

MONMOUTHSHIRE **50p** Wednesday, March 14, 2017

# Free Press



Dear Friends,

Don't worry! I haven't suddenly changed my appearance completely (although I guess there might be some who'd quite welcome that?) It's just that all this snow we've had helped me remember the story of the picture known as 'Jesus in the snow', and so, here it is.

A Chinese photographer, so the story goes, was in a bad place spiritually, really struggling. He longed to know Jesus as his master and friend, and as he walked along, said to himself, "Lord, if only I could see your face, I would believe." Instantly a voice spoke to his heart, saying, "Take a picture. Take a picture. Go on. Do it now." Looking round, he did not immediately see anything to take a picture of, but still felt compelled to take one. So he aimed the lens at some melting snow with the black earth showing through it, got the film developed, and from the black and white areas of the snow scene, a face seemed to look at him, full of tenderness and love – the face of Christ? He believed so, and, as a result, he became a Christian.

The picture is here for you to see this month – but can *you* see Jesus in it? Some can, others try hard and then have to give up. Still others give it a break, then come back later, try again, *and see it*. See Jesus. I'd be interested to hear how many of my Readers get it in one, or two, or three, if at all?

The good news is that it is no disaster if you *don't* see it, for "seeing" Jesus, sensing His presence, allowing him into your heart, all start from a *desire* to know Him, and then trust in God who by His grace gives us the faith to believe in and to feel His love. No picture can do all this, only a searching mind and a believing and welcoming heart. God bless you.

**Rev Preben Andersen**