

# Love Letter

*"Jesus Wrote In The Sand"*

Weekly Newsletter Published and Distributed By the Agape Church of Christ  
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

**"Why Me Lord?"**

Bro. G. A. Freeman

Sometimes trials seem to come one right after another. You wake up in the morning and your car won't start. This unfortunate event makes you late for work, your boss chews you out, and your whole day is ruined. You later find out that your car won't be repaired for another week and the bill makes you think you're buying a new one. On top of this you learn that a member of your family has been diagnosed with cancer. During times like these, we are prone to ask, "Why me, Lord?" "Haven't I been living faithfully?" Why do good people have to suffer bad things in their lives? In this article, let's look at three biblical reasons why God allows good people to suffer.

**To Establish Faith** - Suffering can cause one who is not a Christian to recognize his great need for God. If one is to be saved, he must first know that he needs salvation. One who believes he is standing on dry land will not take hold of a life preserver even though he is truly drowning in the sea. Trials help to establish faith by causing us to see our condition before God (Lk. 15:11-17). The Psalmist said, "Before I was afflicted I went astray, But now have I kept thy word .... It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I may learn thy statutes" (Psa. 119:67,71). God allows some to suffer in order to establish faith in Him.

**To Restore Faith** - Sometimes a child of God goes astray and needs to be corrected and restored to the right path. God doesn't want to see any of His children fall away, so He chastens those who do (Heb. 12:6-11). He did so with Israel as the Psalmist wrote, "When He slew them, then they sought Him; And they returned and sought earnestly for God" (Psa. 78:34), and He does so with His church today. "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent" (Rev. 3:19). When suffering, we should examine our own lives to determine if we are the recipient of divine chastisement (Psa. 119:75).

**To Perfect Faith** - For the faithful Christian, trials serve to mature and perfect the faith that is already present. With each trial we face successfully, there is growth. As Paul wrote, "And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance character; and character hope" (Rom. 5:3-4). With spiritual growth, comes the ability to better handle problems in the future. This is why James said, "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience" (Jas. 1:2-3). We should view our trials as God's vehicle to perfect our faith.

God works out all things for the good of those who love Him (Rom. 8:28). We do not know everything that God does, but we can be certain that He is working to save as many souls as possible (2 Pet. 3:9). If we have to suffer along the way, we ought not lose heart, for God is preparing us for eternity (2 Cor. 4:16-18).. Paul encourages us, "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Rom. 8:18).

Till The Last Amen

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<i>Important Dates</i>	

*\* 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*

*\* New Years Eve  
Extravaganza Dec. 31*

## 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;  
1 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)

## 25 Things One Should Know

That God exists (Romans 1:19-21).

That the universe and everything in it is God's creation (Genesis 1-2).

That the highest of God's creation is mankind (Psalm 8).

That God is love and that God loves mankind (1 John 4:16, John 3:16).

That God is a holy and righteous God (1 Peter 1:16).

That all men have sinned (offensive errors in our relationship with God) and fallen short of God's holiness (Romans 3:23).

That these sins separate man from God (Isaiah 59:2).

That to die in sin means eternal separation from God (Romans 6:23).

That without God, man is helpless to do anything for himself to redeem himself (buy himself back) from the penalty of his sins (Psalm 49:7).

That God's righteousness and holiness demands a penalty for sin (Revelation 14:10).

That God has sent his Son to pay the penalty for man's sins (2 Corinthians 4:21).

That God's Son has redeemed mankind from their sins (1 Peter 1:18).

That God's Son is Jesus of Nazareth who is also the Christ/Messiah/ Anointed one (John 20:30,31).

That Jesus lived on the earth as a man and was tempted like men but did not sin (Hebrews 4:15).

That Jesus taught man and left man an example of what he must do to be pleasing to God (John 8:31,32, John 13:15, 1 Peter 2:21).

That Jesus can be the perfect sacrifice for sins because he lived a sinless life (Hebrews 4:15; Hebrews 9:28).

That Jesus gave his blood a sacrifice for the sins of man (Matthew 26:28).

That Jesus died for our sins, was buried, and then was raised from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:3,4).

That Jesus gave His plan for man's salvation to His servants the apostles (Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15,16, Luke 24:46-49).

That Jesus ascended into heaven to sit on the right hand of the throne of God and rule as King (Acts 2:30-36).

That Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to further teach and instruct men concerning the kingdom and their need to be saved (Acts 2:14-21).

That the Holy Spirit was to guide the apostles into ALL truth (John 16:13).

That those who believed and obeyed the message of salvation would be saved and added to the church, Jesus' kingdom (Acts 2:37-47).

That to be saved one must hear the gospel message, believe that Jesus is God's son, repent of sins, confess Jesus as Lord and be baptized for the remission of sins (Romans 10:17, Hebrews 11:6, Acts 17:30, Romans 10:10, Acts 2:38, Acts 22:16).

That when one does such he is added by the Lord to the church (Acts 2:47).

# AGAPE Spotlight (Highlighting Our Members)



From the time of its inception, sister Marci Walker and her family have been attending the Agape church of Christ here in Fresno, TX.

The love of the saints and the fellowship of the same is what has drawn her and what keeps her

going strong. Mt. 6:25-28 in conjunction with the hymn "His Eye Is On The Sparrow" serve as a stabilizing influence within our dear sister's heart. This song brought comfort to Marci and her mother when her sibling Stacy moved to Atlanta years ago.

Marci is a "Turner Classic Movie" aficionado—loving musicals especially (old and new) from 'My Fair Lady' to "Hamilton."

When she was a child and her mother "permed" her already light colored hair it took on the look of 'Little Orphan Annie' and she was encouraged to sing all the songs before family and friends by her father. (Don't get her started, because she says that she knows the play/movie by heart).

Marci has the inner wish to write a story that will one day be published—she says that finally completing this short profile is a step in that direction . . . Lol lol .....

God bless you sister Marci in all your efforts as we shine the spotlight of Agape Love upon you.

Till the last amen.

***"O sing unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord all the earth."***

***Psa. 96:1***

# AGAPE Considerations (Activity Ministry)



## **And If We Suffer**

Paul promises that all who live godly in Christ will suffer persecution (2 Tim. 3:12), and it needs to be remembered that not all persecution is of a physical sort that touches our fleshly bodies. More, all will be tempted (1 Corinthians 10:13), and all will have those occasions when they sin (1 Jn. 1:8, 10). None can claim exemption here!

Some of God's children will know and experience painful afflictions, due to their living in a tabernacle of clay, and due to disease touching them in a way that does

not come to everybody. God's child, of course, takes what comes his way in this life, and possesses the faith that he and God can handle it all! But we note just here 2 Cor. 4:17, where Paul mentions affliction, and ties to it the fact that God proportionately prepares blessings. "For our light affliction, which is put for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." We're glad it's thus stated, that those enduring pain can know that blessings and joy are prepared on the other side to more than offset the troubles known in this life!

# 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

