

June 2019 Italy, China

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Isaiah 48 and there is an MP3 file about this at <http://www.christadelphia.net/audio/is48.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:

1 Samuel <http://n-e-v.info/1samcomm.pdf>

Isaiah <http://n-e-v.info/NEVIsaiah.pdf>

Revelation <http://n-e-v.info/NEVRevelationCommentary.pdf>

ITALY

We reported last week about the dire situation of Africans in Italy, being forced out of the country and not being given any social support if they remain. You can review the video we made about this at <https://youtu.be/fzGaolTYf0>. Italy gets poorer the further south you go, and the area around Naples is typically very poor. It's bad enough for local Italians, but with the new legislation against migrants, it is almost impossible for them to legally survive. And the economy is anyway very broken down, with garbage tipped everywhere and restricted social services. Many Italians have emigrated because of the dire unemployment, and so there are very few jobs at all for African migrants. We baptized brother Festus around 10 years ago near Naples; he is a settled migrant with permanent residency in Italy. But like our other settled Italian African brothers in other parts of Italy [Joseph, Steve, Godson etc.], he and his wife are deeply touched by all the suffering of the other Africans around them and try to do what they can to genuinely reach out to them- especially with the Gospel. Over the years we've baptized a number of people whom Festus has interested in the Gospel, but he laments that so many of them have now had to move on from Italy to France, Germany and Spain, and he's out of touch with some of them. He rents a rather large auditorium for the meetings, which dwarfed our little group of about ten people. But we were delighted to teach them from the scriptures there, and it was good to see Bible Basics and NEV Bibles being well used. There was a very studious spirit amongst these dear folks, as they followed the Bible verses quoted with their fingers and made notes in their Bibles- which were already well marked:



It was hard to find a place for baptism, as nobody has a bath tub, and most beaches around there are private [meaning you have to pay to a cafe or buy drinks at a cafe to access them]. We didn't mind that, but they were frankly overtly racist against us as a group of Africans wanting to buy soft drinks and use the beach. So we found a bit of sea with drainage effluent going into it, and used that, despite the warning signs not to enter the water. And a wonderful time it was, with Angels surely rejoicing, as we baptized such sincere and genuine lovers of the Lord Jesus; sisters JOY, STEFI, ANNABELLE and IRENE and brother CHRISTIAN [the little girl in the photo wasn't baptized, she just didn't want to be parted from her mummy]:



But the reality of life is very hard for them. Many Africans are living rough at the back of the beaches, and you see African women selling their bodies quite openly, wearing skimpy clothing or in some cases sitting on chairs by the side of the road topless. Driving along we took some video from our cellphone of these women... fortunately the result is blurred but you can see the point. They operate from wooden huts- with their own young children playing at the back of the huts. It needs to be known that this is going on in Europe, and the authorities see it and do absolutely nothing. But those women, for all their gaudy clothing and wrong behaviour, are driven to this by desperation. One of our prayer points this week is for our sisters who likewise have no income and are desperate for money. We are doing what we can to support them, but the temptation for quick money, cash in hand, is naturally very strong- especially when you have a young child to care for. We take no pleasure in sharing some stills from the video taken as we drove those country roads, but we want you to pray about this situation- as we do have young mothers in desperate situations who are now baptized:



We mentioned last week that we are seeking to raise say 3000 Euro to cover our operations in Italy this Summer.

[You can donate by credit card or PayPal at this link](#)

CHINA

We continue getting much response from China; brother Feng reports on a recent baptism of a contact who came through the *NEV Bible* and contact with our brethren on a chat group: "Here is the report for the newly baptized brother. Brother MING , aged 41,told his way to find Jesus:

I am working as pedlar in [a big city]. It is not allowed to sell by hawking in my city and I am often being expelled by the city administration. Life is not so easy for me at my age as looking to future. I first knew anything about Jesus from my aunt ,who believed in the Lord, but her husband opposed it very much. She often prayed. The husband objected to her praying all the time, complaining that she always prayed even in the toilet and wardrobe. But a kind if miracle happened after a year, the couple both were baptized together and stood up as witnesses. This motivated me to look myself into the things of Bible and Jesus. In my spare time I found life is so boring and I don't have much money to have a social life, so I joined a QQ group and there met brother Feng, he bought train tickets for me to come to [his town] and be baptized in a public sauna".

After baptism,we prayed together and I also encourage him to keep faith in Christ and leave the false doctrine. As we live in a material and communist society, surrounded by enemies(temptation). In the course of my previous missionary work, we met a Trinity thinker. He debated with us for a long time. The man told me that even if the Trinity was a false doctrine, I

could blame the false teacher. I asked him whether a person who followed a fake teacher should be attributed to this fake teacher when the judgement day comes. in the judgment can he escape with this reason alone? Thanks God and praying for him".

Here's a photo of brother Ming with his *NEV Bible*:



PRAYER POINTS

- For those recently baptized
- For those in the UK we hope to baptize next week God willing
- For all sisters pressurized into prostitution
- For the situation with our African brothers and sisters in Italy

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks