



**NORTHEAST OHIO
BIBLE COLLEGE**

We Major in Ministry



www.neobc.org

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From the desk
of President
Joe Croft

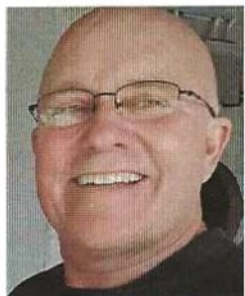
Grace and peace to all of you! Yes, I borrowed that from Paul. I am thankful to all who called or e-mailed me saying they are sharing these subjects that talk about how to handle objections to Biblical teachings. Please keep doing that. The goal, as Jesus prayed, is unity: that we all believe the same things, especially when it comes to salvation.

So, in this newsletter I want to talk about two more common objections. One is when people say, "Well, you interpret it one way and I interpret it another, so what?" As always let us let the Bible speak. II Peter 1:20 says, "But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation." In other words, it does matter what God says in His Word. The Greek phrase *idias epilyseos* (ἰδία ἐπιλύσεως) means that it is one's own explanation, one's own mind. We should not just read it and interpret it. We just need to do the work in understanding the truth. Because, my friends, there is only one truth.

This leads to the next objection: that men wrote the Bible and since men are fallible, the Bible is fallible or that it has errors. Read the very next verse from our prior objection, II Peter 1:21, "for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God." So yes, men wrote the Bible as moved by the Holy Spirit. It did not originate in the writer's mind, but through the mind and words of Almighty God. That is why we all love II Timothy 3:16-17, "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work."

These newsletters are mini-teachings. If you want more in-depth lessons from the Word of God, it is not too late to take a class. As Solomon discovered and wrote in Ecclesiastes, "All is vanity," which in essence means life without God is meaningless. This is from the wisest person, other than Jesus, in the Bible. He had every material possession and he found no satisfaction. Please remove something meaningless in your life, take a class that does have meaning and importance and let us grow the Kingdom together.

"Study to show thyself approved unto God... Rightly dividing the word of truth" II Timothy 2:15



Meet a new adjunct professor, Mark Bourne

We want to welcome Mark to the NEOBC teaching staff.

Mark Bourne is an evangelist who has been working with the Brevard Christian Church for the past 26 years. Mark graduated from Central Florida Bible College and Regent College. He also did graduate work at Cincinnati Christian Seminary and Western Kentucky University. He has had ministries in Washington State, Tennessee and Florida. He and his wife Lori have four children and 15 grandchildren. Both his sons are also in the ministry.

Mark is a featured and highly sought-after speaker at most major Christian events where there will be huge gatherings. We are so honored to have such a one on our faculty roster.

Mark is teaching Christian Evidences this Fall 2026 semester.



Meet a new adjunct professor, Faron Franklin

We want to welcome Faron to the NEOBC teaching staff. He has been a past board member here at NEOBC, and he also has been featured in an author edition we did. Now we welcome him also as an adjunct professor.

Faron W. Franklin has served as a minister of the gospel for more than 41 years. His ministry has been marked by a deep love for Christ, a commitment to the authority of Scripture, and a passion for helping people become faithful followers of Jesus. Before his work in Williamstown, Ky, Faron served for 17 years

on the outskirts of Pittsburgh, Pa, where he preached, taught, shepherded, and helped strengthen the church through biblical ministry and practical discipleship. He now serves as the senior minister of Williamstown Christian Church in Williamstown, Ky, located just two miles from the world-renowned Ark Encounter.

Faron is also an author of several books, including resources designed to help Christians grow in faith, strengthen the church, and live with greater spiritual purpose. His writing reflects the same heart that has shaped his ministry for decades: clear biblical teaching, practical application, and a desire to see lives transformed by Jesus Christ.

More than simply teaching about discipleship, Faron has spent his ministry practicing it. He is a disciple-maker who has developed a simple, practical, and reproducible approach for helping people come to Christ, grow in Christ, mature in their faith, and become disciple-makers themselves. His teaching is rooted not only in years of study, but also in years of walking with people through real-life faith, questions, struggles, victories, and spiritual growth.

Students in this class will benefit from Faron's decades of ministry experience, his pastoral heart, his biblical convictions, and his practical tools for disciple-making. His goal is not merely to provide information, but to equip believers to answer the call of Jesus: to make disciples who make disciples.

Faron is teaching Discipleship this Fall 2026 semester.



I WANT TO TAKE A CLASS BUT...

If you want to take a class but you work during class hours, we have a solution. We record via video almost all of our classes, so you can sign up for a class and watch the video later. You can always e-mail the professor with questions. If you want to take a class, but you are not tech savvy we have a solution for you. Our administrator, Lisa, is willing to help you learn how to use our online platform. Just call and set up an appointment or she can guide you over the phone. If you want to take a class but are worried about the financial side of things, we have a solution. We are willing to set up payment plans. Just talk with Lisa and she will be glad to help you out by setting up a payment plan. Also, we keep our classes affordable. Our classes are \$25/audit hour and \$50/credit hour along with a \$10 registration fee each semester. What is the difference between audit and credit? We are glad you asked. Audit is just to come and learn. No testing is required, and it does not lead to a diploma. Credit is to learn, but you do have to take tests, and it leads to one of two diplomas. The first is Bachelor of Arts Diploma - Christian Ministry. This requirement is 136 hours consisting of 120 required credit hours as outlined in our catalog. This diploma does require Greek class. Our other diploma is Bachelor of Sacred Literature Diploma—Christian Ministry. The requirement is 136 hours consisting of 120 required credit hours as outlined in our catalog. This diploma does not require Greek class. To see our catalog, just reach out to Lisa, and she can get you a copy. If you want to take a class, but you don't live near the main campus or one of our satellite professors, we have a solution. Most of our classes are offered online in real time if you are available during class time or later if you are not available during class time. Also, with our online format, if you did participate during live class, but want to review, you have access to it for as long as the site we use stays in existence. If you are an in-person student, you still are enrolled in the online classroom so you, too,

can go back and rewatch any class you have signed up for at any time.

If you want to take a class but feel inadequate, we have a solution. Many of us feel that way. The Bible teaches so much, and every time you open it you learn something new. Our classes are not elementary level as we are a college, but the professors make it clear and understandable. If a student is having trouble with something, the professor is willing to either answer student questions then, or sometimes they will make an appointment with you to discuss one-on-one. Remember, the only stupid question is the one that never was asked.

If you want to take a class, but you think it looks like no one is ever there, we have a solution. We are here. Our parking is in the rear of the building which is where the entrance to the building is. If you notice, our driveway goes up and curves around. Come and join us, we'd love to meet you.

If you want to take a class, but you think you are too old, or that it is only for people getting out of high school, we have a solution. Our student body is a mixture of ages from those just getting out of high school to pursue a career in ministry to students in their 70 who are just wanting to continue to learn and grow in their faith as well as keep their minds active. Also, many ministers take classes with us, and we encourage that because just because you are the one preaching doesn't mean you know everything or have thought about things in different ways. One should never stop being educated.

So whatever your issue is regarding why you don't think you can take a class, we most likely have a solution to help you. Stop making excuses and come join us for class. We love meeting and seeing new faces as well as our friends we've been with here for years.

Get involved with Northeast Ohio Bible College by:
Prayer - there is never a ministry that does not need prayer. Please cover us in prayer.

Partner - Become a financial partner. Consider donating at least \$25/month as an individual or at least \$100/month as a church or organization. We are a 501(c)3 non-profit entity.

We survive only because of the support of individuals and churches who know and support our mission.

Participate - Join us for classes either online or in person

If you are a Social Media person -

Like, follow, & share our Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/NEOBCollege>



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