

# BULLETIN

**THE WORD OF TRUTH MINISTRY**  
**228 NORTH EL MOLINO AVENUE**  
**PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91101-1675**  
[www.seedandbread.org](http://www.seedandbread.org)

*Otis Q. Sellers, Founder*

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**Jane Sellers Hancock, Editor**

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## **LET THE REDEEMED SAY SO**

*By Andrew Brown*

After Acts 28:28, the gift of evangelism ceased. Since then, God has been silently dispensing grace to a world that multiplies wickedness. Yet, because of God's grace, some have entered into a glorious relationship with Christ the Savior, been redeemed from sin, and had eonian life in "*the Kingdom of the Son of His love*" (Col. 1:13, *NKJV*) guaranteed to them. This day of God's grace brings us a rare opportunity to proclaim Christ and His truth. As we wait for God to speak, we should not remain silent.

2 Timothy, the last book of Scripture given, contains numerous, valuable lessons. Paul urged Timothy, "*Do the work of an evangelist*" (2 Tim. 4:5). We too can do "the work" of one who gives God's message. During the Acts period God's salvation-bringing message could only be spoken by those God commissioned to do so. After Acts 28:28, God's miraculous works ceased and instead of sending heralds, God commissioned the message itself to continue revealing life-giving truth for anyone who will believe. We hold God's powerful written Word and can pass on its all-sufficient truth; what a privilege!

Paul also told Timothy, "*Preach the Word; be ready in season and out of season*" (2 Tim. 4:2). Today, out of season is more common. Regardless if we *feel* compelled or are assured our words will be fruitful, we ought to step up and speak to those around us about the hope that we have. For many believers, the increase in wickedness has instigated a fear of speaking of their Savior. "*Indeed all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted*" (2 Tim. 3:12). We must face potential persecution with the attitude of God-lovers throughout all history and join their company. Persecution resulted in the apostles rejoicing "*that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His Name*" (Acts 5:41). "*Blessed are you when men cast insults at you and persecute you*" (Matt. 5:11). We must not allow disfavor in the opinion of dying men to hold us back from speaking of the righteousness that could save them. Throughout all His dealings, God has rewarded those who faithfully speak His word. Our reward will certainly come when He brings His righteous government.

What else hinders us? The world we live in flows against godliness. Scripture warns that believers can be pulled into the current of sin and distracted from what is most valuable. After seeing the beauty of truth and experiencing redemption, our minds can become deceived into thinking or speaking according to the pattern of this world. Paul wrote that he was "*not*

*ashamed of the gospel*” (Rom. 1:16) but asked for prayer to “*make known with boldness the mystery (secret) of the gospel*” (Eph. 6:19). Faithful men continue to fight the silencing effect of the evil flow. As the apostles did, we must struggle to take “*every thought captive to the obedience of Christ*” (2 Cor. 10:5), praying, “*Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer*” (Psa. 19:14).

Of course, speech should “*always be with grace, seasoned . . . with salt*” (Col. 4:6). Our words will not be perfect, but God requires us to be faithful rather than successful. He can supply grace to make our communication effective. Consider the various people and works that have drawn the attention of believers, initially bringing them to consider their standing with God. If we continue to faithfully present His message we participate in His gracious flow. “*Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things; for as you do this you will insure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you* (1 Tim. 4:16). Even in Christian circles, sound teaching, in accordance with the whole of Scripture, is lacking. There is great need for those who know truth to speak of it, and allow God to bring understanding.

God’s truth sets people free, revealing Christ as the ultimate treasure of the universe. When we treasure His truth and delight in Him, our mouths will speak of it. “*Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also*” (Matt. 6:21). “*The mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart*” (Matt.12:34). There is such abundance worth speaking of: the magnificence of the Creator, His coming government, His gracious forgiveness, and His captivating love. The Lord instructed Israel, “*These words . . . shall be on your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way . . . and when you rise up*” (Deut. 6:6-7). Certainly we can tell people in our spheres of influence of the salvation we have received, looking for “*faithful men, who will be able to teach others also*” (2 Tim. 2:2), as Timothy was taught.

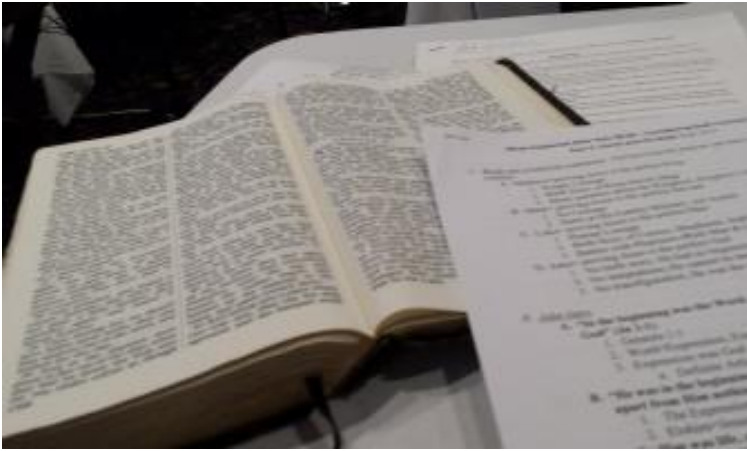
In this dispensation, we have the privilege to speak of Him and hold out the salvation-bringing message to the lost. We look forward to the time of the Kingdom when evangelism will not be needed. “*They shall not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them*” (Jer. 31:34). Now is the time to share Christ with those who do not know Him!

While God speaks only in the pages of His Word, our world turns its back on Him and is without hope, drifting deeper into the darkness of life without God. But God allows us the privilege to proclaim the life-altering answer. For those who have been captivated by God’s truth, there is a glorious hope and a reason for living. “*Let the redeemed of the Lord say so*” (Psa. 107:2). (Most verses from the *New American Standard Bible*.)



## **THE MIDWEST CONFERENCE**

*Jane S. Hancock*



After the success of our conference in Pasadena last year, Rusty Hancock suggested we plan another one—this time in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, hoping to attract some believers from the Midwest. Our opinion? The Midwest Conference was a great success and we are ready to do it again next year. Forty adults and at least eight children attended, most of them from the Milwaukee area but others from Minnesota, Ohio, New York, Montana, Oregon, Michigan, Texas and California.

I was pleased to see so many young people present. We often talk about the “graying” of our mailing list but that’s not true. In Wisconsin we found a large group of young married believers with children who have been listening to the tapes, reading Seed & Bread, studying their Bibles, and attending classes. They are knowledgeable and curious and excited about exploring the Scriptures and rightly dividing the word of truth.

Nathan Johnson, Andy Brown, and Bob Juneau planned their talks around the theme of “What Happened after Acts 28:28—Considering God’s Current Work.”

Nathan laid out a series of times as a basis for the studies to come. He concluded: “We must ‘rightly divide the word of truth’ by making a clear division between God’s various times. The Lord’s early work with Adam’s race as a whole in Genesis gave way to His special work with one family that grew into a nation: Israel. God’s work with Israel continued into the gospel period, with Christ not sent except to their lost sheep. It continued into Acts with the twelve going exclusively to Israel, and Paul to the Jews first. In the Kingdom of God to come, all nations will be blessed, but Israel will be at the center. Yet now we live in the day when all nations are joint and equal. We must learn all we can about God’s work today so we can understand it and divide Scripture rightly.”

Andy outlined events leading up to the Dispensation of Grace. He concluded: “God is silent today unlike any other time in history. No signs to prove belief today; believers are hidden in Christ. No mediators today except Jesus Christ. All nations are equal and Christ is among the nations. We need to rightly divide the Scriptures. God will arise and resume His suspended Kingdom work.”

Nathan answered the question “When did God’s work today begin?” by giving us other dividing lines espoused by various groups: Old Testament vs. New Testament, Acts 2, middle of Acts, Acts 28:28. His conclusion: “None of the proposed earlier dividing lines fit. Only

after Acts 28:28 are all nations equal, does God work in silence, and does God work exclusively in grace.”

Bob Juneau followed that with comparing the manifestations of the Lord on earth, in men, in punishments, through signs and wonders with what is going on in the Dispensation of Grace. Conclusion: God has suspended His open, manifest work among men; God’s current riches are untraceable; God’s current dispensation is secret; God deals graciously with us.

Nathan answered the question about how some epistles were written after Acts 28:28. “The Dispensation of Grace started off with a ‘transition period’ when the books setting forth the character of these days and truths for today were revealed. During those few years God was not silent, but He revealed current truth before falling silent.”

Dr. Hal Booher spoke on “The Mystery of the Kingdom of God—A Systems Analysis Solution.” How wonderful it is to have a scientist do the research. He looked at twenty different Kingdom views in literature and through the process of “analysis” and “elimination” found that the premillennial view in the Bible was the only one that held up. Side note: he prefaced his talk with an observation that Otis Q. Sellers should have gotten a Nobel Prize for theology—if there were such a thing!

Louis Tonetti was invited to speak but could not make it, so through the magic of technology he presented his talk and a slide show projected onto a screen. His topic: “Angels and Giants and Spirits in Prison, Oh My—and Why.” He showed some great photos of some very large giants’ skeletons—proof that there had been giants in the earth at one time.

We recorded each session; a CD Rom with all the messages will be included in the next bulletin.

In between sessions we sang and visited and ate. I’d like to thank the Milwaukee group, the Johnson and Brown families, and anyone else who contributed to the planning of the conference. I’d also like to thank the speakers who worked hard preparing for and presenting on those two days. And of course I want to thank all who came. Keeping the work of The Word of Truth Ministry going has fallen on my shoulders and I’m so relieved that other shoulders are there, shifting the weight, ready to take it on.

We do want to continue these yearly conferences—maybe in Milwaukee again or maybe near where you live. Let us know.



## CONFERENCE PHOTOS



**Conference Group**



**Rusty Hancock, Andy Brown,  
John McNeil**



**Penny and Ralph Luther**



**Madeline and Morris Dadd**



**Bob English, Winston Brown,  
Bob Juneau, Paul Walberg,  
Nathan Johnson**



**Group Sing-a-long**



**Jeremiah Snyder and  
Gwen Staiger**



**Bob Juneau**



## **PASSION IN THE LIFE OF A BELIEVER**

*By Nathan C. Johnson*

While teaching the Bible to inmates one day, I became passionate about what I was saying. Afterwards, one of the men came up to me and said, “You were angry today.” I was surprised by his accusation and told him that I was not angry, but he insisted that I was. Only later did I realize that he had mistaken my passion for anger. Perhaps the only time he had ever seen anyone get passionate in his life was when angry, and so he confused my passion with anger.

The passion of anger is usually about some offense against oneself. Those who only show strong emotion when they are angry reveal that their only real passion is themselves—their own lives, their own benefits, their own pride. What a sad thing! Yet I suppose this is not very uncommon. For believers in Jesus Christ, though, this is not the way we should be.

When I use the word “passion” in this way, I am talking about a deep, inner enthusiasm for and dedication to a thing. Such passion will often display itself in outward enthusiasm, but it will also define a person’s life and influence a person’s activities. A believer’s life should be

full of passion—a passion that is bound up in self-sacrificial love. In Biblical Greek, the word for the highest kind of love is *agape*. *Agape* love is God’s kind of love, a love that sacrifices itself for another. This is the love that the Bible indicates we should live in, as Ephesians 5:2 states: “*And be ordering your behavior in love, even as the Christ also loves you, and gives Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a fragrant odor.*” (All quotations are from *The Resultant Version* unless otherwise noted.) If our everyday activities are to be ordered in self-sacrificial love, then I would suggest that our lives must be lives of passion. Only deep dedication to the things of God, passion for Him and His ways, can truly result in lives of Godly self-sacrifice. Therefore I would argue that passion and self-sacrificial love go hand-in-hand.

As believers, we should have a passion for our fellow-believers that is produced by self-sacrificial love, as John declares in 1 John 4:7: “*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born (generated) of God and knows God*” (New King James Version). We realize that God loves people, and those who are His people through faith in His Son are particularly loved by Him. He is passionate about those who belong to Him, and so it is good for us to be passionate about one another.

As believers, it is essential that our family relationships also be full of passion. Ephesians 5:25 commands: “*The husbands be loving their wives even as the Christ loves the out-called, and gives Himself in its behalf.*” A man who belongs to Jesus Christ should love his wife self-sacrificially, even as Christ loved the out-called so much that He was willing to give Himself on their behalf. This is true of His sacrifice on the cross, and of the fact that He gives His out-called in measure of His body—that is, His substance—to make them become in essence what He is. Christ clearly loves the out-called passionately, and so husbands should love their wives just as passionately. This passion should extend to children as well. Ephesians 6:4 reads: “*And the fathers, do not be provoking your children to anger, but be nurturing them in the discipline and admonition of the Lord.*” A father should have a passion for his children, not in order to see them grow up with great material wealth, but to see them grow up into a close walk with the Lord. These are passions that every believing husband and father should have. No husband should cheat his wife out of having a husband who is passionate about her. No father should cheat his children out of having a father who is passionate about them. Of course, the same must be said regarding the believing wife and mother.

As believers, we need a passion for truth. This is God’s passion, as 1 Timothy 2:4 makes clear: “*Who will have all humanity to be saved, and to come unto the realization of the truth.*” This is God’s desire, as He commands in 2 Timothy 2:15: “*Endeavor to present yourself to God as one who is qualified to be a workman who has no need for being ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*” The thing God desires should be our passion—to seek after truth.

Finally and most importantly for believers, we should have a passion to know God Himself. This was Paul’s passion, as he expresses in Philippians 3:8 and 10: “*Yea doubtless, I count all to be loss because of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for the sake of Whom I have suffered the loss of all these, and do count them but refuse, that I may win Christ . . . That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the communion of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death.*” Paul was willing to count everything that might have been gain to him as loss compared to knowing Christ Jesus. His passion was to know Him, and we can clearly see how he lived out that passion in his life. Paul had a purpose and a goal, and that goal was Christ.



So let us ask ourselves: Do we have passion in life, or do we simply live through one day in order to make it to the next? Do we live for material possessions and our own desires, or does our goal to live for Christ define our every activity? As believers, we have plenty of things to be passionate about, and the greatest of these is being passionate about knowing God. Let us live as those who have passion in life for Him!



## **A REVIEW OF LOUIS J. TONETTI'S 'EPHESIANS STUDY'**

*By Robert English*

For those who have read Otis Q. Sellers' *Resultant Version* of Ephesians (**Seed & Bread** Nos. 58-63), one appreciates his insight and clear presentation of Ephesians. A problem for Tonetti was going between the verse with its notations and the footnotes in the back of the pamphlets. To solve the problem he moved each footnote just after the verse it refers to.

An example in Ephesians 1:1 is the words *commissioned one*, which has a notation "B." Immediately after the verse in the footnote we find "B," which reads: "The Greek is *apostolos* . . . ."

Tonetti added two helpful things. First, he included the *King James Version* (KJV) of the verse. This allows the reader to compare the KJV with the *Resultant Version*. Second, he included the Greek version of the verse. Note, from the example above, *apostolos* is the second word in the Greek verse. This is very helpful for those trying to learn Greek.

Tonetti uses the following order for each verse: 1. The KJV; 2. The Greek; 3. The *Resultant Version*; and 4. The footnotes. If you would rather read the *Resultant Version* without the notations or footnotes, then Tonetti has provided the whole text of Ephesians at the end of his *Ephesians Study*.

This study can be found at The Word of Truth Ministry website at [www.seedandbread.org](http://www.seedandbread.org). Look on the right hand side of the page for the *Ephesians Study* and click on it.

I recommend the *Ephesians Study* to all students of the Bible.



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## **MEMORIES OF DAVID R. HETTEMA**

*By Joanne L.H. Johnson*

On June 20, 2014, David Roy Hetteima, Director Emeritus of The Word of Truth Ministry (WOTM), died. He was 91. He was born on January 5, 1923, in Denver, Colorado, the third son of Harold and Jenny Hetteima, was raised in Pasadena, California, and was one of eight children. He is survived by a sister, Kay Washer; a couple of brothers, Bob and Joe Hetteima; and his four children, Pete, Sue, Kathy and Phil; six grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. His wife of 60 years (1945-2005), Norma, preceded him in death.

He was executive director for the WOTM for about 20 years. He was a student, supporter and friend for over 50 years.

When the founder of the WOTM died, Otis Q. Sellers, Hetteima came to the forefront, almost single-handedly saving the Ministry from extinction. He managed, wrote More Seed & Bread leaflets, and taught the Bible Class. He also went on about twelve conference tours to the Midwest and Texas.

Hetteima also wrote and published a great little book called *The 8 Signs of John's Gospel*. Its profound message was written in such a way that even a child could understand it.

He was an avid student of the Word of God and gave informative and provocative Bible study lectures that were taped.

He enjoyed digging up truths about the Kingdom of God and made thorough charts (including the one on the WOTM website, [seedandbread.org](http://seedandbread.org)) showing the order of events in Bible history, past, present and future. These were based on the studies and an older chart of the late Mr. Sellers.

Hettema was a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant pilot, 323<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Squadron, 91<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group in the Army Air Corps during World War II, and flew a B-17 on 35 missions.

He also ran a business, Crown Graphics, in Pasadena, CA, serving the printing and publishing industries for over 45 years. WOTM office manager, Rusty Hancock, worked for him when Rusty was a teenager.

His sense of ethics, character and fundamental honesty, derived from the Bible, were demonstrated daily in his personal, family and professional life. He also possessed a keen sense of humor for which he was well known.

We at the WOTM will miss him, as will hundreds of loyal people who knew him and either came to see him, wrote notes, e-mailed or telephoned him throughout his life. We know that we will all get to see Dave resurrected from the dead in the future Kingdom of God.



**David R. Hettema,  
WOTM Director Emeritus**



*“O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever.”  
Psalm 136:1, KJV*



## PLEASE EASE THE CONTRIBUTION ‘DRY SPELL’

Why are we calling it a “contribution dry spell?” Because usually late in the summer, contributions fall off drastically. This year is no different.

In spite of the “dry spell,” we have been pursuing an aggressive agenda, by adding more FREE materials to the website, [www.seedandbread.org](http://www.seedandbread.org), including all 570 of the Tape Library audio studies of the late Otis Q. Sellers. We recognize the risk, but it has happened many times during Sellers’ leadership with thankfully loyal people coming through every time. We must expand the arms of this Ministry now. Waiting would be bad for all concerned.

Here at the WOTM, we desire to share wonderful Biblical truths with as many people as possible. That’s why we are asking for your help once again. And a big “thank you” for our past loyal contributors who have already helped to keep us afloat.

Please, if you can help us out once again, we would be most appreciative! You can “snail mail” us at The Word of Truth Ministry, 228 N. El Molino Ave., Pasadena, CA 91101-1675. Or you can use PayPal on the website (click on the left side of the opening page on “donations”). Thanks so much for your support!

