

June 2015 Belgium, Jews, Cyprus, Riga, Leaflet

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Revelation 15 and 16 and there is an MP3 about these chapters at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/rev1516.mp3> .

You can see the archives of our MP3 files at <http://aletheiacollege.net/archives.html> and on iTunes at <https://itunes.apple.com/ca/podcast/christadelphian-bible-talks/id987163468>

We were able to make another visit to Antwerp in **Belgium** in order to baptize EMMANUEL, an African gentleman who after completing his university degree there, stayed on and is working in a responsible job. He's in quite a different situation to many of the African non-person brethren in France. Our brother came to us from the internet, having received an *NEV Bible*, and being disillusioned with standard churches. He too is thrilled to find a more correct understanding of Satan and the entire issue of evil in this world. He has a fiancée- a very charming young woman from Holland- and a relative, who attended the baptism and engaged in our lengthy discussions about doctrine and the good news of the Lord Jesus. One doesn't have to water down the doctrines of the Gospel to make it attractive- it is indeed what many secular, postmodern men and women in Europe are really searching for. And they find it attractive. Please pray that those other two people will in due course respond to the call they are receiving.



This trip to Belgium was particularly stressful, involving waiting 5 hours in a traffic jam and other situations which seriously upset travel plans. It was one of those periods of life when it really would seem there was some negative power at work, beyond mere 'bad luck'. But the videos about evil which Kingsley and Ari produced last week were in our mind very much- it's easy to say and teach that all power is of God, and all negative things are ultimately permitted by Him. But it's another thing to believe it in practice. But out of all that, His work was done and His purpose with these folk in Antwerp progressed as only He could make it progress.

The area where we performed the baptism was next to the **Antwerp** railway station- and this is an intensely Jewish Orthodox area, with signs in Hebrew. Just the other side of the station, there are Moslems everywhere. The whole Jewish area looks like a Jewish area of the 1930s- orthodox Jews going about their everyday lives, but with fear in their eyes. Many have already performed aliyah to Israel; we observed Belgian Police guarding Jewish schools and synagogues due to the constant fear of attacks. As one Jew joked, 'If you want to know where the synagogue is in a town here, just look where the Police cars and military Police are parked'. It really feels like something from the lead up to the holocaust. This Jewish area around Antwerp station is a fairly small and very distinct area. So here's an idea- why not go there and bill the area with fliers? We would be so happy to provide leaflets. Antwerp is a typical Western European tourist city- why not combine a trip here with a witness to God's people? For the repentance of Israel, at least in part, will surely hasten the Lord's return. We ought to be witnessing to them. If you'd like to spend a day or two in Antwerp making this witness- do let us know! Here are some photos we took, although we avoided photographing the military Police guarding the Jewish schools:



There are some Iranian brethren previously baptized in the area and it was good to find they are continuing in the faith, and witnessing widely to the Gospel on the internet and also to their families. As a result of this, a group of Iranian contacts are hoping to get to Cyprus en route to Europe, in late July, God willing. We plan a trip to meet and baptize them. Given the difficulty of travel across the Mediterranean for Iranian and all Middle Eastern refugees, we can't guarantee they will arrive as planned. Please pray for them and their travel plans and especially that they can make the commitment to the Lord Jesus in baptism which they would like to. Any who may be in Cyprus at that time are welcome to get in touch.

LEAFLET

One thing we learnt in the very successful month in France was that there is a large underclass of folks in Western Europe who are seriously interested in the Gospel. Our engagement with them was partly by standing on the streets offering New Testaments and engaging folks in conversation. We've prepared a leaflet which we think is appropriate for such outreach to immigrants - in English, with translations into Farsi, Russian, Polish and Latvian. These are some of the most common languages spoken by our target groups within the UK. We've put up the text of the leaflet so that you can copy and paste it, print it out, re-arrange it and hand it out as you feel led to folks in your area- see www.carelinks.net/files/leaflets.html

You'll notice Duncan & Cindy's new cell phone numbers there:

Duncan +447481122558

Cindy +447481120989

RIGA

The daily feeding program is starting up in October God willing [it operates two days / week until then] and we really need more volunteers to come over and cook- and if you wish, make presentations about the Gospel and Bible class material for the baptized present. This is really a great opportunity to come and do something simple, practical and absolutely necessary for the daily welfare of our baptized brethren and also the bottom rung of society as well. The accommodation at the hall has been further improved, thanks to the work of kind volunteers; it's really very nice now. Please do consider coming; if the cost of the air fare is an issue for you, please do let us know. And we are also open to contributions towards the ongoing costs of the *Bible Center* which are significant on a building that size.

PRAYER POINTS

- For the plans to reach out to Jewish people; and for Israel in their latter day sufferings
- For the relative and fiancée of our new brother in Antwerp, that they will be baptized
- For the plans being made for our Iranian contacts to get to Cyprus and be baptized
- For our new brother Emmanuel

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks