

May 2016 Latvia, Estonia, USA

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Colossians 2 and there is an MP3 file about this chapter at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/col2.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>

LATVIA

Ever since our first faltering steps into this country in 1990 the Lord has blessed the work and now there is a large thriving ecclesia in **Riga** with a feeding scheme reaching many people; and two other ecclesias in the countryside. At one there is the housing project, and we have recently been appealing for help in installing a new heating system there. We've now bought the boiler and are working on the radiators, pipes and expansion cylinder. Cindy was able to take another sister and her children there this week. She plans her annual mothers and childrens camp there in August God willing. Brother Raimonds has built a glass house, and everywhere in the house there are plants growing on windowsills and on shelves over the windows. Sister Liga runs a group there each week in the conference room and continues growing a huge amount of food to feed her large family and others.



RIGA

It was so encouraging to see attendance keeps up. The feeding scheme continues to provide really relevant assistance to the large number of baptized brothers and sisters here who live in night shelters, and the Gospel continues to spread. Brother Maxim's work with the group has brought forth much fruit to the Lord's glory. We were pleased to baptize ALEKSANDR[in brother Dennis's wonderful baptismal bath], and to note how well sister Anna [temporarily with a young helper, see photo] is coping with the feeding and hygiene standards aspect of our work.

It was a few years ago now that we appealed for a good quality razor so that the brethren could cut each others' hair [many have literally no income and the night shelters don't provide such basic services]. The razor is still in use each week- here operated by a young man who was the chief barber during his time in prison [who'd never shaved a four year old redhead before, you can see how extra careful he was being!]. The Lord is clearly active in so many lives here.



And then there are the 70 and 80 year olds who help clean up; a young woman in distress because she cannot feed her baby and has literally no money or food, requiring us to dash out and buy formula from the supermarket... and the endless array of opportunities to really be the light of the world and make a huge difference in lives. The Winter feeding scheme will run 5 days / week God willing from October and we really so encourage you to support this scheme or come over for a week or month or more...



ESTONIA

About 2 years ago we had an email request from a Jewish man in Estonia, explaining he was homeless, but happy that way, and wanted contact with Christians who were non-trinitarian. We sent him our Bible with commentary and other literature, and as he gets online every few weeks, we had a slow correspondence by email. SHMUEL [aka SASHA] was a regular synagogue attendee and speaks Hebrew. For various reasons and as a result of much disappointment and betrayal in life he prefers to live rough. He has a rucksack and shopping trolley which he takes with him as he wanders around. This is all he has in the world. Inside the rucksack are his most valuable things- his *NEV Bible* with commentary, *Bible Basics* and his Hebrew scriptures. He spends much time each day reading and has an amazing knowledge of the text of the Bible. He has had association with Jehovah's Witnesses and other groups but found our views the most compelling. He has made a leather cover for his Bible and made index markers for each book, as you can see in the photo; and has added his own notes and highlighting. He handles his Hebrew scriptures with very great reverence, lifting them carefully out of his rucksack and holding them up to read. With such an interest in the Bible and a deep faith in the Lord Jesus as Messiah it's not surprising our brother is of one mind with us and desired baptism. Surely the Lord knows them that are His and as ever it is a pleasure to work with Him in bringing His scattered ones to Him. We gave him some support but like many like him, he is happy living as he is- currently in some deserted sheds at the back of a railway station in small town Estonia. You can see him walking towards the railway tracks below. So despise not the homeless... they all have various stories and not all of them are alcoholics or drug abusers. Do pray for him and others like him. Sorry for the low quality of the pictures, not helped by the rain.



USA

Sister Marti in Houston held a market stall sale for Carelinks and raised over \$500; she plans another two on May 28 and June 4 God willing and asks us to pray for the further success of her efforts. Marti has set us a great example in proactively doing something for the Lord's cause and we encourage others to follow her example.

PRAYER POINTS

- For those recently baptized
- For more workers to come out to Riga
- For continued blessing on the housing project in northern Latvia
- For brother Sasha and others who are homeless
- For sister Marti's efforts in Texas

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks