



CONCORDIA
BIBLE INSTITUTE
Christ in Every Word

CBI e-Bulletin

December 2024

Welcome to this month's edition of the Concordia Bible Institute (CBI) e-Bulletin!

Continue reading for an explanation of the difference between our eyes and ears when it comes to faith, a new series of videos now available on our web site, and more!

CBI exists to provide Christ-centered Bible instruction through distinguished experts who teach "Christ in Every Word" of the Old and New Testaments. Under the direction of Dr. Brian German and in cooperation with the Department of Theology at Concordia University Wisconsin, CBI offers podcasts, face-to-face seminars, and other special events to strengthen faith and spread belief in the one true God. If your congregation would like to host a seminar, please reach out to us at Concordia.Bible@cuw.edu.



"For the whole Christ is in every word and wholly in each individual word. When He is denied, therefore, in one word, He is totally denied, for He is in every word."

-Martin Luther (*Luther's Works*, 25:238).

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From the Ear to the Eye and Back Again

You can see what caused the whole golden calf debacle, can't you? "When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron and said to him, "Up, make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him" (Ex. 32:1).

The whole thing starts...with seeing. In Hebrew it's even the first word of the entire narrative, sitting there like a flag on the play before the ball is even kicked: "saw." When the people saw. Yes, when the people saw that Moses was delayed, the people went from their ears to their eyes, which never ends well.

We know how this goes. We hear with our ears on Sunday mornings that the Lord is with us, but throughout the rest of the week we place our eyes on our finances, our health, our family problems, and insist on measuring how much God loves us on the basis of what we see.

"So Aaron said to them, 'Take off the rings of gold that are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.' So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. And they said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" (Ex. 32:2-4).

From the ears to the eyes. If faith cometh by hearing, then the ears should be adorned over all the other senses. When our Lord goes after his bride in the book of Ezekiel, he gives her glorious earrings, fit for a divine marriage. But when we trust in the eye over the ear we sacrifice the ear for the stuff of sight and impulse and feeling and we act like we're not content being the bride of our Lord.

“And the Lord said to Moses, ‘I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people. Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, in order that I may make a great nation of you’” (Ex. 32:9–10).

Finally we go from the eye back to the ear! Did you catch it? With those closing words of our Lord —“let me make a great nation out of you”—our Lord reminds Moses of the very promises he's been speaking to Moses and to all his people again and again, no matter what life throws at them: “I will make a great nation out of you.” You've been hearing this with your ears, Moses. Say my promises back to me, Moses. It'll make all the difference in this debacle; it'll make all the difference in your life.

And that's just what Moses does. “And the Lord relented from the disaster that he had spoken of bringing on his people” (Ex. 32:14).

Dear friends in Christ, we walk by the ears, and not by the eyes. Stake everything on what God has *said* about you, not on what your eyes see happening all around you. When your eyes see a hard day-to-day routine, listen again to how your labor in the Lord is never in vain. When your eyes keep focusing on your latest suffering, listen again to how God draws near to you in your weakness. If you want something that'll make all the difference in your life, go from the eye to the ear.

That's why, after all, God's people throughout the ages were to put his word between their eyes—to see all of your life through it—and on the hand—to do all of your life by means of it—and in the house—to live in it every day.

And when you get tired of waiting for our Lord, cling all the more firmly to his promises; he's never let a single one of them fall to the ground. He will make good on them. Remind him of those promises, and you've got him. Why? Because they all find their yes and amen in Christ (2 Cor 1:20).

As all the fun movies will show you, when Moses came back down the mountain, he broke the tablets, burned the calf with fire, ground it to powder, scattered it on the water, and made the people drink it. But when a prophet like Moses came down from heaven, it was his own body that would be broken, burned with wrath on a cross, and then scattered throughout the entire world so that God's people could consume this for a clean conscience. Thanks be to God!

Dr. Brian German

Director of the Concordia Bible Institute



Podcasts

Dr. German has been taking us through the book of Leviticus on his podcast. You can listen to our weekly podcasts by subscribing on iTunes, Google Play, or Spotify

When new episodes become available they will automatically be downloaded to your device. Just click [here](#) to subscribe through our website, or click the image below!



You can also catch up, or seek out other series, topics or books of the Bible, in the podcast archives on the [CBI website](#). CBI podcasts are around 30min each.

To browse by topic or book of the Bible, click [HERE](#); or, to browse stand-alone single podcasts, click [HERE](#).

Read the Bible in a Year

Looking to add to your devotions? Or simply want to accomplish the goal of reading the Bible in a year? Follow along with the calendar below; even if you start now, continue through next 12 months and you will have read through the whole Bible! A new calendar will be sent in each newsletter.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Luke 1:46-55 Revelation 1-2	2 Psalm 1 Revelation 3-5	3 Psalm 2 Revelation 6-8	4 Psalm 3 Revelation 9-11	5 Psalm 4 Rev. 12-14	6 Psalm 5 Rev. 15-17	7 Psalm 6 Rev. 18-20
8 Psalm 7 Rev. 21-22	9 Psalm 8 Isaiah 1-3	10 Psalm 9 Isaiah 4-6	11 Psalm 10 Isaiah 7-9	12 Psalm 11 Isaiah 10-12	13 Psalm 12 Isaiah 13-15	14 Psalm 13 Isaiah 16-8
15 Psalm 14 Isaiah 19-21	16 Psalm 15 Isaiah 22-24	17 Psalm 16 Isaiah 25-27	18 Psalm 17 Isaiah 28-30	19 Psalm 18 Isaiah 31-33	20 Psalm 19 Isaiah 34-36	21 Psalm 20 Isaiah 37-39
22 Psalm 21 Isaiah 40-42	23 Psalm 22 Isaiah 43-45	24 Psalm 23 Isaiah 46-48 Christmas Eve	25 Psalm 24 Isaiah 49-51 Merry Christmas!	26 Psalm 25 Isaiah 52-54	27 Psalm 26 Isaiah 55-57	28 Psalm 27 Isaiah 58-60
29 Psalm 28 Isaiah 61-63	30 Psalm 29 Isaiah 64-66	31 Luke 1:46-55 Mark 1				

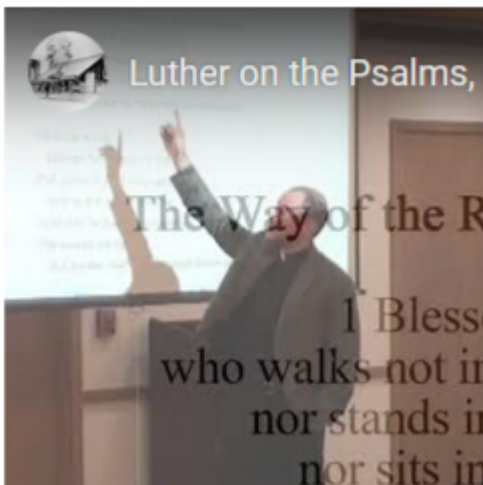
Archive Videos of Dr. Saleska Available



Videos from CBI archives continue to be gradually uploaded to the CBI website. These videos were taken from teaching by Dr. John Saleska and others, from as far back as 2001. You are welcome to view them at any time!

- Visit [here](#) to view all the videos we have available so far.
- Current teachings available include Dr. Saleska on Parables of the Kingdom, Christ Crucified Everywhere in Scripture, Baptism of the Holy Spirit, Do Miracles Still Happen?, Prayer According to the Scriptures, and Christ, Teacher of All Truth.
- **Adding This Month:** Our Father Abraham

Archived Videos of Dr. German Now Available



Dr. German has been regularly presenting seminars at Pilgrim Lutheran Church in West Bend, WI; sometimes through a series of evenings, sometimes for one day (morning through afternoon). Either way, the fine folks at Pilgrim have been recording his presentations and posting them on their YouTube channel, and they have graciously allowed us to showcase them on our site as well! You can access these recordings on any page from the Resources drop-down menu at the top, or from the green bar in the middle of the home page: <https://concordiabible.org>. Current topics include Jesus in the Old Testament, Seeing the Resurrection, and Luther on the Psalms. If your congregation would like to host a seminar, please reach out to us at Concordia.Bible@cuw.edu.

Concordia Bible Institute Endowment

CBI has established the Concordia Bible Institute Endowment fund, for the purpose of providing financial assistance to not just maintain but expand the ability of CBI to serve the Church by providing resources to pastors and congregations of Christ-centered Bible instruction from distinguished experts who teach "Christ in Every Word" of the Old and New Testaments .



Please help spread the word about this endowment and pray for its growth. For ways to contribute and resources about this endowment, please visit concordiabible.org/contribute and designate "Concordia Bible Institute Endowment" on your method of giving.

Please contact Jeff Klocko, Director of Donor Relations, for details about this exciting opportunity. He can be reached at 262.243.2170 or jeff.klocko@cuw.edu.

Saleska Scholarship for Pre-Seminary Students

Please help Concordia University Wisconsin provide more financial aid to Pre-Seminary students by praying for and giving to the Saleska Scholarship Endowment. Gifts can be given by congregations, groups, and individuals.

- Visit concordiabible.org/Saleska for more information and to give (scroll down to the bottom of the page to see all of our resources).
- Help us get the word out to those who want to help Pre-Seminary students and to those who knew Dr. Saleska.
- Click here to watch our video: <https://youtu.be/vqLfzI9Wlkw>

If you know someone who may be interested in the Pre-Seminary program at CUW, you may reach out to Dr. LaFève, CUW's Pre-Seminary Director, at Joshua.LaFève@cuw.edu.

Website

Visit our website at concordiabible.org to learn more about CBI.

Contribute

Concordia Bible Institute thrives because of generous supporters, like you! If you find value in this e-Bulletin and other CBI offerings and would like to support our mutual desire to spread God's Word to wide audiences, please consider making a contribution to CBI. There are many ways to contribute, from writing a check to **CUW Foundation** with **CBI e-Bulletin** on the memo line, to using the following link to make a one-time or recurring gift online: [Support Concordia Bible Institute](http://SupportConcordiaBibleInstitute).

Mail checks to:

Concordia University Wisconsin
Attn: Office of Advancement
12800 North Lake Shore Drive
Mequon, WI 53097

"Seeing Jesus in the Old Testament" photo courtesy of <http://www.prayercollege.org/tag/messiah>

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