For Our Information

Ricky Ragsdale has been moved to a Rehab hospital. He is still in a good deal of pain.

Bill & Joyce Venable are also out of town this morning.

The Simpson family is out of town this weekend.

As holidays and summer break begins there will be more folks traveling. Remember them and those with on going health issues.

Remember one another as we pray to the Father each day

Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about our work in the Lord's Kingdom.

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We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

The Church Needs Godly Men!

"One of the greatest needs is men! Men who are bigger than trifles; men with the breadth of intellect and depth of character; men who will not stoop to cheat or be unfair; men who will not stand imperiously on their rights, but who in magnanimity of soul cast away personal advantage for the good of many; men who will not lie, and defame, and steal to increase their own personal fame or fortune; men who would rather stand with the right in the end than to have their own way; men who love the truth and are willing to die for it rather than to compromise with falsehood; men who act upon principle in all their dealings with their fellow men rather than personal feelings whether of bias or prejudice; men with clean hearts and pure motives; men who feel neither envy nor jealousy when one of superior endowments and greater ability surpasses what they have been able to achieve; men who are not too big to be satisfied to fill the place in the world for which they were created and fitted by the benign creator who made every man for a definite place in His infinite universe of time and space and sense." - A. Hugh Clark



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Word Studies

Steve D. Walker

(The following article is from an early issue of StraitWay. It is an quick introduction to word studies. Brother Walker gives some reasons why it can be important to include such studies in our regular Bible study habits. Such studies can be very helpful in understanding some of the teachings that are found in God's Word, especially in developing a deeper knowledge of what God has provided to guide us from here to Heaven. I may publish a few of these studies for informational purposes and to help us better understand how to do such a study. New study tools might seem



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Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth. **2Timothy 2:15**

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daunting but with practice they can become a helpful part of understanding God's Word. DLH)

I have been invited to participate in publication of The StraitWay by writing a brief word study for each issue. Some would probably feel that "word studies" may not be a very appealing topic, but word studies are important for several reasons, and I hope that the readers will not only learn from the studies presented, but will also be encouraged to study more carefully all the words used by inspired men.

Our Creator in His infinite wisdom has revealed His will unto man in a message transferred to us through human language. As Paul the apostle wrote, ... It pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. (1Corinthians 1:21). Words are the vehicles of thoughts and ideas. A man with the most profound ideas cannot share them with his fellow man without using words commonly understood. Paul emphasized the importance of words in God's revelation: These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. (1Corinthians 2:13). The Holy Spirit compares spiritual "things," or ideas, with spiritual words, and thus reveals the mind of God to men. That being the case, it is incumbent upon us to study carefully the words chosen by the Spirit and thereby to understand more fully and precisely God's ideas.

A major hurdle for man to overcome in understanding God's message is that of translation from the biblical languages to our own. We are

Store In My Heart Colossians 1:13-14

For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The world is a domain filled with darkness. Christ is the way out of the darkness of sin. His kingdom is where we can find redemption forgiveness. and Obedience to His Gospel will change vour life. From the depths of darkness vou can be lifted to the heights of glory. In the kingdom of Christ is light. Man often hides in the darkness, but the light of Christ is the only way to find peace. It is the only path to eternal life. Though God has provided the way, we must be willing to follow if we want life.

fortunate to have several good translations of the Bible in the English language, but it is important that we recognize that no two languages can be made to match perfectly. Because a language is the product of the culture that uses it, something is often lost or gained in putting an English word or phrase for a Hebrew or Greek word. The best translators cannot precisely convey all of the heritage that words have behind them as they translate. Thus, we often help ourselves to a richer, clearer understanding of God's message by looking more carefully at the heritage of Bible words.

The words of extant languages change their meanings with time. Our dictionaries must be under constant revision not only because new words come into use, but also because old words take on new meanings. The biblical languages are long dead, but their words varied in meaning over the centuries that they were used. Take, for example, the Greek verb, "psallo," which is translated "making melody" in Ephesians 5:19. Its appearance there has been cited often as providing authority for instrumental music in worship, for the word at one time conveyed the idea of playing a stringed instrument. A careful study of the word, however, reveals that at the time the New Testament was written, the word no longer implied use of an instrument, therefore Paul did not enjoin worship by mechanical means, but "in the heart."

Word studies are valuable tools in Bible hermeneutics. May the Lord bless us as we attempt to know more precisely His revealed will.

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