

# Pastor William A. Benson

## LETTER FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



October 5, 2022

To my spiritual sons and daughters,

Greetings in the matchless name of Jesus!

Well, here we are in October! I begin this month with the benefit of a life-changing perspective. Having recently returned from a trip that took First Lady Benson and me to the center of the New Testament universe, including Rome, Athens and modern-day Ephesus – I have an even greater appreciation (if that were possible) of this great Gospel. I am humbled to have tread the same ground on which many of the Apostles walked, preached, and even died.

I am eager to share this perspective with each of you in more detail over time, but for now, I am compelled to impress upon you the great cost many paid with their own blood to ensure our knowledge of, and access to, the Gospel. Yes, we carry the bloodstained banner, as we say, but not at our own great peril, as in the case of the Apostles who proudly marched toward their gruesome deaths as they carried the heavy mantle left to them by Jesus.

Total Deliverance has a lot to learn from the Apostles' example. Just as they proudly evangelized the Gospel and the birth of the Church in the years following Jesus' death, burial and resurrection, we too with vigor and zeal must carry the torch the last step of the way in advance of His return. We are charged with Soul winning in this last dispensation. I believe we are the ticketed passengers for "Flight 4:17," in the words of my late father-in-law, Suffragan Bishop Joseph R. Hall. We are those who "shall be caught up...to meet the Lord in the air" (I Thessalonians 4:17).

My challenge to each of you for this this month of October and through the end of the Harvest season is to: ***Make a concerted effort to win Souls; increase your commitment to living your life in a way that draws others to the God in you, and set a goal to invite family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to church and encourage them to seek the Lord while he may be found...***

It is up to us, but we are equipped for the task. I love each of you. May God bless you, and keep you, which is my earnest prayer.

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