

July 2013 South Sudan [2]

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Romans 1 and 2, and there's an MP3 about this chapter at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/rom1and2.mp3> .

You can see the archives of our MP3 files

at <http://aletheiacollege.net/archives.html> ; *Carelinks Bible Radio* is at <http://r-b-c.org/listen.php> ;

and God willing, we have our live video link service in English this Sunday at 08:00 a.m. GMT - you can view direct at www.carelinks.net [scroll down to the video screen]

or if you want to make comments and participate in live chat,

use <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/biblecenter> . We've hopefully resolved some of the issues which were causing low quality reception of our broadcasts.

SOUTH SUDAN

Last week we gave news of our work in South Sudan and the baptism of our first brother there, Joseph. We've now put online Joseph's amazing account of providence in his life,

at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0ortcZNIlo&feature=c4-overview&list=UUYP5dgMyPo1m-pFlqpyojTQ> .

Joseph talks of how his family had ears cut off, teeth removed, legs hamstrung, were murdered, and how God preserved his life- to come to the real Christ. And he has some profound things to say about the issue of forgiveness.

After that we journeyed to Malakal, a garrison town on the troubled border with the North. Most people there are in the security forces. It's cut off by Darfur to the West, Northern Sudan to the North, and rebel militias on the other sides. The reason for coming here was our outstanding brother Amos, a third generation Kenyan Christadelphian who has been working there for some time with a construction company. His work involves him traveling around a lot, and in doing so he has managed to teach many people about the true Gospel. These are all kinds of people, ranging from young men from cattle herding tribes who have grown up with nothing but violence, cattle rustling etc., right through to fellow Kenyan ex-pat contractors and professionals. It was with great joy therefore that we baptized ten brothers and one sister in the River Nile:



OLESYE, our first sister baptized in South Sudan:



The other side of the Nile at this point [visible in the baptismal photos] is in the hands of rebels, apparently there was a major battle there the week before we arrived in which 300 people were killed. The banks of the Nile on the Malakal side are under curfew from 6 p.m. due to the fear of rebels landing in speedboats. So the baptisms had to be done well before then! There's a movie of some of them at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O6JVR-c3U2c&list=UUYP5dgMyPo1m-pFlqpyojTQ>

We take our cap off to Amos for a fantastic logistical achievement in gathering together people from throughout the region to our Bible conference held in a hotel on the banks of the Nile.

Amos and Duncan gave talks hammering through the basic doctrines and practices of the one

faith, ably translated to Arabic so all understood:



Again, the enthusiasm for God's word was apparent, as was the lack of Bibles- although we managed to bring at least some Bibles and *Bible Basics* with us:



We made a video of one of the talks, about the nature of God and Jesus, with translation into Sudanese Arabic. Hopefully brother Joseph can use it with his group- it's at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFcNbM0dYkE>

One highlight was the baptism of MARTIN. He has internet on his phone and has had a lot of contact with brother Amos. The presence of mobile coverage is wonderful because it enables people to have some access to the internet if they have mobile phones, and this is a great teaching opportunity. Martin lives in Renk, accessible only by river during the rainy season, and a long, difficult journey by road and track during the dry season. It usually takes two days for the barge to travel from Renk to Malakal. Due to engine problems, it took our brother three days- and he arrived just as our seminar was ending. The barges on which travel is done are open to the sky- there is no cover. You must take your own food, cooking facilities, clean water, cover against the rain in rainy season and mosquito net. And Martin travelled three days like that to be with us. Flying around South Sudan, the aircraft often follow the rivers, so it's easy to photograph these boats moored in the villages and small towns that are along the Nile:



There's a movie of Martin's story at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-kaxxWcSlkE&list=UUYp5dgMyPo1m-pFlqpyojTQ> . One amazing thing about South Sudan is that there is mobile coverage almost everywhere, which means that for those with reasonable cell phones, there's access to the internet- even in places like this which can only be reached by boat or chartered helicopter. If you'd like to text Brother Martin some encouragement, or even call him, we'd be happy to let you know his cell phone number so you can help him feel part of our worldwide family in Christ.



Martin was baptized, and naturally wishes us to go to Renk [a peaceful, safe place] and spread Bibles and teach the Gospel. He and Br Amos are real solid reliable brothers and persons. Now here again is an amazing opportunity to take the true Gospel "to the regions beyond", really pushing back the frontiers of true Christianity into hitherto closed areas of jungle and riverland. Two brothers from **New Zealand** are willing to make a trip- but the potential is huge. Get in touch if you'd like to come along. And of course... work in this area is hugely expensive. We really are open to donations... sorry to keep mentioning that but it is really so. And please pray for the work, for the safety of those who go, and for God's glory to be achieved through lives

being totally given to the Lord Jesus in spirit and in truth. Duncan's field notes and advice for the next visitors are at <http://www.carelinks.net/docs/SouthSudanFieldNotes.pdf>

Please pray for the wonderful opening we've been given here... for a mighty and effective door has been opened, as Paul said, but there are many adversaries.

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks