the manifestation of Jehovah. Christ is the manifestation of all the Old Testament titles of Jehovah. Christ is the incarnation of all the characteristics of God as spirit, revealed in the Old Testament.

You see, God existed, exists and will always exist. There was never a time when he was not there. There never will be a time when he will not be there. He is eternally present. He is eternally "I AM". And, of course, His existence does not depend on anything else. Because He existed before anything else existed, He is neither dependent on, conditioned by, nor relative to, anything or anyone else. He is COMPLETE in Himself. In fact, all else is dependent on Him. Everything else can exist only because He exists.

This God, whose name is the LORD, is the one who calls Himself I AM WHO I AM, and He also claims to be ONE. (Deuteronomy 6:4). He alone is God. There is no other beside Him. He is the only God. There is no other who is eternal, no other who is complete, no other from whom all else exist and on whom all else depends.

He is ONE, unique, unrepeatable, ONE of a kind. We cannot compare Him with anything, and say 'He is like this or that' because there is nothing and no one else like Him.

When I talk with the Muslims (I happen to work in Muslim countries), they often ask me whether I am a Christian. My answer is no. Then they go on to ask me whether I am a Muslim; again the answer is no, so they are trying to work out to which religion I belong. Then I tell them that I have no religion but I am just a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ and I belong to no one except to Him. Had I said that I belong to a particular Christian denomination, their next argument would be that Islam is the only monotheistic religion, where Christianity is polytheistic. There is some truth in this statement of theirs as the Church, through the traditions of men, has made a complete muddle in their understanding of the "Trinity", the worshipping of the "saints", and all I mentioned above.

Neither the Muslims nor the organized Christian Church seem to know that the God of the Bible is ONE throughout the book, and that there is no difference between God the Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ. The ONE who spoke to Moses is the same as the ONE who *in these last days, has spoken unto us IN SON*. Heb. 1:1. (The Greek has "In Son", not "by his Son" as some translations have, i.e. in the characteristics of God He now speaks in the character of "Son"). When we come to the New Testament, we find that Jesus Christ claims that we must believe in Him, that the same honour is due to Him as is due to God. We are told that we must acknowledge Him as Lord.

For this reason, speaking to people who had forsaken honouring God and were embracing idols, Isaiah says,

Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last;

continued.....Pg 7

When God says his name is I AM, he declares that He is eternal, living, personal and absolute. You will remember the time when the Lord Jesus was in the Garden, in John 18:5, and when the soldiers said that they were looking for Jesus of Nazareth, He answered them, "I AM HE".

God Is One

cont from Pg 5.

and beside me there is no God. Isaiah 44:6

Is there a God beside me? Yea, there is no God; I know not any. Isaiah 44:8

I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: Isaiah 45:5

I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images. Isaiah 42:8

In Exodus 20:3-5 we are told how unique and absolute is this God whose name is I AM and that he demands that He and He alone is to be honoured and worshipped as God.

Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me.

The parallel in the New Testament concerning Jesus Christ is found in John 3:16:

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 5:23: That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father, which hath sent him.

Has God changed? Is He now willing to share his glory with another? Or is there some additional information that communicates truth not previously evident?

We know he will not give his glory to another. I am the LORD (Yehovah): that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images; Isaiah 42:8

So there must be some additional information, and this is, that this God, who is living and personal, who is eternal, who is ONE, is also the God who speaks. He communicates and His communication came in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

This ONE God came to speak to humanity in their own language, in their own ways, so as to ensure they truly understand Him. Did they?

No, they rejected Him, they crucified Him, they put Him to death, they killed Him.

The same God who spoke to Adam, to Moses, to Abraham and to the prophets, this same God subjected Himself and came under the influence of the flesh. The Creator became like His creatures, He humbled Himself, so all that God is, that same eternity in which He is always there, that same absoluteness, on which all else is dependent, that same uniqueness, is revealed in Jesus Christ, the Living Word.

The Word, the self-revelation of God, comes as a person, a person who can be received or rejected, a person with a name, in which name we can either believe or disbelieve.

How wonderfully the words in Psalm 19:1-4 fit in with this thought:

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun.

‘For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life’. John 3:16

‘That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father, which hath sent him’.

John 5:23

The Importance of the Bible to the Believer

continued from page 3

ment is part of Scripture then we need to ask the questions again. Is God able to preserve His Word and is there any error in it?

If the answer to either question is no, then we are wasting our time studying it. If the Bible is not trustworthy then we can have little confidence in it and articles such as this are a complete waste of time.

Are the Scriptures important to God?

“For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh: Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen”
(Romans 9:3-5).

There can be no doubt as to whom Paul is speaking about in these verses - His brothers according to the flesh. These are not spiritual brothers.

The nation of Israel had some tremendous privileges.

They had the adoption as far as the earth was concerned, the glory, the covenants, the law, they were God’s servants, the promises and Christ came as one of their race. What a favoured people they were. Paul tells us about the position of the Gentiles in those times and there is a considerable contrast.

“Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called the Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of

promise, having no hope, and without God in the world” (Eph 2:11-12).

Israel were a lucky people. However there is a privilege that they had which is above all of the ones mentioned above.

“What advantage then hath the Jew? Or what profit is there of circumcision? (Romans 3:1).

We have read of their advantages in Romans 9. No wonder Paul answers his own question in the next verse.

“Much every way.....” He then gives us the reason that they are most privileged. “.....chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God” (Romans 3:2).

God considers that the chief favour that He had bestowed on the people of Israel is that He entrusted them with His Word. It is not certain that Luke was a Jew. Some say he was, some say he was not and some say he was a proselyte. If he was a Jew or a proselyte, and that would be consistent with 3:2, then all of Scripture is written by members of the nation of Israel.

***God considers
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If the scriptures are considered to be so important to God, how important should they be to us?

An interesting point is that from the calling of Abraham and the establishment of the nation of Israel to the end of the Book of Acts, there is no record of a Gentile being blessed by God other than through an Israelite or contact with the nation itself. After the end of the Book of Acts there is no difference between the two.

To be continued in the next issue

The Scriptural Principle of Pruning

THese thoughts were written in October, after having spent a little time pruning fruit trees. A garden teaches many lessons, and the pruning of fruit trees is by no means the least helpful.

First of all, why do we prune? While to one unaccustomed to fruit culture the principles upon which the pruner works may not be at once clear, it would be obvious that every cut of the knife was not wanton waste, but purposeful and good. Translating our thoughts into the sphere of spiritual things, we also are persuaded that every branch or shoot that the heavenly husbandman removes, is taken away for our good and for His glory. As we stood for a moment considering whether such and such branches should come off or stay on, the blessed comfort came to us to think how much more may we not believe that every cut we receive from the pruning of the Lord is the result of wisest choice and tenderest concern.

Why then do we prune?

First, to produce the maximum amount of fruit-bearing wood; secondly, to give such fruit-bearing wood as much light and air as possible, and thirdly, that the resulting fruit shall be so placed as to be most easily gathered; these three reasons for pruning need no alteration of wording to speak to the believer of his own life and experience. We are expected to produce fruit, and just as the pruner's knife cuts away much that may look pleasant to the eyes, so the Lord has to remove much that to the eye of the flesh seems attractive and necessary: the pruner knows, however, that unwise pruning instead of producing fruit-bearing wood, produces year by year branches of twiggy growth that *rob* the tree, and deprive it of air and sunshine. God looks at us, as we look at our trees. He sees that branch of mental activity, that development of worldly or social affairs, is a branch that will be unfruitful and will also spoil the remaining fruit, and so He prunes. The reader should think kindly of this when suffering the cutting off of some fancied good, some hoped for success - the Lord is pruning, He desires fruit. Air and sunlight are necessary not only for ripening the

fruit when it has developed, but for ripening the wood upon; which the fruit shall form. Remember, fellow-believer, *fruit forms on ripened wood*.

There are other minor considerations which are true in both the natural and spiritual spheres.

All trees are not alike

While with some varieties fruit sets all along the branches, in others, fruit is borne at the tips of the branches and is found practically all on the outside of the tree; to prune merely by rule of thumb would spell ruin. How thankful we should be if, hesitating and half afraid at times through inexperience, we remember in the spiritual sphere that the Lord has said, "*My Father is the husbandman.*" This physical fact (*viz.*, the differing fruit-bearing habits) should also deter us from hasty comparisons. We are apt to think that the experiences of one child of God should be modelled upon our own, and if they are not we are apt to pass uncharitable judgment. Let us leave one another in the hands of the heavenly husbandman, and let us not "judge one another any more".

Heal the wounds

When a fairly thick branch is to be taken out of a tree, the saw must be used. Living wood resents the saw, and if the stump be left unattended there is every possibility that the deadly canker may find an entrance. When the saw cut is made it must be smoothed over with a knife, and the edge bevelled to induce the formation of a cicatrix; how comforting is the thought that comes to one while thus carefully tending the wounded branch - *He who wounds is He who heals*.

Seasons

Some trees will stand the pruner's knife at any period of the year - others, particularly plums, must not be pruned until the quiet season, otherwise there is a danger of bleeding the tree, perhaps to death. Grateful indeed are we that the pruning of God's trees is in His hands. There are too many of the mind of Peter who say, "And what shall this man do?", to whom the Lord must still answer, "What is that to thee? Follow thou Me".

(continued on page 10)

The Scriptural Principle of Pruning

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And so lessons could be multiplied. When we cease from the language of ungodly science and speak of "Nature" as the "Works of God", we shall find continual parallels and correspondencies between His Word and His Works; the Scriptural teaching concerning fruitfulness unto God is a very blessed, albeit solemn one. Many other factors must come into the practice of fruit culture other than pruning, but pruning there must be if good fruit is to be produced. The reader may be interested to note that the golden "snuffers" used in the temple (1 Kings 7:50) are "pruners", being a similar word to that translated "pruning hooks".

(taken from The Berean Expositor Vol 9 Pgs 46 and 63)

A Tribute to David Fryer by Athol Walter

Pic needed here of Dave Fryer

The Berean Bible Fellowship of Australia (BBFA) lost a long-time member in the death of David Fryer, aged 88, on September 1st. this year. I conducted the funeral at the Bethshan cemetery at Wyee on Sept. 6th. A goodly number of family, friends and residents from Bethshan village attended the funeral and shared in the afternoon tea provided in the dining room of the Bethshan Conference Centre after the service.

Steve Athey, a close friend of Dave's, gave the eulogy and a Gospel message. Several other men responded to the invitation to speak. A number of Dave's favourite hymns were sung, the music being provided by his son-in-law, Phillip Hollier, on his piano accordion.

David was converted in his early teens, and given his out-going nature, was soon engaged in witnessing and evangelistic ministry, something he continued for the rest of his life. He developed a great knack of turning any conversation in which he was engaged around to spiritual matters. The Lord alone knows how many people found Life in Christ through Dave's witness.

He joined in the work of the BBFA in the mid 1970s and as well as witnessing about the Lord as the only Saviour, took every opportunity to spread the truth concerning the Dispensation of the Mystery.

One of Dave's main forms of ministry over the years has been letter-writing, and many people have told how they have been helped and encouraged in their Christian walk by his letters that were filled with Scripture verses.

David became a market gardener early in adult life, and right to the end of his years, continued to grow beautiful vegetables and flowers. The Fryer cottage in the Bethshan Retirement Village was completely surrounded by gardens in which seasonal vegetables and flowers flourished. Visitors always went away with bags full of good things from the garden, as well hearts and minds nourished by discussion around the Word of God.

David's wife, Gladys, died about four years ago, and I suspect he found life somewhat lonely and more difficult without her by his side. He leaves behind two married daughters, Shirley and Daphne, and five grandchildren, who all speak of the Lord's sustaining presence.

At the graveside, reference was made to Dave's firm belief that his life is hid with Christ in God, and that he awaits the Out-Resurrection from the dead when his Saviour and Lord will call him into Life eternal, and give him a body free from the effects of Adam's fall and the ravages of time, a body that will be like the Lord's own glorious resurrection body.

(This tribute was held over from the previous issue of Spiritual Blessings due to a lack of space.)

C O N F E R E N C E 2 0 0 4

Our new venue, Camp Toukley, proved a success with ample space, comfortable surroundings and accommodation, satisfying meals, with friendly, welcoming staff willing to accommodate our programme and needs plus activities for those up to the challenge.

What a blessing to spend 3 uninterrupted days searching the Word and enjoying the fellowship of like-minded believers. The studies were rich and insightful and again we can give all praise to our faithful, consistent God for his influence during this time. Each year it is said how our Lord's hand is evident, in that the studies compliment each other in a way no mere person could arrange.

The personal testimonies given were particularly appreciated by all and we were delighted to have Michael and Ping Garstang join us from the Philippines with all benefiting from Michael's 2 studies. Families again travelled from Qld to join us although we greatly missed a few families unable to attend this year and we look forward to being with them all in 2005. Mark your diaries for next year's conference and don't forget to tell your friends. (See back page for details).



Peter and Mary hamming it up in the kitchen



The 'Think Tank' during Question and Answer time.

(R) Conference 2004 attendees



Michael and Ping



Eric enjoying his first conference



John Craig sharing his experiences



Jenelle smiling always

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Great Bible study articles & charts,
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2005 Conference dates 21-23rd October

We invite all readers to set aside these dates next year and join us for this wonderful opportunity to meet together to study His Word. Ample room for families and children. All meals, accommodation plus fun activities are provided for the young and young at heart. Camp Toukley (R) is located on the beautiful Central Coast of NSW.



JOIN US!

Spiritual Blessings

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Articles which honour The Lord Christ Jesus, and acknowledge the principle of right division will be considered for publication. All articles are accepted on the basis that they may be used as the BBFA sees fit unless otherwise requested by the author. The interpretation of Scripture by various authors is not necessarily the one held by the majority of the Fellowship.

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The BBFA Tenets:

1. Full Inspiration of the Scriptures.
2. The Deity of Christ.
3. All sufficiency of Christ's One Sacrifice.
4. The Bible study principle of right division.

The BBFA Committee:

President: Athol Walter.
V-President: John Hutton.
Treasurer: Sue Hall.
Secretary: Margaret Abbott.
Committee members: Frank Haegler, Robin Ward,
Neville Ward.

Bored spending Monday evenings in front of the TV?

We would love to see those readers of Spiritual Blessings who may or may not attend regular fellowship services and are interested in bible study or simply have questions they have not been able to find answers to. Our group is non-denominational and dedicated to searching out the Truth in scripture and worshipping together. We meet in comfortable, casual, relaxed surroundings each Monday evening at 7.30pm at Edgeworth (see address Pg 2).

Interested but uncomfortable about showing up alone?

Then pick up the phone and call Athol on 4996 4455, Sue on 4995 6068 or David on 4950 6708 or, email to the address listed at the top of the page.

We also have groups in Brisbane and Sydney that regularly meet so please check Pg 2 for details and phone if you would like more information.

