

Love Letter

"Jesus Wrote In The Sand"

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Agape Church of Christ / Adorn Hall 4165 FM 521 Rd, Fresno, TX 77545
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AGAPE
CHURCH OF CHRIST



From The Pen Of A Free Man "Teach A Man To Study"

Bro. G. A. Freeman

You've heard the saying, "Give a man a fish, and he'll eat for a day; teach a man to fish, and he'll eat for a lifetime." Relative to God's word, we might express this principle this way: "Teach a man what the Bible says, and he has knowledge for a day; teach a man to study the Bible, and he has knowledge for a lifetime." Many people's approach to Bible study is the "Let George Do It" method. They say to themselves, "I don't have to study the Bible "" that's what we have (insert the preacher's name) for." Several problems arise from this method:

- **George isn't always right** "" That doesn't mean George is intentionally deceptive. It just means he doesn't know everything, and some of what he says may be incorrect (Jas. 3:1-2).
- **On judgment day, George won't be able to stand in your place** "" You'll have to stand or fall on your own faith and obedience, not George's (Gal. 6:4).
- **George is not your judge, and it's not his viewpoint that should concern you** "" Jesus Christ will be your Judge in the last day (Acts 17:31; 2 Tim. 4:1), and His word will be the "standard" of judgment (Jn. 12:48). You need to know what Jesus says in His word, not just what George "thinks" it says.

If you question the prevalence of the "Let George, Do It" system of Bible exegesis, try starting a discussion on some challenging point of Scripture with a few of your religious friends. Before long, someone's bound to say, "Well, my pastor says..." or "Well, my priest says..." or "Well, Reverend What's-his-name says..." While preachers have a responsibility to "preach the word" and in so doing, to "convince, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and teaching" (2 Tim. 4:2), we need to realize that preaching the Word is more than simply telling the audience what's in the Word. It's also "empowering" each listener to study the Scriptures for himself, and to effectively interpret and use what he logically concludes using all the inspired writings (Psa. 139:17). It's what Ezra and the priests did: "So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense and helped them to understand the reading" (Neh. 8:8). They not only taught what the Law said but taught the people how to comprehend it for themselves.

When Paul had taught Timothy all he had to teach, the apostle admonished him, "But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus" (2 Tim. 3:14-15). Rather than "letting Paul do it," Timothy learned to study for himself (2 Tim. 2:15) and gained knowledge for a lifetime (2 Tim. 3:14-15).

Till the last amen,

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Important Dates

***7/31/22 Installation Service & Program For Bro. Freeman**

Plan Of Salvation

In order to obey the Gospel and become a Christian, a member of the Church of Christ, which is the Kingdom of Christ (Col. 1:13) which is the body (Col. 1:18).

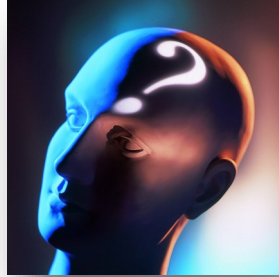
God has provided a scheme of redemption. A Plan of Salvation.

All who obey God, through Christ, must:

1. Hear the Gospel.
Rom. 10:12-17;
I Cor. 15:1-4
2. Believe in Jesus, as the Christ, the Son of the Living God.
Jn. 8:24
3. Repent of your Sins.
Acts 2:38; 17:30,
Lk. 13:3, 5.
4. Confess Faith In Christ. Rom. 10:9.
5. Be Baptized for the remission of sins.
Mk. 16:16,
Acts 2:38; 22:16
6. The Lord will add you to His Body, which is the church.
Acts 2:47

This is the simple plan of salvation. There are biblical examples of this : Acts 8:26-39.

Dear student of the Bible, follow after the Lord in the same fashion , and you too can be saved.



AGAPE Corners

(Evangelism Ministry)

Before We Speak Our Mind

The story is told of a preacher who once generalized that all infidels were fools. Furthermore, he stated that he could prove his statement to be true for any given case within ten minutes. A man in the audience stood up and proclaimed himself to be an infidel, but no fool.

The preacher looked him over and said, “So you are an infidel?”

The infidel quickly replied, “Yes sir. I deny that there is anything at all in religion.”

The preacher replied, “Nothing at all in religion? Are you willing to go on record as saying that?”

The infidel then confidently replied, “Go on record? Why, I’ve been writing and lecturing against religion for twenty years.”

The preacher glanced at his watch and said, “Well, I said I could prove an infidel a fool in ten minutes, and I still have seven minutes left. I’ll leave it to the audience to decide if a man isn’t a fool to write and lecture for twenty years against a thing that supposedly has nothing whatsoever in it!”

The moral of this story: Before we speak our mind, let’s make certain that there’s something in our mind worth speaking.

Along this line of thought, the Proverb writer declares, “He who restrains his lips is wise” (Pro. 10:19; 17:27-28; Eccl. 5:1-3; 10:13-14; Jas. 1:19; 3:2).

AGAPE Spot Light (Highlighting Our Members)



Sister Le Kisha Small-Douglas shares her spiritual birthday with her father, as they were baptized on the same day. This unique blessing brings her great joy and it shows on her wondrous smile. What others may see as cliché, Le Kisha finds strength in Phil. 4:13, in learning the true meaning of where her ability to persevere derives.

When you see her in “pink & green” and her “pinky” poked up, it's not an accident as she joyfully embraces her sorority sisters as a Alpha

Kappa Alpha. She currently labors for the Department Of Veteran Affairs as a Branch Chief, handling a plethora of Federal Procurement Contracts.

She taught as a 5th Grade teacher for 7 months, and many of her students lived in her neighborhood. They would sometimes ring her doorbell to play and she was compelled to leave them outside saying: “Go away, Ms. Douglas isn't home!”

God bless you Le Kisha, as you continue to use your many gifts in the service of the Lord, here at Agape and we shine the spotlight of Agape love upon you.

Till the last amen.

“Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good” Rom. 12:21

AGAPE Considerations (Activity Ministry)



The Curse Of A Prejudice Mind

When a person has a prejudiced mind, that person is literally cursed because prejudice never saved a soul nor settled any

question in the light of truth. Pertaining to religion, prejudice prevents a person from openly investigating the teachings of the Bible to see if what he is practicing corresponds with those teachings (Acts 17:10-11).

Prejudice also causes individuals to attack anyone preaching or teaching God's truth when Scriptural arguments cannot be given in answer (Acts 7). When one possesses a preju-

dicial attitude, he is admitting defeat in logical reasoning, adamantly refusing to pay heed to any teaching different than what he already holds to be true.

It is this kind of close-minded attitude that will prevent many folks from rendering obedience to the gospel of Christ (Acts 13:44, 45; 50).

Let us be willing to lay aside all prejudice, any preconceived ideas, and study God's Book with an open mind (2 Timothy 2:15; cf. Romans 12:2).

If we will willingly approach the Bible as our only standard for what we believe, religious division will immediately cease to exist. The result will be the unity that our Lord so fervently prayed for in Jn. 17:20-21. Also see 1 Cor. 1:10, Acts 4:32.

Let's think and pray about it!

AGAPE Salutations

We, the Church of Christ, that meets at the Adorn Hall in Fresno, TX are delighted that you have received this particular edition of the "Love Letter"; a weekly publication which highlights important events and featured articles by our Minister and staff.

When you have the opportunity we would be elated to welcome you to any and all of our services at the congregation.

It is our great joy to proclaim the glad tidings of Christ, His Kingdom and His glorious gospel.

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