

December 2018 Latvia, Cold Snap, UK, Indonesia

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Revelation 5,6 and there is an MP3 file about this at <http://www.christadelphia.net/audio/rev56.mp3>

You can see the archives of our MP3 files at <http://christadelphia.net/audio.htm> 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>

Helps for the *Bible Companion* readings this week:

Job <http://n-e-v.info/NEVJob.pdf>

Zechariah <http://n-e-v.info/zechnevcom.pdf>

Revelation <http://n-e-v.info/NEVRevelationCommentary.pdf>

INDONESIA

We're delighted to report the baptism of DENNY in the teeth of Islamic extremism in a very Muslim part of Indonesia. Our new brother writes afterwards "i felt great after being baptized. and it feels like a weight has been lifted from my heart. it feels really great. God bless you all". Our new brother learnt the true faith from spending many hours watching our material on YouTube and reading *Bible Basics* material online.

COLD SNAP

The cold snap in Europe makes life really so hard for those on the streets. We've provided more firewood and heating support in Eastern Europe and Latvia, and also spoken with our African migrant brethren in Italy. They report much snow and temperatures of -8 which is just so horrible for them to cope with. Please do pray for them. It feels there's little we can do from a distance to provide warm accommodation just at a moment's notice.

LATVIA

The cold snap obviously hits our many brethren and sisters here very hard, as many are elderly, living in night shelters and have to be on the streets all day; and some walk with difficulty using sticks, making it so hard to walk on the ice and slippery, uneven pavements. We have had the *Bible Center* open as usual, providing warmth, warm drinks, Bible teaching and then a solid meal. No words can describe the misery of that existence and the gratitude for having a warm place to go. We made another 2 minute movie of opening time, as the doors open and the cold crowd of elderly folks enter inside and head straight for the hot drinks. It's worth 2 minutes of your time to view, at <https://youtu.be/8ReibS1g-ic> . We had around 100 in the hall recently:



But you should not think folk just come for the free food. Everybody who eats has first sat through the Bible teaching, and that is just an observation, not a policy we uphold. One brother baptized last year mentioned how he reads the *Bible Companion* readings from the Russian *NEV Bible* every day, and whichever night shelter he is in, he always manages to keep his Bible and *Bible Basics* in his bag of belongings. There is real spiritual progress with many of them, and it is this of course which is our passion far beyond the necessary material help we're giving. There are opportunities to come over in 2019 and help with the cooking- please do get in touch. The need is the call. And we're of course so grateful for your material support of the work so that it can happen.

Mike and Vanessa brightened things up before Christmas with small Christmas presents for everyone. They got a number, and then depending what the number ended in, they got an appropriate present. All just an attempt to lighten up their very hard lives. Here's the trolley with numbers ending in 7 and 9 going round:



UK

The seeds sown from the house church in Croydon have continued to sprout up. Duncan & Cindy are busy following up with a lot of folks whilst back in the UK over the holiday period. We're pleased to say that brother Mansoor, who was baptized in Marcus's bath tub in Croydon, has taken the Gospel in turn to others. He lives in a squalid room in an inner London tenement block, with no chair in the room, just a cheap bed. It is a tiny room, and has no heating. He turns on a small electric air blower for his visitors. But in that tiny room, he has been holding a *Bible Basics* class, using the Farsi edition of *Bible Basics*. Three other Iranian men have been gathering with him over the past year to study with him. It was a wonderful joy to spend time with them, and to baptize SAMADI, KHALIL and GHOLAM. This surely is how the Truth spreads, from heart to heart, with no fancy hall or church, just middle aged men learning Bible truths together step by step.

Here they are in usual Persian style, sitting on the floor with their Bible Basics. In the photo of brother Khalil, you can see the small blow heater on his right:



It was also a great joy to baptize brother Mansoor's brother a bit later that evening [left in the photo, Mansoor is on the right]. He works for a shop in Heathrow airport, and travelled across London especially for his baptism:



Many thanks to all those who enabled the printing and distribution of *Bible Basics* in all these languages. The fruit of it all cannot be doubted.

We're also pleased to say that our newly baptized brother Mehdi in Germany has produced a Kurmanji Kurdish translation of *Bible Basics* which is now online on our websites.

PRAYER POINTS:

- For those recently baptized
- For those suffering during the very low temperatures in Eastern Europe
- For those enduring Islamic persecution
- For the work in Riga
- For those trapped in urban poverty in western cities

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks