

Haiti, Winter Heating, Racist Attacks, Malawi November 2010

Our Bible readings from the Bible Companion include *Amos 7* for Saturday- there's an MP3 about this chapter at <http://aletheiacollege.net/audio/am7.mp3> - and *Philemon* for Sunday- there's an MP3 about *Philemon* at <http://aletheiacollege.net/audio/philemon.mp3>

HAITI

Readers will likely have heard of the hundreds of deaths from cholera, the continued damage and suffering from the huge earthquake, and various other disasters afflicting Haiti at this time. As we send out this message, brothers Nick Cox from the UK and Charlie Klennert from the USA are in the air flying towards Haiti and we look forward to their news, meantime upholding their mission in prayer. However we can at this stage share with you the news of the following baptisms recently performed by the ecclesia last week- of sisters Clerima, Gaelle, Adline, Sharline and Filomene; and of brothers Oliver, Yves, Jean, Michele, Simonvil, Luxon, Fito, Jonas and Alfonso.

Brother Charlie comments: "Who would have thought how blessed the Haiti situation turned out! God is amazing :) ". Next time we hope to share with you news of the latest visit.

WINTER WELFARE

We're continuing to distribute aid and pay heating bills as the Winter settles in Eastern Europe. **Riga Bible Center** continues to be a source of refuge for elderly folks in the night shelters who have to walk the snow and ice covered streets at -10 degrees until they can get back in to their shelters at 8 p.m. Partially sighted brother Vlad has now taken up residence in one of the store rooms and we are regularly supporting his eye medication, treating an eye disease which would have left him blind [and may still do so] without medication. We really appreciate your donations enabling us to support our brother and many like him. We are seeking to provide a total of between 150- 200 hot meals per week, and have to remind you of our previous appeal for the means to do this. Brother Vlad has been studying the Bible for 30 years, including during the Soviet period, and has his notes he has kept all that period, in Hebrew and Russian. He is eagerly trying to type these up onto computer disk before he goes blind, and he is sitting up late at night on the job. He had researched the Gospel for many years but had never been baptized as he had wanted a non-Trinitarian to baptize him, so we really were intended to meet by God's providence! You can see his open Bible above the mattress he sleeps on- a far better situation than in the night shelters:



At least four of our brothers and sisters always ask for the same thing in their prayer requests on Sunday- that they will get news of their children who moved to Western Europe to find work and disappeared. The number of Eastern Europeans disappearing in the West is quite large- there's some insight into what goes on in a BBC report at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-11792437>

This week we baptized LYUBA, who also has a daughter who has gone missing in this way.

Here's our sister preparing to be baptized, with brother Vlad assisting:



RACIST ATTACKS

We're sorry to report that our African and other dark skinned brethren in Latvia are coming increasingly under attack. As the economic crisis squeezes the poor in Eastern Europe yet tighter, there's been a growing increase in attacks upon darker skinned people. This has been widely reported in the press- e.g. at <http://www.newstimeafrica.com/archives/9826>

We're sorry to report that our African brethren have suffered several attacks in the last two weeks; the bus which goes out to the very isolated refugee center in the forest where they live has become a target for skinheads, and one brother has been attacked on that bus twice, recently being dragged off the bus by the skinheads into the forest and beaten- with the driver seeing what was happening and doing nothing.

MALAWI

We reported last time the baptism of a former Pastor who was converted as a result of one of his congregation being baptized in Norway who then returned to Malawi and shared the Truth with his former church. This Pastor brother, Leonard, has now been cast out of his church, and we hope you can catch some of his raw zeal from this recent email:

"I am more happy than you can know, now that I have been baptized into the Truth. GOD has really pulled me out of the mud. Although I had my diploma in theology, this was nothing because I was wrongly teaching that Christians will go to Heaven. But now I am truly understanding the Bible. My aim now is to move to every area by bicycle to preach against the errors of many dominations. Don't forget I was a pastor, leading many with false doctrine, and so now I am their enemy. I so want them to know that the kingdom of GOD will be on earth and I that am not their enemy. The former church has now rejected me but I am not discouraged, although I have no money for my proper living. If you were here around you will feel sorry for me. People think I and my wife have started a satanic group, because they don't know the truth about satan. I thank God I am teaching 24 people from different churches, the people with me are learning through *Bible Basics*. I will invite you next year God willing to baptise them here at Nkhotakota, not now but next year, as they need more time to understand John 8:32.
Bro. Leonard Chaunga"

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks