

HeartCry

Missionary Society

That His Name be Great among the Nations...

Letters from Africa Benin, Ghana and Nigeria...

God will save His people
Spurgeon's "The Missionary's Charge"
Map of Africa and Prayer Pull-out
Reports from the Field: Benin, Ghana
and Nigeria

Volume 36: October - November 2003



HeartCry *Missionary Society*

*That His Name be Great
Among the Nations...*

Our Purpose & Passion

“For from the rising of the sun even to its setting, My Name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense is going to be offered to My Name, and a grain offering that is pure; for My Name will be great among the nations,” says the Lord of hosts.” - Malachi 1:11

The chief end of all mission work is the Glory of God. Our greatest concern is that His Name be great among the nations, from the rising to the setting of the sun (Malachi 1:11). We find our great purpose and constant motivation, not in man or his needs, but in God, His commitment to His own glory and our God-given desire to see Him glorified in every nation, tribe, people and language.

Although HeartCry recognizes the great importance of sending missionaries from the West to the un-evangelized peoples throughout the world, we believe that we are led of the Lord to support native or national missionaries so that they may evangelize their own peoples. Therefore, we seek to work with godly men and women of integrity and vision in the unreached world to help them evangelize and plant Churches among their own peoples.

Our Principles

* While we recognize that the needs of mankind are many and his sufferings are diverse, we believe that they all spring from a common origin - the fall of man and the corruption of his own heart. Therefore, we believe that the greatest benefit to mankind can be accomplished through the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the establishment of

churches that preach the Word of God and minister according to its commands, precepts, and wisdom.

- * Every need of this ministry will be obtained through prayer. We may share our missionary vision with others and even make known to them the specific tasks which the Lord has laid on our heart to do, but we may not raise support through prodding or manipulating our brothers and sisters in Christ. If this ministry is of the Lord, then He will be our Patron. If He is with us, He will direct His people to give and we will prosper. If He is not with us, we will not and should not succeed.
- * We intend to never enlarge our field of labor by contracting debts. This is contrary to both the letter and the spirit of the New Testament. In secret prayer, God helping us, we will carry the needs of this ministry to the Lord and act according to the direction that He gives.
- * We will not compete with other biblical mission agencies, but use the resources that God has given to us to work in partnership with them. If the Lord directs, we will sacrifice our own goals and resources that other mission works may be helped and the Kingdom of God increased.
- * In meeting any need, those of us who are supported financially by this ministry will be the first to sacrifice all things necessary for the advancement of His Kingdom.
- * We will not measure the success of this ministry by the amount of money given, Bibles distributed or national missionaries supported, but by the Lord's blessing on the work.
- * Our Goal is not to enlarge ourselves, or to become a key figure in the Great Commission, but to be faithful and obedient stewards by the grace that is given to us. That men may see our weakness and glorify God for His strength; that they may see our inability and glorify God for His faithfulness.



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Front Cover: *Letters from Africa* by Jon Green

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***Hallowed be Your Name!
Your Kingdom Come!
Your Will be Done!***

From Our Desk

God Will Save His People

(With or Without You)

“For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father’s house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?”

Esther 4:14

By the providence of God, a young Jewish girl named Esther had been exalted as the bride and queen of the great Persian King Ahasuerus (2:17). Because of the almost universal prejudice against the Jewish people and for Esther’s own preservation, her wise uncle Mordecai instructed her not to make her heritage known to the king (2:10, 20).

In time, King Ahasuerus promoted Haman the son of Hammedatha over all the princes of Persia. This turn of events placed the Jewish nation in great danger for two important reasons. First, Haman was an Amalekite, the bitter enemies of the Jewish people. Secondly, Haman was a proud man who was driven to rage by Mordecai’s refusal to bow before him (3:2-6). This rage led Haman to seek the destruction of every Jew throughout the entire kingdom of Ahasuerus (3:6).

The Scriptures report that Haman was as clever as he was evil. He deceived King Ahasuerus into believing that the Jews were a danger to his rule and that he should seal an irreversible decree that would legalize their total annihilation (3:8-15). The necessary papers were drawn up, signed, sealed, and sent to every province of Persia. Haman gloated in his power and rejoiced in the soon coming destruction of the Jews. There was nothing to stop him.

The future looked as dark as ever for the Jewish nation. They had no apparent political or economic power, and no voice or vote before the king. But God had exalted young Esther to a place of power. She alone had the privilege and position to intercede on behalf of the Jewish nation and save them from certain destruction. She was their only hope... or was she? In the passage quoted above, the wise Mordecai reminds Esther of several very sobering truths. First, Esther did not attain such a position of privilege and power on her own, but it was a result of God’s providence and for God’s purposes. Second, to whom much is given, much is required. With her great privilege came great responsibility. It was her task to intercede for her people. Third, she WAS NOT Israel’s only hope. If she did

not fulfill her responsibility, God would still deliver His people through other means. Fourth, Esther’s disobedience would not result in the destruction of the Jewish people, but it would result in her own. What would Esther do?

One may wonder what the story of Esther has to do with the Church and the Great Commission, but we will soon see that Mordecai’s wise warning to Esther provides both a promise and a warning to the present day people of God, especially to the Western Church, to those Christians who live in the United States, Canada, and Western Europe.

We Have Been Given Privilege and Position

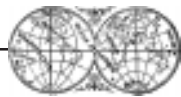
It cannot be denied that the Christian in the West has been given great privilege and position. By God’s providence or sovereign design, the Church in the United States, Canada, and Western Europe enjoys the greatest religious freedom, the greatest access to Scripture and theological resources, the greatest economic power, and the greatest open doors to do missions around the world.

For several decades, religious freedom has been the boast of the West. A man is free to believe as he chooses and to practice his religious convictions so long as they do not infringe upon the rights of others. Although this freedom is coming under increasing attack, we are still granted more freedom to practice our faith than any other group of Christians in the history of Christianity.

The Christians in the West have more Bibles, theological resources, and access to theological institutions than all the other Christians living outside the West combined. The West abounds with Christian publishers and printers, Christian bookstores and media corporations, Christian schools, colleges, and seminaries.

The Christians in the West have the greatest economic power of any other group of Christians in the history of Christianity. Although the poor are found even in the most affluent societies, most sociologists and economists would agree with the following statement: “If you live in the West you are rich.” When one considers the poverty in many of the third world countries with the economic status of the developed nations, the differences are staggering.

The Christians in the West have been given the greatest open door of opportunity for missions that the world has ever seen. In His providence, God has opened a tre-



mendous door for world missions. Not even the boldest missions strategist would have ever dreamed that there would be so many countries opened to Christian missionary work and the preaching of the Gospel.

We Are Responsible

God had exalted Esther to a place of privilege and she was responsible to use her life as an instrument of blessing and salvation for her people. The same God holds the privileged western Church to the same responsibility.

Jesus soundly declared a principle that will be applied on the final day of His judgment – “To whom much is given, much is required.” Can we not see that these words apply to those of us who live in the West? We have been given so many wonderful opportunities to glorify God and advance His kingdom. We have also been given all the necessary resources to do His will. Can we not see that we will be judged in a greater way than our brothers and sisters of lesser advantage? God has not given us our exalted place and innumerable resources because He loves us more than them, or so that we might selfishly use all He has given us for ourselves. God has blessed us so that we might be a blessing to others. He has equipped us so that we might be His ministers to a needy world.



We Are Dispensable

Esther had been exalted to the necessary position and she possessed all the necessary resources to save her people. If she sought her own self-preservation above the saving of her people, it would not have brought God's plan to a tragic end. God is sovereign over all things and He is directing His world to a final end. Nothing can thwart His plan, including the disobedience of His people.

With regard to the Great Commission, God has exalted the Church in the West to the necessary position and she possesses all the necessary resources to fulfill the Great Commission. If she continues to live in apathy and disobedience it will be tragic for her, but not for the work of God. God will make His Name great among the nations (Malachi 1:11), He will give the nations to His Son as an inheritance (Psalm 2:8), and there will be a multitude of people standing before the throne worshipping God from every tribe, tongue, people, and nation (Revelation 5:9). The Christian in the West and the western Church is not God's only hope, for He does not hope in man. God has sworn by His own right hand to do a great work in the world and He will do it with, or without us. If He can raise up children to Abraham from stones then from the same stones He can raise up missionaries to carry His precious Gospel to the world. He does not need us, but He has

granted us the privilege of working in the Great Commission. Let us not despise such a privilege and bring such great tragedy upon our lives.

We Will Be Judged

If we as individual Christians and collectively as the Church continue to live in apathy and disobedience to the Great Commission, the loss will be ours. What will we lose?

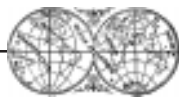
We will lose our eternal purpose. You and I were created for God's good pleasure and for the doing of His will. To turn away from what God has ordained will only lead to chaos and meaninglessness in our lives. A guitar is made for music and a bow for shooting an arrow straight.

You cannot hunt with a guitar anymore than you can lead worship with a bow. Each instrument is made for a certain purpose, and it is in fulfilling that purpose that it discovers its significance and worth. As Christians we were made to bring glory and honor to the Lord, and we have been commanded to carry His Gospel to the ends of the earth. We will find significance and discover worth only to the degree that we fulfill this purpose.

We will lose the fruit of our labors. How many professing Christians are truly living for that which is eternal? How many are laboring for the fruit that will remain? What a tragedy to live one's life for things

that will be lost at death, things not worthy of eternity. It seems as though we have traded our royal inheritance and our exalted position as ambassadors of God, in order to work as slaves in the world's market place. We spend our lives and our resources to buy trinkets and toys that cannot satisfy us and will eventually turn to dust.

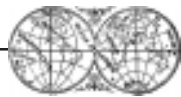
We will lose the pleasure of God's presence and power. It is impossible to experience God's presence and power when we are chasing after the world and its lusts. Can you recall those times when you have walked in obedience to God and His commands? Do you remember the joy and peace that accompanied you? Can you remember the Father's good pleasure when you were about the Father's business? Was it not better than anything that the world could ever afford to give? Heaven is heaven, not because of streets of gold or gates of pearl, but because of the nearness of God. That same nearness has been promised to us here on earth. When we walk with God, He walks with us. When we give ourselves to the doing of His will in the Great Commission, He gives Himself to us. Some of the most difficult, frightening, and lonely times I have ever suffered were on the mission field, and yet I would not trade them for all the pleasures of this world. For in my suffering for the cause of Christ and the spread-



ESTHER ACCUSING HAMAN by Gustave Doré

“For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father’s house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?”

Esther 4:14



ing of His Gospel, the presence of God was my constant companion, and His power was my ever-present help.

We will lose the joy of self-giving servanthood. Amy Carmichel wrote that above all things the work of missions is an “opportunity to die.” The Great Commission requires sacrifice, self-giving, and servanthood. The three things that this world distains and we as Christians often try to avoid; and yet, they are the three things that will bring a person the greatest joy, peace, and satisfaction. Jesus told us that the way to true success was found, not by climbing up the ladder, but by climbing down it! When we give our lives away for the sake of Christ, for the sake of His Gospel, and for the sake of the people for whom He died, our lives are filled with joy!

We will lose the joy of seeing the salvation of God in the lives of men. What spectacle in the world can compare to a man’s conversion? What a wonderful privilege to see the salvation of the lost and to participate in their newly found joy. No joy can be compared to that of reaching the unreached, distributing the Bible among those who have never had the privilege to own a copy of their own, feeding the poor, clothing the hungry, restoring families, etc. etc. Let gold and silver turn to rust, and let the world keep its own. I would rather be an instrument in the conversion of men. Those who have followed the call of Christ in the Great Commission have no need of “Christian Entertainment,” they need nothing to amuse them, to break their boredom, or fill their time. The spectacle of salvation is all they desire to behold, and the doing of God’s will keeps them “entertained.” Tozer once said that he could tell how much God a man had by how much entertainment he needed. Is it possible that individual Christians and the Church as a whole have become so terribly engrossed with entertainment because they are no longer about the Master’s business? Are we so empty because we know nothing of true food – the doing of the Father’s will?

We will lose the joy of celebration on that final day. What joy there will be on that final day when all the redeemed from every tribe, tongue, people, and nation are gathered before the throne of God. When that great trumpet blows, those who plowed will lay down their plow, those who sowed will lay down their bag of seed, those who harvested will lay down their sickle, and all of the workers in God’s field will be called home to celebrate the harvest. How good it will be to rest from all our labors and to see the fruit of all our toil. But rest is not sweet to those who have not labored, and there is no harvest for those who have not toiled. The one who played at the time of

sowing and slept at the time of reaping will find little joy. Those who sought to gather souls for God will receive their reward in seeing a multitude that cannot be counted standing before the throne and worshipping God. But those who lived for the things of this world will see them burned up in the fire of God’s judgment.

A Final Word

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ. Let us sacrifice all that stands in our way and labor with all our might in the Great Commission of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us use our privileges for the sake of Christ and for the sake of those who have not received as abundantly as we. Let us heed Mordecai’s warning to Esther. God will save a people for Himself out of every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation. He will do it with or without our help, but He has graciously called us to be participants in His great work of salvation. Let us be careful not to despise so great a privilege. When our name is called, let us rise up quickly and stand at attention. Let us be ready for every good work. Let us put our hand to the plow and not turn back. A great door has been opened unto us, but we should not think that it will remain open forever. We must work while it is still day, for night comes when no man will be able to work.

My dear friends, God has worked in our lives so that we might be the instruments used in the salvation of a countless multitude of people. If we sleep through the sowing and are distracted during the harvest, God will still accomplish His work in the world, but we will lose too much to write in words. If we turn our eyes toward the fields and put our hand to the plow, if we sow the good seed to the four corners of the earth, then our gain will be will be immeasurable.

Your brother,

Paul David Washer



a Sound Word

The Missionaries' Charge

by Rev. Charles Spurgeon. (*The Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit*, Vol. 7, p. 281-288).

**A SERMON DELIVERED ON SUNDAY MORNING,
APRIL 21ST, 1861, AT THE METROPOLITAN
TABERNACLE, NEWINGTON**

"And JESUS came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth, go ye, therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the son, and of the Holy Ghost." — Matthew 28:18-19

WHILE I was meditating in private upon this text I felt myself carried away by its power. I was quite unable calmly to consider its terms, or to investigate its argument. The *command* with which the text concludes repeated itself again, and again, and again in my ears, till I found it impossible to study, for my thoughts were running hither and thither, asking a thousand questions, all of them intended to help me in answering for myself the solemn enquiry, "How am *I* to go and teach *all* nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost?" The practical lesson seemed to me to overwhelm in my mind the argument of which that lesson is but a conclusion, "Go ye and teach all nations." My ears seemed to hear it as if Christ were then speaking it to *me*. I could realize his presence by my side. I thought I could see him lift his pierced hand, and hear him speak, as he was wont to speak, with authority, blended with meekness, "Go ye and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the All-glorious God." Oh! I would that the Church could hear the Savior addressing these words to her now, for the words of Christ are living words, not having power in them yesterday alone, but today also. The injunctions of the Savior are perpetual in their obligation, they were not binding upon apostles merely, but upon *us* also, and upon every Christian does this yoke fall, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." We are not exempt today from the service of the first followers of the Lamb, our marching orders are the same as theirs, and our Captain requires from us obedience as prompt and perfect as from them. Oh that his message may not fall upon deaf ears, or be heard by stolid souls!

Brethren, the heathen are perishing; shall we let them perish? *His* name is blasphemed, shall we be quiet and still? The honor of Christ is cast into the dust, and his foes revile his person and resist his throne, shall we his soldiers suffer this, and not find our hands feeling for the hilt of our sword, the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God? Our Lord delayeth

his coming; shall we begin to sleep, or to eat, or to be drunken? Shall we not rather gird up the loins of our mind, and cry unto him, "Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly?" The scoffing skeptics of these last days have said that the anticipated conquest of the world for Christ is but a dream, or an ambitious thought, which crossed our leader's mind, but which never is to be accomplished. It is asserted by some that the superstitions of the heathen are too strong to be battered down by our teachings, and that the strongholds of Satan are utterly impregnable against our attacks. Shall it be so? Shall we be content foolishly to sit still? Nay, rather let us work out the problem, let us prove the promise of God to be true; let us prove the words of Jesus to be words of soberness; let us show the efficacy of his blood and the invincibility of his Spirit, by going in the spirit of faith, teaching all nations, and winning them to the obedience of Christ our Lord.

I do not know how to begin to preach this morning, but still it seems to me, standing here, as if I heard that voice saying, "Go thou, therefore, and teach all nations;" and my soul sometimes pants and longs for the liberty to preach Christ where he was never preached before; not to build upon another man's foundation, but to go to some untrodden land, some waste where the foot of Christ's minister was never seen, that there "the solitary place might be glad for us, and the wilderness rejoice and blossom as the rose." I have made it a solemn question whether I might not testify in China or India the grace of Jesus, and in the sight of God I have answered it. I solemnly feel that my position in England will not permit my leaving the sphere in which I now am, or else tomorrow I would offer myself as a missionary. Oh, do none of you hear the call this morning? You that are free from so great a work as that which is cast upon me — you that have talents as yet undevoted to any special end, and powers of being as yet unconsecrated to any given purpose, and unconfined to any one sphere; do you not hear my Master saying in tones of plaintive sorrow, blended with an authority which is not to be denied, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost?" Oh that I could preach like Peter the Hermit — a better crusade than he! Oh that there were might in some human lip to move the thousands of our Israel to advance at once, unanimously and irresistibly to the world's conquest, like one tremendous tide rising from the depths of the ocean, to sweep over the sands, the barren sands which are now given up to desolation and death? Oh that once again the voice of thunder could be heard, and

the lightning spirit could penetrate each heart, that as one man the entire Church might take the marching orders of her Lord, and go teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of Israel's God! O Lord, if *we* fail to speak, fail not thou to speak; and if we know not how to bear thy burden, or express thine awful thoughts, yet speak thou with that all-constraining silent voice which well-trained ears can hear, and make thy servants obedient to thee now, for Christ's sake!

"Awake, thou Spirit, who of old
 Didst fire the watchman of the Church's youth,
 Who faced the foe, unshrinking, bold
 Who witness'd day and night the eternal truth
 Whose voices through the world are ringing still,
 And bringing hosts to know and do thy will!
 Oh that thy fire were kindled soon,
 That swift from land to land its flame might leap!
 Lord, give us but this priceless boon
 Of faithful servants, fit for thee to reap
 The harvest of the soul; look down and view
 How great the harvest, yet the laborers few.
 Oh haste to help ere we are lost!
 Send forth evangelists, in spirit strong,
 Arm'd with thy Word, a dauntless host,
 Bold to attack the rule of ancient wrong
 And let them all the earth for thee reclaim,
 To be thy kingdom, and to know thy name."

This morning we shall first dwell a little while upon the *command*, and then secondly, we shall enlarge upon the argument. There is an argument, as you will perceive, "*Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations.*"

First, my brethren, and very briefly indeed a few things about the COMMAND. And we must remark, first what a singularly loving one it is. Imagine Mahomet (i.e. the prophet Mohamed) on his dying bed saying to his disciples, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth;" what would be his command? "Go ye, therefore, with sharp scimitars, and propound faith in the prophet, or death as the dread alternative; avenge me of the men who threw stones at the prophet, make their houses a dunghill, and cut them in pieces for vengeance is mine, and God's prophet *must* be avenged of his enemies." But Christ, though far more despised and persecuted of men, and having a real power which that pretended prophet never had, says to his disciples, as he is about to ascend to heaven, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth; go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." It is the voice of love, not of wrath. "Go and teach them the power of my blood to cleanse, the willingness of my arms to embrace, the yearning of my heart to save! *Go and teach* them. Teach them no more to despise me, no more to think my Father an angry and implacable Deity. Teach them to bow the knee, and kiss the Son, and find peace for all their troubles, and a balm for all their woes in me. Go ye; speak as I have spoken; weep as I have wept; invite as I have invited; exhort, entreat, beseech and pray, as I have done before you. Tell them to come unto

me, if they be weary and heavy laden, and *I* will give them rest; and say unto them, 'I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, but had rather that he should turn unto me and live.'" What a generous and gracious command is that of the text, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

Note, too, how exceedingly plain is the command, "Go ye, *teach* all nations." The Romish Church has misunderstood this. She says, "Go ye, mystify all nations; sound in their ears a language once living, but now dead; take to them the Latin tongue, and let that be sounded with all the harmony of sweet music, and they will be converted; erect the sumptuous altar; clothe the priest in mystic garments; celebrate mysterious rites; and make the heathen wonder; dazzle them with splendor; amaze them with mystery." But, "Nay," says Christ, "nay, go ye and *teach*." Why, it is the mother's work with her child; it is the tutor's work with the boy and with the girl — "go ye, and teach." How simple! Illustrate; explain, expound; tell; inform; narrate. Take from them the darkness of ignorance, reveal to them the light of revelation. Teach! Be content to sit down, and tell them the very plainest and most common things. It is not your eloquence that shall convert them; it is not your gaudy language or your polished periods that shall sway their intellects. Go and teach them. Teach them! Why, my hearer, I say again, this is a word which has to do with the rudiments of knowledge. We do not preach to children; we teach them; and we are not so much to preach to nations, that word seems too big and great for the uncivilized and childish people; go ye, and teach them first the very simplicities of the cross of Christ.

And note how he puts it next? Who are to be taught, "Go ye and teach all nations." The Greek has his philosophers, teach *him*, he is but a child; he is a fool, though he thinketh himself to be wise. There be polite nations which have a literature of their own, far larger and more extensive than the literature of the Christian: teach them nevertheless, they are to be *taught* and unless they are willing to take the learner's place, and to become as little children, they can in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven. Do not debate and argue with them; put not yourself with them upon their level as a combatant concerning certain dogmas; insist upon it that *I* have sent you — sent you to teach the most erudite and profoundly learned; and when you shall claim it, I am with you always to back your claim, and men shall be willing to sit at your feet to be taught the name of Jesus. I do not know whether *all* our missionaries have caught the idea of Christ — "Go ye and *teach* all nations," but many of them have, and these have been honored with many conversions. The more fully they have been simple teachers, not philosophers of the Western philosophy, not eager disputants concerning some English dogma, I say the more plainly they have gone forth as teachers sent from God to teach the world, the more successful have they been. "Go ye, therefore, and teach." Some may think, perhaps, there is less difficulty in teaching the learned than in teaching the uncivilized and barbarous. There is the same duty to the one as to the other: "Go and teach." "But they brandish the tomahawk." Teach them, and lie down and sleep in their hut, and they shall marvel at your fearlessness and spare your life. "But they feed

on the blood of their fellows, they make a bloody feast about the cauldron in which a man's body is the horrible viand." Teach them and they shall empty their war-kettle, and they shall bury their swords, and bow before you, and acknowledge King Jesus. "But they are brutalised, they have scarce a language — a few clicking sounds make up all that they can say." Teach them, and they shall speak the language of Canaan, and sing the songs of heaven. The fact has been proved, brethren, that there are no nations incapable of being taught, nay, that there are no nations incapable afterwards of teaching others. The Negro slave has perished under the lash, rather than dishonor his Master. The Esquimaux has climbed his barren steeps, and borne his toil, while he has recollected the burden which Jesus bore. The Hindoo has patiently submitted to the loss of all things, because he loved Christ better than all. Feeble Malagasay women have been prepared to suffer and to die, and have taken joyfully suffering for Christ's sake. There has been heroism in every land for Christ; men of every color and of every race have died for him; upon his altar has been found the blood of all kindreds that be upon the face of the earth. Oh! tell me not they cannot be taught. Sirs, they can be taught to die for Christ; and this is more than some of you have learned. They can rehearse the very highest lesson of the Christian religion — that self sacrifice which knows not itself but gives up all for him. At this day there are Karen missionaries preaching among the Karens with as fervid an eloquence as ever was known by Whitfield, there are Chinese teaching in Borneo, Sumatra, and Australia, with as much earnestness as Morison or Milne first taught in China. There are Hindoo evangelists who are not ashamed to have given up the Brahminical thread, and to eat with the Pariah, and to preach with him the riches of Christ. There have been men found of every class and kind, not only able to be taught, but able to become teachers themselves, and the most mighty teachers too, of the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. Well was that command warranted by future facts, when Christ said, "Go ye, teach all nations."

But, brethren, the text says, "*baptizing them.*" They are to be taught, and afterwards they are to be baptized. I know not why it is that we yield to the superstitions of our Christian brethren, so much as to use the word *baptize* at all. It is not an English, but a Greek word. It has but one meaning, and cannot bear another. Throughout all the classics, without exception, it is not possible to translate it correctly, except with the idea of immersion; and believing this, and knowing this, if the translation is not complete, we will complete it this morning. "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, *immersing* them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

Now, I think that our Missionary Society, while it may take precedence in matters of time — for it was the first that was ever commenced with the exception of the Moravians — ought also to take precedence in matters of purity, because we can carry out this text in every country, teaching first and baptizing afterwards. We do not understand the philosophy of baptizing, and afterwards teaching. We hold that we must teach first, and then, when men are disciples, we are to baptize them. Not the nations; the Greek does not bear that interpretation, but those who have been disciples we are to baptize into the Sacred Name. We think that our brethren do serious damage to the Gospel by baptizing children. We do not think their error a little one. We know it does not touch a vital point; but we do believe that infant baptism is the prop and pillar of Popery, and it being removed, Popery and Puseyism become at once impossible. You have taken away all idea of a national godliness and a national religion, when you have cut away all liberty to administer Christian ordinances to unconverted persons.



We cannot see any evil which would follow, if our brethren would renounce their mistake; but we can see abundant mischief which their mistake has caused, and in all kindness, but with all fidelity, we again enter our solemn protest against their giving baptism to any but disciples, to any but those who are the followers of the Lamb. Throw down her hedges? Give her supper and her baptism to those that are not Christ's people? Break down her walls? Remove her barricades? God forbid! Except a man be renewed in heart, we dare not allow him to participate in the ordinances which belong to Christ's Church. Oh! it is a disastrous thing to call unconverted children Christians, or to do any-

thing which may weaken their apprehension of the great fact, that until they be converted they have no part or lot in this matter. Brethren, if you differ from me on this point, bear with me, for my conscience will not let me conceal this solemn truth. To you who agree with me I say, while our other friends can do in some things more than we can, — and we rejoice in their efforts, and would heartily bless God that they have shown more activity than ourselves, — yet we ought to be ashamed of ourselves if we are a whit behind. We are a body of Christians who can fairly and purely teach and baptize; we can obey this command of Christ abroad, as well as at home, without running counter to our practice in one place by our practice in the other; we ought to be first and foremost, and if we be not, shame shall cover us for our unfaithfulness. Again, I say, I hear that voice ringing in the Baptist's ear, above that of any other man, Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

I have endeavored to be brief, but I find I have been long, and therefore pass at once to the argument with which the text commences. The ARGUMENT is this: "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth, go ye, *therefore*, and teach all nations." Three things here. Christ had suffered, bled and died; he had now risen from the dead. As the effect of his finished work, he had as mediator received all power in Heaven and in earth. There is no allusion here to his inherent power that is not given to him: that is his native right; he has, as God, all power in heaven and in earth. The text relates to him as mediator. As mediator he had not this power once; he was weak, he was despised, he was forsaken even of his God. But now, having finished the work which was given him to do, his Father honors him. He is about to lift him to his right hand, and gives him, as the result of resurrection, all power in heaven and in earth. Three things, then. First, this is the picture of the Church's history, and therefore she should teach all nations. Secondly, this is the Church's right. Thirdly, it is the Church's might; and for all these reasons she ought to teach all nations.

First, this is the Church's picture. Christ suffers, bleeds, dies. Do you give up his cause? Do you look upon it as forlorn and desolate? He is nailed to the tree; the world abhors him, fools gaze, and sinners laugh. Do you lay down your weapons and say, it is idle to defend such a man as this? It is all over now, he bows his head upon the cross. "It is finished," saith he; and do your unbelieving hearts say, "Ay, indeed, it is finished; his career is over, his hopes are blighted, his prospects withered?" Ah! little do you know that his shame was the mother of his future glory; that the stooping was the rising, that the crown of thorns was in fact the fruitful root out of which sprang the eternal crown of glory. He is put into the grave: do you say that there is the grave of all your faith could believe, or your hope could suggest? He rises, brethren, and his resurrection takes effect and fruit from the fact that he died and was buried. Do you not see the picture? We have been sending out heralds of the cross these eighteen hundred years; they have landed upon many a shore to die. Fever has taken off its hundreds, cruel men have slain their scores, from the first day until now, the record of the mission is written in blood. Somewhere or other there always must be martyrs for Christ. It seems as if the Church never could plough a wave without a spray of gore. She is still in Madagascar persecuted, afflicted, tormented, still are her ministers hunted about like partridges upon the mountains, and her blood is dying the shambles of her slayers. Do you give up all hope? Shall we, as we look upon the tombs of our missionaries, say that Christ's cause is dead? Brethren, as you turn over the long roll, and read the names of one after another who sleep in Jesus, shall you say, "Let us close the doors of the mission-house; let us cease our contributions, it is clear the case is hopeless, and the cause can never have success?" Nay, rather, the Church must suffer that she may reign, she must die that she may live, she must be stained with blood, that she may be robed in purple, she must go down into the earth, and seem to be buried and forgotten, that the earth may help the woman, that she may be delivered of the man child. Courage! courage! courage! The past is hopeful, because to the eye it seemeth hopeless, the cause is glorious, because it has been put to

shame. Now, now let us gather the fruits of the bloody sowing: let us now reap the harvest of the deep ploughing of agony and suffering which our ancestors have endured.

I think that no true-hearted Christian will ever give up any enterprise which God has laid upon him, because he fears its ultimate success. "Difficult," said Napoleon, "is not a French word." "Doubtful," is not a Christian word. We are *sure* to succeed; the gospel *must* conquer. It is possible for heaven and earth to pass away, but it is not possible for God's Word to fail, and therefore it is utterly impossible that any nation, or kindred, or tongue should to the end stand out against the attacks of love, against the invasion of the armies of King Jesus.

Thus, then, you see, a fair argument can be built upon the text. Inasmuch as Christ is to his people a picture of what they are to be, inasmuch as by his suffering all power was given to him in heaven and in earth, so after the sufferings of the Church, the wounds of her martyrs, and the deaths of her confessors, power shall be given to her in heaven and in earth, and she shall reign with Christ over the nations gloriously.

We now take a second view of the argument. This is the Church's *right*. All power is given to Christ in heaven and in earth. What then? Why this. Kings and princes, potentates and power, are ye aware that your thrones have been given away? Do ye know it, ye crowned heads, that your crowns have been given — given away from you to one who claims to be King of kings and Lord of lords? Do ye pass degrees forbidding the gospel to be preached? We laugh at you! Ye have no power to prevent it, for all power is given unto Christ in heaven and in earth. Do ye say that the missionary has no right upon your shore? The virgin daughter of Zion shaketh her head at you, and laugheth you to scorn. She has right anywhere and everywhere; she has rights in heaven without limit, and rights in earth without bound, for all power is given to her head in heaven and in earth, and she therefore has a patent, a claim which is not to be disputed, to take to herself all countries and all kingdoms, because the power above is given unto Christ. What is that man doing on yonder shore? He has landed on an island in the South Seas; he is an intruder, banish him at once! Sirs, mind what you do, for surely ye fight against God. But the man is sent away, he comes back again or if not he, another. A severer edict is passed this time, "Let us slay him, that the inheritance may still be ours." But another comes, and another, and another. Why do you stand up and take counsel together against the Lord, and against his anointed? These men are not intruders, they are ambassadors come to make peace, nay, more. They are delegates from heaven, come to learn the rightful heritage of King Jesus. Ye, in putting them away as intruders, have denied the rights of Christ, but to deny is one thing, and to disprove another. He hath still a right to you, and therefore hath the missionary still a right to come whithersoever he will, preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ. Once or twice in my life I have met with some miserable little ministers, who, when I have gone into a village to preach, have questioned my right to preach in the village,

because I ought to have asked them first, or to have consulted them. And can Christian men look on a district as their own dominion, and reckon God's servant as a poacher on their estates, or a brigand in their territories? Is there any place on this earth that belongs to any man so that he can shut out God's ministers? We once for all put our foot upon any claim so ridiculous. Wherever there is found a man, there is the minister free to preach. The whole world is our parish, we know of no fetter upon our feet, and no gag upon our lips. Though kings should pass laws, the servants of Christ can bear the penalty, but they cannot disobey their Master, though the Emperor should say the gospel should not be preached by any unauthorized denomination in France, as I have heard he has said of late, we care not for him. What cares the Church for a thousand Emperors? Their resolutions are mockery, their laws waste-paper, the Church never was yet vassal to the state, or servile slave to municipalities and powers, and she neither can nor will be. At all the laws of states, she laughs, and utterly defies them, if they come in the way of the law of Christ which says, "Teach the gospel to every creature." Brethren, I say, the Church has a right anywhere and everywhere — a right, not because she is tolerated; the word is insult, not because the law permits, the law permitting or not permitting, tolerated or untolerated, everywhere beneath the arch of God's heaven, God's servants have a right to preach. Oh that they would claim the right, and in every place teach and preach Jesus Christ continually!

But now, lastly, it seems to me that the argument of the text contains the Church's might. "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth; go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Ye have power to teach, fear not. Let this be your encouragement; you must succeed, you shall prevail. There never lived another man save Christ, who could say, "All power is given me on earth." Canute puts his throne by the side of the sea, but the waves wet his person, and prove to his flattering courtiers that he is but a man. What power have kings over the lightning, of the rushing winds? Can they control the tides, or bid the moon stand still? Power is not given unto man, even upon earth. Much less could any man say, all power in heaven belonged to him. This is a singular expression; one which only could be used by Christ, and if any other should attempt to use it, it were an imposition, and a blasphemy, but the Lord Jesus Christ can say to-day, as he said then, "All power is given unto me in

heaven and in earth." Let us think, then, all power is given to Christ in providence. Over common daily events he has supreme authority. You have launched upon the sea, upon a mission voyage; he rules the waves, and wings the winds; fear not, for tempest is his trembling slave. You have come near the shore, but there are hidden reefs and sunken rocks. Fear not, for all power is given to him in the lowest deep to guide you safely, and to bring you to your desired haven. A band of men meet you upon the shore, brandishing their weapons. You are unarmed, you have nothing but the Word. You shall now prove that "more is he that is with you than all they that be with them." Go, in this your might. All power is given to Christ — power over the wills of men, as well as over the waves of the sea. But political occurrences prevent your landing on a certain country, through treaties, or a want of treaties, there is no room for the missionary in such-and-such an empire, *pray*, and

the gates shall be opened; *plead*, and the bars of brass shall be cut in twain. Christ has power over politics. He can make wars, and create peace, with a view to the propagation of his Word. He can change the hearts of princes, and preside in the counsels of senates, he can cause nations that have long been shut up, to be opened to the truth. And, indeed, what a wonderful proof we have had of late, that all power belongs unto Christ, for human skill has been yoked to the chariot of the gospel. How wondrously, my brethren, have the inventions of man of late years progressed! How could we have preached the gospel to all nations — how could we have even known that America existed, if it had not

"Brethren, the heathen are perishing; shall we let them perish? His name is blasphemed, shall we be quiet and still? The honor of Christ is cast into the dust, and his foes revile his person and resist his throne, shall we his soldiers suffer this, and not find our hands feeling for the hilt of our sword, the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God? Our Lord delayeth his coming; shall we begin to sleep, or to eat, or to be drunken? Shall we not rather gird up the loins of our mind, and cry unto him, 'Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly?'"

been that the Lord put it into the mind of Columbus to discover the New World! And how wearisome our life, if with the ordinary slow navigation of the ancient times we had to journey among all nations! But now we are carried across the waves so rapidly that distance is annihilated, and time forgotten. Truly God has opened up the world, and brought it to our threshold, if he has not made a smaller world, at least he has made it more convenient and nearer to our hand. And then see how countries, which once could not be reached, have been opened to us. The Celestial King of China, the rebel prince, invites us to come and preach. He does not merely permit — he invites, he builds places of worship, he is prepared, he says, that his brethren should come and teach him, and teach all his subjects, for they are imperfectly taught in the things of God. And the Imperial Sovereign of China, too, though he does not invite, permits the missionaries to go among his millions. There

is perfect liberty for us to preach to four hundred millions of persons who before had never seen the light of Calvary. And there is India, too, given up to our dominion, and the old Company, which always impeded us, rolled up in its shroud and laid in its grave. And there are other lands and other places which once seemed to be environed by impassable mountains, into which we have now a road. Oh, for the will to dash through that road riding upon the white horses of salvation! Oh, for the heart, the spirit, and the soul to avail ourselves of the golden opportunity, and to preach Christ where he has never been preached before! All power, then, we can clearly see, over everything in this world has been given to Christ, and has been used for the propagation of his truth.

But, brethren, let us recollect that power is given to Christ in heaven as well as on earth. All angels bow before him, and the cherubin and seraphim are ready to obey his high behests (*i.e.* commands). Power is given to him over the plenitude of the Holy Spirit; he can pour out the mysterious energy in such abundance that nations can be born in a day. He can clothe his ministers with salvation, and make his priests shout aloud for joy. He has power to intercede with God, and he shall presently send out men to preach, presently give the people the mind to hear, and give the hearers the will to obey. We have in the midst of us to-day our Leader. He is not gone from us. If his flesh and blood be absent yet in body as well as spirit he still lives, adorned with the dew and beauty of his youth. As for the Mahomedan, *his* leader has long ago rotted in his coffin; but ours lives, and because he lives, his truth and his cause live also. We have with us to-day a Leader whose power is not diminished, whose influence in the highest heavens has suffered no impairing. He is universal Lord. Oh, let our efforts be worthy of the power which he has promised, let our zeal be in some respect akin to his zeal, and let our energy prove that the energy divine has not been withdrawn.

I wish that I could preach this morning, but the more earnestly I feel, the more scant are my words with which to express my emotions. I have prayed to God, and it is a prayer I shall repeat till I die — I have prayed that out of this Church there may go many missionaries. I will never be content with a congregation, or with a Church, or even with ministers, many of whom have already gone out of our midst. We must have missionaries from this Church. God's people everywhere will I trust aid me in training young soldiers for my Master's army. God will send the men, and faith will find the means, and we will ourselves send out our own men to proclaim the name of Jesus. Brethren, it is a singular thing, there are some young men who get the idea into their minds that they would like to go into foreign lands, but these are frequently the most unfit men, and have not the power and ability. Now, I would that the divine call would come to some gifted men. You who have, perhaps, some wealth of your own, what could be a better object in life than to devote yourself and your substance to the Redeemer's cause? You young men, who have brilliant prospects before you, but who as yet have not the anxieties of a family to maintain, why, would it not be noble thing to surrender your brilliant prospects, that you may become a humble preacher of Christ? The greater the sacrifice, the more honor to

yourself and the more acceptable to him. I have questioned my own conscience, and I do not think I could be in the path of duty if I should go abroad to preach the Word, leaving this field of labor; but I think many of my brethren now laboring at home might with the greatest advantage surrender their charges, and leave a land where they would scarce be missed, to go where their presence would be as valuable as the presence of a thousand such as they are here. And oh! I long that we may see young men out of the universities, and students in our grammar schools — that we may see our physicians, advocates, tradesmen, and educated mechanics, when God has touched their hearts, giving up all they have, that they may teach and preach Christ. We want Vanderkists; we want Judsons and Brainerds over again. It will never do to send out to the heathen men who are of no use at home. We cannot send men of third and tenth class abilities; we must send the highest, and best. The bravest men must lead the van. O God, anoint thy servants, we beseech thee; put the fire into their hearts that never can be quenched; make it so hot within their bones that they must die or preach, that they must be down with broken hearts, or else be free to preach where Christ was never heard. Brethren, envy any one among you — I say again with truth, I envy you — if it shall be your lot to go to China, the country so lately opened to us. I would gladly change places with you. I would renounce the partial case of a settlement in this country, and renounce the responsibilities of so large a congregation as this with pleasure, if I might have your honors. I think sometimes that missionaries in the field — if it be right to compare great things with such small ones — might say to you, as our English king did to his soldiers at the battle of Agincourt, changing the word for a moment —

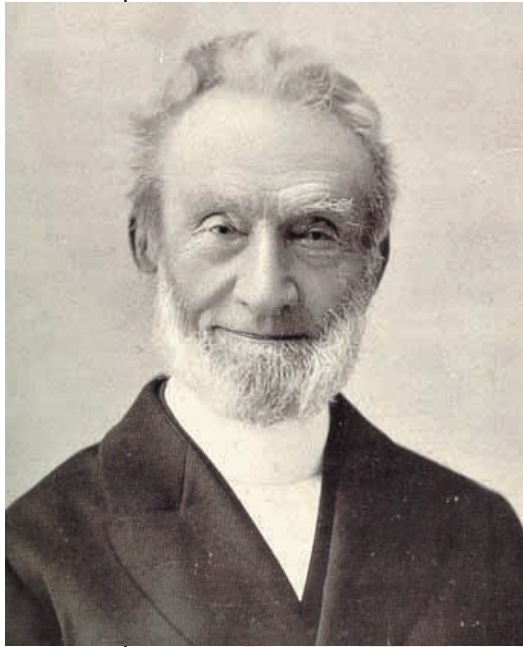
“Ministers in England, now a bed,
Might think themselves accurs'd they were not here,
And hold their manhood's cheap while any speak
Who fought with us upon this glorious day.”

Have we none out of our sixteen hundred members — have we none out of this congregation of six thousand — who can say, “Here am I, send me?” “Jesus! is there not one? Must heathens perish? Must the gods of the heathen hold their thrones? Must thy kingdom fail? Are there none to own thee, none to maintain thy righteous cause? If there be none, let us weep, each one of us, because such a calamity has fallen on us. But if there be any who are willing to give all for Christ, let us who are compelled to stay at home do our best to help them. Let us see to it that they lack nothing, for we cannot send them out without purse or scrip. Let us fill the purse of the men whose hearts God has filled, and take care of them temporally, leaving it for God to preserve them spiritually.

May the Lord, the Divine Master add his blessing to the feeble words that I have uttered, and let me not conclude till I have said, *I* must teach *you* too, and this is the teaching of God — “Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.” Trust him with your soul, and he will save you. For “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; he that believeth not shall be damned.”

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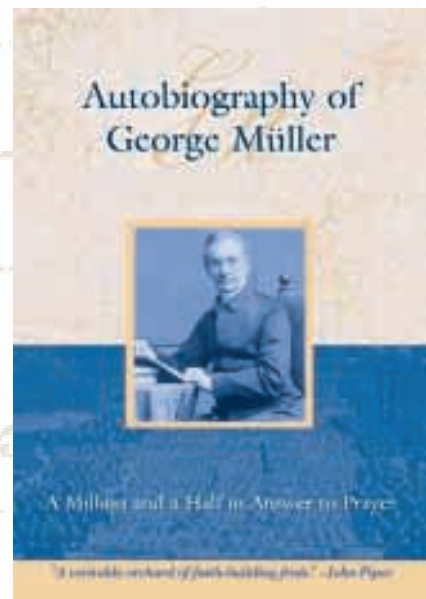
George Müller has for years been a pacesetter for me in prayer. His Autobiography is a veritable orchard of faith-building fruit. I have found Müller's way absolutely crucial in my own life—be with the Lord before I am with anyone else and let Him speak to me first.

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throughs in groups that until now have been unreached. The power of God's Word is calling out His children. Please pray for the continued spread of the Gospel in Benin and for the translation of the Bible into the several languages that do not have the written Word of God.

Abraham Babalola

is currently planting a church in Porto- Novo, Benin. The name of the church is Eglise Baptiste. He ministers with his wife Rebecca and their seven children.

Zambia

Zambia is an amazing story of God's grace. The country suffered for many years under the leadership of President Kaunda and Socialist-Humanistic philosophy. The end of the Cold War and the president's corruption resulted in the collapse of the government and free elections in 1991. Zambia is one of the most "Christian" nations in all of Africa. 75% of the 9,959,000 Zambians profess Christianity, but only 50% are affiliated with a Christian fellowship. Evangelical Christians make up 13% of the population. The first Christian President of Zambia prayed on live television at his inauguration. He prayed a prayer of national repentance and renounced the sins of idolatry, witchcraft, occultism, injustice, and corruption. He asked God's forgiveness for his nation through the blood of Jesus Christ. Please pray for a continuing work of God's grace upon Zambia. Also, please pray for our Brother Conrad Mbewe who oversees the work of the missionaries supported through the HeartCry Missionary Society.

Lichawa Thole

is currently planting the Chisomo Baptist Church in Zambia.

Pray for our Missionaries around the World!

Above all things we desire your prayers on behalf of this ministry that the Lord has given us. Prayer is not "a work" of missions, but "the work" of missions. We would greatly appreciate your prayers on behalf of those of us who have been called to this ministry and on behalf of those who are ministering as indigenous missionaries throughout the world.

How to Pray for Missions

1. *Pray for peace throughout the world so that the Gospel might be preached in every nation (1 Timothy 2:1-4), and that doors might be opened to the Gospel throughout the world (Colossians 4:3).*
2. *Pray for God to send forth laborers to every nation of the earth (Matthew 9:37-38).*
3. *Pray for God to grant grace to each missionary so that they might walk in holiness, love, wisdom, and power; and they might preach the Gospel correctly (Colossians 4:1-4).*
4. *Pray for the knowledge of God to cover every land like the waters that cover the sea (Isaiah 11:9).*
5. *Pray for God to convert men by His sovereign power and for His own glory (Ezekiel 36:22-28).*
6. *Pray for all men of every nation to joyfully submit to the sovereign will of God (Matthew 6:10).*
7. *Pray for God's Name to be great or "to be hallowed" among the nations (Malachi 1:11; Matthew 6:9). Pray for all men of every nation to esteem the worth of God above all things.*

Kennedy Sunkutu

is planting the Kafue Reformed Baptist Church. He ministers there with his wife and two children.

Wilson Kamanga

is planting and pastoring the Choma Central Baptist Church. He ministers with his wife and four daughters.



BENIN

Kandi

Natitingou

Djougou

Parakou

Bolgatanga

Mont
Sokbaro

Tamale

Bohicon Cove
**PORTO
NOVO**
Cotonou

**Abraham
and
Rebecca
Babalola -**
*Are plant-
ing churches
in the city of
Porto-Novo,
in the country of
Benin.*



AFRICA

TUNISIA

MOROCCO

ALGERIA

WESTERN
SAHARA

MAURITANIA

MALI

NIGER



Daniel Amoo - *Is
pastoring a church in
Porkuase, Ghana, and
planting additional churches
in surrounding villages.*

Frank Karimu - *Is planting a church in
Nsawam, Ghana. His work is multi-tribal.*

Joseph Lamptey - *Is pastoring a church in
Accra, Ghana, and planting additional
churches in Accra and Anum-
Apapam.*



James Lamptey - *Is pastoring
in Accra, Ghana and planting
additional churches in the
Greater Accra Region.*



BURKINA
FASO

GHANA

BENIN

NIGERIA

TOGO

IVORY
COAST

GUINEA

SIERRA
LEONE

LIBERIA

EQUATORIAL
GUINEA

SAO TOME & PRINCE

GABON

Rep.
CONGO

Sokoto

Katsina

Maiduguri

Kano

Zaria

Kaduna

Jos

★ **ABUJA**

Yola

Ilorin

Ogbomoso

Oshogbo

Ibadan

Benin
City

Enugu

Makurdi

Chappal
Waddi

Warri

Port
Harcourt

NIGERIA

Samuel Ahmed - *Is
pastoring and planting
churches in Minna, Nige-
ria.*

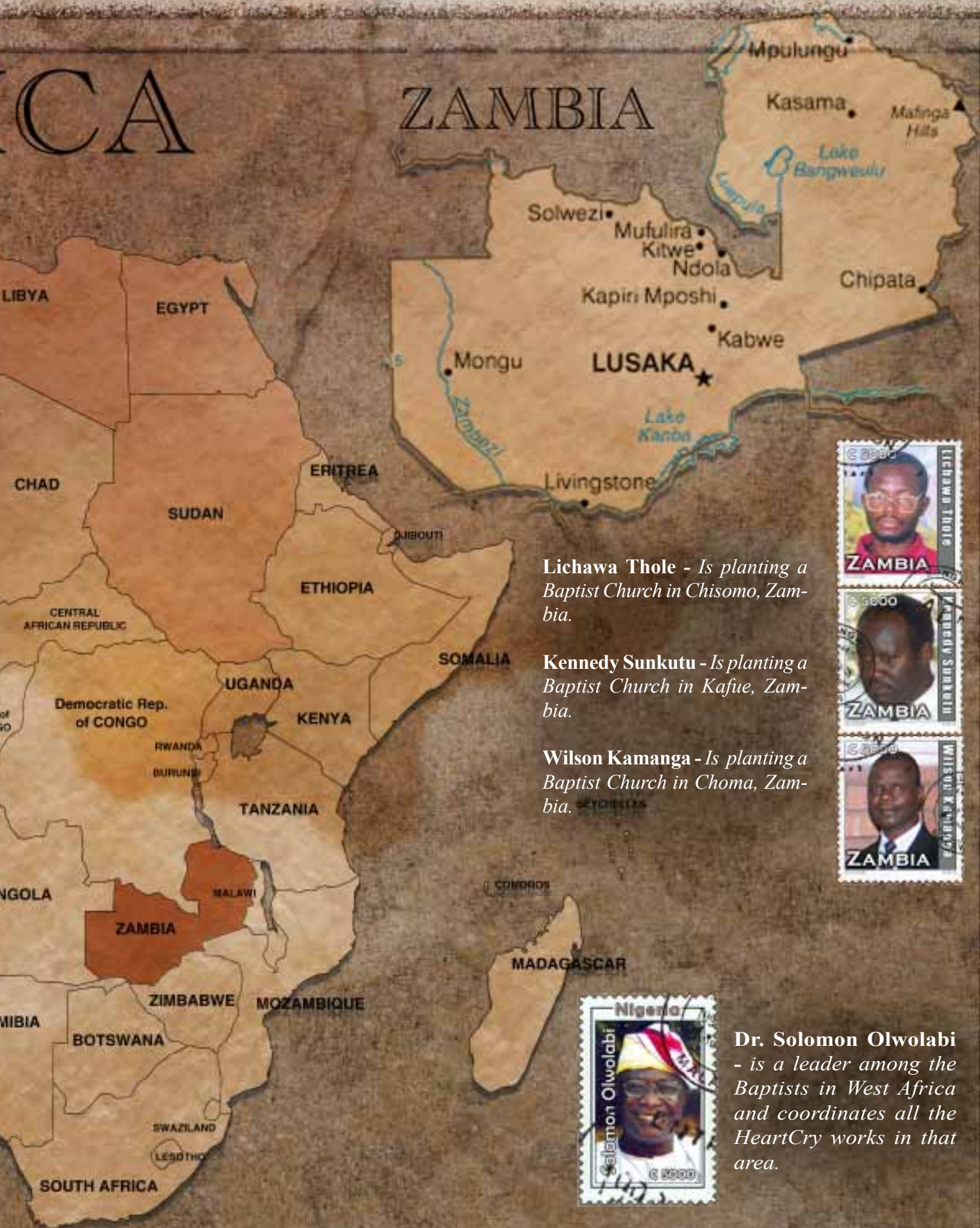
Dauda Freeman - *Is
planting a church in
Mangu, in the Plateau
State of northern Nigeria.*

Andrew Martey - *Is
pastoring and planting
churches in Minna, Nige-
ria.*



CA

ZAMBIA



Lichawa Thole - *Is planting a Baptist Church in Chisomo, Zambia.*

Kennedy Sunkutu - *Is planting a Baptist Church in Kafue, Zambia.*

Wilson Kamanga - *Is planting a Baptist Church in Choma, Zambia.*



Dr. Solomon Olwolabi - *is a leader among the Baptists in West Africa and coordinates all the HeartCry works in that area.*

OUR MISSIONARIES IN AFRICA

Our Missionaries in Africa

This center page of our magazine may be detached and used as a prayer guide for HeartCry's missionaries in Africa. Prayer is the greatest gift you can give.

"Therefore I want the men in every place to pray..." I Timothy 2:8

Nigeria

Approximately 40% of the population is Muslim, 15.9% is Evangelical Christian, and 10% follow traditional and ethnic religions. Muslims dominate the northern states from the Hausa and Fulani Tribes, and the South is predominantly Christian (nominal). A growing concern for Christians in Nigeria is the implementation of Shariah Law, especially in the Northern states. The purpose of Shariah is to force all citizens to live by Islamic Law and force their conversion to Islam. The law promotes the persecution and destruction of all those who will not convert to Islam. Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Nigeria, and for Solomon Owolabi who oversees the men who minister with support from HeartCry.

Samuel Ahmed

is planting churches and pastoring Grace Independent Baptist Church of Chanchaga in Minna, Niger State, Nigeria. Brother Ahmed labors with his wife Esther and their children Nathaniel, Grace, Joy, Mercy, Emanuel, Victoria, and Joy.

Andrew Martey

is planting churches and pastoring in Minna, Niger State, Nigeria. He labors with his wife Lydia, and his two young sons Richard and Daniel.

Dauda Freeman

is planting a church in Mangu, in the Plateau State of northern Nigeria. He ministers there with his wife Phebe and their three children Zadok, Adonai, and Miracle.

Ghana

Ghana is a state that enjoys religious freedom, but some members of the former military government are still hostile to Christianity. In the Islamic north, there remains verbal and physical persecution. Approximately 63%

profess Christianity, but in reality only 9% are Evangelicals. 21 % hold to indigenous or tribal beliefs and 16% are Muslim. The greatest need for Ghana is for a continuing work of the Holy Spirit. The country has at least 20 unreached people groups. Though these groups are slowly being reached, we must pray for the continued advancement of God's Word.

Frank Karimu

is planting and pastoring a church in Nsawam, Ghana. His work is located between two key villages and is multi-tribal.

Joseph Lamptey

is pastoring the Ringway Baptist Church which he planted, and is planting additional churches in Accra and Anum-Apapam.

James Lamptey

is pastoring the Grace Baptist Church, which he planted and continues to plant additional churches in the Greater Accra Region of Ghana.

Daniel Amoo

is pastoring the Porkuase Baptist Church and is planting additional churches in nearby villages.

Benin

Benin is a country in flux. After being freed from Marxism, the Christian missionary witness has flourished. Approximately 3% of the 6,787,625 population are Evangelical Christians, while 30% profess Christianity. The Muslim religion is strong in Benin and makes up 20% of the population. Approximately 50% of the population continues to hold to indigenous beliefs. Benin is the least evangelized non-Muslim country in Africa, south of the Sahara. The great news is that we are seeing break-

- Pull out this sheet to serve as a prayer guide -

- Pull out this sheet to serve as a prayer guide -

Abraham A. Babalola. *Your New Missionary in Benin*



Abraham and Rebecca Yemisi Babalola and their family are HeartCry missionaries in the city of Porto-Novo in West African country of Benin. Their first church plant is called "Eglise Baptiste." Here are their testimonies and a few of their first reports from their new work in the field.

Abraham's Testimony

I was born in a religious family that believed that going to church and observing all the necessary religious practices would get them to heaven. Seeing the "deadness" and "impotence" of my family's religion, I became involved in the occult and became a prophet of doom. I boasted in the devil's power and was used to bring many people into occult practices.



I was engulfed in darkness, but one glorious day, a man witnessed to me about Jesus Christ. He told me that He laid down His life for my sins, and that there was salvation in Him alone. At that moment, I realized that I was very deceived and full of error. I realized that I was trusting in a false hope. I repented of my sins and trusted Christ as my Lord and Savior. As I was growing in the Lord, I met a Christian girl named Rebecca and we were married. God has blessed our marriage and we now have six children.

In 1992, God burdened my heart to take a step of faith and serve Him as His minister. I obeyed His call for my life, but I did not know what I should do. I was willing to serve the Lord with all my life, but I felt that there was a great vacuum in me that needed to be filled. While I was going through this time of struggling, I met Dr. Solomon Owolabi, the director of Blue Mountain Baptist Bible College, in Ogbomoso, Nigeria. He talked with me at length and counseled me in the things of God. He challenged me to prepare for the ministry to which God had called me. I accepted his invitation to the Bible College and it has been a source of great blessing to me. God has greatly used Dr. Owolabi in my life throughout my stay in the college and even until now. He has been a father and a counselor to me.

Please pray for him always and ask God to give him grace to keep "burning" for the Lord.

After my graduation in 1999, I began to work with Dr. Owolabi as an assistant pastor. My main tasks were pulpit supply and teaching Sunday school. Even though I enjoyed working in Nigeria with Dr. Owolabi, I knew that the Lord was burdening my heart to return to the Republic of Benin and establish a New Testament Bible Church. I wanted to go immediately, but Dr. Owolabi kept telling me to wait and grow in the Lord. I did not want to wait, but I submitted to the counsel of my pastor and the Lord blessed me. I praise God that He has now opened the door for me to return to my home country and to serve Him as a church planter. I also praise God that He has provided for my work through HeartCry.

Yours in Christ,
Abraham Babalola

*Seeing the
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practices.*

Rebecca Y. Babalola.

Rebecca's Testimony



I was born in the late sixties into the family of Mr. and Mrs. Emmanuel Ladeji. My father was a member of the Nigerian police force and he lived a very immoral life. He has been married to five different women, and all of them have given birth to children. There are thirty children in all. Because of his work, he was always transferring from one place to another. He never had the time or money to take care of us and so my mother had to provide everything we needed. I was the last child born to my mother, and when I was nine years old, she died. None of my brothers or sisters was able to take care of me, and my father did not want me. I was in a terrible dilemma.

I had no place to go until one of my mother's sisters returned to Benin from Ghana and took me to stay with her. Although I was happy to have someone, the difficulties continued. My aunt had lost her husband a few years earlier and it was extremely difficult for her to take of her own children. She did not have much time for me, but I persevered and finished elementary school.

After elementary school, I knew that I would be on my own. I met a woman who worked as a food vendor in the central market of Ogbomoso where I was born. I began to make my living there through doing very immoral things. I engaged in a sinful lifestyle for many years, until one day I met a man who handed me a tract about Jesus. He asked me if I knew where I would spend eternity if I died. I answered, "No." He then told me about Jesus, "The Friend of Sinners." As he spoke to me, I realized that my regular church attendance and faithful tithing could not save me from the load of sin in my life. That day, I confessed my sin and asked Jesus to save me and give me eternal life. He did, and now I am free and born again. Praise God!

As time passed, I grew in the Lord and my knowledge of His Word. I met Abraham and fell in love with him. At the time, he was not a pastor, but he was a very faithful and responsible man. The Lord has blessed our marriage with six children.

When God called my husband into the ministry, we thanked Him for His faithfulness and for the great privilege to serve Him. Besides raising my family, I work beside my husband in the ministry, teaching the Bible to women and children. I praise God that He has led us to work in Benin and I thank you for your support. I strongly believe that the Lord will see us through. Amen.

Yours in Him,
Rebecca Yemisi Bablola



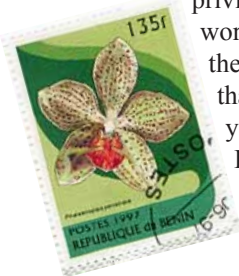
First Report From Benin

We arrived at the city of Porto-Novo late in the evening on the 12th of July. That following Sunday we were not able to hold any public worship service. Therefore, I met with my family and we worshiped together in the house we are now renting.

The following Sunday, we had our first public service in our house. No one attended except my family - five of us in all. The very next day, I went out into the community for door-to-door soul winning. The Lord allowed me to witness to a man named Alexander Darkwat and he gave his life to Christ on that day. During our discussion he said that he had a great problem that was always troubling his heart. After he shared with me, I pointed him to Christ as the Great Problem Solver. After he professed faith in Christ, I prayed with him. I saw him again that evening when he was returning from his work. He was glorifying God and testified about the Lord's goodness to all those around him.

On the third Sunday, our attendance grew to nine people (five adults and four children). We thanked God for His goodness. Our first three converts from Benin were in attendance: Alexander Darkwat, his wife Rabi, and another man named Samuel Agbotui. Please help me pray for their consistency and faithfulness to God. Please pray also for brother Samuel Aghotui and his quick recovery from a recent surgery.

Presently, we are using our living room for our services, but the owners of the house are Muslims and they are very hostile to us. We recognize that it is only God's grace that is holding us up and holding us together. We are praying that the Lord will provide for us our own place of worship. Please join us in prayer so that we may have it in the Lord's time. The land is very costly in this region of Benin, but I believed that with God all things are possible.





Porto-Novo is a city of many false religions and occultism. When I surveyed the people, I discovered that about 40% are Muslim, 35% are so-called believers in Christ, and 25% are idol worshipers. Because of this, I always need your prayers so that I may open my mouth widely without fear and speak forth the Gospel of Christ. I know that I must go out into the streets for soul winning so that souls will be saved, but it is difficult. To the people in Porto-Novo, our Gospel of repentance and faith in Christ is a new religion. I have been in the ministry for many years, but this place is truly different from all others that I know. If someone talks to these people about anything other than money, they are not interested. The word "God" is not in their vocabulary and they do nothing in His name. The only thing they want to know is how they can make more money and have more things. Because of the great greed of these people, everything costs more than normal.

In spite of all of this, there is one thing I know for certain – "Faithful is He that called me and He will do it." My responsibility is to continue in prayer and in the ministry of the Word (Acts 6:4).

I send my sincerest greetings to all of you at the HeartCry Missionary Society. We love you and pray for you.

February Newsletter (2003)

I send you Calvary's greeting in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. On the 8th of February 2003, Dr. Solomon Owolabi came to Porto-Novo to see how our work is advancing. The following day he preached in our church and six people gave their lives to Christ. One of the converts was a Muslim. She had gone to their holy land called "Mecca", but found no peace. She told me, "I have been hearing people speak about the name of Jesus. I wanted to know who He is and what He can do."

Dr. Solomon Owolabi's coming to Porto-Novo was a great help to the work. Many people see us as a new religion and are afraid to come to our church. After hearing Dr. Solomon's sermons, the people are more open to us. The following Sunday, two elderly men visited our Church and gave their lives to Christ. One of the men had just been removed from the hospital because he had no money. He was very sick, and could not walk or talk. After he cried out for salvation, Jesus gave him strength, and he walked to the Church by himself. He said to me, "I did not know that Jesus was like this!"

We earnestly ask for your prayers so that our members

will be steadfast and consistent in their walk with Christ. I trust that my God has sent me to the Republic of Benin and that He is able to hear and answer my prayers. Praise God!

Please, greet all the brethren and thank them for their prayers and support for the cause of Christ.

March Newsletter (2003)

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory for now and forevermore.

It is a great joy for me to inform you how the church of God at Porto-Novo is doing. Last week, two people came to the church and said that they had heard about our church from many people and wanted to see if the things they heard were true. From this, the Lord has shown me that our soul winning activities are now yielding dividends. Next month we are going to baptize three more people. We need your prayers so that we will be able to give light and understanding to the people who are coming to hear about the Son of God.

Those involved in the occult and other dark practices are very angry with me because the Gospel is spreading. For the last three weeks, they have been standing in front of my house at midnight. They beat their drums, sing their songs, and pronounce curses upon me in their local language. We thank God for His grace and protection over our lives. We trust that He will not allow them to harm us. I need your fervent prayers that God will protect my family, that the Word of God will have free course, that God will be glorified, and that we may be delivered from these unreasonable and wicked men.

We send our sincere greeting to all the brethren for their prayers and support.

April Newsletter (2003)

I send a Calvary greeting in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself that we might have life eternal through His death on the cross.

We thank God for the new developments that He is working in our mission. Four people have given me their names as candidates for baptism. Two others have now finished our new believer's class and have been baptized. Our first baptism service was very special. Not only were two new believers added to the church, but also two visitors made professions of faith in Christ.

The main problem that we are facing here in Porto-Novo is the shallow understanding of the believers. We need your prayers that God might give them light and understanding in His Word. Pray that they will take their stand upon the Word of God. The Republic of Benin is a place that is full of idols, the occult, and false religion.

The occult is practiced even in many of the so-called “Christian” churches. Because of this, there is much confusion among the believers as to what is truly “Christian.” Please pray for the mission at Porto-Novo and for me, that we may shine in the midst of darkness and that the name of Jesus might be glorified.

We are entering into the raining season and we are in great need of a roof. Pray for God’s intervention so that the rain will not be a hindrance to our services.

We send our sincerest greetings to all the brethren. Thank you for your prayers and support. God knows you, and you will not lose the reward in Jesus’ Name.

May Newsletter (2003)

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory now and forever. Amen!

The mission in Porto-Novo and I are thanking God and expressing our gratitude to you for your financial and spiritual support. Because of your help we are able to see our church growing more and more every day. Because of your financial gift, we no longer have to suffer the rains and the hot sun. We are now worshipping our Savior under the roof that you provided. The unbelievers in our neighborhood have a greater respect for us, because they can see that the Lord is with us and that He is helping us. When the people saw that we were able to build a roof, they came to me and said, “We did not think that you would last, but we can see that you people mean business.”

All I am trying to say is that we appreciate your love offering, support, and prayers. May God bless you even more, so that the Name of Jesus Christ might continue to be magnified here and everywhere.

Please continue to pray for us. In every step forward, we face an attack from the devil. Just a week after we roofed our meeting place, a pagan sacrifice was placed in front of my house so that I would be the first to see it in the morning. Here in Benin, it is believed that the first person to see such a sacrifice will be cursed and come under a terrible disease, or even death. This does not bother me because the blood of Jesus Christ covers my family and me. He is the only PERFECT Lamb of God. As I have reported earlier, Porto-Novo is a center of idolatry and occultism. Pray for us. When the idolaters cannot discourage our people with their words, they try to attack them with the occult. We need your prayers continually. God is working among us and people are coming to know Him

one by one.

We send our sincerest greetings to all the brethren in Christ. We love you and pray for you.

July Newsletter (2003)

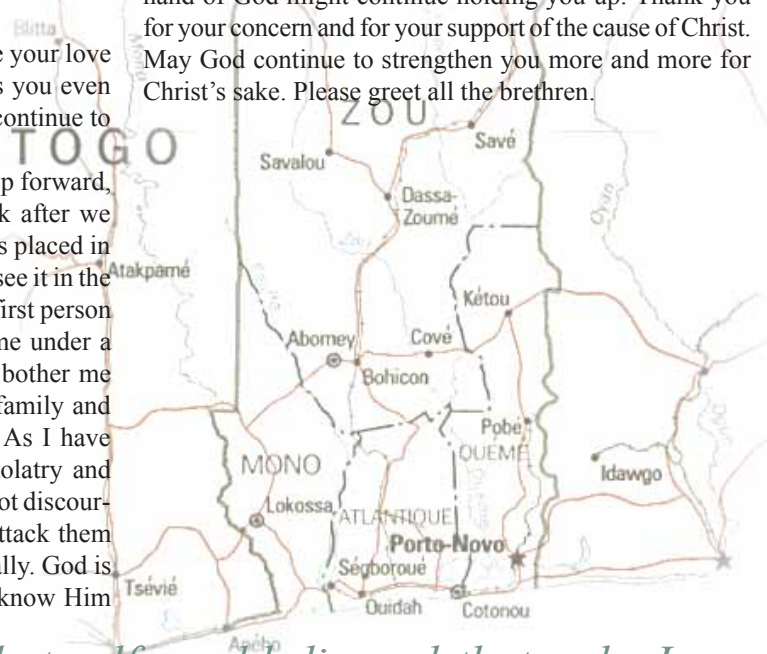
A Calvary greeting to all of you in the name of Jesus Christ, in whom we have all things. It is He who counted us worthy to be His servant in these last days.

This letter is to inform you that last Sunday, we had one of our lowest numbers in attendance. I am sad, even though the Bible says that in all things we should give thanks (I must express my true feelings to you so that you will know how to pray). The faithful members keep coming in spite of the great trials and persecutions. I need your prayer for them so that God will give them abundant grace to face all the challenges. I also need prayer for a man named Gabriel. After many visits, he finally came to church last Sunday. It seems that he has been deceived by a false miracle worker and has closed his mind and heart to the preaching of the Word of God. Although he had embraced Christianity at one time, he has gone back to his old life. Pray that God will give him greater light from the Son of God so that he will come to a saving knowledge of the Gospel.

Please pray for me, that self would die and that only Jesus Christ would be known through me. Pray that God might use me for the great task in Porto-Novo. I also need prayer for my children, that God would protect them and that His hand would be upon them for good. They must cross a river to attend school. Last week, the ferry sank that carried the people across the water. Many died.

We remember you in our prayers and ask that the hand of God might continue holding you up. Thank you for your concern and for your support of the cause of Christ. May God continue to strengthen you more and more for Christ’s sake. Please greet all the brethren.

“...Please pray for me, that self would die and that only Jesus Christ would be known through me. Pray that God might use me for the great task in Porto-Novo...”



Ghana

Report from
**Solomon
Olowolabi**

*Dr. Solomon Olowolabi is a
leader among the Baptists in*



*West Africa and coordinates all the HeartCry works
in that area. He recently traveled to Ghana to visit
the HeartCry missionaries that are working there. The
following is the encouraging report he sent to our office.*

Dear Brothers,

I left Ogbomoso, Nigeria on August 15, 2003 and I arrived in Lagos, Nigeria on the same day. After waiting six hours in the airport, I discovered that my flight was cancelled. I had to stay overnight in Lagos. I arrived at the airport the next morning for the 6:30 am flight to Ghana. The plane finally departed at 11:00 am.

Later that day, I arrived in Ghana and called our four national missionaries. I spoke with them at length and shared with them the purpose for my trip to Ghana. Afterwards, we determined my preaching schedule for the days to come.

I first visited Daniel Amoo's church plant. He had his people divided into four different Sunday school classes with four different teachers. I was really impressed with his wisdom and organizational abilities. I had the privilege of speaking to the whole church, which numbered about sixty-five people. I preached from John 15:7 and placed special emphasis upon our need to abide in Christ and to allow His word to abide in us. I encouraged them to abide in Christ alone and to be obedient to every word that is written in the Bible. I can see that God is using brother Amoo to do a great work.

Next, I traveled to brother Frank Karimu's work. I was very touched by his dedication to the Lord. He lives with his family between two different villages and people from both these villages attend his church. He visits each village every day and witnesses in the streets and from house to house. Because of this, the people are responding to the Gospel. At this time, twenty-five adults and eight children attend the services. While I was visiting, the Lord gave me the privilege of witnessing to the chief. He promised to attend the church to learn more about Christ. Brother Karimu has great opportunity to reach both of these villages for the Lord. If many from both villages come to know the Lord, then there will be no tribal sentiment or



conflict among them. Please pray for this work. They have many needs and little resources, but they are believing and faithful. They desperately need to put up a shelter where the people can meet for services. I just wish you could see where they are meeting - under the sun with no roof of any kind.

After leaving brother Karimu, I then went to the church where brother Joseph Lamptey is ministering. His church is in the heart of the city of Accra. He has a great church and he has won the confidence and respect of his people. Many of the members are very educated people who work in the city. He has between seventy and eighty people in attendance. They do not have a church building, but God has worked so that they are meeting in a classroom of a school building. He has a fantastic ministry with the potential of becoming a much larger work.

The last church I visited was Brother James Lamptey's in the town of Akosomo. It is located about sixty miles from the city of Accra. He has an excellent work. The members of his church come from different tribes in Ghana. The Church has sixty adult members and many children. Brother Lamptey does not live in Akosomo, but he travels to the town four times a week. He has a good work going.

On the last day of my journey, I met with all of them and their wives. I encouraged them from the Word of God and stressed the importance of winning souls, teaching the Scriptures, and discipling new believers to win others. I discovered that none of them were holding Sunday

evening services. I stressed the need to begin such meetings and to use the time to teach their members about the Christian life. They all agreed to begin. I also discovered that their support level is a little low because the cost of living there has risen. The Lord is meeting their needs.

I left the next day and returned to Nigeria. In conclusion, all of our missionaries are staying with the work and all of them have God's work in their hearts.

Brother Solomon Owolabi.

Daniel Amo

Daniel Amo and his family are HeartCry missionaries in the West African country of Ghana. The following is his most current report from their new work in the field.



Dearly Beloved,

The Lord's grace is in my greeting. He is still controlling and directing the affairs of His work. I give Him glory for His bountiful blessings in the ministry and in my family.

The months of June and July brought us many challenges. Three of our faithful members lost their parents and one of our faithful sisters in Christ lost her husband. Please pray for these bereaved brethren. The Lord has been faithful in their time of need and the church continues moving on. By His grace, we have been able to finish the foundation of our meeting place. Please pray with me, as we trust the Lord for the next stage.

The Pokuase Church is doing fine and we are working hard by God's grace. He is working mightily in our church's outreach. In the last two months, there were six new conversions, and five other new believers were baptized. There are more than twenty children who now attend our Sunday school. Our prayer is that the new souls, whom the Lord has called, will be faithful. Pray for our Evangelism and Discipleship team that they might continue to work relentlessly for the salvation and edification of souls. Pray with us as we evangelize the people in our village.

Please pray for our next meeting with the lady from whom we rent our small apartment. It will be at least two more years before our church building is finished and my family and I can move into one of the rooms. Pray that she will understand our situation and allow us to continue renting from her. Pray also for our church members who have no employment. It is very difficult to find any kind

of work in our country. I praise God that in spite of our people's poverty they continue to give and work for the construction of our meeting place.

The new work at Achiaman is picking up gradually. Our greatest obstacle is caused by the almost continuous dispute over land rights that plague the villagers. This dispute has so divided the people that they cannot come together in peace. Some will not come to our church simply because their enemies in litigation are already attending. Please pray with us, that the Lord will make a way for reconciliation among the people and that the Gospel will have free course. We do thank the Lord for the faithful few who are serving in spite of the trials.

The ministry is always full of challenges, but God uses them to edify us, to strengthen our commitment, and to keep us focused on Him. Please pray with me that the Lord will do with me as He wills. May the Lord richly bless you as we work together in His Name until He comes. We are praying for you that the Lord might strengthen your hands for the good work you are doing. May the Lord richly bless every effort as we work together in His vineyard. My high regards to all.

His Servant,
Daniel A. Amoo

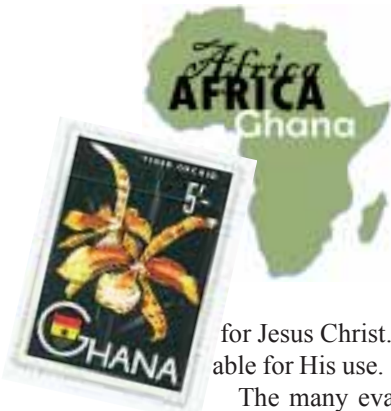
Joseph Lamptey

Joseph and Rebecca Lamptey and their family are HeartCry missionaries in the West African country of Ghana. Joseph is currently pastoring the Ringway Baptist Church, which he planted, and is in the initial stages of planting additional churches in Accra and Anum-Apapam. The following is the most current report from their new work in the field.



We praise God for His faithfulness and goodness, and for another opportunity to share with you what the Lord is doing here in Accra, Ghana.

I sincerely believe in the New Testament method of building Christ's church. I know that it is popular to boast of miracles, to promise prosperity, and to use all sorts of marketing strategies to make churches grow, but I sincerely believe that preaching the Gospel with boldness and love is the best method of reaching the unreached for Jesus Christ. A few days ago, I went out all alone to win souls. As I walked down the street, I gave a Gospel tract to every person who would receive one. The following Sunday, a young man called Kwesi came to our church. I asked him who invited him and to my surprise he declared to me



that I had been the one. He said that I had given him a tract on the street and he wanted to know more about our beliefs. I asked him where he would spend eternity when he died, and he replied that he did not know. I preached to him the way of salvation and he professed Christ. I pray that our God will continue to do His work in me so that I might continue to reach the lost

for Jesus Christ. I pray that I will always be available for His use.

The many evangelistic activities in our church have lead the members to see even more of their responsibilities as Christians – God’s command to help the needy. The oldest man in our church had a grandson who has always helped him, but a few weeks ago the young man mysteriously died. Our church decided that it was our responsibility to give a donation of money to the man and to give our time to help him with his daily problems. This old man was in his eighties before he ever stepped his foot into a church, but he was soundly converted through the preaching of the Gospel. He testifies that although God took his beloved grandson, He has given him many grandsons in our church.

As I mentioned in an earlier report, the church is still trying to take care of a poor widow with a mentally retarded son who causes her many problems. A few months ago, the widow’s son was dragged to the chief’s house with a summons against him. It seems that he was using the other villagers’ land as a toilet and they were all very angry. The widow quickly went and collected the mess her son had made and swept the entire area before going to the chief’s house. The people who summoned her to the chief’s house mocked her, saying, “You said your Jesus is able to save you, but today we will see how your Jesus will pay this fine for you in the chief’s house. We know that you are a poor widow and that you have no money.”

After the chief and elders of the town heard the whole case put before them, they decided that since the boy was retarded, and since the widow had taken it upon herself to clean the plot of all the mess and had swept the whole area, there was no need for any fine. By God’s grace, the widow and her mentally retarded son were set free. All this happened very early on a Sunday morning. After she was released, she came to the church and testified of another victory that Jesus had given her. We all joined her in giving thanks and praise to the Lord.



Frank Abdul Karimu An Ishmaelite Born Again!

My name is Frank Abdul Karimu. I was born of a father from the Alhaji tribe and a mother from the Hajia tribe. My entire family, including all my brothers and sisters are strict Muslims and partakers of the Haj pilgrimage. Born into such a family meant that I would automatically be a Muslim by birth.

When I was about four years old, my Alhaji father died of old age and left me behind as his much-loved and last-born male child. My father’s friend knew how much my father had loved me, and because he did not want me to be abandoned, he adopted me as his own son. Soon after my adoption, the man, who was a teacher, was transferred to a new teaching station. The new station was far away from my Muslim birthplace. I felt like I was lost. I was living in a new environment, with a new tribal people, and even a new language.

The greatest difference in the new place where I was

“...I know that it is popular to boast of miracles, to promise prosperity, and to use all sorts of marketing strategies to make churches grow, but I sincerely believe that preaching the Gospel with boldness and love is the best method of reaching the unreached for Jesus Christ...”

living was there were very few Muslims and no regular calls for Muslim prayers. As I grew, I maintained my Muslim faith, and I argued with those of the Christian faith. The only thing I really knew about the Christian religion was that it was not allowed in my "Muslim" tribe. Finally, I was admitted into a boarding school where I had no Muslim friends.

After many years of living away from my Muslim tribe with its practices and activities, I became opened to the Christian religion and its practices. I noticed that some of the students in our school always met to hear stories told from the Bible by the visiting missionaries. Even though I was still a Muslim, I began to have a desire to know more about the God of the Bible. One day, I surprised the other students in the class when I came in and sat down quietly with them to listen to the Bible stories told by the missionaries. My interest in the Bible stories grew more and more because they told many of the same stories about Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob that are told by the Muslims. From that day forward, I never missed any of the Bible classes. Many of the Christians were amazed at my interest since I was still a Muslim.

One day in the class, the question arose about going to heaven. The Muslim faith had taught me that a person must have more good deeds than bad deeds in order to enter heaven. I was surprised to discover that the Christian faith said that heaven was a free gift from God through faith in Jesus who took away all our sins through His death on the cross. If one truly trusts in Him, then the gate of heaven is open. I was taken back and challenged by these two differing opinions and spent much time trying to understand which of the two was the way of God. Even though as a Muslim I thought I was right, I wondered how I could be sure?

I decided to judge my own life and to make a list of my good and bad deeds. I thought by doing this I could prove that I was "good enough" to go to heaven. Before I thought that I was a "good boy" because I was not a thief, I did not drink or smoke, and I was too young to think about women. I thought that I was as good or better than others - at least I was better than "some" of the Christians.

I thought I was better, but I needed a test to prove to myself that I was ready for heaven. At six in the morning, I took a sheet of paper and began to write my good deeds on one side, and my bad deeds on the other side. I stopped writing at noon because the side of the paper for my bad deeds was full and there was only one good deed on the other side - one time in class, a boy's pencil fell to the floor and I picked it up for him. The discovery of my wickedness knocked me off my feet. Even though I thought I was good in comparison to other people, I knew that I could not get to heaven through my good deeds. I knew

my Muslim teaching was wrong!

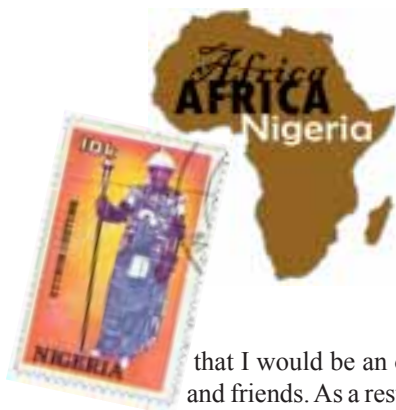
As the days passed, I became more and more troubled. I knew for sure that there was a place called heaven and I knew that there must be a way to enter it, but I did not know the way. I only knew that my bad deeds were greater than my good deeds and that I could not get to heaven through my works. How could I make it to heaven? I thought on the matter for a long time and hoped to find the true way to heaven. I became more and more confused about everything concerning God and religion in general. I wanted to give up and put all religion out of my life. I even stopped going for the Bible studies led by the missionaries.

My confusion continued until one hot afternoon during lunch break when something happened. I was resting in my room with my eyes wide open looking up at the ceiling. Suddenly, I saw myself walking down a road. I reached a fork in the road and did not know which side to follow. I stood there wondering what to do. When I looked to the left side of the fork I saw a statue of a man pointing to the left side and a road that was very wide. The moment I stepped toward the broad road, I heard a voice from the right side calling to me. When I looked to the right side of the fork, I saw the One that the missionaries called "Jesus." He was not a statue, but a living being. He said to me, "Follow the right road that leads to the God of heaven, to the place where you are going." After I heard these words, I came to myself once again and the interpretation of what I saw became very clear to me. The road to the left and statue that pointed to it were only a sign and not real. They represented all the other religions and their teachers that point the way to heaven through works. When I understood this, I felt very relieved as though some big load had been taken off my head. I believed that Jesus was the only way and was filled with great hope and assurance. I did not know the Bible very well, but I prayed, "Lord Jesus of the Bible, please take my bad deeds and let me enter God's place with your good and dear deeds."

Yes! That moment, I was assured that my request was granted. I had complete satisfaction. I now know that God will reveal Himself through even the most extraordinary means to anyone who sincerely seeks to know Him. That day, I said to myself, "Surely Jesus is the way." It was not until later that I read from the Bible in John 14:6: "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me.'"

As a confirmation that God had truly worked in my life and in order to take away my worry, God gave to me two very important verses: Jesus said... "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in me." (John 14:1). Also John 3:18 says, "He that believeth in Him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already. Because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." After receiving these promises, there were no more worries of bad deeds for me. I believe in Him and I know that He is the right way. Surely, if you are looking for a way to truly worship God, He will





reveal Himself to you as He has done to me. Only Jesus can take away bad deeds. On the day of my salvation, I took the righteousness of Jesus in order to pass the test. His good deeds covered my bad deeds and opened heavens gates for me.

I was filled with joy because of my newly found salvation, however I knew that I would have to count the cost. I knew

that I would be an outcast among my Muslim family and friends. As a result of my faith in Christ, I have had to face all kinds of insults, mockeries, and hatred. I am not even allowed to eat out of the same bowls with my brothers since for Christ's sake I have been branded as "Kafiri" (*i.e.* pagan). The rejection of my family fills me with sadness, but the apostle Paul's faith gives me strength: "But what things were gain to me, those I count loss for Christ. Yea doubtless and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Jesus Christ, my Lord; for whom I have suffered the loss of all things and do count them but refuse, that I may win Christ" (Philippians 3:7-8). Verse ten of the same chapter is my great desire: "That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His suffering, being made conformable unto His death."

Andrew Martey

Andrew and Lydia Martey and their two baby boys Richard and Daniel are HeartCry missionaries in the city of Minna, in the West African country of Nigeria. Minna is located in the northern part of Nigeria where there is a great concentration of Muslims. Because of the Muslim influence, their lives are in constant danger.

Dearly Beloved,

I send greetings in the saving Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is my prayer that the grace and peace from God the Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ be abundantly multiplied to you.

I first of all want to thank you again and again for your love, kindness, and financial support towards the ministry here in Nigeria. Your assistance has made a great difference in our lives and in our ministry. Let me again thank you for your earnest prayers and faithful financial support for the Lord's work.

The Lord is blessing the ministry and souls are being saved every Sunday. We have seen twelve conversions since we sent our last report to you. The church is growing and our people are responding to spiritual things. Many



are participating in soul wining and the midweek prayer service has been very encouraging. We give God all the glory!

Please pray for us because our adversary fights against us. A week ago the whole church body was saddened by the death of our dear brother Samuel Tiamiyu, a converted Muslim. Late one night, a group of strangers came to his house and asked him to leave with them. He never returned. The next morning his lifeless body was found on the street. No one knows the people who committed the murder, but everyone is sure that it was a result of brother Samuel's conversion to Christianity. Samuel loved the Lord, and was a soul winner. He was married for seventeen years and had one child. His wife Grace is doing fine in the Lord and his three year old son Sampson is growing strong. Indeed, God hears and answer prayers!

Brother Samuel death is just a small reminder of the great persecution that we face at the hands of the Muslims. Christians all over the north of Nigeria are yet to recover from the shock of the riot that led to the burning of many churches in the cities of Kaduna and Abuja. About one thousand Christians are still receiving treatment, three thousand people are still displaced, and two hundred believers lost their lives.

Last Wednesday, after our prayer meeting, sister Obi asked that we pray for her because she was to embark on a journey the following day. We prayed for her and she bought her ticket. The following day, just as she was about

to board the bus, the Spirit of God restrained her and she returned to her house. A few hours later, it was reported that robbers had attacked the bus, and some of the passengers had been killed.



Brother Friday Alonso, who was converted in prison and became the leader of the Minna Prison's Christian Fellowship, was set free last month. During our prayer time with him in the church, he revealed that he is seeking God's will for his life now that he is free. His one constant prayer is, "Lord what would you want me to do for you." To encourage him, I shared with him from the Word about the conversion and calling of the apostle Paul.

Once again we appreciate the love and encouragement that you give us in the work of missions. We shall continue to remember you in our prayers. We never cease praying for you. You are always on our minds. Your support and encouragement have helped us in the work of the Lord.

Your partner in seeking the Lost,
Andrew, Lydia, Richard, and Daniel

Dauda Free-Man

Dauda and Phoebe Free-man are HeartCry missionaries under the supervision of Dr. Solomon Owolabi. He is currently pastoring the Berean Baptist Church in Mangu, Jos Plateau State of Northern Nigeria. He is also working among Muslims and is in constant danger. The following is his most current report.

Dear friends in Christ,

I send greetings in the precious Name of Jesus Christ, the only hope of all mankind. It is my hope and prayer that the Lord will keep you on focus and that He will build up the ministry that He has entrusted to you.

The Lord is always faithful to us here in Mangu and we can see His hand in the work. In the recent months, thirty souls have professed faith in Jesus Christ and united themselves to our local church. We give all the praise and worship to God. By His grace we have seventy people in attendance at our services.

There is great tension in our state because of the Muslims, but we are called to serve the Most High God and cannot quit. Our church and field of ministry is located in an area dominated by Muslims and we need divine protection. Please pray that the Lord will spare



my life and the life of my family from the Muslims who have already sworn to kill us. Also please pray that the Lord will continue to burden our hearts for soul winning and greater consecration to Him.

In spite of the persecution, our church is growing due to your fervent prayers and financial support. We praised the Lord because many are turning to the Lord. How the church is growing in the midst of such trouble we do not know, but we do believe that the conversions are God's stamp upon the work. I cannot attribute the growth to anyone or anything except the Lord. We pray and witness, but the Lord gives the increase. We are praising the Lord for His goodness in the things that have happened this year.

We have obtained a parcel of land in a strategic area, and are now praying and trusting God for a building. The room where we are meeting is no longer large enough to hold the congregation and it causes many difficulties. We appreciate what you have done for the spreading of the Word of God in Mangu. May the Lord bless you according to His riches in glory. Please continue to remember us in your prayers as we are always praying for your success in the ministry.

Yours in His Service,
Dauda and Phoebe Freeman



Dr. Solomon Ohwolabi is a leader among the Baptists in West Africa and coordinates all the HeartCry works in that area. He is not a HeartCry missionary, but works through Evangelism Mission Inc. (EMI). We consider it a great privilege to have such an experienced and well-respected indigenous missionary coordinating our activities in West Africa, and overseeing the men on the field. The high level of accountability to which he holds the missionaries is only matched by his love and concern for them and their families.



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Mission Board Address:
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PO Drawer 550
Thorsby, AL 35171



September. - October. 2003

Dear Co-Laborers in Christ:

Greetings from Nigeria, West Africa in the name of our wonderful Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We first want to thank you for your Christ-like love, kindness and generosity towards us and the Lord's work here in Africa. We sincerely believe that without allowing the Lord to use you to be our fervent and faithful partners in prayers and financial support, we would not be where we are today and the Lord's work here would not be fruitful and nourishing.

God has been so good to us by giving us so many loving and caring friends who are involved as co-workers with us in the ministry unto which the Lord has called us. We want you to know that your fervent prayers and faithful financial support are making a great difference in our ministry and lives. The Lord is doing great things through your prayers and generosity towards us and the ministry. Only God can reward you for giving us the privilege to serve Him in our own country among our own people. We believe that whenever a soul is saved here it puts credit into your account also.

God is good to us and we are experiencing a great visitation from the good hands of God in the ministry here. Souls are being saved as we go out to witness each day and our churches are growing. Do continue to pray more for me that the Lord will give me a fervent and continual burden to win souls for Him and start more churches than ever. More than anything I need God's fire in my heart and soul. Please pray much for our people who are giving and working hard. Pray for God's grace and mercy to continue to be poured out upon our country and our Church.

Thanks again and again for your faithfulness by helping us to get the message of hope and life to our people in Africa.

May the Lord richly bless you.

Your African Native Missionaries,

Solomon & Christiana
I Thessalonians 5:24

HeartCry Missionary Society 1st Annual Conference 2003

The Cross of Christ

Cd collection

We rejoice to offer to you the audio CD of our first annual HeartCry Bible Conference. The theme of the conference and the audio CD is "The Cross of Jesus Christ." It is our conviction that the Gospel is "the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes" (Romans 1:16). Therefore, it is of utmost importance that we strive to make our proclamation of the Gospel both clear and passionate. You are invited to journey with us through the Scriptures as we attempt the impossible – to search out the unsearchable riches of God revealed in the Gospel of His beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. You may order through any of the following:

Internet:

www.heartcrymissionary.com and complete the online CD order form.

Phone:

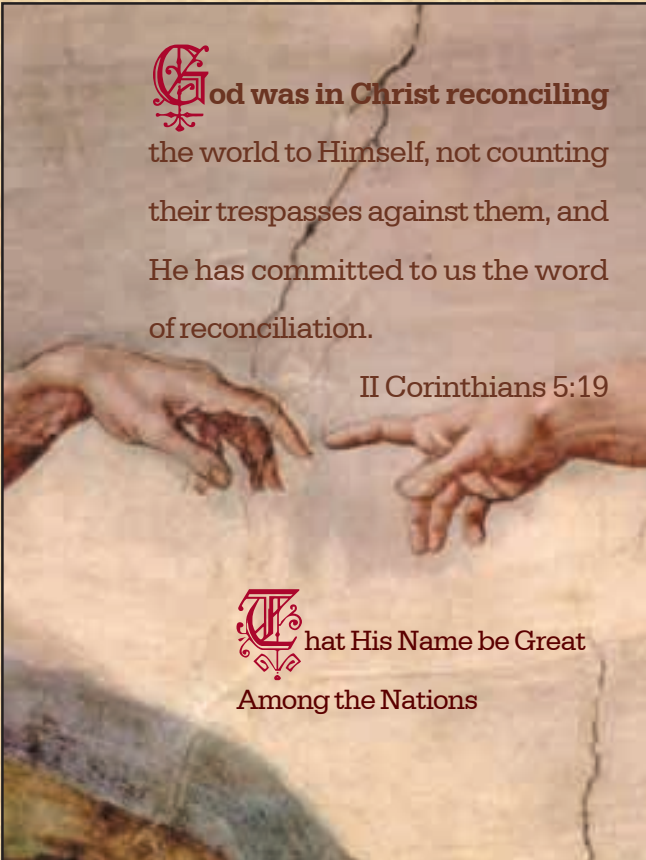
Contact Darian Rottmann
618-564-2770

Mail:

HeartCry Missionary Society, 6970 Waldo Church Road, Metropolis, IL 62960.

Further Information

If you have further questions please do not hesitate to contact HeartCry at 618-564-2770 or darian.rottman@heartcrymissionary.com



God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

II Corinthians 5:19

That His Name be Great
Among the Nations

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." (II Corinthians 5:17-21).

HeartCry Missionary Society

October 2003

Schedule 2003 - 2004

5th First Baptist Church of Mayfield

Mayfield, Kentucky

Paul will be preaching in the Hispanic service at 12:00 P.M.

For more information Contact:

Ms. Frances Irizarry: (270) 247-2992

First Baptist Church of Mayfield, 118 West South Street, Mayfield, KY 42066

11th Berean Baptist Church - Missions Conference

"A Changeless God in a Changing World
- Constancy vs Chaos"

Grand Blanc, Michigan

Paul will share about the work of HeartCry in the morning and will preach on missions in the afternoon.

For more information about the conference or to register, contact: The Berean Baptist Church at (810) 694-0400; or write to: The Berean Baptist Church, 6705 Rustic Ridge Trail, P.O. Box 1233, Grand Blanc, MI 48439-1233.

12th Grace Chapel of Oakland County

Waterford, Michigan

Paul will be teaching at 10:00 A.M.

Paul will be preaching at 11:00 A.M.

For more information, contact:

Grace Chapel, 7325 Maceday Lake Road,
Waterford, MI 48329, Phone: 248.623.8880

**16th - Youth Conference in Romania
25th**

31st - Union Baptist Church Pastor's Conference

Marion, Kentucky

Paul will be speaking at 1 P.M.

For more information on the conference contact Mike Morrow at (270) 965-9823

November

10th Kentucky Baptist Music Conference

Gardenside Baptist Church

Lexington, Kentucky

Conference Theme: Psalm 24:3-4

Paul will be preaching at 1:30 P.M.

For more information about the conference contact Bro. Jim Krutza at 270-842-2593.

14th- Murray State College Retreat

16th Hardin Baptist Church

Hardin, Kentucky

For more information, contact: Trad York (270) 437-4868

March 2004

9th Midwest Founder's Conference

Kansas City, Missouri

More details to follow

Please check our website
for regular updates

Email: heartcry@hcis.net

Web: www.heartcrymissionary.com

Our calendar of events is regularly updated and can be found online. Our website address is www.heartcrymissionary.com. Many resources are also available for download for personal and group study. Multilingual resources; Romanian, German, Chinese, Russian

Text (.doc):

The One True God – A study of the attributes of God by Paul David Washer

Written Briefly - Brief outlines and articles for the edification of the Church of the living God, by Bob Jennings

Audio (mp3):

The First Annual HeartCry Conference 2003 –Teaching from the May HeartCry conference in four sessions.

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15 (NAB)

What part of “GO” do you not
understand? Matthew 28:18-20



Our new missionary candidate, a few hours old : Evan James Washer (9-26-03)

Visit Our New Web Site
www.heartcrymissionary.com

HeartCry Missionary Society

c/o Waldo Baptist Church
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Metropolis, IL. 62960

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