

August 2014 Ukraine Petition, Riga

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Mark 5 and there is an MP3 about this chapter at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/mk5.mp3> . You can see the archives of our MP3 files at <http://aletheiacollege.net/archives.html> ; *Carelinks Bible Radio* is at <http://r-b-c.org/listen.php>

UKRAINE

The situation in Eastern Ukraine is deteriorating seriously, although under-reported in Western media. Around 2000 are dead, fighting is raging with multiple deaths each day, hundreds of thousands of refugees, and many thousands injured- so many that the sanatorium which was to host our *Summer Bible School* was unable to host us this time and we had to find an alternative at the last minute. There is now a mass call up and mobilization in place in Ukraine, which is now affecting our brethren. After last week's Bible School in Kiev, brother Andy Taylor (Winderemere, UK ecclesia) travelled to visit the home of one young brother affected by this, and he reports on the great fear and stress there is for this brother over this matter. There is currently no recognition of conscientious objection, and so through this petition we are creating a base point from which we can take individual appeals. There are things you can concretely do in this difficult situation:

- **Firstly**, to pray, not just for our affected brethren, but for Ukraine as a whole.

- **Secondly**, you can sign an online petition we are organizing

at <http://carelinks.net/Ukraine/contactform.htm> .

We are not trying to 'dodge the draft' but rather wish to make the point that as serious Biblical Christians we cannot undertake combatant service, although we are eager to support our fellow man and our nations in any practical way.

- **Thirdly**, you can spread the news of this petition by sharing the link to the petition on social media e.g. Facebook. We have also produced a brief YouTube video about the petition at <http://youtu.be/aOXveKGAPmw> ; you can share this on social media too.

We will be gathering signatures up until early September, God willing, when we plan on presenting them to the Ukrainian military authorities.

RIGA

We're pleased to report the baptism of ANDREJ in the bay of Riga, after Monday's Bible class. Our brother has been walking from the city center to our hall [and back again] in order to attend meeting- a walk of at least 2 hours.

PRAYER REQUEST

Next week will see a lot of activity, God willing. Sisters Anna Ryder and Cindy will be running a week long camp for women and children at the housing project in northern Latvia; contacts are due to be baptized in the UK, China, France and Belgium. Please do pray for all this work. The world situation as it is has resulted in a significant increase in applications for *Bibles* and *Bible Basics*. Please do continue supporting our work so that we can keep responding to it all. We also need to repeat an earlier appeal for the funding of printing *Chinese Bibles with commentary and reduced Bible Basics* at the back.

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks