

August 2015 Germany, Africa, Antigua

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Mark 11 and there is an MP3 file about this chapter at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/mk11.mp3>

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

Carelinks Bible Radio is at <http://www.r-b-c.org/listen.php>

GERMANY

This week there were five baptisms in Germany. One was of ROCHESTER, an elderly man originally from Guyana, whose mother was one of that country's earliest Christadelphians and whose brother is in a Canadian ecclesia. Now in advancing years, Rochester turned to the Truth and was baptized- what a wonderful surprise for his mother when she awakes at the resurrection, to find her son also there! The baptism was performed by Duncan with other Guyanan brethren present by Skype; you can see a screen shot below. Duncan's laptop was used for this but it would be great if someone could provide our brother with a laptop with inbuilt camera, so he can continue to break bread online with his Guyanan brethren, some of whom remember him from his youth in Guyana. Let us know if you can help.

Here's a report from the North Americans present:

"What a wonderful and blessed occasion! It was with great joy that we from:

Canada: Sis. Esther Worrell, Greenaway Ecclesia, Sis. June Neblett, Toronto East Ecclesia , residing in Panama, and Bro. Vernon Barrow, McNabb St. Ecclesia

US: Bro Joseph and Sis. Veronica Badlu, South Ozone Park Ecclesia, New York.

UK: Bro. Duncan Heaster of Walton Ecclesia - were able to witness on Wednesday, August 12, 2015, the baptism of our now brother, Rochester ("Junior") Washington, which took place at his home in Germany. Junior who is in isolation, having discovered the great blessing of eternal life that Our Heavenly Father has in store for us in his soon coming Kingdom, was very eager to put on the Saving Name of Christ assuring him of an inheritance in this joy. Junior did the online Bible Basics course and completed his answers successfully. Bro. Duncan always in readiness to assist in this worthwhile activity, immediately responded to his call for assistance. So we were able on Wednesday August 12, 2015 to online join in and witness the baptismal service via Skype, with a hymn, prayers and a short talk, and then participated in Breaking of Bread and welcoming our new brother into fellowship with the right hand of fellowship. In responding to our wishes for God's blessing and guidance in his new life, Junior requested our continued prayers for him in the journey on which he has now embarked and also our continued fellowship in the breaking of bread via Skype. As we parted, we felt so spiritually exhilarated, thanking Our Heavenly Father for this privilege and opportunity in participating in this exceptional experience, and will soon spread the joyous news to our brethren and sisters in Guyana, where Junior, as a lad then, had connections with the Truth. He is the son of the late Sis. Amy Washington, a sister greatly beloved in that country, and the brother of Bro. Keith Washington of the Greenaway Ecclesia, who unfortunately could not be present at his baptism.

Sis Esther Worrell, Bro. Joe Badlu"



In another part of Germany, we were pleased to baptize three Iranians, NIMA, KAMAL and ARIAN and one Afghan, MEHDI. These were all contacts of Nima- who five years ago, used to attend our teaching sessions held in a refugee camp in the forests outside Riga, Latvia. Thanks to your generosity we've always tried to be generous and distributing literature to visitors, and so we gave this man a Farsi *Bible Basics*. He has kept it with him all these years including in his move to Germany, and decided to make the break from Islam to true Christianity; and he has shared the literature with others, resulting in them too being baptized.



You can see a brief video of them explaining that conversion from Islam to any other religion carries a long prison sentence as the lightest punishment, and death by execution as the likely punishment. We're not putting it on YouTube for security reasons, but you can see it at <http://carelinks.net/docs/persecution2015.html>

ANTIGUA

Brother Clive Solomon has been doing preaching and pastoral work in Antigua for many years now, and he makes this appeal: "*Do let me know if you know of any couple or single brother that would like to forego the cold weather and spend any extended period in the Caribbean. The work is more than enough for two persons. I am putting a schedule of visitors who would like to spend time here in Antigua. Please publish as wide as possible*". Brother Clive's email is Solreginal@aol.com

SPANISH LITERATURE

Brother Rob has again invested many hours in producing a carefully bookmarked PDF file of the Spanish edition of *The Real Devil*. It's at www.realdevil.info/rdes.pdf

AFRICA

We mentioned John & Janet's Africa trip last time and here is some more reporting from them; many middle class, middle aged folks jet off on beach holidays, and God bless them as they do, but John & Janet set us all a challenge by doing something totally different with their time- visiting African brethren and baptizing contacts, and distributing *NEV Bibles* and *Swahili Bible Basics* throughout East Africa. Here's sister Janet's writeup:

"My husband John invited me to go to Africa with him. Of course I was rather anxious never having been to an African country before. Now, I wouldn't have missed it for the world. It was the most 'eye opening' and inspiring experience I have ever had. The trip involved 3 countries, Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania. We began by meeting brother Amos in Nairobi before flying to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. A very new and interesting culture awaited me. For a start people everywhere, all these beautiful dark people on dirt roads with flocks of sheep the odd goat (in the middle of a city!). There we met 2 new, keen brothers (to be) eagerly awaiting to hear God's Truth. Bro. Amos and John spent 2 days teaching the basic doctrines and the importance of baptism and new life in the Lord. These brothers, Million and Shintayehu, were hungry to hear some solid and clear teaching. We bought a few Amharic bibles for them and others whom they might know would want them, important for them to check the Word for themselves. The second day we broke bread with them and went to a public pool for Baptism. I thank God for the eager hearts to learn in this country and pray these 2 brothers could share also. Actually we have already heard that Million's brother would also like to be baptized.

From there we travelled to Kenya, to Bro. Amos' home-town Bungoma. There I saw my husband John's full God-given potential being used to its limit. For 3 solid days he was teaching the Word to young Brothers who had already been baptised but just wanted to know more and more. Pentecostal Pastors were also keen to hear (and not offended) the new and clearer understandings of the Bible. I couldn't believe the eagerness of these people, maybe because they hadn't been so indoctrinated with Traditional teachings beforehand as many are in New Zealand, no way would people of different churches be open to listen to any new understanding of the Bible here. [You can see a photo of the notes carefully made by one brother below]. Many Bibles were handed out, English NEV with commentary - plus we purchased many local Swahili Bibles also to be given .

From Bungoma we travelled to Kericho, land of the tea fields. Elsewhere we provided Bibles and Sunday School books. The S. S. books we handed out to the orphans who seemed grateful and sung a song for us in English. The children's books were written by a sister Tania Clark in New Zealand. The children will need them translated but as they are all learning English it will be a practice for them as well as learning our beliefs.

From there it was back to Kisumu where we caught taxis, mini bus and large buses to travel across the border to Tanzania to a small town Shirati. It took us 6 hours! Then we needed to ride on taxi motorbikes, 1 per driver, for 20 minutes to a small rural village of Ryagati. Brother Mosses was there to meet and greet us with shade and refreshments. He was very happy to see us. Having being in contact with Brother Duncan for a while, he knew his stuff. He was very eager to learn more and share it with those around him. He arranged with the local church for John and Amos to speak during the morning service the next day (Sunday). A very busy, intense amount of teaching of God's Truth in only 10 days with such an amazing response from so many people. I had never seen anything like it. I believe and am praying for the Truth to be made known throughout this earth with an extra fervency. For even though all our efforts in my home land seem to be rather stagnant I see they certainly are not elsewhere. And God is pleased with this work: 3 John v 4 - I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the Truth. God please bless those working in your service. And I thank my husband for virtually twisting my arm to make the trip with him.

Janet Aldersley

We commend John & Janet for making special effort to provide support to albinos, who are rejected and outcast in much of rural African society, but are often eager for the Gospel of God's grace and Kingdom.



PRAYER POINTS:

- For all those recently baptized
- For brother Rochester, and thanks to God for working in this wonderful way
- For those brothers and sisters such as albinos in Africa and our brethren in Moslem lands, who are rejected by society where they live
- For those carefully studying God's word as they seek His Son in spirit and truth
- For brother Clive's work in Antigua

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks