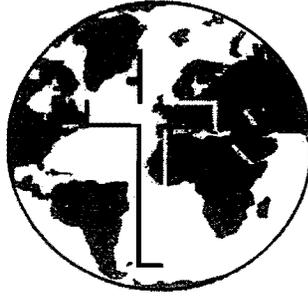


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AN OPEN LETTER TO THE CHRISTIANS

There is nothing in this world equal in value to the grace of Christianity. Grace, by definition, is a gift given to an undeserving person. People were called Christians for the first time in Antioch, (Acts 11:26), the capital of Syria, during the first century. Most of the people born in Christian families and Christian Churches, unfortunately do not value their Christianity, and consider it an ordinary matter. Ask, however, a recent convert from darkness to light, ask our fathers and grandparents, and ask the Syrian, Armenian, Coptic, Nubian, Caldean and Assyrian, how much they suffered for the sake of Christ, and how much they value the glory of Christ and the Grace of Christianity and they will tell you. Health is a crown on the head of the healthy, not valued until they get sick. We do not value our Christianity until we lose it or we are threatened to have it taken away from us. There is no religion on the face of this earth which can give any man or woman what Christ gives, and there is nothing equal in value to the grace of Christianity given through Jesus Christ.

What distinguished Christianity from other religions and beliefs is the issue of

adoption vs. slavery. As a Christian, you are the son/daughter of God, not the slave of God. "But to all who did receive him, he gives them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born, not of blood, or of the will of the flesh, or the will of man, but of God." (John 1:12-13). There is no man or woman on the face of this earth who will dare to say when he or she prays, "My Father who is in Heaven", unless he/she is a Christian. Christ made it very clear that he no longer looks at us as slaves, but as beloved and friends, "I don't call you slaves anymore, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have heard from my Father." (John 15:15). The relation between a Christian and God is a relation between a son and his father, not between a slave and his master. A slave prays and worships his God in fear, the Son worships his Father in love. The son knows his father's plans and intentions, the slave does not. The slave is owned by his master, the son is free, the slave must do whatever his master asks him to do, the

(Continued on page 3)

This Christmas, we need your help!

Please use the 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.

I do know most of us are having financial difficulties these days, but I also know our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Middle East are in a much worse situation than us and desperately need help.

What better way to celebrate the real meaning of Christmas, than to help a needy Christian you do not even know.

UP TO DATE

This past November, United People in Christ celebrated its 11th birthday helping our needy Arabic speaking brothers and sisters in Christ in Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan, West Bank, Israel, Egypt and Sudan.

Since its inception in November of 1998, your donations have totaled (as of November 30, 2009) \$258,841.23, of which we have distributed \$216,924.14 to help our needy brothers and sisters in Christ living in the above mentioned countries. We still have on hand approximately \$14,000.00 which we will be distributing before the end of this year. We continue to spend less than 10% of your donations on administrative cost. Your donations for 2009 (as of November 30, 2009) total \$25,232.41.

At this time, I want to thank the United People in Christ Board of Directors and the Advisory Board, who continue to donate their time, money and talent to help me through the years. I want, however, to give special thanks to you, who donated this money through the years, helping us to help our needy brothers and sisters in Christ.

I want to thank all the brothers and sisters who continue to donate on a monthly basis, through the years, especially my sister, Esther Phelps, who continues to donate \$1,000.00 per month to UPIC and has done so faithfully for the past six years. May the Lord Bless you always.

The distribution of funds in 2009 were as follows:

EGYPT:

- \$2,600 Cost of shipping container of medical equipment
- \$1,000 Coptic Church of Orlando to assist a patient needing a liver transplant
- \$2,000 Help families of Coptic prisoners
- \$2,000 Bishop Tadros project to help the poor and needy
- \$7,600

IRAQ:

- \$2,000 Via Sts. Peter and Paul Good Samaritan Fund for Christian Iraqi refugees

ISRAEL:

- \$1,000 House of Grace Catholic Church, Haifa for needy families

JORDAN:

- \$2,000 via Global Hope for poor and needy Christians in Jordan

LEBANON:

- \$1,000 Lebanese Society to eradicate leprosy

PALESTINE:

- \$3,000 via the Bethlehem Association for poor and needy Christians in Bethlehem, Beit Jala and Beit Sahour.

SUDAN:

- \$3,000 for Sudan food project via Coptic Care
- \$2,000 via the Voice of the Martyrs
- \$5,000

TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2009 WERE \$21,600.00

We still have a balance of \$14,000 on hand which we will be distributing by the end of the year to our needy brothers and sisters in Christ in Syria, Lebanon and Iraq.

-Very Important-

If your address has changed, if you would like us to correct the spelling of your name, if you would like us to mail our free newsletter to any of your friends or relatives, if you are receiving more than one of this newsletter at the same address, or you want us to remove your name from our mailing list. please call us, write to us, or send your note by fax. We thank you and ask the Lord to bless you always.

**You can now read this
UPIC newsletter
and our previous
newsletters
by visiting our website:
www.upic.faithweb.com**

YES!

I want to help my needy brothers and sisters in Christ in the Middle East (check all that apply and send to UPIC).

- I want to make a contribution of : \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other \$ _____
- I want to pledge a monthly contribution of: \$250 \$100 \$50 Other \$ _____ per month
- I want to help UPIC's mission, Please ask a board member to contact me at _____
- Please sign me up to receive e-newsletters. Email: _____



(An Open Letters to the Christians-Continued from page 1)

Son chooses to do what he wants to do. The slave cannot talk to his father, he has to make an appointment to talk to him and has to take an intermediary with him. The son can talk or call on his father anytime he wants to, no intermediary is needed and can ask for whatever he wants. "Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son." (John 14:13).

Christians must wake up from their coma, realize and recognize the magnitude of Christ and Christianity, know their Christ, call on his name, fear nothing for his sake and consider everything in this world rubbish, for the sake of Jesus Christ. "But whatever was to my profit, I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things, I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ." (Phillipians 3:7-8).

Christians must show their love by deed, not by words, show the people around them that they are the Son/ Daughter of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords and act accordingly.

Wishing every and each one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,



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

THANK YOU!

The UPIC Picnic and Fall Dinner were a great success, and everyone had a good time.

The 2009 Spring UPIC Picnic, April 26, 2009, generated \$2,515.00 and the Fall Dinner October 25, 2009, netted \$3,067.41, for a total fund raising proceeds of \$5,581.41.

Thanks to everyone who attended and helped to make these two fund raising events a real success.

If you need a copy of our financial statement for the year ending December 31, 2009, please stop by our office to pick one up or call us to mail or fax one to you.

I am indebted to Janet Williamson and Linda McAleer for the preparation and editing of this newsletter.

*Available now
for your Christmas purchase!*



UPIC T-Shirts:

Great T-Shirts with the UPIC logo are available for only \$5. Sizes S,M,L



Head of Christ Plaque:

"What the Romans wrote, what the Jews replied" available for only \$25.

Call Dr. Habib's office at 407-862-0107 to order.