

## January 2015 Riga / Nate Badger and David Corbin report

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Romans 10 and 11 and there is an MP3 about these chapters at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/rom1011.mp3>

You can see the archives of our MP3 files at <http://aletheiacollege.net/archives.html>

### RIGA

Br David Corbin from Brooklyn ecclesia USA writes:

*"I am very impressed and excited about what's going on here at the Riga center in Latvia. Truly it's an oasis of blessings both natural and spiritual to this community. First, the energy and professionalism of the sisters (Vanessa, Rachel, Hannah) involved in the cooking and catering. Secondly, the great condition of the facilities, thirdly, the marvelous and almost unbelievable attendance from local brothers, sisters and the visiting public. And fourthly, Bro. Duncan's guidance, coordination and mentoring of the process. Our first night saw almost 90 souls in attendance on a dreary, cold and damp Tuesday night. I got the impression the by far most of these folks were not there for only the natural food, which was extremely delicious, but for the spiritual food also.*

*Afterwards we took one of our sisters home getting her five bundles of firewood on the way to her home. It is heartbreaking to see what and where this poor sister calls home. No heat, light, security, absolutely none of the comforts associated with a home. In an abandoned apartment block, this sister is squatting in a room on the second floor. Access is through a broken window from the hallway, which she covers with pieces of plastic, discarded lumber and cardboard box. Yet for all the sad things going on in this sister's life, she exudes happiness, gratitude and faithfulness. She conceals her sorrowful condition with a joyful and positive attitude. What a noble sister. The success of the days efforts belies the struggles, anxious moments, cost, manpower shortages and the long hours that goes on behind the scenes. I say that this is evidence of God's blessings and help to prosper his work".*

Photo: Br David with firewood



Br Nate Badger of Ontario, Canada continues:

*"I have wanted to visit the Riga Bible Centre for several years, so it was exciting to finally witness this Latvian light-stand first-hand. Jesus has asked us to worship Him in spirit and in truth (John 4:24) and that is the focus of the Bible Centre: Firstly, to teach the riches of God's sound doctrines, agape love, and eternal hope with poor and underprivileged people, and Secondly, to warm and fill them (James 2:16) with a healthy meal, clothing, and refuge from the elements year-round. I would love to return and spend several months helping and teaching, God Willing. It is especially inspiring to see that these efforts are resulting in regular baptisms and opportunities for brethren, sisters and young people worldwide to contribute to the spread of the Gospel.*

Bro. Nathan Badger, Cambridge Ecclesia, Ontario."

Photos: Brothers Dave and Nate about to give talks at the **Bible Center**; brother Maxim at the

computer; and then Dave & Nate serving food:



Here's a younger brother helping an older sister re-arrange her scarf-sling for her broken arm before she returns on icy paths to the night shelter:



At present, brothers David, Nathan and Duncan are in **Ukraine** ministering to the brotherhood there. In their absence this week, brother Maxim ran the meetings and we are delighted that he was able to baptize ERIK:



A few days earlier, we rejoiced to baptize AIGAR, who first made contact with us when working for a delivery company which had delivered firewood to us for distribution to those in need:



This would seem a great example of how the doing of good works leads to others seeing the light and becoming interested themselves. We have large containers at the hall from where our brethren & sisters and visitors can take second hand clothes; and these are regularly filled up by local people who donate their clothes into those containers, even though they don't currently stop to attend our Bible meetings.

We ask for your special prayers for brother Maxim. He is a refugee from Ukraine, his parents, sister and aunty are all in the Truth in Ukraine, and he has a mature grasp of the Truth. He is living with us in Riga at the moment, and he has a natural aptitude for the work of the *Bible Center*- he can give good Bible talks at a moment's notice; he is good at handling those who attend; a good cook and handyman around the hall... and he absolutely loves the work and feels it is his calling in service. Yet it's hard for him to remain in Latvia because of visa issues. Please pray that somehow he will be able to remain.

We would be delighted to hear from anyone who would be able to spend at least a month, preferably more, at the Bible Center. There is huge opportunity to profitably serve the Lord here and there is Western standard accommodation in place for workers and visitors.

## **NIGER**

Brother Jude reports that life has returned to normal for them after the recent Islamic rampages against the Christian minority:

*"I want to use this opportunity to inform you that normalcy has return to Niger republic.I and my*

*family has return home. We manage to conduct service of one hour on Sunday and non of my property was touch.We appreciate all your effort as you stand by us in prayer during this trial period.God bless you all".*

Thanks for all your prayers.

**PRAYER POINTS:**

- Thanks to God for answering so many of our prayers, including for our brother in Niger; and for allowing brother Maxim to minister so well in Latvia
- Pray for brethren traveling and ministering in Ukraine at this time; not only for safekeeping but for spiritual blessing on what they are trying to do
- For brother Maxim and his family, along with the other families who have been divided by the war in Ukraine
- That brother Maxim will be able to stay in Latvia and do the work he has come to so love
- For more medium or long term workers to come out to Riga

**With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks**