

THE BISHOP OF PORT ELIZABETH DIE BISKOP VAN PORT ELIZABETH UBHISHOPU WASEBHAYI

The Right Reverend Eric Pike





Dre 18, 9, 94

1st September 1994

Mrs S Burnett 20 Milner Street GRAHAMSTOWN 6140

My Dear Sheila, Andrew, Stephen & Mary,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I write to again express my very deep gratitude to you for the privilege you gave me of preaching at Bishop Bill's funeral last week. Of course no one could adequately say all that needed to be said and I trust that what God gave me to say reflected something of the stature of your beloved Husband and Father. God changed the lives of so many, many of us through the ministry and example of Bishop Bill and we will always be deeply grateful to him and to you Sheila, for reflecting too, what for us, was fairly new for so many, that of Husband and Wife ministering together. Thank you so much for that sense of oneness that you always showed to us.

I am deeply grateful for Bishop Bill's magnificent Cope and Mitre which you have so graciously given me. I must say though that I have accepted the Cope and Mitre with a great sense of trepidation, because I see your gift of the Cope as something of a prophetic sign and that was confirmed for me this morning when I received a letter from Ralph Loewenstein (who is at present overseas), in which he refers to Bill having fought the good fight and the fan being flamed in Timothy and of Elijah's mantle falling on Elisha, all in relation to me. I trust that by God's grace I will be able to stand in Christ Jesus and by His Spirit for what Bill stood for.

I praise God for this great new move of His Spirit which is refreshing us so deeply but already I have experienced something of the opposition and pain which Bishop Bill experienced as a result of God's mighty work in him.

I have been in touch with Michael Harper and he asked me to give you all much love in the Lord. He will naturally be writing to you himself.

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May God bless and keep you as you continue faithful to our loving heavenly Father.

With much love and every blessing,

Yours in Christ.

THE RT REVD ERIC PIKE