

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

"Test All Things"

Bro. G. A. Freeman

In order to confirm the validity of prophesyings (any kind of teaching by supernatural gifts) in the first century church, the apostle Paul instructed the Thessalonian Christians to "Test all things; hold fast what is good" (1 Thessalonians 5:21 – NKJV).

Christianity Based On Confirmed Truth: Christianity is not a religion for the gullible. It appeals to man's intellect and ability to understand right from wrong. God has never expected man to accept any statement at face value (Acts 17:11). From the beginning, He confirmed His superiority and the truth of His word with signs, wonders, and miracles (cf. Exodus 3:1-6; Exodus 4:19; Hebrews 2:3-4). Thus, we know the Bible to be true.

Examination Of Evidence: Paul commands us to "test all things." We are not to receive the words of others without discernment. We must examine that which is presented to us. In reference to teachers, John said, "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world" (1 John 4:1). No man or group of men is above examination (cf. 1 Peter 3:15). It matters not how long a belief has been held, how pious a man appears, or with what vehemence a thing is declared. What matters is whether or not it agrees with God's word, the truth (John 17:17).

Reject False Teaching: Furthermore, we are to "hold fast what is good." That which does not agree with the gospel is to be rejected, along with the teacher who promotes it (Gal. 1:6-9; 2 John 9-11). This is true regardless of the popularity of the doctrine or man. On the other hand, all things in agreement with God's word are to be received. In fact, it is the obligation of each man to accept the truth. Honesty demands it, even if we must give our life (Rev. 2:10).

Some professed believers in Christ are too lazy to "test all things," and too irresolute to "hold fast what is good." Others are worried about the "trouble" testing will cause, or the dogmatism with which they will be accused by holding fast. Instead of being concerned with honoring God and knowing the truth, they are concerned about offending man. All such men are a shame to the Lord and His church. When enough people adopt these attitudes, truth suffers and souls are lost. Therefore, let us not be of that number!

Do you test all things? Do you compare what your preacher or teacher says with what the Bible teaches (Acts 17:11)? If not, why not? Do you hold fast what is good? Are you willing to cling to the truth no matter what others may say or do? If not, why not?

Brethren, let's not be gullible or lazy. "Test all things; hold fast what is good." Accept God's truth and reject error, lest you be condemned by God (cf. Isaiah 8:19-22).

Till The Last Amen

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** Weekly Zoom Thursday
Stay With The Book Re-
search Hour 7:00 pm*

** Weekly Broadcast
The Place Where It Is
Written
Every Monday on Face-
Book and YouTube*

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.



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Corners (Evangelism Ministry)

I'll Be Dog Gone!

The story is told of a small dog that was struck by a car. As it lay by the side of the road, a doctor drove by. He noticed that the dog was still alive, so he stopped his car, picked up the dog, and took him home with him. There he discovered that the dog had suffered a few minor cuts and abrasions but was otherwise all right. He revived the dog, cleaned his wounds, then picked him up to take him to the garage, where he intended to provide a temporary bed for him.

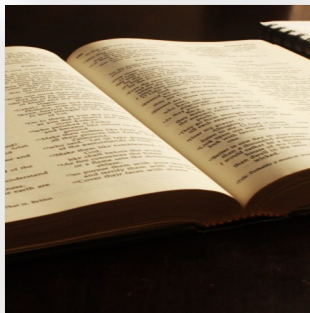
As he carried the dog from his house to the garage, the dog wiggled free from his arms, jumped to the ground, and scampered off. "What an ungrateful dog," the doctor said to himself. He was glad that the dog had recovered so quickly but was a little miffed that the dog had shown so little appreciation for his expert and gentle care.

The doctor thought no more of the incident until the next evening, when he heard a scratching at his front door. When he opened the door there was the little dog he had treated. At its side was another hurt dog!

Brethren, be encouraged to know that those who hear the Gospel from you are never the same, even though you may not be the one to "see" the difference it has made in their lives, or the difference they have made in the lives of others!

Let our spiritual attitude be like that of the Apostle Paul (1 Corinthians 3:5-9) and let us continue to teach and preach the Word (Mark 16:15; 2 Timothy 2:2; 2 Timothy 4:2) without expecting anything in return.

AGAPE Spotlight (Study To Show Thyself Approved)



From time to time we will pose a series of questions of Life, Faith and Religion.

These questions are designed to stimulate investigation of biblical principles of the faith.

Study and research the questions and then plan

some time to connect with other members and discuss your answers.

1. What are the necessary ingredients in sound decision making?
2. When is it right to be angry?
3. How does God guide us?
4. To what extent should the situation or context

determine ethical behavior?

5. In what ways is the family a paradigm of the people of God?
6. How can we explain evil?
7. In what ways does God enter the human grief process?
8. When is conscience a fallible guide?
9. What does it mean to be "in Christ"?
10. How are we created in the image of God?

Till the last amen.

"Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright"
Psa. 33:1

AGAPE Considerations (Activity Ministry)



A Kindly Little Deed

Our attitude toward giving to others, should be one of not expecting anything in return but to give just because we want to make the

lives of people just a little bit brighter. Our giving should be free of pride and selfless in nature (1 John 3:16-18; cf. Deuteronomy 15:7-11). This principle of selfless giving is well reflected in the following poem entitled, "A Kindly Little Deed":

"I did a favour yesterday,
A kindly little deed,
And then I called to all the world
To stop and look and heed.

They stopped and looked and flattered me
In words I could not trust,
And when the world had gone away
My good deed turned to dust.

A very tiny courtesy
I found to do today;
Twas quickly done with none to see,
And then I ran away.

But someone must have witnessed it,
For — truly I declare —
As I sped back the stony path,
Roses were blooming there!"

AGAPE Salutations

We, the Church of Christ, who meet 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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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

