

The Quarterly Journal



THE NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION OF PERSONAL FREEDOM OUTREACH

VOL. 39, NO. 2

APRIL-JUNE 2019

EDITOR: KEITH A. MORSE

Why Definitions Matter

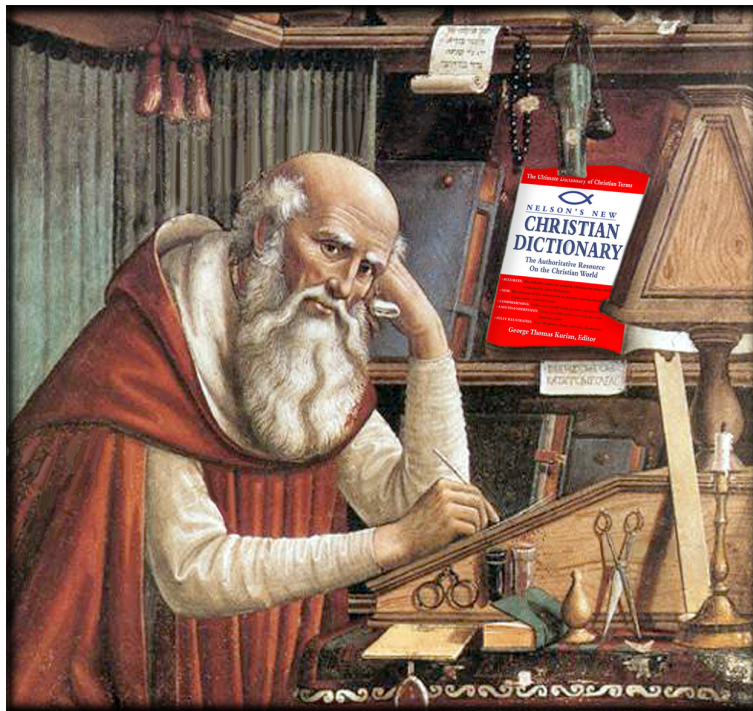
The Importance of Using Words That Communicate Biblical Truth

by Gary E. Gilley

Mark Twain said, “The difference between the right word and the almost right word is the difference between lightning and the lightning bug.” Used by Twain, the distinction between being a mediocre writer and great one was the choice of words. If this is important to a novelist, how much more important it is to the Christian trying to communicate timeless truths given to us by our Creator God.

Words and their meanings matter. Unfortunately, in our Christian lingo, we tend to use sloppily thrown-out words and terms that can mislead others and, in time, some of these terms take on lives of their own. When we do so, we unknowingly miscommunicate important truths that our Lord has revealed to us, and/or mislead ourselves and others as a result.

We need to give serious attention to our terminology in order to avoid



such things. In this article I want to identify a few words or terms bandied about in Christian circles which need some consideration.

BIBLE STUDIES

The Christian world is full of “Bible studies.” Churches and parachurch organizations offer numerous study groups and individual believers often organize their own small group Bible studies. But upon closer examination, the majority of these studies are not actually engaged in studying the Scriptures. As one author, Jen Wilkins, writes:

“Churches have gradually shifted away
(continues on page 16)

Inside this Issue:

WRONGLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH	PAGE 2
JOYCE MEYER AMENDS HER FAITH TEACHING	PAGE 3
HELL - THE BIBLE'S MOST DIFFICULT DOCTRINE	PAGE 4