

December 2013 South Sudan, Riga, Prayers

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Revelation 17,18 and there's an MP3 about this at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/rev1718.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> ; and God willing, we have our live video link service in English this Sunday at 08:00 a.m. GMT - you can view direct at www.carelinks.net [scroll down to the video screen] or if you want to make comments and participate in live chat, use <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/biblecenter> . You can view recordings of previous sessions at www.youtube.com/CarelinksMinistries

SOUTH SUDAN

Readers will likely be aware of the crisis in South Sudan, a country Carelinks has visited twice this year and baptized a number there, some of whom are in **Malakal**, which has become a focus of the conflict. Reports are that there are over 5000 killed, the massacres are continuing, over 100,000 displaced and around 50,000 within the UN compounds / camps where they are literally being shielded from the gangs of armed killers roving around.

We managed to talk to Br Amos for about 12 minutes, currently he is still in **Ethiopia** and trying to get to **Kenya**. He had a very blessed escape from **South Sudan** with 3 men killed near to him, "butchered", as he put it. He escaped by boat from where he was and walked the last bit to the Ethiopian border, which is very far from civilization, 2 days journey from there to **Addis**. He says that brother Martin from **Renk** and the others we baptized in Malakal are tonight inside UN camps but the UN are giving them no food just protection within their compounds, so the situation for them is dire and as no banks etc. are operating it is currently impossible to send funds or anything to them. Malakal is far from **Juba** and indeed from anywhere much. Martin has a cell phone with him but there is no answer when we call him. We also spoke to br Joseph in **Aweil**. The line was awful but we understand he himself is OK, but we don't know about the others in Aweil, the line was too bad for communication. Amos expressed great thanks for the prayers and for the funds sent him on arrival in Ethiopia. I assured him of our continued support in prayer. He emailed:

"All is well now, I am in Addis Ababa. Just to take you back a bit, in Nasir, where my three fellow Kenyans and I were, is a Nuer tribe, 90% of it. 3% were Dinka tribe (only in the military) and 7% Ethiopians and other foreigners. The place was both on an advantage and disadvantage. Advantage in that one tribe could not fight against itself. Disadvantageous in that, if attacked by Dinka, it can be wiped out easily. The night that we left, some of the Dinka tribe in the military were butchered. The rest were rescued by UN. Two days later. The Dinka tribe invaded Nasir. It is worse than ever according one friend I had there. I thank God who took me out safely before that. Other areas are getting worse and worse each day. Thank you for showing me this love. Love in Christ, Amos"

Here's a 12 minute telephone conversation with Brother Amos, in which he tells of his escape by boat from Malakal in South Sudan to the Ethiopian border, the murder of 3 Dinka men, the fate of brother Martin and others we baptized who are now in UN compounds / camps, protected by UN soldiers from the killers, but without food and basic shelter over their heads: <http://youtu.be/txqRU3jJUZk>

Brother John Aldersley only recently left South Sudan- it was a blessed escape. He writes in reflection:

"I was thinking how amazing it is in hindsight that we both [John & Duncan's recent visits] had the opportunity to get in and out of Sth Sudan when we did - share the truth, do baptisms. We don't know the future, but it may be the only chance we ever get. How important to take the opportunities we have in front of us. We talked about Sth Sudan in the context of being a new ground for the truth, but maybe it was the only chance. Who knows, but it makes me thankful we had the chance. God bless , John Aldersley".

As you can hear from the recording, we are eager to send more assistance to our brethren, but it's just impossible at this time as nothing is functioning and at present, zero communication with the brethren stranded inside the UN compounds. Please do pray for them!

RIGA

We're pleased to report the baptism of AIGARS, an Afghan war veteran who has searched for God in spirit and truth ever since. The festive season isn't a happy one for those living in night shelters and struggling for every meal. We tried to brighten their day by distributing seasonal hampers- here they are being handed out by Bro. Slavik . Why God so wishes His truth to grow in this tiny country of 2 million people... is all part of His sovereign grace and choice. We simply have to continue working with Him willingly, and we thank you so deeply for enabling that work to continue.



PRAYERS

This week, God willing, we plan on visiting various refugee brethren in Europe and also passing on funds to our Syrian brethren in preparation for their brave trip planned through the mountains back into Syria to give support to their literally cold and freezing families in ruined towns and in refugee tents. Please pray for our efforts.

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks