

Of Special Interest :

FIELD MINISTRY REPORTS

are now due. Be sure to turn in this simple, one-page report to your advisor. For more information, inquire at the TLBC Front Desk.

HAVE YOU REGISTERED

for Spring Quarter classes, yet? We have some great classes this quarter including "Prison Epistles," "Apologetics," "Body By Design," "Ethics: Life & Teaching of Jesus," and a weekend course that is a must for all pastors, worship leaders, and technical volunteers: "Multi-Media for Ministry." Talk with your advisor and make sure you are on track for your degree program.

"Resurrection Letters, Volume 2"

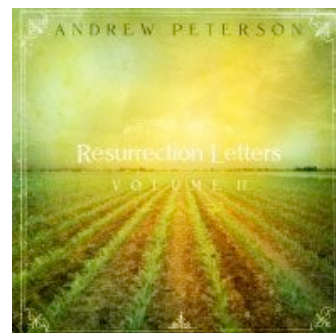
By Tim Souza

I have recommended singer, songwriter, and author Andrew Peterson to anyone who has read this periodical. Personally, I have a great appreciation for his work. He is a creative author and an even better songwriter. That is why it is a little difficult for me to write this review, but for the sake of honesty it must be done.

Between the releases of his novels, Andrew Peterson has released a new and long awaited album: "Resurrection Letters Vol. 2". Now, there is no first

volume as a forerunner for this album. Peterson pulled a George Lucas and realized that he left room at the beginning for material, so he is going to be writing a prequel of sorts within the next couple of years.

"Resurrection Letters Vol. 2" was completed and recorded nearly a year before it was actually released. Peterson had originally intended for the album to be independently released but he ended up finding a record label to release it



(Centricity Music). This move undoubtedly increased the number of people who would hear Peterson's work, if only this had taken place with a better album.

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The Spirit's Pledge: Ephesians 1:3-14 Part 19 | Eph. 1:13b-14a

By Andrew Johnson

"...after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation--having also believed, were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, [1:14] who is given as a pledge of our inheritance..."

(Eph. 1:13b-14a NASB)

Only someone with a God-centered doctrine of salvation (soteriology) can truly appreciate these words. There is a personal call to repentance and faith in Christ that goes out to all, and all are held responsible for how they respond. However, salvation is from beginning to end the work of God on behalf of those He

considers His own. On these the Father has chosen to have mercy and lavishes His grace on them in and through the Person and work of Jesus Christ. He quickens them to spiritual life by the Spirit's work of regeneration upon their hearing the message of truth. The Spirit also seals them, for He is "given as a pledge of our inheritance."

Later in the book of Ephesians, Paul explains, "Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption." (Eph. 4:30 NASB) To the

Corinthians Paul wrote, "Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit as a pledge." (2 Cor. 1:21-22 NASB) Charles Hodge observes that the idea of being sealed means that believers "are authenticated as the true children of God...They are thus assured of their reconciliation and acceptance. They are moreover marked as belonging to God." He further adds, "it indicates those who belong to..."

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Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

1 Corinthians 13:1-7 (NKJV)

God's Never-ending Love, by Paulina Quesada

Many people define love as an emotion and stop there, but the Apostle Paul defined love as a commitment to act in a certain way towards one another. We may not always be able to conjure up the emotions and feelings of love, but we can certainly practice its behaviors: such as the empowerment of brotherly and sisterly love. We do so through the words we use in our daily communication. As difficult as it is, we must learn to love unselfishly while living in today's modern world. That it is not easy, even for Christians. It often

runs counter to our self-centered nature, but we must try to be that example to others that are in our lives. It is our Christian duty to display the same type of love that Jesus perfectly displayed while He was here.

Love is strong enough to take issue with sin without being judgmental. Love is able to mourn without failing into despair. Love is able to tell the truth without running roughshod over someone's feelings. Abounding love knows the truth and chooses to love anyway.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres. Love never fails.

Our lives are all about love and no matter what we say, what we believe, and what we do; the greatest love comes from God. Give God ...

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The Spirit's Pledge, continued from page 1

... him; and it renders their salvation certain."

If our salvation is ultimately dependent on a personal decision and our ability to continue in following Jesus, there could be no assurance of salvation; we could never really have hope that we

have inherited eternal life and all its blessings. However, because salvation is totally the work of the Triune God (the Father foreknowing and predestining the elect; the Son redeeming them by His blood; the Spirit quickening them to

spiritual life and calling them to personal repentance and faith in Christ and also coming to dwell in them to sanctify them and keep them in perseverance), we can have that assurance.

Library Waives Fee for Waterlogged Book, by Nick Carraway, NBC-TV 11

Hero pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger is now every librarian's hero, too. When the US Airways pilot's plane ended up at the bottom of the Hudson River on Jan. 15, so did a book he had checked out from the library at California State University, Fresno, through his local

library near Danville. Sullenberger contacted library officials and asked for an extension and waiver of overdue fees because the book was in the airliner's cargo hold. Fresno State library officials said they were struck by Sullen-

berger's sense of responsibility and did him one better: they're waiving all fees, even lost book fees, and placing a template in the replacement book dedicating it to him. The book's subject? **Professional ethics.**



Resurrection Letters, continued from page 1

The album is not a complete failure by any means. It still contains some great and insightful lyrics and some good music. What the album is lacking is the personal feel that Peterson's former efforts have possessed in spades.

When listening to this album I felt disconnected from the songwriter and even from the flow and intended message of the entire work. "Jumbled" seems an opportune word. The message centers on the permeation of the idea of resurrection throughout the Christian faith. This message is recognizable throughout but at times it

seems forced. Peterson is a master at making things seem natural. On his first couple of albums he got away with things that I would not normally let songwriters get away with. He was just so natural and honest in his approach to songwriting that things, which may have seemed "cheesy," were really some of his best expressions of truths. Here on "Resurrection Letters Vol. 2" Peterson seems to be catering to a wider audience which, to steal a quote from Jerry Seinfeld, "not that there's anything wrong with that," but it strays from his strengths.

Standout songs include: "Hosea," a moving

song about the promiscuous wife of the Old Testament prophet, and "Love Is A Good Thing," which brings back some of Peterson's fun poetry even to a very emotional song. I will admit that Peterson albums generally grow on me over time, I am sure that this will do the same, just not to the degree of "Far Country" or "Carried Along." Also, some of the readers of this review may find this album to be his most accessible, though I am not sure that accessibility is generally a problem with Peterson's former work.



Community, By Priscilla Marshall

I am taking a moment to share with you the love that I have felt here at TLBC. We are such a family atmosphere; which is in line, since we are a part of God's family!

I am constantly seeing us love on each other, pray for each other, and just be there for our friends in need. We tend to be there to lift each other up, pull each other down in prayer, and hold each other accountable.

What more could a person desire from family? There is true love at TLBC. I have felt it so much last week, during Spiritual Emphasis week. We had Pastor David Sheppard teach us about

the personhood of God and the church. He has taught us about things to watch out for in starting or becoming a part of a church. He has given of his heart! Thank you, Pastor Sheppard!

I have also felt a burden on my soul. I have felt so much pain that is being experienced in my fellow classmates. I have been praying for you, my friends. Pastor Peggy Mathews also allowed us a time that was led by God. It was a time in the Ensemble class to just worship the Lord and then pray over one another. Let me tell you how God moved in us all that day.

Let me just quickly

share with you that the Lord desires for us to be broken, because it is in our brokenness that we are truly open to Him. Feel free to let it out. Cry out to him, scream, become a baby, because Christ is your father! Let Him be!



Announcements

JOB POSTING

We are a brand new church in Davis, CA called Renaissance Community Church. We have been meeting for about a year and we are looking for a passionate person to lead our kids' ministry. This ministry consists of nursery and elementary age children. We are in an exciting community that needs an effective kids ministry. If you are interested in this position please email Pastor Tom at supernatural13@aol.com. Compensation will be negotiable. Check out the church Website at: www.rccdavis.org.

LONDON 2010

Westminster Abbey, Coventry Cathedral, the Reformation and the Anglican Church, Nexus Christian Music School... Join us for our Second TLBC Christian Art & History Tour as we visit London, England. You'll want to be a part of this exciting week of travel. For information contact Prof. Tana Colburn at tcolburn@tlbc.edu, or call (916) 348-4689, ext. 424.

GRADUATION 2009

Do you have what it takes? Talk with your advisor now and see if you have the units to wear a Cap and Gown and walk the stage on June 6, 2009.

YEARBOOKS

Time's running out! Don't miss out on the memories! Order today for only \$35. Buy now before the price goes up. You can place your order through the TLBC Front Desk.

YEARBOOK PHOTOS

Do you still need your picture taken for the Yearbook?? Make an appointment with Prof. Colburn to have your yearbook portrait taken.

Never-ending Love, continued from page 2

... the glory and love He deserves! Our lifelong goal should be to embody the diverse characteristics of His perfect example of love. His love is eternal; it never fails. My dear brothers and sisters, reach out and give the gift of unconditional love. You will quickly see how love will intertwined us with one another. For this is, the way God truly intended us to be. Live today in His divine love and we will quickly see how love will manifest itself. Then out of our hearts, the substance of love will flow freely.

As Christians, we can show God our love through doing what we love. "It is not what you do, but how much love you put into that matters." His love is the greatest of all. God has woven a unique design into each of our hearts, and as we do what we love, to show others God's love, we find spiritual fulfillment and renewal. God's never-ending love will leave a legacy in your heart.

