

# Pastor's Pen

Hated!

***"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)."***

Hate is a strong word. Merriam-Webster defines hate as intense hostility and aversion usually deriving from fear, anger, or sense of injury. The only time that a Christian should feel hate is towards their sin as well as evil. The psalmist declares, ***"Hate evil, you who love Yahweh (Ps.97:10)."***

However, we should not be naïve regarding how the world views us. As a follower of Christ, you will be hated by the world. Why? Because you are not of the world. When Jesus was brought before, Pilate asked, ***"Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus responded with a question of His own: "Is that your own idea, or did others talk to you about me?" "Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?" Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place." "You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me" (John 18:33-37).***

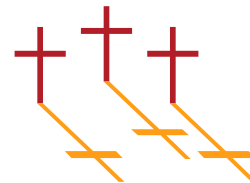
We are not citizens of this world; we belong to God. Peter declared, ***"Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul (1 Peter 2:11)."*** The term sojourner in the Bible refers to a person who is just passing through. Synonyms in various translations are foreigner, exile, and alien. Jesus is our King, and His Kingdom is our home, not the world we live in today.

The world is controlled by the evil one, ***"We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one (1John 5:19)."***

Because we belong to God, we walk in the light of our salvation. Those who do not know God belong to Satan. Satan hates God, and those who do not know God display that hate in their unbelief. Ask yourself, "Does the world hate me?" or does the world see no difference in your life than theirs?

***"If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also (John 15:19-20)."***

Your shepherd,  
Pastor Mark



## Quote of the Week

"It's never too late for repentance. With God's help we can chart a new course and set our sails in the direction of obedience to God."  
- Alistair Begg

# Grace Gems

Sodom will be better off!  
(MacDuff, "The Doomed City" 1887)

***"I assure you, Sodom will be better off on the judgment day than you." Matthew 11:24***

Alas! Alas! Is it not to be feared that many are content with having "a name to live," who are spiritually dead. There are thousands who come to our churches, who hear the preacher, who assent to the message, but go back from listening to the tremendous themes of Death, Judgment, and Eternity, to plunge deep as ever into engrossing worldliness and sin.

The preacher may be heard; his words may fall like lulling music on the ear, but the gates of the soul are firmly locked and barred against admission. The preacher may thunder his rebukes, but some heart sin and life sin, will, in spite of them, be retained and caressed.

Are there none now reading these words, whom the Savior would begin to "upbraid," because they have not repented? When His scrutinizing eye looks down, Sabbath after Sabbath, upon listening audiences throughout our land, all apparently solemn, sincere, outwardly devout, does He not discern, lurking underneath this fair external guise, the signs and symptoms of loathsomeness and decay; like the pure virgin snow covering the charred and blackened ruin?

Ah! sermons will not save us!

Church going will not save us!

Orthodoxy in creed and party will not save us!

Repent! Repent! is the sharp, shrill call of the

Gospel trumpet! There must be . . .

a change of heart;

a change of life;

a crucifixion of sin; and with full purpose of heart, a cleaving unto the Lord who died for us!

# Weekly Gatherings

## Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes  
Ladies Class  
Young Adults    Young Parents  
Youth              Surge  
Sunday Morning @ 9:00AM

## Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM Men's Book Study  
Fridays | 6AM Men's Book Study  
Wednesdays | 6:30PM AWANA  
Thursdays | 10AM Ladies Bible Study

## Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM  
Please see website for locations

## Build the Body Teams

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

## Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM  
Youth Study; AWANA & Surge!

## Service Times

Sunday School 9:00AM  
Children's Church 10:30AM  
Sunday Services 10:30AM

Giving from service on 03/09/2025

General Offering .....	\$10,953.23
Building Fund .....	\$1,902.00
Uganda .....	\$160.00
Benevolence .....	\$200.00
G3 .....	\$195.00
Total .....	\$13,410.23
Attendance .....	236

G3 so far ..... \$571.00 ..... Goal is \$2,000

## 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 BIBLE CHURCH

GO GATHER GROW GO

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# Grace Harvest Bible Church

March 16, 2025

Welcome