

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. CIII

JULY, 2025

NO. 7

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## GONE BEFORE

Say, why should friendship grieve for those  
Who safe arrive on Canaan's shores?  
Released from all their hurtful foes,  
They are not lost, but gone before.

How many painful days on earth  
Their fainting spirits numbered o'er!  
Now they enjoy a heav'nly birth;  
They are not lost, but gone before.

Dear is the spot where Christians sleep,  
And sweet the strain which angels pour;  
O why should we in anguish weep?  
They are not lost, but gone before.

On Jordan's bank whene'er we come,  
And hear the swelling waters roar,  
Jesus, convey us safely home,  
To friends not lost, but gone before.

*Henry Showalter*

Selected by Lynn H. Miller  
Newmanstown, PA

## AI

Until recent years, hearing the mention of “AI” was not only relatively rare but for the minority of the population that knows their Bible, likely brought their minds to the thought of the biblical city that the Israelites failed to conquer on their first attempt because of the sin of Achan. Today, the term “AI” is prevalent in society and rarely is used in reference to the Canaanite city of old.

AI or Artificial Intelligence has grown significantly in public interest, familiarity and application in recent years. From robotic vacuum cleaners to autonomous vehicles, from facial recognition to fraud detection, from predictive maintenance to supply chain optimization, the possibilities

for AI application seem endless. Recently, the development of Elon Musk’s humanoid robot “Optimus” has drawn notable attention. Optimus (a.k.a. Tesla Bot) is reportedly capable of being trained for various tasks, such as household chores and factory work. If you’re already making a list of your least-favorite chores you can’t wait to train Optimus for, you’ll have to wait a little longer. The first batch of Optimus is targeted for sale in late 2025 or early 2026. And by the way, the price tag is expected to be \$20,000-\$30,000.

Such a rapid growth and expansion of AI can be rather engrossing and may have gotten you wondering how all of these developments could be

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR JULY, 2025

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KEN BROCK, Editor, 1520 County Road 22-60, Stryker, OH 43557.  
(419) 515-3396 | kenbrockdb@gmail.com

happening so quickly. Afterall, it seemed that just a few years ago, ideas like self-driving cars or humanoid robots might be far-fetched goals for the distant future but yet...suddenly these things are here, now.

As we find ourselves in such a rapidly changing world, perhaps we are interested, excited or frightened about what the future of AI might hold. And specifically, what role AI might play in our personal lives in the future. As we consider such things, we might not realize how much AI has already crept in to our daily lives. Whether through the use of *Google Maps* to direct us along the fastest route, social media platforms that create personalized feeds or online shopping sites that customize advertising based on our browsing and purchase history, we are engaging AI. As we look to the future, we might wonder whether we'll be permitted to choose what or how much AI we want in our lives, whether we'll be forced to use certain aspects of it or whether we'll even be aware that we're using it. Truly, only God knows the answer to such things.

So for today, what is the

believer to think and do about AI? As always, we first need to turn to scripture for guidance. Some might think that's a silly exercise in futility as the Bible does not speak to AI. While the Bible doesn't specifically speak to AI, it also doesn't speak of many other *things* that we encounter in life today that did not exist when the scriptures were penned, such as electricity, modern medicine, cars, planes, radios, TVs, phones, computers and power tools to name a few. No, the Bible does not speak on these things. However, the Bible speaks very clearly of *principles* that are to be applied in our lives, which would include the use of things in our lives.

In so many ways in life, *things* are not the issue. There's nothing intrinsically bad about any thing. It's what we do with these things in our hearts and minds that can cause us problems. Most modern innovations, including AI, are some form of tool. Most tools in the hands of men can be used for either good or for evil. What determines the outcome is the principles of the man, which determine how the tools are used. A hammer can be used in love to help build a home

for someone or can be used in hatred to harm someone. A phone can be used in love to encourage and help but can also be used for harm or evil in various ways. A truck can be used to help a husband, in love, provide for his family but can also become an object of inappropriate obsession.

So, how do you manage the use of tools in your life? If you are guided by biblical principles in managing the tools in your life, you may discover that AI fits an open spot in your toolbox. Whether you allow AI in your life or try your best to resist it, some scriptures that you may find helpful are below.

*“The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are*

*right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.”* Ps. 19:7-9

*“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”* Prov. 3:5-6

*“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”* Phil. 4:8

K. Brock

## ONE MORE ROUND

Do you ever feel as if your prayers aren't getting any higher than the ceiling or when you pray for years for someone or something and you never see any results of those prayers? I don't know about you, but I have.

These thoughts in my head remind me of my dad. Being raised on a farm, when it was supper time, I would have to call Dad in from the field or working in the barn. Inevitably his reply was, “One more round”. Sometimes it was frustrating especially if

the food was getting cold, but he wanted to get as much work done as possible before dark.

This is how it is when we want to get as much “seed” sown as possible or “cultivate” the ground or get the “harvest” in. That is why we must never give up praying for others, especially those who have not accepted Jesus as their Savior or have walked away from their faith in Him.

Verses in Matt. 13:3, Mark 4:3 and Luke 8:5 state a “... *sower went out to sow.*” That is what our prayers are...seed to be planted in hearts of men and women.

Next, we must persevere in our prayers as Eph. 6:18 reminds us “...*praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit...*”.

So don't give up on praying for others. The last phrase of Heb. 11:6 is “...*he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*” Make “one more round” for that person that really needs our prayers. You never know, when you enter heaven, someone may thank you for “planting” the last seed that paved the way for their path to Jesus.

Martha Heer  
West Unity, OH

## HOPE AS AN ANCHOR

Hope is likened to being firmly seated upon a rock. Earthly hope is transitory, with little foundation. Like uneaten food, it soon spoils. The Christian has a hope built on the foundation of truth, the Holy Word of God. Hope in olden times was represented by an anchor. The anchor would be released, and it would keep the ship from drifting in open water. To trust in too light or too weak an anchor is to have a

false hope. The world is like the rolling sea, full of undertows, big waves, and man-eating creatures. A good anchor holds the ship fast.

Hope does not dispense with trouble, but it sustains our faith in times of trouble. The anchor cannot silent the thunder, or shrink the waves, or still the winds, but it allows us to ride out the hurricane and keeps us off the deadly rocks. The hope of heaven triumphs over

circumstances. The Christian is not free from the battles of life, but hope lifts him above them.

Because of it we are bold in God's work. Hope maketh not ashamed because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which inhabits us. Deprive one of hope and you take away solace and comfort in bad times. Remove hope

and you remove the enjoyment of common, everyday life. The afflicted and the poor would immediately sink into the Slough of Despond.

Depriving man of hope robs him of his most treasured possession. Kill hope and you kill life, for without hope it becomes impossible to live. Edward Mote said it best when he wrote:

My hope is built on nothing less  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.  
When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
O may I then in Him be found;  
Clad in His righteousness alone,  
faultless to stand before the throne.  
On Christ the Solid Rock I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.

Lynn H. Miller  
Newmanstown, PA

## THE ERROR OF TWISTING TRUTH

I am often amazed how people can take some truth and twist it into something altogether other than the truth being presented, usually for their personal benefit.

Care must be taken because fragments of truth can and often do lead to heresy. Sometimes a commercial on TV will present

one side of a truth and make their product look better than anybody else's. However, if you research it a little bit you will find that although what they say is true, some of the things they did not say counters that truth or at least modifies it.

This needs to be brought into the realm of the spiritual.

We need to embrace truth, all the truth as presented in the Word of God. By embracing the truth of God's Word, I am in fact embracing God. And to know God is to believe Him and in believing Him, I delve deeper into Him.

No matter how much people twist the truth, God will always have the final say. That should disturb us a little bit. If God is going to have the final say, I really need to know what He is saying now. What God is saying now is the same He has always said and will be the same throughout all eternity. *"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever"* (Heb. 13:8).

God's truth is always true. And we need to understand that we will be judged by His truth and not our interpretation of the truth.

For example. Somebody will say, "I'm a good person." And for sure, that person has many good qualities about them. But are they good all the way through? If you probe a little bit into their life, you will find some aspects that are not good. And there are days where they are not really acting good. Being "good" is a relative thing.

I really do not want to rest on my evaluation of my own goodness. Many things I do not understand, and I cannot even see in my own life. I want to know what God says about me. I want to know how God is going to judge me.

When we start twisting the truth in this regard, it is very hard to stop. We can cherry pick truth about ourselves and make ourselves look "good." God, however, sees the whole picture. God sees our sin in a perspective far removed from our own perspective.

One reason why we like to cherry pick truth about ourselves is that we do not really understand God and His view of ourselves. We are not sure about this element we call sin. We try to avoid or ignore it at all costs.

For some reason we think if we ignore our sin, it will go away and God will not deal with it. That simply is not the case. Until I get a real good understanding of the sin in my life and how it is affecting me and how it affects my relationship with God, I am going to run away from all truth about it.

The reality is, when I begin to understand the terribleness of my own sin, I begin to understand the marvelous dimensions of God's amazing grace. If I have no sin, why do I need grace? Or, for that matter, why do I even need God?

One truth very important for me to understand regarding God is His patience. He is patiently luring me back to Himself. God has joy in delivering me from the bondage of my sin, bringing me into an intimate relationship with Himself. Nothing in creation brings such delight and joy as men and women who have been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb and are now in fellowship with God.

Nothing I could ever do could in any way trump God's amazing love for me. God does not love me because of my sin, but in spite of my sin. Moreover, He loves me enough so that He has done everything needed for my sin to be dealt with to such a degree that He can have fellowship with me.

If, like so many people, I choose to run away from or ignore

my sin, I will never experience this grace of God in its fullness. For some people, their sin is what drives them in their life. However, God wants my life to be driven by His amazing grace. To know Him is to love Him and to love Him is to know Him even more. It is an upward spiral like climbing Jacob's ladder.

No matter how much I try to twist truth, I can never change it ultimately. One day, sooner rather than later, I will come face-to-face with Him who is "the way, the truth and the life." Right now, God's grace is enabling me to prepare for that awesome day.

To know the day is coming is to set my heart to prepare myself for that day. God has put everything at my disposal to adequately prepare me for that day.

I want the whole truth so that I can right now, be everything God wants me to be. Then, I want to be a beacon that shines that truth in my generation.

James L. Snyder  
Ocala, FL



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**GOD IS IN EVERY TOMORROW**

God is in every tomorrow,  
Therefore I live for today,  
Certain of finding at sunrise,  
Guidance and strength for the day;  
Power for each moment of weakness;  
Hope for each moment of pain,  
Comfort for every sorrow,  
Sunshine and joy after rain.

God is in every tomorrow,  
Planning for you and for me;  
E'en in the dark will I follow,  
Trust where my eyes cannot see.  
Stilled by His promise of blessing,  
Soothed by the touch of His hand,  
Confident in His protection,  
Knowing my life-path is planned.

God is in every tomorrow,  
Life with its changes may come,  
He is behind and before me,  
While in the distance shines Home!  
Home where no thoughts of tomorrow  
Ever can shadow my brow,  
Home in the presence of Jesus,  
Through all eternity now!

*Laura A. Barter Snow*

Selected by Mildred Skiles  
Rio Rancho, NM

## WEDDINGS

**Trey Edgecomb & Jillian Wertz.** Trey, son of Johnathan & Karen Edgecomb and Jillian, daughter of Brad & Kirsten Wertz were united in marriage at Quinter, Kansas on August 17, 2024. They reside in Quinter, Kansas.

**Trent Fidler & Shawna Castle.** Trent, son of James & Leah Fidler and Shawna, daughter of Todd & Anna Castle were united in marriage at Adair, Iowa on February 28, 2025. They reside in Mount Joy, Pennsylvania.

**Steve Weaver & Kiara Marks.** Steve, son of James & Wanda Weaver and Kiara, daughter of Rodger & Susie Marks were united in marriage at Ephrata, Pennsylvania on March 22, 2025. They reside in Reinholds, Pennsylvania.

**Derrick Fidler & Krista Wenger.** Derrick, son of Nathanael (d.'21) & Michele Fidler and Krista, daughter of Marlin & Janice Wenger were united in marriage at Ephrata, Pennsylvania on May 3, 2025. They reside in Lititz, Pennsylvania.

**Briant Alspaugh & Tirzah Martin.** Briant, son of Michael & Lisa Alspaugh and Tirzah, daughter of the late Issac S. Martin and Karla & Nelson Martin were united in marriage at Ephrata, Pennsylvania on May 10, 2025. They reside in Bethel, Pennsylvania.

**Andrew Stoltzfus & Brianna Sensenig.** Andrew, son of Junior & Debbie Stoltzfus and Brianna (Bri), daughter of Josh & Melanie Sensenig were united in marriage at Lititz, Pennsylvania on May 23, 2025. They reside in Manheim, Pennsylvania.

**Broderick Jamison & Heather Hawbaker.** Broderick (Bodey), son of Brant & Bonny Jamison and Heather, daughter of Mark & Annette Hawbaker were united in marriage at Ames, Iowa on June 13, 2025. They reside in Delta, Ohio.

*Please note that newlyweds can receive a free 1-year subscription to the Bible Monitor if their address or email address is provided to the Editor.*

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## BIRTHS

Cleon & Tanya Brubaker of Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania welcomed Bentley William on January 8, 2025.

Travis & Kirsten Alspaugh of Myerstown, Pennsylvania welcomed Dakota Grey on January 9, 2025.

Andrew & Jenny Zimmerman of Shippensburg, Pennsylvania welcomed Kaleb Scott on April 20, 2025.

Carter & Raina Edgecomb of Garnett, Kansas welcomed Lawson Tate on April 23, 2025.

Andrew & Christa Alspaugh of Montpelier, Ohio welcomed Rhett Thomas on April 26, 2025.

Gaylen & Grace Wingert of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania welcomed Eden Claire on May 21, 2025.

Shem & Carlita Buckingham of Hamburg, Pennsylvania welcomed Shayden Creed on May 22, 2025.

Korbin & Kayla Edgecomb of Garnett, Kansas welcomed Brielle Catharin on May 28, 2025.

Renel & Bethany Herard of Alvordton, Ohio welcomed Micah Thomas on June 9, 2025.

## Ministers by District

District 1		District 2	
Clint Alspaugh	Bethel	Clem Bowman*	CornerStone
Jeff Aungst*	Bethel	Ken Brock*	Pleasant Ridge
David Aungst*	Bethel	Marlin Carpenter	Berean
Judah Bauman	Lititz	Robert Carpenter*	Berean
Justin Beck*	Bethel	Kidron Crist*	CornerStone
Jim Eberly*	Lititz	Philip Gish*	CornerStone
John Eberly*	Chambersburg	Bart Hoblit*	CornerStone
Caleb Heckman	Chambersburg	Brant Jamison*	West Fulton
Dennis Kleindinst	Bethel	Fred Johnson	West Fulton
Robert Lehigh*	Shrewsbury	Rodney Kimmel	Berean
Marlin Marks*	Shrewsbury	Lloyd Lorenz*	Plevna
Lynn Miller	Mohlers	Andrew Miller	West Fulton
Paul Noecker	Pine Grove	Lyndell Noecker	West Fulton
Gerry Priest*	Chambersburg	David Rice*	CornerStone
Tom Priest*	Chambersburg	Dennis St. John*	Pleasant Ridge
Keith Snyder*	Lititz	Jason St. John	Pleasant Ridge
Ray Stuber*	Shrewsbury	Marc Wray	Berean
Merle Sweitzer*	Shrewsbury	Mike Wray	Berean
Verling Wolfe*	Bethel		
Loren Zook	Lititz		
District 3		District 4	
Mark Andrews*	Grandview	Kyle Chupp	Pleasant Home
Jason Carpenter*	Juniper Hills	Mark Cordrey Jr.	Pleasant Home
Jeff Davison	Garnett	Mark Cordrey Sr.*	Pleasant Home
Kevin Funk*	Dallas Center	Dallas Flory	New Life
Mark Hawbaker	Dallas Center	Micaiah Johnson	Pleasant Home
Tom Hawbaker	Grandview	Henry Walker*	Pleasant Home
Alan Meyers*	Dallas Center		
Chad Meyers*	Dallas Center		
Jim Meyers*	Dallas Center		
Nathan Meyers	Dallas Center		
Fred Pifer*	Dallas Center		
Jonathan Skiles*	Juniper Hills		
Paul Skiles*	Juniper Hills		
Devin Sweitzer	Quinter		
Brad Wertz	Quinter		

\* - Elder

## Deacons by District

District 1		District 2	
Jesse Alspaugh	Bethel	Steve Beachler	Berean
Marcus Alspaugh	Bethel	Harliss Birt	Plevna
Michael Alspaugh Sr.	Lititz	Stephen Blocher	CornerStone
Donald Burkholder	Bethel	Nelson Bontrager	Berean
Vernon Champ	Chambersburg	Devin Carpenter	Berean
Jeff Eberly	Bethel	Randy Coning	CornerStone
Roy Eberly	Lititz	Paul Heisey	West Fulton
Sam Keeney	Shrewsbury	Steve Heisey	West Fulton
Brian Kegerreis	Bethel	Don Hostetler	CornerStone
Leslie Kegerreis	Pine Grove	Ted Kreiner	West Fulton
Marlin Martin	Lititz	Carl Lorenz	Plevna
Kenton Miller	Shrewsbury	Doyle Lorenz	Plevna
Daniel Noecker	Pine Grove	Ryan Miller	CornerStone
Terry Stump	Shrewsbury	Josh Reed	West Fulton
Chad Sweitzer	Shrewsbury	Loren Reed	Hart
Scott Weaver	Bethel	Kurt Rolle	CornerStone
Galen Wingert	Chambersburg	Benjamin Short	Pleasant Ridge
Grant Wolfe	Bethel	Jacob Short	Pleasant Ridge
Bruce Zook	Chambersburg	Josh St. John	Pleasant Ridge
		Rick St. John	Pleasant Ridge
		Andrew Stoner	CornerStone
District 3		District 4	
Britton Andrews	Grandview	Chris Cordrey	Pleasant Home
Larry Andrews	Grandview	Rudy Manuel	Pleasant Home
Larry Blocher	Quinter	Terry Walker	Pleasant Home
Jonathan Edgecomb	Garnett		
Marvin Flory	Dallas Center		
Nelson Hawbaker	Dallas Center		
Tom Hawbaker	Grandview		
Russell Jamison	Quinter		
Andrew Lichtenberger	Garnett		
Dale Meyers	Dallas Center		
Dennis Meyers	Dallas Center		
Lee Meyers	Grandview		
Scott Meyers	Dallas Center		
Jonathan Pifer	Dallas Center		
Oty Reed	Dallas Center		
John Rissler	Grandview		
Joel Royer	Dallas Center		
Seth Skiles	Juniper Hills		
Delbert Swihart	Quinter		
Ivon Wertz	McClave		
Daniel Winger	Grandview		

## NEWS ITEMS

### **Teaching Positions Available - Bethel Dunkard Brethren School**

Are you passionate about making a difference in children's lives? We invite you to prayerfully consider the opportunities available at Bethel Dunkard Brethren School.

We are currently seeking dedicated individuals for the following positions:

- Teacher for 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade
- Teacher for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Teacher for 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Teacher for 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Two teacher's helpers

If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Anthony Martin at **717-202-5795**.

### **Mountain View, Colorado**

We are grateful to announce that the Mountain View congregation in Montrose, Colorado has been officially reestablished/reorganized and steps have been taken for us to be a formally functioning church group! We ask that you remember us in your prayers! We don't know what all the Lord has in store for us here but if we are willing, He can use us in a mighty way for His kingdom and glory! -Love in Jesus Name,

The Mountain View Congregation

Jennifer Litfin, Correspondent

### **Ukrainian Family Update**

As noted in the November and December 2024 and January 2025 issues of the Bible Monitor, the Pleasant Ridge congregation has been blessed to help a family from war torn Ukraine to come to America through the Uniting for Ukraine sponsorship program. The Berin family had lived in a suburb of Kyiv, which was, and remains a frequent target of attacks.

In July, it will have been a year since the congregation began communicating with the Berin family. In early December, the family traveled to Poland to buy flight tickets to America and on December 14, they arrived in northwest Ohio.

Since that time, the family has continued learning English and has been adapting to their new life and culture. Their lives here are much different than before. They had always lived in apartments in the city and never lived in a home or in the countryside as they do now. They are experiencing new things like wide open spaces, local wildlife, yard work and gardening that wasn't part of city life. They had never driven cars before as they always had access to public transportation. The husband recently received his temporary driver's permit and several from the congregation are now teaching him to drive. As they can't yet legally drive on their own, the congregation has been taking them on any errands (shopping, groceries, appointments, etc.).

For school, the younger 2 children went to a local daycare for the last half of the schoolyear and the oldest finished his Ukrainian schoolyear with online school live from Ukraine. This made for a difficult schedule as Kyiv is 7 hours ahead of Ohio time, so his school day started at about 1 a.m.! In August, they plan to have the children attend a local public school.

The father has retained his job from Ukraine as an IT specialist for a company headquartered in Canada. However, he is still being paid Ukrainian wages, which was a good income in Ukraine but not enough to support a family of 5 here in America. They had saved money in the bank before moving here but even with the congregation's support, they are slowly depleting their savings. The husband is hoping to get a raise now that he's living in America but may soon need to consider looking for a better paying job.

The family attends church at the Pleasant Ridge congregation and the children have been attending this year's Vacation Bible School.

Please pray for the Berin family and for the Pleasant Ridge congregation to share God's love in helping the family in America.

### **Minutes in One Volume**

The updated Minutes from General Conferences are now available on the Dunkard Brethren website. With this update, Minutes from all the way back to the beginning of the Dunkard Brethren Church are now digitally available. This single volume includes General Conference Minutes from 1927 to 2024.

To see the Minutes in One Volume, go to the Dunkard Brethren Church website and:

- Scroll down to "Publications"
- Click on "Learn More"
- In "Dunkard Brethren Church Minutes", click "Download"

This digital version of the Minutes is quite useful as it is not only organized by topic but is also searchable. For example, if you are interested in seeing the history of conference decisions on topics such as Baptism or Missions, simply refer to the Table of Contents and review the appropriate section which provides a chronological history of decisions on the topic. Alternatively, you can search for words such as "Baptism" or "Missions", etc. to find what you are looking for.

A special thanks to Bro. Marvin Lorenz for the many hours he has invested in this project.

### **Dunkard Chat**

Ever hear someone talk about the Dunkard Chat group but not know what it is, how to access it or sign up for it?

WHAT? The chat group is a collection of all the group member email addresses.

WHY? The purpose of using the chat group is to simplify the sharing of general information across the Brotherhood, such as obituaries, prayer requests, special meeting announcements, etc.



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HOW? When an email is sent to the chat group, it is forwarded to all the individual member email addresses.

Here is the info regarding interacting with the group:

Post: [Dunkard-Brethren@groups.io](mailto:Dunkard-Brethren@groups.io)

Subscribe: [Dunkard-Brethren+subscribe@groups.io](mailto:Dunkard-Brethren+subscribe@groups.io)

Unsubscribe: [Dunkard-Brethren+unsubscribe@groups.io](mailto:Dunkard-Brethren+unsubscribe@groups.io)

Group Owner contact: [Dunkard-Brethren+owner@groups.io](mailto:Dunkard-Brethren+owner@groups.io)

Additional information to be aware of:

Chat group members should be very careful that what they send is appropriate and intended for the entire group as an email cannot be recalled or deleted after being sent. If you want to respond to an individual that has posted to the group, make sure that you do not reply to the group address.

The first time you send an email to the group from your email address, the message will not go out to the group until the moderator approves it, so there will likely be a delay in your first email being sent. This is to ensure that emails are coming from a valid member and not spam or something nefarious. Subsequent messages that you send will not require moderator approval and will go to the group immediately.

## **Bible Monitor Archive**

Ever want information from a previous issue of the Bible Monitor, only to realize that you already pitched it? We might be able to help. Older digital issues of the Bible Monitor are now available on the Dunkard Brethren website. Currently, the digital archive consists of issues from 2018 through April 2025 and will be updated periodically. There is also a search function available within the archive.

On the website:

- Scroll down to “Publications”
- Click on “Learn More”
- In “Bible Monitor”, click “Bible Monitor”

## **Invitation to Write**

Avid readers of the Bible Monitor know that most of the content of the Monitor comes from a handful of regular writers and a handful or two of occasional writers. We very much appreciate those that diligently contribute material for the Monitor. There have recently been some new writers contributing, including some younger writers and that is very encouraging.

If you haven't written for the Monitor before or haven't in a while, this is an invitation to consider doing so. We welcome appropriate articles, poetry and news items. While many of our articles are devotional, other topics for publication may highlight topics such as youth, parenting, outreach, women's interests, etc. If you aren't used to writing and struggle with sentence structure, grammar or the flow of writing, the editor can help with rewording, corrections and general polishing before publishing.

Please send all materials for intended publishing to the editor by email at [kenbrockbd@gmail.com](mailto:kenbrockbd@gmail.com) or by regular mail to 1520 County Road 2260, Stryker, Ohio 43557. Any questions can be sent to the editor by email, mail or phone (text or call) to 419-515-3396.

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### **Bible Monitor Submission Schedule – Articles and News Items**

When submitting an article for publishing in the Bible Monitor, please try to submit it to the editor by the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month prior. For example, please try to have an article submitted by August 1<sup>st</sup> if you would like it to be published in the September issue. Likewise, for shorter writings such as news items, please try to submit them by the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the month prior. It is preferred that materials for publishing in the Monitor be submitted by email to [kenbrockdb@gmail.com](mailto:kenbrockdb@gmail.com). However, they can also be submitted by regular mail to 1520 County Road 2260, Stryker, Ohio 43557.

## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR July 2025**

### **July 6 - II Sam. 15:13-23 – David Flees from Absalom**

1. Why do you think David chose to flee Jerusalem rather than confront Absalom immediately? What might have been going through his mind?  

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2. How does David respond to Ittai's loyalty (verse 22)? What does this reveal about David's character and his understanding of loyalty?  

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3. The phrase "all the country wept aloud" is powerful. What does this suggest about David's relationship with the people? How might Absalom have gained such a strong following despite this apparent affection for David?  

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### **July 13 - II Sam. 15:24-37 – David Grieves Through Conflict**

1. Why does David instruct Zadok to return to the city with the Ark?  

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2. What does David's decision to send the Ark back to Jerusalem reveal about his faith and his understanding of God's presence?  

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3. Where does David go after sending Zadok, Abiathar, and Hushai back to Jerusalem? What does this detail suggest about his emotional state?  

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**July 20 - II Sam. 16:1-13 – When Men Shall Revile You**

1. Do you think Ziba's motives are pure? What might he stand to gain from his actions?

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2. Shimei appears and curses David. Why do you think he reacts this way to David's plight? What does his cursing reveal about the political climate and public opinion at the time?

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3. To borrow a phrase of the day, why is David so "chill" while a man curses and throws stones at him?

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**July 27 - II Sam. 16:14-23 – Abiding with Whom the Lord Chooses**

1. Was David weary just because his feet hurt, and his sandals were filled with sand?

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2. The text highlights the power of counsel. How discerning are you in seeking and receiving advice? What principles guide you in choosing your advisors?

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3. Can you think of times in your life when difficult or negative experiences ultimately led to positive outcomes or a deeper understanding of God's will?

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