

December 2016 UK, Africa, Winter Welfare packs

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include 1 Peter 1 and there is an MP3 file about this at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/1pet1.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>

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

UK

We're delighted to tell you of the baptism of MOHAMMED, who received *Bible Basics* from us in **France** over a year ago. Since then he was in the Calais jungle and then got to the UK on a lorry. Along with at least 20 other men, our hunchback brother, already in failing health, was cramped into a tiny compartment for the journey through the Channel Tunnel. He lost consciousness, assuming he was going to die, and so wishing he had been baptized. He came round in a hospital ward in Kent. Thankful for his deliverance, he contacted us and it was a great joy to baptize him. Yet again we give thanks for the Lord's active working amongst His people:



We spent time with other immigrant and refugee groups. Typically the refugees arrive and are processed in London, where we are able to make contact with them, teach and baptize them- and then the Government move them out to cheap housing areas, typically in northern UK. We had a wonderful evening with folks in one such town. Many had been turned down and refused asylum; but because of lack of documents or other legal factors, they cannot be deported. So, they join a growing underclass of stranded people, not helped by the Government as they are non-citizens, and yet they remain in the UK. Some have been in this situation for years, and already they are facing health issues. Various churches have opened up their halls to these folks; in one town, a local Baptist church feeds such people every day and does a Bible study with them, getting up to 100 attending. Surely our community in northern UK could get something like this going?

We also spent a lovely time in fellowship with the brethren and contacts at the barber's shop in Luton. Mojtaba and Aysha are really working so hard, keeping open from 9-9 or even 11 PM every day. Mojtaba gives a super haircut for five pounds, and he has long lines of clients. Aysha brings them coffee and they are unafraid to introduce their new faith to the predominantly Muslim clientele. One radical Muslim came in for a beard trim and Mojtaba explained he had changed his faith and was now a Christian. The radical seized some scissors and tried to stab Mojtaba before storming out of the shop [without paying]. This group are really the essence of a mission church... right there in Luton UK.

The *Carelinks Conference* will be in Croydon on Saturday 26th February God willing. Brother Mojtaba aims to be there providing hair cuts. He will have no facility for washing hair, so it will be dry cuts- he does both men and women. Why not come along and donate to him and the work in return for a haircut? Mojtaba is adept at using live flame for singeing, in the ancient Persian barber's tradition [you don't have to have this treatment, but it's very interesting]. It achieves a perfectly smooth finish to a male hair cut which no amount of cutting and shearing can achieve. It's painless [when applied properly by someone like Mojtaba]. Mojtaba and Aysha are such a

great couple and example of mutual support within marriage. Do come along and meet them:



DROUGHT AND FAMINE IN AFRICA

Over the last 30 years we have baptized very many brothers and sisters in the areas now being hit by accute famine and drought, especially in **Malawi**. These converts fall to Carelinks to support as they do not get support from *CBM* or any other such agency. We are getting urgent requests for support to buy basic food to keep alive, and there are plenty of reports of the drought in the media. Large flowing rivers are now dried up, along with all streams. Animals and people are digging into the beds of those rivers in hope of getting just a bit of very muddy, dirty water. The situation really is serious and we welcome your donations; you can also send funds directly to Malawi if you wish, as we can supply the relevant details.



WINTER WELFARE PACKS

Cindy and Duncan will be spending an extended period in Latvia now, and Cindy wants to run her Winter warmer pack program again.

She writes:

*"Let's extend our season of giving to the brothers and sisters in **Riga**! While we take time to remember our physical family, let's also think of our spiritual family, especially those in a difficult situation. I'd really love to repeat our winter warmer packs in Riga this year as they were such a great success last year. The brothers and sisters really appreciated being given a few extra practical items to make their lives a bit more pleasant during the cold winter months. These packs will be given out on New Year's day along with their meal and will include things like a scarf, gloves, chocolate, some Bible literature, and personal hygiene items. I'd like to give out 100 packs. You can buy a winter warmer pack for 10 Euros, and we will email you a card to print off which you can then give to someone special as a gift. To do this, please send a 10 Euro (7 GBP, 16 AUD) donation to carelinks and an email to info@carelinks.net with 'Winter warmer' in the subject line. Thank you so much! Please do give generously. If you can't afford to make a donation, but would like to encourage a brother or sister, please email your favourite Bible verse or message of encouragement to: cindyheaster@gmail.com and I'll print it off and include it in one of their packs".*

Funds can be sent by the usual methods or by *PayPal* to tiybible@yahoo.com . Here are some pictures of last year's program- Jim, Cindy & Evija distributing the Winter Warmer packages and the seasonal special meal; and some of the warmer packages waiting to be moved in to the Riga hall:



PRAYER POINTS:

- For those suffering from drought and famine in central Africa
- For our new brother
- For those who have left Islam for Christ to be strengthened to grow in faith and understanding
- For the Winter welfare program throughout Eastern Europe

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks