

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
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From The Pen Of A Free Man

"Hope VS Despair"

Bro. G. A. Freeman

According to the dictionary, despair is a loss of hope, which brings about a state of hopelessness. A loss of hope brings about discouragement. Discouragement brings about a loss of courage, hope, and ambition because of obstacles, frustrations, and the problems of life.

What can we do to overcome despair in our lives? We can look for hope, but not just any hope. We look for the kind of hope that is based on "the light" at the end of what can sometimes be a very long and dark tunnel (John 8:12; John 9:5; cf. John 1:1-5; John 3:14-21).

The Christian hope is anchored in Jesus, "the author and finisher of our faith" (Hebrews 12:2). Through His perfect sacrifice on the cross of Calvary and God's immutable oath that He would honor His promise to Abraham that through him, all nations of the earth would be spiritually blessed (Genesis 12:1-3; Acts 3:19-26; Gal. 3:6-9), our hope is made steadfast and secure (Hebrews 6:10-20).

As William Bradbury so eloquently wrote:

"My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;

I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name

His oath, His covenant, His blood, support me in the whelming flood;

When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay."

Brethren and friends, no matter what sort of adversity or challenge that we might face in life, when we fix our eyes upon Jesus and His sacrifice (Hebrews 12:2 NASB), our hope for eternal life is solid and secure (Romans 5).

Hallelujah to God, who sent His perfect Lamb to redeem us from our sins (Romans 5:1-11; Hebrews 9), forever securing our place in eternity with Him (John 1:29; 1 Peter 1:17-21; Revelation 21:1-7).

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*

** Agape Symposium
Jan. 14 10:00 am—1:00 pm*

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)

Sharing Our Hope

In the stress filled moments of our lives, having no visible means for encouraging strength, our desperate hands often clutch for that intangible called, “hope.” Hope tells us to press on when everything else tells us to give up. Where would we be, what would we do, without hope?

There are literally billions of people living today who have no hope in the most significant of all considerations, eternal life. These are like unto those, “which have no hope”, that Paul described in 1 Thessalonians 4:13. No hope for salvation. Once in their grave, their doom is “sealed” – destruction awaits.

How fortunate and blessed we Christians are in having the “Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope” (1 Timothy 1:1). We have hope in this life (Titus 2:12-13), and we have hope beyond the grave (Psalm 23:4). Because Christ conquered death for us (Hebrews 2:14; cf. 1 Corinthians 15:54-57; Colossians 2:15) – eternal life in heaven awaits us (1 Peter 1:3-4).

Our hope must be shared with the lost. Peter told us, “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you.” (1 Peter 3:15). As Christians, we should be giving hope to the hopeless by giving life to the spiritually dead by means of the gospel (Mark 16:15-16).

We need not go into the jungles of foreign lands, nor cross the oceans of the world, to find those without that most glorious hope. Over two hundred million people are presently without hope in the United States.

Lost, hopeless, and dying people are living in the shadows of our homes and church buildings. Can we say along with Paul, “Wherefore I testify unto you this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men” (Acts 20:26 – ASV)?

AGAPE Spotlight (Highlighting Our Members)



Who Said It?

1. "O Come let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation."
2. "I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and the brought him near before him."
3. "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid."
4. "Lord, we know not whither thou goest; how can we know the way?"
5. "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ."
6. "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me."

Till the last amen.

"O Sing unto the Lord a new song: for He hath done marvelous things: His right hand, and His holy arm, hath gotten Him the victory."

Psa. 98:1

AGAPE Considerations (Activity Ministry)



Preparing The Highway Of Our Heart

In ancient times, conquering kings gained access to newly acquired territories through elaborate highways built for their troops. The prophet Isaiah had this in mind when he declared:

"Make straight in the desert a highway for our God" (Isaiah 40:3).

The mission of John the Baptist was to call people to repentance in order to "prepare the way" into their hearts for the arrival of King Jesus (Matthew 3:3; cf. Luke 1:57-80).

The question we need to ask ourselves from time to time is:

"What preparation needs to be done to allow Jesus unhindered access to the highway of our heart?"

Do we harbor any bitterness in our heart that needs the elixir of forgiveness? (1 John 1:9). Are there valleys of complaining that need to be filled with contentment? (1 Timothy 6:6).

We can't afford to neglect these deficiencies — let us begin preparing the highway of our heart for the King today! (2 Corinthians 6:1-2).

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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