

# Pastor's Pen

They will hate you!

***"And you will be hated by all because of My name, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved." Matthew 10:22***

Dr. James White commented at the G3 Conference in Northern Virginia that got my attention. He referred to being placed in a Gulag. The History Channel reports, "The Gulag was a system of forced labor camps established during Joseph Stalin's reign as dictator of the Soviet Union. The notorious prisons, which incarcerated about 18 million people throughout their history, operated from the 1920s until shortly after Stalin's death in 1953." His point was that in the near future, Christians will be persecuted in this country.

If Dr. White had made this statement twenty years ago, I would have ignored it as hyperbole. However, so much has changed in the past twenty years. What used to be considered a perversion is now celebrated. In elementary schools all around the country, drag queens are invited to read to children as young as 4 and 5. In Canada, it is a crime to tell a homosexual or a transgender person that they are in sin and must repent of their sin. If you speak out against homosexuality, you are called a bigot and a homophobe. Who would ever imagine that we would be discussing what a woman is?

Like Dr. White, I believe we are not far away from a time when the government will make it illegal for Christians to practice their faith. As the day draws closer to the return of Christ, the world will continue the downward spiral of sin and depravity. As this occurs, the world will turn more hostile to the things of God. They will hate you because you speak God's truth. They will hate you because you will point out, in love, their sin and a need to be saved by Jesus.

No matter what the future holds, we know that Christ will return and He will set up His earthly kingdom. So, as His followers we are called to remain faithful witnesses, to spread Gospel, and be His ambassadors. They will hate you because of the one you love. Let us heed Peter's warning,

"Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you. But to the degree you are sharing the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler; but if anyone suffers as a Christian, he is not to be put to shame, but is to glorify God in this name." 1 Peter 4:12-16

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

## Quote of the Week

"Suffering is common for all. However, persecution (which is a form of suffering) can be avoided. All you have to do is compromise."  
-Vodie Bauchman"

# Grace Gems

O eternity!-(James Smith, "The Way of Salvation Set Forth")

**"They will go away to eternal punishment — but the righteous to eternal life!" Matthew 25:46**

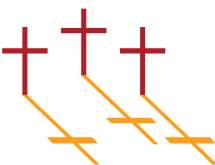
The soul is immortal — it can never cease to be. It is destined by the immutable decree of God, to exist eternally. O eternity! Who can conceive your dimensions! Forever! Who can grasp the mighty idea! To exist forever — solemn consideration! Millions of ages as numerous . . . as the stars in the skies, as the sands on the seashore, as blades of grass on the surface of the globe, as leaves which fall from the trees in autumn — are as nothing in comparison with eternity! But where shall we exist? How will eternity be spent by us? In happiness — or in torment?

That will entirely depend upon the character, the state, the condition — in which we live and die. If we live in sin, if we serve self and Satan, if we die accursed — then we must suffer the due desert of our deeds in eternal Hell. But if we believe in Jesus, if we live unto God, if we die under His blessing — then we shall possess and enjoy glory, honor and eternal life in Heaven — and these forever!

Let the solemn fact that you are immortal, deeply impress your mind. Try to realize the overwhelming thought, "I must live forever! I must live forever in unspeakable happiness — or inconceivable misery! My eternal state depends on my present state. If I live unconverted, then I must die accursed — I am lost, and once lost, lost forever!"

O eternity! Tremendous sound! Incomprehensible idea!

**"So teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." Psalm 90:12**



# Weekly Gatherings

## Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes  
Ladies Class  
Young Adults    Young Parents  
Youth            Surge  
Sunday Morning @ 9:30AM



## Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM  
Men's Bible Study  
1st and 3rd Saturday  
Women of Grace | 9AM



## Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM  
every other week @ Chambers, Cox's,  
Patrick's, Brown's and Royall's



## Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team  
and forgot to sign up, please contact the  
team leader at the appropriate email  
address.



## Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM  
Youth Study and AWANA!



## Service Times

Sunday Services 8AM & 11:00AM  
Sunday School 9:30AM  
Children's Church @11:00AM



Giving from service on 9/18/2022

General Offering .....	8,404.38
Building Fund .....	2,074.60
Uganda .....	135.00
Total.....	10,613.98

Attendance .....	231
Sunday School .....	116
Online.....	24

## Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org  
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org  
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org  
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org  
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org  
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org  
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org  
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org  
Maintenance-maintenance@ghbcva.org  
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org  
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org  
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org  
Security-security@ghbcva.org



Grace Harvest  
Baptist Church  
go • gather • grow • go



ghbcva.org | 804.561.3742  
9821 South Redfield Drive, Amelia, VA 23002

# Grace Harvest Baptist Church

Sep 25, 2022

Welcome