

April 2017 Poland, UK

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Philippians 3 and 4 ; there is an MP3 file about this at <http://www.christadelphia.net/audio/phil34.mp3>

You can see the archives of our MP3 files at <http://christadelphia.net/audio.htm> and on iTunes at <https://itunes.apple.com/ca/podcast/christadelphian-bible-talks/id987163468>

Download the *NEV Bible* with commentary and *Bible Companion* bookmarks at <http://n-e-v.info/NEVBIBLE.pdf>

There have been four baptisms this week, all very different, and yet all evidence of the Lord's patient work in the lives of people over many years. We're still looking for speakers for the *Ukraine Bible School*- let us know if you're interested.

UK

On Tuesday we witnessed the baptism of DOMINIC at the *Rowley Regis* hall. Dominic has been in touch with us for a long time, but as an ex-JW he was very sceptical of getting involved with religion again and was understandably careful not to get burnt again. On the other hand, the things we were able to teach him were logical and attractive to him, and he felt his baptism into the Watchtower wasn't the same as baptism into Jesus; and that was what he decided to do. Some of you will have met Dom and his wife when they attended the *Carelinks Conference* earlier this year. The brothers and sisters at *Rowley Regis* have been most helpful and welcoming and we wish to thank them for that.

Then at house church in Croydon, we were pleased to baptize SAMAN and HOSSEIN. These are Iranians who have lived in the **UK** for some years, having got here via the infamous Calais jungle, stowed away in trucks. Hossein had been also involved with the JWs, but parted company with them over their position on blood transfusion. They live in a hostel in north London, and we hope to take them along to their local ecclesia at *Barnet* this Sunday God willing. We marvel at how the same Lord was at work in Hossein's life as He was in Dominic's life, using the experience with the JWs as part of their necessary path towards the Kingdom. Asylum seekers are given a place to live and £34 / week in the UK, but if after two appeals they are turned down, then they aren't automatically deported; they become part of a growing underclass of people who have no income and cannot legally work. We are involved with several such. We try to provide food and transport expenses; we are open to your donations toward this. It's by being stuck in such a no-win situation that such people turn to the Lord Jesus.



POLAND

This week in Poland we baptized a wonderful convert to Jesus Christ, TAREK. He was raised Muslim in Tunisia, studied in Europe, married a Polish woman and for many years has lived in Poland where he runs his own company. He heard about Jesus from a pirate radio station in his youth, and for years tried to get to know more, attending various churches in Europe, from the Catholics to the JWs. But he gave up, concluding that in essence all such religious systems were akin to the Islam in which he was raised. He then became an atheist, although his wife is a devout Catholic. But he "by chance" came across our free Bible offer, and was impressed that a

Christian organization was offering something for free and without strings attached, which had not been his previous experience of Christians before. We had a most wonderful and lengthy correspondence, as he studied "*Bible Basics*" and watched many of our YouTube videos. It is quite awesome to see an atheist come to recognize in humility that his atheism was but a reaction to bad religious experience. What deeply persuaded him was reading our material about the Lord Jesus; Peter's words came true, that "[we] by Him do believe in God". The Son was the path to the Father for Tarek. And so this baptism was a culmination of so much, Tarek had such deep appreciation of what he was doing, and really the Angels must have rejoiced; for here at last was a man who had accepted that God has reached out across the cosmos to "little me". And that reaching out is in the endless gift of His own Son. Despite being very busy with business commitments, Tarek has set himself the task of translating the *NEV Bible* into Arabic, let's pray for blessing on his efforts, and his desire to take the Truth of Christ to other Arabic speakers in Europe and North Africa.



PRAYER POINTS:

- For those newly baptized
- For the efforts to translate the *NEV Bible* into Arabic
- For those in Europe who get no state support yet cannot legally work
- For the integration and further spiritual growth of all we baptize

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks