

February 2018 Ukraine, Latvia, Sweden, UK

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Romans 15 and 16 and there is an MP3 file about this at <http://www.christadelphia.net/audio/rom1516.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>

SWEDEN

We've been in contact with ISMAIL and MOHAMMAD, 17 and 18 year old high school students in a small town in Sweden, who came to Sweden from Afghanistan some years ago and grew up there, now fluent in Swedish. They earnestly came to reject their Islamic background and accept the Lord Jesus. The flights there from Riga were very expensive, so Daniel, Samuel and Davian kindly drove Duncan through the night from Riga to Tallinn, from where there were cheaper flights. We left at 11 PM and arrived about 4:30 a.m., having driven on snow covered roads with a blizzard driving head on at us for most of the journey. Those five-six hours were spent in the most wonderful spiritual dialogue and strengthening of each other in the great work.

Truly the Spirit of Christ was there in that small car. Daniel, Samuel and Davian then went into Tallinn old town and distributed *Bible Basics* in Estonian in letterboxes at around 5 a.m. , before safely making the long drive back to Riga over the icy roads. Duncan got to Stockholm and the two young men bunked off school for the day and came down to meet him there, and he was able to baptize them in a sauna; not without racist comments from local Swedes using the sauna. They have shared Farsi *Bible Basics* with other young men who are also interested in baptism. So as we send this out, Samuel and Daniel are on the ferry from Riga to Stockholm (16 hours each way) as this is the most economic way to travel there; and we are all praying they manage to spread the Gospel in truth to these keen young folks. Our new brothers were spiritually minded, prayerful, humble, Christ-focused, Bible-centered; what more can we seek for in converts:



UK

Our outreach here continues, and we ask for your prayers as the "Free Bible" adverts go up on the Croydon-Wimbledon tram. Our *Carelinks UK Conference* is God willing on Saturday 24 February in Selsdon, Croydon and we really encourage you to come along and help stuff Bibles in readiness for the expected high response from the upcoming Daily Mail press advertisement; to hear motivational talks, and the testimonies of those who have recently come to God's Truth in His Son.

Also this week we were able to baptize YOUSSEF, an Afghani man in his 40s from Thornton Heath who heard the Truth from brother Asad. We note that the Lord is perhaps working to an Afghani theme with us at the moment, given the baptisms of Afghanis in Sweden at this time.



LATVIA

Brothers Dan and Sam from New Zealand supported by Rob & Debbie in the kitchen continue to run the teaching sessions at the *Bible Centre* in Riga, with a really wonderful talk about the Gospel from Br David Corbin of Brooklyn ecclesia, USA which elicited a quite spontaneous ovation from the 100 or so people present. We were so happy to then baptize ROMAN, a totally homeless man not even in the night shelter system. He has searched for the real Lord Jesus Christ for 26 years, passing through various groups on his journey, and is now really convinced he has found Him in spirit and truth. His body is largely covered in boils and skin disease issues, but in the white baptismal gown, he looked rather like representations of the Lord Jesus seen in movies. Here truly was a man coming to Jesus Christ and entering into Him, a brother in Christ in truth:



In the background you can see sis. Davian Corbin of the Brooklyn, New York ecclesia.

UKRAINE

Brother David Corbin writes of his experiences at the *Ukraine Bible School*, and we invite visitors and possible speakers to contact us about coming to this wonderful event next time God willing:

"My daughter Davian and I were among the first few to reach the venue around 5:15 pm on the 24th of January. The local taxi operators were very friendly and helpful at the airport and assisted us in getting to where the Bible school was held. This experience may not always be the same for everyone, so we would suggest using authorized taxi operators to avoid any unpleasant circumstances. While the taxi operators were warm and friendly the same could not be said for the Siberian type weather. Once inside the facility we only got a modest reprieve from the onslaught of the very cold weather because of the poorly heated building. We tried to keep as warm as possible with our clothing and the blankets we were given. I would just say that the food was designed to make you loose weight and live a long healthy life without any cholesterol problems and leave it at that.

We ended up with about 65 in all that attended, though not all in one sitting as some who came earlier, had to leave to make the long trip back home using an unreliable transportation system not to mention the bitter cold and at least 8" -10" of snow on the ground. One courageous and faithful elder sister who braved all these adversities to make it to the school just collapsed with heart problem as soon as she entered the building. Such endeavors and situations really brings tears to your eyes. Bro. Duncan rushed to her assistance after turning over the first class to me and my translator. I learnt later that the sister had a daughter in Kiev who accompanied her to a nearby hospital and later took her to her home where she suffered another heart attack.

The classes, 4 on "Jonah", one on "Esau and his choice", "The last days" and "Samson's life"

were well received. It was interesting working with our two brothers who translated because I realized throughout my talks that some English words don't have a word for them in Russian and others have a completely different meaning, so at times I had to put my mental thesaurus to work quickly.

On Saturday night we had a program of singing in Russian and recitals and reading some words of inspiration which was a great joy to see as many of these brethren lives in isolation. Davian was brave enough to sing the "Wedding banquet" chorus in English, to which some were humming along too, not knowing the words.

On Sunday we had our last class and were surprised with a baptism after frantically trying to find enough warm water and tub large enough to facilitate the baptism. I understand it took the candidate 2 days to make it to the venue hitchhiking. Please remember this new sister in your prayer, for she is now one of the household of faith, no longer alienated from the commonwealth of Israel. She will need all our prayers because she starts this journey with many more obstacles than we see before brethren in the West. She does not have the support of an ecclesia of 30-50 members like so many of us (which by the way many don't appreciate enough). This is a country where life is very hard economically for the average citizen, which can put a lot of pressure on ones ability to serve faithfully and remain obedient to your heavenly calling. So may The LORD bless her, and keep her and make his face shine upon her, and be gracious unto her, The LORD lift up his countenance upon her, and give her peace in his Kingdom.

Please also remember the Zbarazhsky family in the Ukraine who are faithfully proclaiming the gospel and showing hospitality to all they come into contact with. I am glad I was able meet them and spend some time together after the days events discussing issues concerning the name of Jesus and the things of his Kingdom.

We are also grateful to Bro. Vladimir who got us some local remedies for colds and coughs and volunteered to take us to the airport, refusing to accept any form of compensation.

Truly these brethren in the Ukraine are the most loving, caring and warm you can find any were. Brethren that would hazard their lives for the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and the saints Acts 15:26. These are indeed the Timothy(s) and Epaphroditus of our times. These are brethren who are willing to be expended for the Lord indeed and not only in words. I feel that I was blessed more than they were because their zeal and enthusiasm for the work of the Lord is inspiring and motivating.

To all those who have and are contributing to the Carelinks Outreach Ministry please know and be assured that your contributions are well appreciated by these brethren in Eastern Europe. So much is being done with these funds that it is almost unbelievable. I also have to note that it's time and money well spent for the numbers of lost souls that are turning and embracing Jesus and the saving message of Jesus.

Please continue to donate and pray fervently for these worthy causes and the brethren involved in these labours of love in missionary work all over Europe and Asia.

Your fellow laborer and brother in Christ
David"

PRAYER POINTS

- For those recently baptized

- For brothers Sam and Daniel on their missionary journey to Sweden
- For sister Tamara and other elderly folks in Eastern Europe really struggling with health issues and the paid-for health system now in place
- For the folks seeing the "Free Bible" adverts on the Croydon-Wimbledon tram

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks