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### **Promise**

Biblical promises are comforting to the soul, and when read with faith in God's unchanging character, the comfort and hope they can offer become a priceless treasure for every believer. One such promise is 1 Peter 5:7: "having cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares about you."

How sweet a promise sounds to the ears of the one who has tasted the

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eternity, to take care of our temporality? Won't He, who heard us when we cried out for the salvation of our souls, far more precious than our bodies, hear us when we ask for water, or bread, or clothing? Won't He hear us when we cry out in agony or when we ask according to His will? Does He not know what we need? The Scripture assures us that "the eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous, and His ears attend to their prayer" (1 Peter 3:12), and based on this certainty we are urged: "Cast all your anxiety!"

"Throw it away!" - what a violent verb, what an expressive force! It is an exhortation to get rid of the burden of all worry and to be filled with peace of mind and tranquility, even in the midst of trouble or uncertainty; it is an exhortation to spiritual rest in God, for worry exhausts the body, the mind, the soul. Corrie Ten Boom once said, "Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow, it empties today of its strength." One by one, cast all your anxieties on Him! Throwing away your worries and dismissing anxious thoughts is both an act of faith and humiliation. Sometimes worry may be a consequence of pride. In this case, throwing away anxiety means humility: you acknowledge that you are not God, that you are not in control of events, that you are not setting the next step! It's the humility of a child who entrusts his father with the burdens, which he can no longer carry: "Daddy, take it, please, it's too heavy."

God has also provided us with the means to deal with worries: the Scripture and prayer. In the Scripture, we have God's promises, and in prayer, we come before the Throne of Grace to leave the worries to God, and we are relieved. In prayer, we see the future through the eyes of faith: not perfect, not without trials, but blessed, for we have entrusted our lives, with all they imply, to God.

Yes, worries can be thrown away. But throwing away worries does not mean "walking carelessly," it does not mean not to plan or work, it does not mean to avoid suffering, it means that in the plans we make, the work we do, even in the suffering we endure, we trust in the goodness of our God. With this in mind, we begin a new year. We do not know the future, but we know the One who holds the future in His hand!

Meet our professors!



considering the divine reality is partial. Thus, the approach of human life also from the perspective of the Holy Scriptures makes Emanuel University of Oradea unique among Romanian universities.

#### Lecturer Annamaria Balla

Ever since I can remember (even in kindergarten and primary school), I liked to help those in need, to play with those who cried or were marginalized by others. When I grew up and went to high school, I noticed that both my friends and people older than me were telling me about their problems, and, in addition to listening to them, my advice was well received and worked. Under these conditions, it was natural for me to study psychology and become a specialized clinical psychologist for children and adolescents.

Psychology does not have answers to all the problems of life. I think it has valid answers, but they are incomplete. The analysis of human reality without considering the divine reality is partial. Thus, the approach of human life also from the perspective of the Holy Scriptures makes Emanuel University of Oradea unique among Romanian universities.

Currently, I believe that my role is to encourage social work students to be 100% dedicated to their chosen profession and 100% committed to the call received from God.

Lecturer Annamaria Balla

## Stories of Faith



The identity of the Christian is not compatible with corruption, immorality, laziness, or barrenness, and this makes the difference, wherever we work.

Sebastian Tună, Composer

In my case and that of most who studied at Emanuel University, the urge to obey God and live a sanctified life was familiar to me. However, the example of those professors and colleagues who strived to please the Lord and at the same time excelled professionally was encouraging. This experience gave me the impetus to make discipline a way of life. I consider that the privilege of

professionally, to be devoted in all that I do, with the goal of excellence.

Regardless of the field in which he works, a Christian is responsible for being a good witness in all respects: "you are the light of the world." His faith, seriousness, and devotion include both ethical and professional conduct. The identity of the Christian is not compatible with corruption, immorality, laziness, or barrenness, and this makes the difference wherever we work. He who is faithful to the Lord learns to be the first in good works, knowing that he will receive the reward of the inheritance from the Lord.

Sebastian Ţună, Composer

#### **EMANUEL SINGERS Tour**





In November, we had the joy of supporting the work of special partners of Emanuel University, the Slavic Gospel Association Missionary Society, participating with the Emanuel Singers quartet, together with the EUO President, Prof. Dr. Paul Negruţ, at a series of missionary conferences in England and Northern Ireland. Emanuel Singers is a men's quartet that occasionally performs in international mission works. Over the years, students, graduates, and professors of the Music faculty of Emanuel University came together to form this quartet.

This year, together with Lecturer Dr. Emanuel Bălăceanu (baritone), Cătălin Lăzurcă (tenor, Dublin Opera, Ireland, EUO graduate), David Croitor (bass, piano teacher in Suceava, EUO graduate) and Mihai-Eduard Lazăr (tenor and panpipe, student in the second year, Music, EUO) joined their voices in worship together. The quartet was accompanied by Alina Bălăceanu (piano, D.Min.).

The repertoire consisted of classical and gospel pieces performed in English. The messages of the songs directed our hearts and the hearts of the audience to the Great Commission ("Faithful Men"), the return of Christ ("Jesus Is Coming Soon," "To Be Where You Are"), praise ("All Hail the Power") and encouragement ("How Can I Keep from Singing," "Have a Little Talk with

The musical solos of the tenor Cătălin Lăzurcă warmed up and also provoked and encouraged the listeners through hymns such as "It Is Well with My Soul," "He Will Hold Me Fast," and "In the Garden," while accompanied on the piano with much finesse by David Croitor. Mihai Lazăr captured in the melodies of the panpipe the beauty of divine praise in songs such as "All Heaven Declares" or "How Great Thou Art."

The participants' reactions were immediate and their testimonies confirmed that, beyond the language of music, our ministry was more of a sacrifice of worship to the Lord. What we experienced in this tour was a lesson of love and service from the Slavic Gospel Association. They serve the world with a missionary heart that includes countless initiatives in Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and the Far East, and their work is certainly in the heart of the Lord Jesus, the One who sent us with the gospel "to the ends of the earth."

**EUO Music Specialization** 

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# Be part of the vision!

Throughout the year, the Scholarship Fund helps EU students by providing them with financial support as they study and volunteer. Gifts of all sizes bolster the collective strength of the Scholarship Fund and give the students the opportunity to focus on becoming the Christian teachers, musicians, social workers, business and IT leaders, and missionaries which the world so desperately needs. You can help them by joining the group of people who faithfully have financially supported the Scholarship Fund.

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