

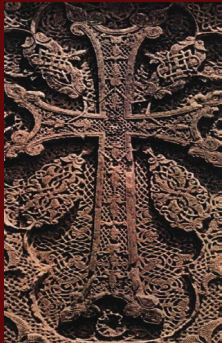
# CHRISTIANS FOR ARMENIA

## REFORMED FAITH AND LIFE

### A Broadcast and Literature Ministry



#### NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2017



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#### PSALMS UPDATE AND YEAR-END APPEAL

Dear Friends,

As the end of the year approaches, we are pleased to report that we are making good progress toward the completion of our translation of the Psalms into Armenian, and the first three collections of Psalms are now in the final proofreading stages.

We wish to share with you excerpts of two letters to give you a sense of some of the intellectual challenges faced on this mission field. These letters make clear the profound and lasting impact communism has left in Armenia, especially in educational circles, and the tension many Armenians wrestle with. By providing solid, rational Christian publications and broadcasts, and with the help of the Holy Spirit, we are able to equip Armenians with the tools they need to go deeper in their faith, challenging commonly held beliefs that are destructive both to individuals and society.

Please consider making a year-end donation to Christians for Armenia if you haven't done so already. Your gift can be designated for broadcasting, publications, or N.T. translation.

#### LETTER EXCERPT

*"For many people God is a concept. He is an idea, a theory, a way of understanding the world. Since He cannot be seen it is hard to believe in Him. After all, how can you trust something you can't even touch? In school we learned that gravity exists by observing that every time we let go of an apple it falls. But there is no such 'drop test' to prove the existence of God. Yet, despite this lack of "proof," many intelligent people do believe in God. Thousands of people throughout history have devoted their lives to serving Him, even though they have never seen His face. Ultimately this may lead us to wonder, does it really matter? Does a belief in God really change anything about our lives? Is a belief in the existence of a higher power solely a theoretical idea; something to be discussed at the dinner table with friends?*

*The Bible is clear about the answer to this question. It tells us that believing in God changes everything about our lives. Accepting God's existence is a life-altering belief, not only in the hope that it gives us for the future, but in the way God's presence can change our lives now.*

*In the most basic way, a belief in God saves our life. God tells us if we believe in Him, and in His son, Jesus Christ, we will be saved from perishing.*

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

*Listening to your programs I start to ponder about myself. I go to church and ask God to forgive me for my faults and help me to overcome difficulties. Thank you for your important and effective radio programs."*

Another person wrote in after reading our translation of C. Hunter's book on Darwin:

*"I always thought I had a solid faith but that maybe Darwin's theories were correct and held some true arguments. Contradictory thoughts came over me as I read this book and I felt a feeling of sin because for some moments I would doubt God's word, his existence. Maybe my faith is not so deep, or evil has found my weaknesses and attacks me there, trying to drop poison in my heart to destroy it. I remembered despite myself my biology professor. She was a wonderful professor who taught a lot of valuable knowledge to her students but.... During class and at any given moment she would tell us that God does not exist, and that she is a Darwinist. I still remember the enthusiasm with which she explained to us Darwin's theories and their truth. She instilled in our childish minds that Darwin's theory was absolute truth. Now I understand that she was wrong and that these books were false. Thanks to God, my internal conflict ceased. Darwinists try to explain by any means that God does not exist, but we always come back to the same place and conclude that it is an evil trap, that their hypotheses are empty and devoid of sense. I now have peace and I feel God's presence in my heart. Had I not read this book maybe until the end of my life I would not have understood that the words of my professor were false."*

### **SYRIAN REFUGEES RESETTLING IN ARMENIA**

Since 2011, about 20,000 Syrian refugees, most of them of Armenian descent, have entered Armenia, at a time when most Armenians are leaving the country to find employment opportunities. This is significant for our ministry in that we also have an opportunity to reach them with the Gospel, which in turn, God willing, can be spread to Syria.

In this season of Advent, we continue to pray for peace on earth, in the knowledge that through Jesus all things will one day be reconciled to him.

Wishing you and yours a blessed Christmas,

The Committee for Christians for Armenia

**"I now have peace and I feel God's presence in my heart."**



Rev Mark Vander Hart signs copies of his study book on Genesis 1-11 in Armenia earlier this year.



Revs Vander Hart and Kayayan discuss Bible translation issues with our chief editor Roza Hohvanissian at the Endanik centre in Gyumri.

Please send your donations to the following address:

**REFORMED FAITH AND LIFE  
Christians for Armenia  
P.O. Box 8208 Kentwood, MI 49508**

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