

Israel, Haiti, Bible Weekends February 2010

Very often we find God calls us to His service in caring for or preaching to someone, when the hand of Providence has been at work for years previously preparing them for their meeting with us. So it was in the case of SAMUEL whom we baptized in Tel Aviv, **Israel** earlier this week. Samuel is a refugee from civil war in **Africa**, and got to Egypt. From there he dedicated himself to God and Jesus and decided to try to get to Israel and devote himself there to the service of the Lord Jesus. We made a 10 minute movie of him explaining how he walked 18 days across the desert from **Egypt to Israel**; 26 asylum seekers started the journey and 8 of them died in the wilderness. Even as human interest, it's an amazing story and we commend the movie to you- at www.aletheiacollege.net/video/samuel.html . They ate some bread once each day and drank water from wells used to water camels, on one occasion chasing the camels away to get to the water. They were chased too by the Egyptian military. They then had to climb the border fence and somehow somersault the barbed wire at the top. On arriving in Israel, Samuel made it his business to dedicate himself to God and find the Biblical purpose of life. God led him to *Bible Basics*, and he became convinced of the need for baptism. At his baptism we read from Romans 6 and from 1 Corinthians 10- Israel were baptized in the cloud and in the Red Sea. Water both sides of them, the cloud [also water] above them- they were as it were immersed in water. And so the familiar yet powerful parallel develops. Life after baptism is as Samuel's journey through the Sinai scrub; and in the movie, Samuel brings this out powerfully. He has been there physically, and can see how all that happened to him was a living parable of redemption in Christ. His baptism was a vital part in what God has been trying to teach him, and we feel honoured to have played a part in what is so clearly God's wonderful work in another's life.



There's a picture of the likely scene at http://www.ynet.co.il/PicServer2/28102008/1701174/CAI106_wa.jpg ; the pictures below of the border are from Wikipedia:

Brother Samuel with his much marked Bible, and *Bible Basics*:



Samuel's very prayerful, and has written out his prayer requests to keep him focused upon them in prayer. Number 7 was for God to teach him of His word and revive him spiritually- and Samuel feels this has been answered now in his learning the Gospel and being baptized. However, it's very difficult working in Israel, as he has been refused leave to remain and along with many black people is continually hassled by the Immigration Police, as he comments in his other

prayer requests:



So please pray for our brother and others like him there.

HAITI

We're pleased to say that the clothing kindly donated has been couriered over and joyfully received. Here are members of the ecclesia in Port au Prince with the DHL package displaying the contents. More are on their way. However the marquee, tents and sleeping bags sent are being held in customs in Haiti.... can you believe it. You'll notice in the photos below that the ecclesia have like so many others just spread bed sheets as a roof. The canvass marquee and tenting we've sent should greatly improve on that especially with the rainy season approaching.



Brother Esmath works for the UN in Haiti and has sent us some chilling photos of the devastation which likely you may not see on the media. The pictures are shocking and maybe not appropriate for minors, but you can download them and view them if you wish from www.aletheiacollege.net/images/earthquake2010.ppt . We've republished the French edition of *Introducing Bible Basics* with a photo of the ecclesia in Haiti- see the cover at <http://www.lulu.com/content/paperback-book/introduction-aux-principes-bibliques-de-base/8325909>

BIBLE WEEKENDS

Readers of *Carelinks* will have noticed a large number of baptisms reported in **Latvia** in recent times as a result of the work of the Bible Center in **Riga**. We're trying to deepen the faith of those baptized and have arranged a series of Bible weekends, God willing, to which you are warmly welcome to attend and participate in.

February 26-28 ... With Bro Peter and Sis Julia Gaston [Kenilworth, UK ecclesia]

March 26-31 ... With Bro. Rick Mumford [Auckland, New Zealand]

April 9-11 ... With Bro. Colin & Sis. Hendrika Green [Hurstville, Australia]

EXHORTATION

This week the daily Bible readings for Sunday 14 February include Mark 10, and there's an exhortation based on that chapter at www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/mk10.mp3

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks