

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

First responses
to our podcasts | 1

Living by faith
and hope | 2

“Being called a man is the greatest gift which the Lord gave us”

First responses to our podcasts

Dear friends of Christians for Armenia

Earlier this year our short podcasts started being on the air in Armenia. After hearing one of them dealing with atheism, Elena K. wrote the following to us:

A very accurate description of atheism is given in this message. For me both atheism and denying God, symbolize hell. When I say “hell”, first of all I imagine Satan, hellfire. But after pondering upon this a bit longer, I understood that hell is a place where God is absent. And our lives without God is a “hell” wherever we are, but if the Lord is present in it, it becomes a Paradise, full of His Mercy and Grace.

In the message it is accurately mentioned that if a human being does not rely on the Lord’s salvation, and lives his life without the hope to inherit eternal life, the best thing he can expect to have achieve after his death, is to become some high-quality fertilizer. It may sound rather rough, but it is true. Without the Lord’s promises, without the hope of inheriting eternal life, a person who lives with animal instincts, will make the earth created by the Lord into a place of defilement and obscenity.

Here is another reaction of one of our listeners, this time to a podcast dealing with the question: *What is man?* Argine K. writes:

*There is probably no one in the world, who hasn’t ever asked himself this question. Each of us asks himself this question and tries to answer it taking into consideration his or her peculiarities and upbringing, personal values and the depth of his belief. When you try to find the answers to the many questions you have, based on your own consciousness, you’ll necessarily come back again and again to the same starting point. Every time, inadvertently, I remember the idea that God’s deeds are unexamined and unforeseen. What is created by God’s divine likeness and providence, I think, can’t fit in our brains. His holy eternity can only fit in our souls, as only the soul is not physical, and only it can comprehend the things which are out of the bounds of human beings’ consciousness. When I heard the podcast *What is a human being?* I was once more convinced that only the eyes of the soul, through the lenses of belief, can see the essence and perfection of God’s creativity. Being called a man is the greatest gift which the Lord gave us. We should humbly and joyfully bear this divine gift and use it for the glory of our Lord.*





Living by faith and hope

The books that were translated and produced through the years of our ministry, also keep generating some good responses. After recently reading *Giving an account of hope* (published in 2012) one of our correspondents wrote to us:

“A sign of spiritual resilience and a hope for future recovery”

I am Arpine from Armenia. The title of the book is so profound that it made me decide to read it. Everything is described so beautifully that it seems to you the author has written it after talking to you and understanding your state of mind. Sometimes incomprehensible things happen to all of us, and then doubt arises in us and begins to act stronger than faith. But then we must only remember the promises that God gave and fulfilled throughout history. In particular, He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, in a body like ours, as proof of the truth of his words.

I share the view that there is evil in the world and that the only cure for evil is faith in God. Apart from faith there is our hope which leads us to the Light, the Creator. It is the lack of faith that gave birth to doubt, and it is through the lack of faith that Satan estranges a man from God. Not doubting does not mean that you understand and imagine the meaning and perfection of everything. But it is faith that gives the answer.

We are encouraged to read such reactions, that display deep understanding of the message we want to convey to our Armenian audience. In the midst of harrowing circumstances following last year's devastating war with Turkey and Azerbaijan, yearning after the true and only source of life is a sign of spiritual resilience and a hope for future recovery.

May we present to you again the matter of the printing costs of our soon to be released translation in Armenian of the New Testament and Psalms? Without your prayers and your continued support, we would not be able to nurture in the Armenian nation this hope in Christ the Lord and Savior.

In this special season of Thanksgivings, we express our gratitude to our merciful and bountiful God: *What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me?* the Psalmist asks in Ps. 116:12. He immediately replies: *I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people!*

Rev Eric Kayayan

Haghpat, situated in the North of Armenia, is a special complex of medieval churches and monasteries



Please send your donations to the following address:

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

You can also visit our website: www.christiansforarmenia.org
to transfer your donation to our Pay Pal account.

We are a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue code, registered in Michigan.