

December 2012 Hospital Ecclesia, Extreme Cold, Sweden, New Zealand, Movie

We have MP3 files for the *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday:

Job 31 <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/job31.mp3>

Zechariah 8 <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/zech8.mp3>

Revelation 5,6 <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/rev56.mp3>

HOSPITAL ECCLESIA [Latvia]

A couple of years ago we were reporting on the terrible situation of brother Viktor after his major stroke, and how he was basically left to die until prayer, pressure and funds were applied... resulting in him now living with reasonable functionality in sheltered accommodation attached to a huge hospital. We also reported the baptisms of two sisters as a result of his witness there. We are now happy to report three further baptisms there as a result of the witness of sister Anna: brothers IVAR and YURI, and sister ANDRA, who is undergoing chemotherapy at this time. Here they are after their baptisms, with sister Anna second from right. We see here how the effort to keep someone alive was absolutely right, and that preserved life has resulted in many others hearing the Gospel, at least five of whom have now come to baptism. We marvel at the Lord's great activity and continual stretching out of His hand to save, even through the very weak and only partially functional hands of our brother Viktor. And now through our new brothers and sister, the hope of the Gospel is being spread further in that hospital complex, in the hospice, the sheltered housing wing, and even in the cancer wards. Truly God is at work today, just as powerfully as in Biblical times, even if in quieter and less visual ways.



EXTREME COLD

There have been very low temperatures in Eastern Europe the last 2 weeks, sisters in Kazakhstan and a brother in Siberia report temperatures of below -40 C, and already nearly 100 people are reported to have died from the cold in Ukraine alone, although the number of reported deaths are surely well below the real number, there are news reports on the BBC about it at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-20809898> and elsewhere. Please pray for all those affected. We're looking forward to visitors from the UK and elsewhere providing food and shelter each day at the **Riga Bible Center** throughout January and February, God willing. The Governments although lacking in funds are making some symbolic efforts to relieve the problems by opening mobile heating points, these are heated military tents where people who are cold can sleep and get hot drinks and soup. But the situation inside them is pretty desperate as you can see from the photos. You will note that most of the people having to use them are the elderly- not alcoholics or druggies. Old people who can't afford to pay for heating given their tiny pensions or who have therefore lost their apartments and have to live in shelters are the ones most affected by the extreme cold. We really appreciate your support of our baptized old and vulnerable brethren through the Winter Heating program. There is so much more we would love to do for society as a whole but it is as much as we can do to provide hot food and drinks each day throughout January and February in Riga.



SWEDEN

We mentioned recently the baptism of sister S in Sweden, an asylum seeker from a Moslem country. Her application has been refused and she is absolutely petrified at being forcibly returned. The Red Cross worker involved with her case informed us as follows: "No good news. We are still waiting for the "last" judgement. But last friday night Selma tried to suicide. She took a lot of pills. Both are they now in the hospital and they will stay there this week too. All of it was too much for her. We visited them yesterday and gave her the letter with what I suppose was a book from you. She was very glad for it. When I know some real news about their staying or not I'll report". Let's pray for our distraught sister and if anyone is in Sweden and could visit her, let us know- although she is in a small town very far from anywhere much.

CARELINKS MOVIE ABOUT BAPTISM

Br Edgar in Paris has now finished producing this- we're most grateful to him for his huge efforts. It's at <http://www.baptizo.info/movie.html> . The movie features interviews with contacts and brothers and sisters baptized by Carelinks in various countries, as well as straightforward Bible teaching.

CARELINKS NEW ZEALAND

Stocks of *NEV Bibles* with commentary have now arrived in New Zealand and are available from brother John Aldersley ephraimjj@maxnet.co.nz

Carelinks USA have now almost exhausted their supplies of the Bibles but there are still some stocks with br Peter Wisniowski in Toronto, Canada.

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks