

## January 2019 Latvia, Ethiopia, France / Mayotte, UK

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Matthew 22 and there is an MP3 file about this at <http://www.christadelphia.net/audio/mt22a.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>

Helps for the *Bible Companion* readings this week:

**Genesis** <http://n-e-v.info/NEVGenesisCommentary.pdf>

**Psalms** <http://n-e-v.info/psalms.pdf>

**Matthew** <http://n-e-v.info/NEVMatthewCommentary.pdf>

### LATVIA

Latvia and Eastern Europe generally continue having unusually high snowfall, low temperatures and therefore icy streets and pavements. This makes every step taken by our elderly folks an absolute nightmare. Going out to get shopping is quite a risky feat, and for those in the night shelters, they have to be on the streets all day from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Here's a video of an old woman with a bent back struggling on the ice with her shopping; it's worth a minute to view it and see what so many of our dear ones are struggling with <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OvYF8v1cJRI&t=4s>

So we continue running the *Bible Center* 5 days / week and then English church on Sundays. It really is a lifeline for so many, to have somewhere to get warm and get warm nutritious food, as well as a session of solid Bible teaching in Russian each day. We're so grateful for all the support which enables this to happen.



John & Wina have just completed 2 weeks here, and now we have Hilary Knight and Norman Stock with us, and looking forward to Mike & Betty arriving from *Australia* soon God willing. We're also continuing to buy and distribute firewood to those who need it:



The call of the Gospel continues to be responded to and we've had two baptisms this week. ARTYOM and his wife and daughter started popping in to the *Bible Center* for food two years ago, just struggling to make ends meet. But Artyom especially liked the teaching of God's word, which he says he found made perfect sense and was unlike what he had heard in other churches. He has attended on and off, and finally decided for baptism. We broadcast the baptisms [and the Bible talks, which are in English & Russian] live on Facebook, and if you go to our group *Carelinks Ministries* you can see them. You can see Artyom and his wife here in the audience, and we hope and pray his wife too will get baptized:



Then there was ROBERT, who likewise had passed through various churches, and had lived for a year in central London doing decorating work. But it was in the Lord's plan that he needed to return to Latvia in order to find the Gospel and get baptized. He is a very serious person who told us three days before his baptism that he wanted three days to think very carefully about his commitment. His thoughts came down on the right side, so it was with joy that we baptized him:



So we reflect again how God works through all human experiences, with the aim of bringing us to Him. He is indeed the God who saves. Whilst we may not be able to attach meaning to event in the short or immediate term, eventually we see all the evidence that God works to only do us good at our latter end.

### **ETHIOPIA**

In line with our previous announcement, we're pleased to say that DAWIT [DAVID] completed the *Bible Basics* course online and has been baptized by a local *Christadelphian* brother.

### **FRANCE / MAYOTTE**

We've been reporting on all the efforts being made for the group of Congolese refugee brethren stranded on the tiny islet of Mayotte. God has moved powerfully in response to our prayers and efforts and let's be thankful for that. We reported that brother Nicolas has managed to get to mainland France and is now in Lille [and open to any visits, although he only speaks French]. We're delighted to tell you that sister Suzanne has also arrived, and here she is in the center of Lille, getting used to the western European winter- although it's nothing compared to the temperatures in eastern Europe at this time:



### **UK**

A reminder of our **Carelinks conference** on *Saturday 23 Feb 2019 10.30am to 7pm. God willing, at St John's Community Hall, Upper Selsdon Road, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 8DD*

### **PRAYER POINTS**

- Thanks to God for the amazing progress with the brethren on Mayotte
- For Nicolas and Suzanne as they settle in to Europe with no money behind them, and for the others on Mayotte
- For those recently baptized
- For our elderly bre & sis on the icy streets of Eastern Europe

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