Blue Letter Bible

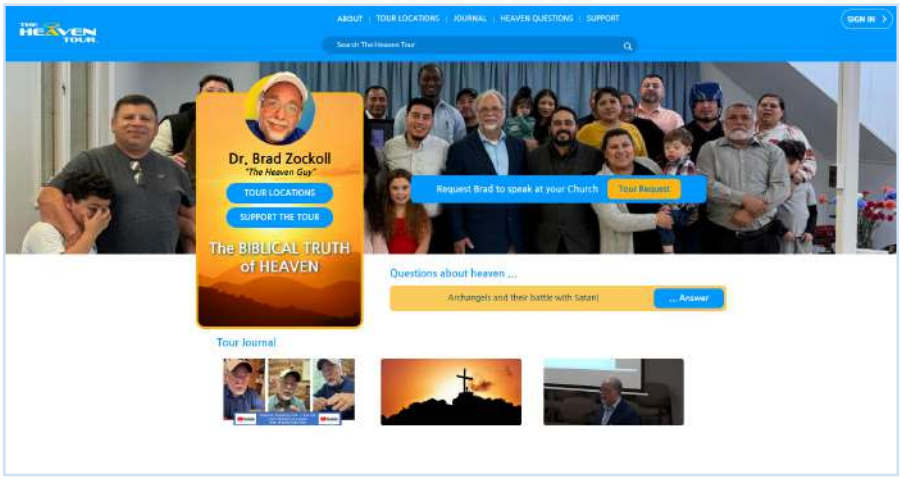
MAGNIFYING God's Word

AUGUST 2026

"For You have magnified Your word according to all Your name." ***Psalm 138:2*** *(NASB95)*

Searching the Depths of God's Word with BLB

Brad Zockoll was a rebellious teen, even running afoul of the law at times. While he had attended church most of his life, he was merely going through the motions and had not received Christ into his heart. In high school, Brad was a member of the wrestling team along with a believer named John. During Brad's junior year, he received news that John was run over by a malfunctioning tractor while working at the airport. In the ambulance on the way to the emergency room, John knew he was dying. He turned to his mother and said, "I'll see you in heaven" before stepping into eternity.



Dr. Zockoll's website, "The Heaven Tour"

> **I was gobsmacked at the amount of resources you guys offer!**

Shaken to his core, Brad dove into the Scriptures. "I wanted to know where in the Bible it talks about how you get to heaven," he told us. Shortly thereafter, he gave his life to Christ at 17 years old. He attended Bob Jones University and completed his undergraduate studies. Years later, he felt called to return to school to earn his Ph.D. During these studies, he discovered Blue Letter Bible. He said, "I was gobsmacked at the

continued on page 2

PAGE 2 Staff Tip: Daily Bible Reading Plans

PAGE 3 Free NLT Download on BLB Apps

PAGE 4 Looking Back on 3 Decades

Cover Story (continued from page 1)

amount of resources you guys offer, even back then!" He used the Blue Letter Bible website as a main resource in his dissertation and continued to use it as he began teaching classes, both in college prep academics and as an adjunct professor for King University.

Today, Dr. Zockoll continues to share the tools and resources on BLB as he reaches hundreds of thousands of people through his online ministry, *The Heaven Tour*. He actively streams on several different platforms, discussing the various aspects of heaven and the end times. This space has provided Dr. Zockoll with an amazing opportunity to uniquely connect and communicate with people. We were blessed to host him at the Blue Letter Bible headquarters and join him during his broadcast. If you are interested in watching the replay or would like to follow him on social media, you can visit www.blb.org/newsletterlinks. It is so encouraging to see God working through Dr. Zockoll, using BLB to bless God's people around the world.



Dr. Zockoll (center) at the BLB office with Andy Guastaferro (left) and Jim Milligan (right)

STAFF TIP

Daily Bible Reading Plans



Jessica Milligan

The Bible is big! With 66 books, 1,189 chapters, and over 750,000 words, the idea of reading through the whole Bible can feel a little overwhelming. That's where daily reading plans come in.

Blue Letter Bible provides several types of reading plans that go through the Bible in one or two years. Whether you want to read canonically from Genesis through Revelation or work your way through Scripture chronologically, there is something for everyone.

We also offer two different tracking options. First, we offer downloadable PDFs, making it easy to print off multiple copies to hand out for Bible studies or family devotionals. Second, if you want to be kept accountable, you can subscribe to the reading plans from the BLB website or apps to take advantage of our built-in accountability tools.

We are also going to be significantly revamping our reading plan experience in our upcoming redesign. Be on the lookout for more updates in the future!

NEW CONTENT

Visit BLB.org/newsletterlinks for links to content.

Free NLT Download on BLB Apps

We are so grateful to our partners at Tyndale House Publishing for graciously providing us the opportunity to offer the New Living Translation (NLT) as a free download for our mobile app users. They have also given us the updated 2015 NLT text to feature on both our apps and website. According to the preface, "The translators of the New Living Translation set out to render the message of the original texts of Scripture into clear, contemporary English." Tyndale goes on to explain that the NLT blends a literal, word-for-word approach with thought-for-thought modern English.

To start reading, change the translation to NLT on BLB.org or download the NLT to your mobile device on the Blue Letter Bible app. If you would like to learn more about the NLT and how to download it for free on our apps, you can read the full announcement on our blog using blb.org/newsletterlinks.



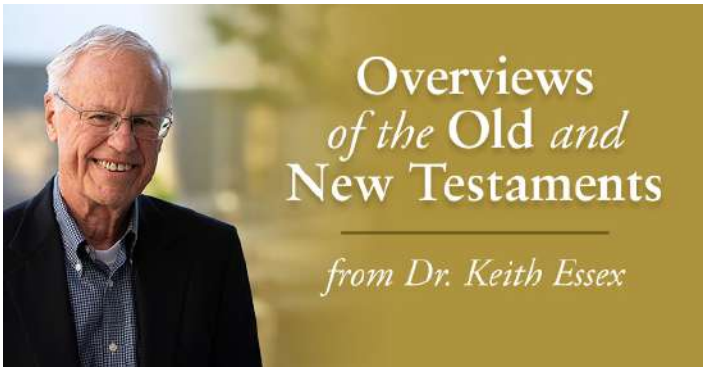
Lecture Series Outlines from Dr. Keith Essex

We are excited to announce the addition of Dr. Keith Essex to our website! He is a gifted professor who taught several courses at The Master's Seminary (TMS) for several years. Now, on Blue Letter Bible, you can read through his outlines on the Old Testament and New Testament. These are related to three overview classes that he taught at TMS: Old Testament I, Old Testament II, and New Testament.

The notes are provided in outline format and contain literary, background, thematic, and other information critical to understanding each book of the Bible.

These outlines serve as a companion to the lecture videos, which are provided for free from TMS, and are linked on each related study page.

If you are interested in learning more about this resource, visit blb.org/newsletterlinks.



Looking Back on Three Decades of God's Grace

GOD'S WORD IS ALIVE & ACTIVE

On June 17, we released our cinematic documentary, "The Blue Letter Bible Story: 30 Years of Magnifying God's Word," on Facebook, Instagram, X, and YouTube. Back in 1995, before the dawn of Google, our co-founders Jim Milligan and Frank Rabinovitch sought to leverage this new household technology called the internet for the glory of God. What God would do over the next thirty years was beyond imagination.

"The Blue Letter Bible Story" is a story about God's gracious hand of leading and providing. It is also a story of a ministry that has sought to glorify God above all through prayerful dependence and relational intentionality. It is a story worth telling because it is a story that we all share as we seek to faithfully fulfill God's calling upon our lives.

One viewer shared, "What a wonderful story. Thank you so much for sharing it. An example of how the mustard seed grows into a great tree, and the birds come and nest in it. I am confident that God will continue to bless many through the prayerful and God-centered ministry of BLB."

As a partner, you are a key part of our history. On behalf of the entire team, thank you for your part in making the written Word available for free to people around the world.

Until the whole world hears,

Andy Gustafson

Chief Executive Officer



Planned Giving with BLB

The BLB Legacy Fellowship gives partners the opportunity to maximize their long-term partnership with our ministry through various charitable giving vehicles. Whether it is through gifts that reduce taxes, gifts that pay income or gifts in a will, we will help you identify creative giving solutions that fit your goals and situation, all for a greater purpose.

Learn More at BLB.org/legacy

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