

June 2015 Gratitude, France, USA

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Ruth 3 and 4 and Revelation 1 and 2 and there are MP3s about these chapters

at <http://aletheiacollege.net/ruth3.mp3> and <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/rev1and2.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>

GRATITUDE

We occasionally appeal for funds for cataract operations, and we'd like to share with you the deep gratitude of brother Alexei on behalf of his grandmother sister Tamara:

"I took my grandmother today to the hospital for the cataract operation and tried to take some photos. I received all the money all OK. I am under such deep impressions of your love and God's kindness to us. When I first came to God, it was with some charismatics. My very first prayer after I accepted Him and the existence of His Son was "God, show me some true people who really have your Truth and who truly love You and can teach me". I was never happy with the charismatics as something didn't feel right, in fact, many things. Truly there is a living God in the earth, because He answered that prayer by leading me to you and to the true baptism. Before my baptism, I had so many problems and issues, which the charismatics never helped with, despite their claims. After knowing the truth about the real Jesus Christ and being baptized, I experienced so much psychological healing and a new life. Now I see this happening for my grandmother too, and further, on the physical front, she has now hopefully got her sight preserved due to the operation. People today are looking for signs, like miracles, but I do not believe God gives such things, rather the sign to me is the leading of me to you and to the Truth, in response to my absolutely sincere prayer when I first believed in Jesus Christ. So my dear brothers, thank you again from my heart. If God by His wisdom does not count me worthy to be in His Kingdom then I would like to thank Him for having lead me to associate with the body of Christ in this life. May God give you all a place in His Kingdom and to me and my grandmother too... [later]... Grandmother is home now, applying the medication every day, and each day, her sign improves. She is so so happy and grateful to you and to God".

So in these cases, prayers, money transfers and banknotes really can make a radical difference in a sister's life, giving her sight when otherwise she would have lost it. Here are the photos our brother sent, of him with the funds received, of our sister at the hospital, and waiting in line for the operation:



FRANCE

We've come to the end of the 1 month feeding program and outreach work in the Melun area of France. Special thanks to all who came over to support the work; this last week we have had Ari & Ange Pickering and Linda & Nathanael Jamieson from **Australia**. We focused on distribution of clothes to our brothers, sisters and friends who are living in desperate situations; often with no documents, no work permit, their appeals for asylum in France refused, and they are left as non-persons, unable to return home as they have no documents, and unable to get state

support where they are. Some are living in awful situations and derelict accommodation. The most appropriate assistance is really food and clothes but we have also assisted in other ways as best we can:



We've failed to find a meeting place we can rent for them- all Government owned properties in France can't be used for religious purposes. But God willing they are going to continue meeting at the apartment of the one brother who has a room capable of holding 10 people. Islam is growing rapidly in France; and the large number of disenfranchised immigrants, or immigrants living in poverty, has provided fertile ground for extremism to grow. Hundreds if not thousands of French Moslems are now fighting with ISIS in Syria and Iraq. Signs of serious anti-Jewishness are everywhere. We saw street signs renamed 'Rue Gaza'; and many shops only offer meat killed in Islam-compliant abattoirs:



The future for Europe and the world isn't at all good in these last days before the Lord returns. There are masses of radicalized Islamists wandering the streets of the very areas where new African brethren are living.

It's amazing how the Lord brings His people together to do His work. We have here near Paris our ex-JW family from Armenia who got asylum on the basis of facing prison sentences for refusing to go to the army; but the two brothers were both film producers. They have eagerly assisted in editing videos taken over the last few weeks of our new African brethren explaining their new and clear understanding that demons, satan etc. don't exist in the commonly understood way. We've tried to keep the clips short, in order to be attractive to a generation with it seems a limited attention span. There's a longer production about demons, nicely produced by our Armenian brethren, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zpxUBUJSv4>

And then we have brother Ari Pickering and brother Kingsley briefly in dialogue with each other about

'Why we don't believe the devil and satan are personal beings'

at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iTMo97mGlaE>

About the serpent in Eden at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=laiPHSqnFy8>

and about Lucifer at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kiXhp3d2f1g>



For those who have never believed in the commonly held ideas, it's hard to appreciate how 'the light goes on' for those who come to the truth about them; especially in practical, spiritual terms, the new energy to focus on being spiritually minded, on taking responsibility for our

thoughts and actions, rather than believing in an external force that is manipulating us beyond our power to resist. Some of that joy and energy comes over in the dialogues.

USA

But in the English-speaking West there's also greater interest in our message than many might think. Some years ago, we sent *Bible Basics* to many libraries worldwide, and all manner of people are reading the books. Here's a letter received this week from Iowa, USA by brother Marcus at the *Christadelphian Advancement Trust*. Let us know if you'd like to follow up on this person:



PRAYER POINTS:

- For the new ecclesia left behind in Melun
- Thanksgiving that sister Tamara's sight has been saved
- Thanksgiving that brother Alexei's prayer to find the Truth was answered
- For all those others on the journey who are reading or viewing our material and moving towards the truth of Christ and His Kingdom

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks