

# United People in Christ, Inc.

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**A registered and licensed non-profit organization**

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## WHAT DID HE COME FOR?

“And you shall call his name JESUS, for he shall save his people from their sins”. (Matt. 1:21).

“This is a faithful saying and worthy of all expectations that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief”. (Tim. 1:15).

“Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come into God by him, seeing he ever lives to make intercession for them”. (Heb. 7:25).

“Neither is their salvation in any other, for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved”. (Acts 4:12).

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whoever believes on Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life”.  
(John 3:16).

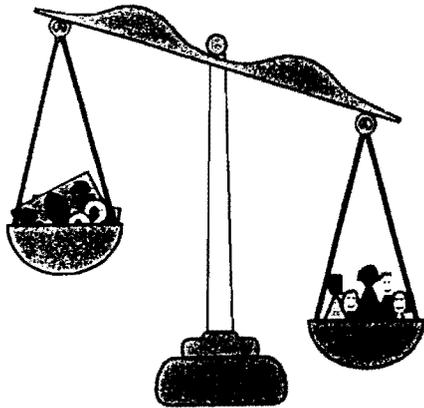
Christ came for the very purpose to save all those who believe in him from their sins. Are you one of them? If you are not, I beg you and urge you to believe in Him, receive him in your heart and do not procrastinate. Salvation is the most important thing in your life. If you don't have it, you have nothing.

“For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul”. (Matt. 16:26).

Wishing every and each one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous 2006!!

Amid Habib, M.D., F.A.A.P., F.A.C.E.

# WHAT HAVE WE DONE WITH YOUR MONEY?



Since its inception 7 years ago in November 1998, United People in Christ have collected **\$134,079.62** and distributed **\$111,329.88** of it so far to our needy brothers and sisters in Christ in the Middle East.

Experts say that the way to tell whether a Charity is a good one or not, is to look at the amount of contributions that go to administrative expenses and the commitment of the board of Directors. For the past 7 years, we continue to spend less than 10% on administrative expenses

Your total donations for 2005 so far have totaled **\$35,171.80**.

## The distribution of funds in 2005 were as follows:

### EGYPT:

\$3,000.00  
\$ 250.00  
\$3,250.00

St. Mary's and Archangel Michael Coptic Orthodox Church.  
Archangel Michael Coptic Care.

### IRAQ:

\$2,940.00

Christian Iraqi Refugees.

### ISRAEL:

\$1,000.00  
\$1,000.00  
\$2,000.00

Shepherd's Field Evangelical Church, Jerusalem.  
Grigorious Church Lady of the Seas, Haifa.

### LEBANON:

\$2,000.00  
\$4,600.00  
\$1,000.00  
\$7,600.00

Citaritas of Lebanon  
Jesuit of Lebanon  
The Society to Eradicate Leprosy in Beirut, Lebanon.

### PALESTINE:

\$3,000.00

Via the Bethlehem Association to the poor and needy Christians in Bethlehem, Beit Jala and Beit Sahour.

### SUDAN:

\$3,000.00

Via The Voice of the Martyrs.

### SYRIA:

\$6,000.00

Via St. Vincent de Paul in Damascus to be distributed to 25 families @ \$20.00 per month, per family for one year.

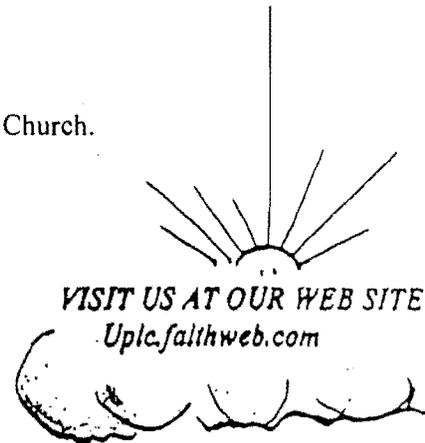
\$1,000.00

Via the Salvation Army for Hurricane Katrina victims.

**TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS IN 2005, \$28,790.00.**

This Christmas, we need your help! Please use the enclosed self-addressed envelope and send your Tax-deductible donation, not to help us, but to help your needy brothers and sisters in Christ in the Middle East. What a better way to celebrate the real meaning of Christmas, than to help a needy Christian that you do not even know.

God bless you all, and have a Happy 2005 Christmas!



## A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Esther Phelps, who has contributed \$12,000.00 to United People in Christ in 2005. May The Lord Bless You abundantly and give you 1000 times what you have given to the needy.

## صلاة العيد

انا واحدٌ من آلاف لابل من ملايين الخطاة اصرخ اليك  
مدايماً : يا يسوع !

كلنا ناديك وكلنا نجعل من نادى  
كلنا ندعى انا من اتباعك وكلنا نهزأ بتعاليك  
كلنا نسئى باسمك وكلنا نرفض العمل ببيادتك  
كل واحد منا يقول انك له وقد جهلنا انك للجميع  
كلنا نقول انا نحبك وكلنا منافقون !

...

القتلة يقولون انك مسلمهم  
والسارقون يدعون انك مرشدهم  
والزناة يجاهرون بانك ربهم  
اليس كلنا كذبة ؟

الى متى تصبر ، يا يسوع ، على مقوضي تعاليك  
وتسكت عن مخالفتي وصاياك  
وتنفض عينك عن التجار من باقوالك ؟ !

...

الرحمة التي عاملت بها البشر قد ماتت في قلوب البشر  
والتساهل الذي علمتنا اياه باقوالك واقوالك قد اضمح واندر  
والتواضع الذي بنيت جنانك كلها عليه لم يبق له بيننا اثر  
والتواضع التي قلت للناس ان يتخذوها قاعدة لاعمالهم قد  
فقدت واضلحت  
والايمان الذي استه على صخرة العقي والمعرفة قد تفضض  
وتزعزع وانهدم  
والرجاء الذي زدعت حباته فينا لم يبق لان قلوبنا قد  
فقدت وتجمرت .

.....

يقول الناس انهم في حاجة مائة اليك  
يطلبونك ، ينادونك ، يسألونك المجي اليهم ثانية  
لا تصح اليهم ، يا يسوع ، ولا تصدقهم  
فهم يطلبونك للقتال ، وينادونك للغصام ، ويسألونك المجي  
اليهم ثانية ليصلبك من جديد .  
ان محبتهم للسك شديدة ، وظلمهم للدماء عظيم .  
هم يسألونك ان تأتي اليهم لياوموا عليك ويبيوك  
الا ترى كيف ذهب الذهب بصرهم وبصيرتهم !  
الاب يضحى بابوته واولاده من اجل السك  
والام تبغ امومتها واولادها من اجل السك !  
والاولاد ، الاولاد الذين دعوتهم اخوتك ، لم ينكروا اباهم  
واسهاتهم فقط بل انكروك انت ايضا من اجل السك !

لاجل من سفكت دمك يا يسوع !

لاجل من احتلت الالهانة والمذاب والصلب !

اذا كنت فعلت ذلك حباً بالبشر فلماذا لا يحبك البشر !

انهم ، اليوم ، لاهون بالف حب وحب غير حبك :

انهم يحبون الشيطان في كل اشكاله ، يحبونه اكثر منا

يحبونك ! ...

...

كل هذا ، يا يسوع ، انت عليم به وخبير ، ولكنك كلك  
رحمة فلا تريد ان تعامل الناس بغير الرحمة .

لقد اجبتنا منذ التي سنة وما دمت تعبتنا لان لاهد لحبك  
التي هي اسمى المحبات .

نحن ، اليوم وفي كل يوم ، في حاجة شديدة الى هذه  
المحبة التي لانحيا الا بها

فبحق مولدك وصلبك وموتك لانحجب عنا شماع هذه  
المحبة النيرة ، يا يسوع !

لِعَصْرٍ وَفَاتِحِ، بِلَهِّ الْاِخْلَاقِ، نِسْرْمَرِلْ ١٥٢٧

## HEAD OF CHRIST PLAQUE

What the Romans said,  
What the Jews replied.

\$25.00 each

To order please call Dr. Habib's office at  
407-862-0107

All proceeds go to UPIC



**NEW!**  
Beautiful T-Shirts  
with the UPC  
Logo are now available  
for \$10.00 each.

All proceeds will go directly to UPIC.

## A NOTE OF GRATITUDE

This past month United People in Christ celebrated its 7<sup>th</sup> birthday, and I want to take this opportunity to thank the many people who donated their time, talent and money to help me helping our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Middle East, without their help and support we could have not done what we did, and it is with deep gratitude and love that I acknowledge these people.

Hanna Layous, Marcel Layous and Amer Biter, who through the years donated all the food for our picnics, Vera and George Layous who helped with our picnics and garage sales, Aboud Mnayarji, who always donated our drinks and wine baskets. Khalil Maalouf, who donated his talent and beautiful voice singing at our picnics and dinners, the Arabic band of Orlando under the directorship of Joe Ghannoum, Chela Jacobs and her Flamingo dancers who thrilled us with their dance and beauty during our banquets, Olga Shearer, who donated her house and garage for many years for our garage sale events, William Erdman, who continues to manage and take care of our web site at no charge. Edie Powell, who donated many items through the years for our activities, my Board members, past and present, Bassam Mnayarji, Joe Mitri, Dr. Mikel Tuten, Richard Brooks, Jacquie Little, Christine Ferran, Brad Sargent, Marsha Childs, and Olga Shearer. Dr. Andrew Scoma and Dr. Maha Zikra who donated a lot of medical samples that I took with me overseas to the needy, Mercy James and Tony Estephan, who donated many items for our auction and door prizes, Cherbel Saab of the Cedar Restaurant, Bassam Georgi and Joseph Georgi, my office manager Janet Williamson, who did most, if not all, of the newsletter and brochures through the years and last but not least, to all the individuals who donated and continue to donate to U.P.I.C.

I am sure that there are some individuals that I forgot to thank and if I did, I do apologize, but Thank You from the bottom of my heart to all these individuals who helped me and continue to help our cause.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you!!!!

Amid Habib, M.D.

## LOVE AND LIGHT!

By: Jaime Shearer

Are you ready for some inspiration? Good! Read this carefully, it's full of great lessons. It certainly was for me! I was in a meeting downtown a few hours ago, and two men asked me for money. You know the men I'm talking about—the ones with tattered clothing, unkempt facial hair and missing teeth, the ones who, for some reason, have ended up calling the streets their home, the ones who are at the lowest point of their lives and are struggling just to survive, the ones who are digging in the trash can for scraps of food and begging change.

So what did I do when these men asked me for money? What would YOU do?

The lessons came because I passed these men by, I gave them nothing other than a curt “no” and a flash of my being. And then BAM! within moments I felt convicted that I'd acted like a real jerk. I didn't smile at these guys, I didn't ask them how their day was going, I didn't even give them an inkling that I care about who they are (and I do. BTW. Because they are fellow humans sharing our planet). I had hardness programmed into me in this situation. How often do you pass by people who could use a little help? As I started feeling the aftershock of how I'd acted, I call a friend of mine and asked, “What do you think about giving money to bums?” I was truly confused about my own view on this.

You see, my background says to love unconditionally and give to the poor. I read the Bible (if you don't, just stay with me – there's a point), and it says, “... whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me” (Matthew 25:40). So I started thinking... I denied a fellow brother something that he really needed and in turn denied it to my creator – the essence of my being. This goes completely counter to my very core beliefs! I believe that I am here to spread love and light throughout the world. I believe that by radiating love and genuinely caring about people, I make a difference just by being me.

I was confused because my actions said differently.

What did I do in this case? I spread NOTHING! I put my love in a box and kept it for someone “more worthy”. I didn't even give these guys the time of day. I didn't connect with them or ask them their story. If they had been in a shirt and tie, or even in a polo shirt, I would have shown them more compassion and care. THAT is not spreading unconditional love. So, I started tearing up. After all, it's hard to admit and know that I acted like a zealot!!!

We all want to give to hurricane victims, kids overseas, and so forth, what about the people right here in our streets? Why isn't their charity enough? I go home to A/C, cable TV, a refrigerator (and cabinets) full of food, hot water, a washing machine, and a closet full of clothes (you probably do too), and I denied a man \$1 because he was on the street rather than in an office? WHAT WAS I THINKING? I'll spend \$4 on coffee yet withhold \$1 (or \$5 or whatever) from a man who is digging in a trash can? DIGGING IN A TRASH CAN!!!! Boy, do I have egg on my face right now. If you asked me for \$5 I wouldn't hesitate to give it to you. What made the man digging in the trash any different? Does it matter what he spends the money on? A wise man said to me, “It's my job to give, whether I do that is between me and God. Whatever the receiver does with the money he's given is between him and God.

So then I started talking with my friend about how I could “right this wrong”. I can't turn back the clock... I can simply choose to behave differently in the future. And get this! The men who were on the street—the very ones who didn't hold two nickels to rub together—GAVE me something I am now passing it on to you. My friend showed me that I was given the gift of awareness. I am now aware of how I have preferred one person's situation over another. I am aware that I don't always love unconditionally. I am aware that my intuition guides me to naturally love others. I am aware that the old programming is no longer serving me. I am aware that I have more room in my heart for others. What's amazing is now that I am aware, I can make a greater difference in the lives of others by loving them no matter what their circumstances are. And now you have this lesson in your hands. What are you going to choose to do with it? Will you release judgment of others and begin loving people where they are?

The men on the street gave to me just by being where they are, in their circumstances, in their own trials. They gave a tremendous gift that allowed me to open my heart. Now I see them with loving eyes rather than hardness of heart as I was conditioned. Imagine the impact YOU have by being where you are!!! When you're struggling with something, when you feel hopeless and lost, and when you're on top of the world, just know that simply by being who you are and living in the moment, you are positively impacting the lives of thousands of people as those two men did tonight. They had no idea that the gift they gave me was love, And that the gift I now pass on to you.

Let your light shine!!