

SBM HERITAGE SET DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

Throughout history the only reliable way of keeping records or documents from generation to generation was to write or print them, preferably on materials that could survive the usual ravages of time: paper, stone, wood.

During the sixth century and onward, Irish monks occupied themselves with copying the old theological works of the early Church, as well as philosophical and historical classics of ancient Greece and Rome. That single act preserved a great body of literature that would have otherwise been lost to us, since the Roman Empire was thoroughly destroyed by the invading armies of Eurasia who burned almost all existing manuscripts and libraries in their path. When some semblance of order was gradually restored in Europe, the Irish missionaries were there, visiting across the continent, loaning out the manuscripts they had copied.

The lesson from this episode of history is this: if we want succeeding generations to have our work available to them, not only must we put our works into print, we must also take measures to preserve them.

In our modern times the very real threat exists that our works will disappear as soon as someone figures out how to pull the plug on us. Every form of knowledge that we have mainly exists as electronic blips on our computer screens. Almost nothing is in print anymore. A lesser problem, but still very real and threatening to the task of preserving knowledge, is that our forms of data storage change completely every few years. For example, almost nobody now remembers the 8" floppy disk; and so the information that was on them, if not repeatedly preserved in updated technology, is totally gone now. It's that easy for all our hard work to disappear. Our generation, for all of its glorious achievements in science and technology, will ironically leave no legacy for future times.

SBM has been given treasures from Heaven, riches from the Word of God, which must be preserved for succeeding generations. The time to act is now if we want to make sure that our descendants will have access to these valuable truths.

The plan, therefore, is that SBM will distribute packages of its books to key areas all across the country into the hands of willing participants. The distribution rules are these:

- The Heritage Sets will go to relatively stable areas of the country. If there is going to be a societal meltdown, we don't want to have our materials in the path of man-made destruction – riots, mass hysteria, atomic bombs – or God-sent plagues and Sodom-type disasters that Heaven may bring down upon the heads of reprobate cities.
- The materials will be put into the hands of those who are aware of their importance and are willing to both preserve the Sets and use them in their own ministry situations.

This plan will ensure that these Sets will be in a form that cannot disappear easily when all other forms of knowledge are suddenly gone from the scene.

We therefore ask our recipients to do three things with these books:

- **First**, keep the entire Set together. There are 25 titles in the Set, and this represents the summary of the work in Biblical Studies that SBM deems necessary for any and all of God's people, both in this generation and those following. We ask that you keep the Set on your premises in a location that protects the books and provides a natural "go-to" spot for using the books.
- **Second**, we want you to actually use the books in your own studies and teaching. Our intention is not that you become paranoid about them – like encasing them in concrete for the next 1000 years! They are meant to be used as aids in your own ministry. Just try to keep them in good shape, return books to the Set as you're done with them, and keep little fingers from damaging them or making titles disappear. Remember, a title that's gone cannot benefit future believers.
- **Third**, lend them out discreetly. There will be people you can trust to read them and learn from them; by all means spread the treasures around. But make sure that you get them back in a timely manner and restore them to their position with the rest of the Set. The ultimate goal is to make sure the succeeding generations of the Church will have access to all of these titles.

Finally, you would do well to keep a copy of this letter with the Set so that anybody in the future will be aware of its purpose and do their part for its preservation.

Following is the list of titles in the SBM Heritage Set:

A Manual for Spiritual Survival
A New Model for Biblical Studies
Before the Throne of God
Biblical Theology for Pastors and Teachers (2 volumes)
Eight Fundamentals of the Christian Faith
Genesis: A Theological Commentary (2 volumes)
Mystery Revealed: A Beginner's Bible Survey
No Proof Needed
Profitable Servants
Spiritual Warfare
Ten Keys to the Bible
The Bible Explains Creation
The Church Militant
The Fullness of the Son
The Gospel of Jesus
The Measure of a Christian

The Mission
The Secret to Answered Prayer
The Severity Passages of the Four Gospels
The Spirit of the Son
The Throne of David
The Ways of the Lord
The Witness
Treasures in Heaven
What the Bible Says About Hell

If you feel that you would like to contribute to other Sets and their distribution (perhaps you have a perfect person in mind to receive one), please contact us with this information and we will be happy to oblige.

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