

Finland, Health Care, Refugees, Service Opportunities July 2010

The Sunday readings from the Bible Companion this weekend include Romans 9, and there's an MP3 about Paul's teaching on Israel at <http://aletheiacollege.net/rom10.mp3> and a video at <http://aletheiacollege.net/rom10.html>

FINLAND

For the last 2 years, KIMMO has been earnestly reading his Bible and our material online, and came to the conclusion that "this is the truth" and that he'd like to be baptized. Kimmo is media officer at a national park in Finland and has an impressive portfolio of media he's taken over the years, along with a love for and knowledge of God's creation in Finland. Kimmo drove us out to the house he grew up in, a very charming spot on a lake, and it was a true pleasure to baptize such a sincere and lovely man into Christ. What's encouraging about this is that we just don't know who out there is carefully reading our material online and learning the Gospel. Most website readers don't bother sending an email saying "I agree with this... thanks... I learnt something!". But this doesn't mean they aren't out there. And we get thousands of visitors to our sites each day. Every moment around the clock, someone's reading.

HEALTH CARE

We're so grateful for the assistance received which enables us to care for our brother Viktor, who remains hospitalized after his stroke and is only receiving attention thanks to private donations. He's still paralyzed down one side but is now able to read. We've also arranged for brother Vlad to have his cataract operations soon, Lord willing. Without your help, he'd go blind. And that would be such a tragedy, for he loves using his eyes to read God's word more than most. It truly is his study all the day, the joy and rejoicing of his heart. And since the departure of Br Dan Joseph, it's Vlad who has come forward to assist in the kitchen of the Riga Bible Centre to prepare the major meals we put on several times / week [although Dan's a hard act to follow!]. Even though he can hardly see what or where he's cutting up. In the photo below you can see him with his bag of belongings, typical of those living in the night shelters, who have to take their things with them each day:



We're pleased to say that sister Alevtina, who was in risk of losing her sight totally due to infection after a bungled cataract operation, has retained her sight- no doubt thanks to your prayers. It's a sobering but in a way amazing thing that in countries where health care isn't free, banknotes are what control whether a brother or sister loses their sight or not.

In other news from the Riga Bible Centre this week, we're pleased to report the baptisms of LEONID and AIVARS. Aivars is the husband of our sister Anda.

We ask for your continued prayers for the Messianic Jewish congregation we're in touch with- we hope next mail to have some awesome news about them, God willing.

With love and joy from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks