

Pastor's Pen

Abandon All Hope!

"They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might."
(2Thes. 1:9)

As long as the unbeliever is alive, they have hope. What is this hope? Most people understand hope as wishful thinking, as in *"I hope something will happen."* This is not what the Bible means by hope. The biblical definition of hope is "confident expectation." That confident expectation for a believer is the hope of eternal life with God. Without this hope, life would have no meaning.

The ungodly have no hope. The prophet Isaiah writes, ***"For Sheol does not thank you; death does not praise you; those who go down to the pit do not hope for your faithfulness."*** (Is.38:18). "Abandon all hope, ye who enter here" is a line from Dante Alighieri's Inferno that appears above the gates of hell. All who enter hell will have no hope of ever escaping hell. Those who enter have not accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. So, in reality, those cast into the lake of fire get what they wanted: eternity apart from Christ. The sad truth is the moment they enter hell, they will regret that choice for all eternity.

But the good news is that as long as one is alive, there is hope they will come to saving faith. If you are not a follower of Christ, if He is not the Lord and Savior of your life, you still have hope. It is not too late to admit before God that you are a sinner in need of salvation. Acknowledge with your mouth and believe in your heart that Jesus died for your sins, was raised from the dead three days later, and now sits at the Father's right hand. That is the hope that saves; that is the hope that brings every repentant sinner joy.

Christian, my prayer for you and me is that we never become complacent about the gospel of Jesus Christ. May we never look at the lost in our lives and stop caring about their eternal destination. May our hope in Christ Jesus become such a passion that we never stop sharing and living for Christ.

Your shepherd,
Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

God's most comforting attribute! (Charles Spurgeon)

"And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose!" Romans 8:28

There is no attribute of God more comforting to His children than that of God's sovereignty. Under the most adverse circumstances, in the most severe troubles, they believe . . . that Sovereignty has ordained their afflictions, that Sovereignty overrules them, and that Sovereignty will sanctify them all.

There is nothing for which the children of God ought more earnestly to contend, than . . . the doctrine of their Master ruling over all creation, the kingship of God over all the works of His own hand, the throne of God, and His right to reign upon that throne.

Quote of the Week

"If I never spoke of hell, I should think I had kept back something that was profitable, and should look on myself as an accomplice of the devil."

-J.C. Ryle

God's most hated attribute! (Charles Spurgeon)

"Our God is in the heavens; He does whatever He pleases!" Psalm 115:3

"The Lord does whatever pleases Him, throughout all heaven and earth, and on the seas and in their depths!" Psalm 135:6

"All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as He pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth." Daniel 4:35

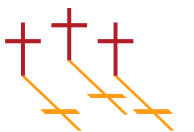
On the other hand, there is no doctrine more hated by worldlings, as the great, stupendous—but yet most certain doctrine of the Sovereignty of the infinite Jehovah! Men will allow God to be everywhere except on His throne! They will allow Him to be in His workshop to fashion worlds and make stars. They will allow Him to be in His almonry to dispense His alms and bestow His bounties. They will allow Him to sustain the earth and bear up the pillars thereof, or light the lamps of Heaven, or rule the waves of the ever-moving ocean.

But when God ascends His throne—then His creatures then gnash their teeth! And when we proclaim an enthroned God, and His right to do as He wills with His own, to dispose of His creatures as He thinks well, without consulting them in the matter—then it is that we are hissed and execrated, and then it is that men turn a deaf ear to us—for God on His throne, is not the God they love!

No doctrine in the whole Word of God has more excited the hatred of mankind, than the truth of the absolute sovereignty of God!

Opposition to divine sovereignty is essentially atheism—and were it not for sovereign grace, none of us would ever have followed the path to Heaven. I am daily more and more convinced that the difference between one man and another, is not the difference between his use of his will—but the difference of grace that has been bestowed upon him.

"Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns!" Revelation 19:6



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 02/23/2025

General Offering	\$13,982.40
Building Fund	\$4,290.75
Uganda	\$240.00
Benevolence	\$100.00

Total.....\$18,613.15
Attendance 242

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

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

Grace Harvest Bible Church

March 2, 2025

Welcome