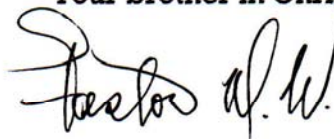


## The Barnabas Letter

The year has turned and we are now facing twelve new months of uncertainty. But then again, we, who are Christians, need not worry about the future overmuch. The reason for this is quite simple, we are held in the love of God in Christ Jesus and because this is so we need not fear the future or the past. Our past cannot condemn us because we have been washed in the blood of the Lamb of God, who has taken away the sins of the world. The future is bright indeed because we are journeying to our true home, the celestial city that is the Kingdom of God. Therefore, since we are the only truly free people upon this earth we should act like it! Yes, we make our plans and we deal prudently with the people of this world but we do not obsess over our bank accounts or our jobs or our what have you. Instead we use the things of this world lightly because we know that we will leave them all behind as we come to our true home. We know also, that this world cannot defeat us, no matter how much it tries because the battle does, indeed, belong to our Lord. It is never a good idea to worry about what tomorrow might bring because we can do absolutely nothing about tomorrow. But since the great and good God that we serve is Lord of tomorrow as well as Lord of today we can know that our God will be with us and that being the case we have nothing at all to fear. This year will unfold with its share of joy and sorrow. There will be ups and there will be downs but through it all we will be held in the mighty hands of Almighty God our Father and we will be comforted by our big brother Jesus. We will be led by the Holy Spirit and as we follow him he will lead us into all

truth. As this New Year unfolds let us give thanks to our Almighty God and Father for His unfailing love and His wonderful works toward us. Until next month, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

Your brother in Christ Jesus;

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Pastor A. W." with a large initial "P" and a stylized "A. W." following.