

Current Events

In the Body of Christ

May 2020

Included this month...

- Updates from Brethren during the Pandemic Bible Believers (CAN)
- Amharic Church Age Book Translated Ethiopia | Bible Believers
- The Missing Sector Brother Mark (CAN) | Secret Wine
- Mission Pakistan Bro Matthan Gray (TARANAKI)
- Return (Poem) Sis Louise (NZ)



From Our Prophet -

"We see the newspapers, and the oncoming storm! When you go home tonight, do me one favor, don't go to bed till you read Revelation, the 8th chapter. You see the oncoming plagues and storm that's to hit the earth, and thunders and lightnings are going to shake the heaven. Woes are going to pass over the nation. Man will rot in their flesh. Diseases will strike them, the doctors know nothing about."

- The Oncoming Storm 60-0229

"Listen, we say about Satan's big machine up there, ready to move, that's right, to crush down; but, remember, God's little flock that believes the Word, its mechanics is ready too. It's ready for the Dynamics to set it afire with the Holy Ghost. "Fear not, little flock, it's your Father's good will to give you the Kingdom."

- What Shall We Do With This Jesus Called Christ 64-0126

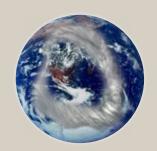
De William Brankson

Important Update - WMB Movie Testimony



Due to the COVID-19 lockdown it was necessary to delay the upcoming film and testimony session which was scheduled May 9th. **Please cancel all arrangements**. As a result of the leading of the Lord, Isaac has put together a 1 hour video testimony of what he would have shared in person. We trust your questions will be answered in this video. God bless you!

Click this link to see video: https://youtu.be/guFvU4U_TBU



Updates From Around the World

DURING THE PANDEMIC

Believers

Isaiah 26:20 Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. 21 For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.



The Corona Virus may be a world-wide phenomenon, yet the Bride of Jesus Christ is also a world-wide phenomenon in her own right. In every country, Message Believers face the same challenges as everyone else, and in the natural, they are just as helpless. But by the grace

of God, these have been endowed with the supernatural tools to overcome both these challenges, and worse challenges that may come in the future.

In this video, Brothers Stephen Ibale, and Fred Kiyingi of Uganda explain the situation in Uganda, where the nation is in lockdown, and how Believers are coping with it... and overcoming it.

SEE VIDEO HERE: https://bibleway.org/believers-coping-with-crisis-uganda/



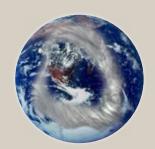
Believers Overcoming Crisis: India

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of God, these have been endowed with the supernatural tools to overcome both these challenges, and worse challenges that may come in the future.

In this video, Brother Stanley Tuscano of India explains how the Believers are facing the situation, and are even more productive in their translation work, due to the lockdown.

SEE VIDEO HERE: https://bibleway.org/believers-overcoming-crisis-india/



Updates From Around the World

DURING THE PANDEMIC

Believers



Believers Overcoming Crisis: Ethiopia

In this video, Brother Moges Engida of Ethiopia explains how the Believers are facing the situation, how the translation work goes on, and that the Church Ages Book is almost finished. At the time of this video, meetings had not been stopped, but now they are

stopped. Because of the lock-down, as needs arise, Bible Believers is helping as we can.

Remember these dear Saints and many others in poorer countries who are used to living on a mostly day to day basis earning income daily to buy food for their family. When the country orders them to stay home, it becomes almost impossible to have money to buy food. Yet in the midst of it all, we are hearing stories of people encouraging one another, praying, and receiving from Jehovah Jireh who is our provider.

The one who feeds the birds will also take care of His children.

Matthew 6:26

Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

SEE VIDEO HERE: https://bibleway.org/believers-overcoming-crisis-ethiopia/





Translation Complete



Bible Believers



nother milestone has been reached in the work of the Lord in Ethiopia.
The Exposition of the Seven Church Ages is now translated into Amharic, the national language of Ethiopia. Through the diligent work of the translators in Ethiopia, this great book, which was first published in 1965, is now available to the Bride of Jesus Christ located in the land of the Queen of Sheba. Individual chapters can be downloaded from www.messagehub.info and printed on a personal printer immediately. No one has to wait for a printed volume! The books can also be read online.

Additionally, the 25 tracts which are computer generated out of the Church Age Book have been published on the Message Hub and are available for immediate printing. The Believers in Ethiopia have greatly anticipated this work as they feel it will be a great benefit to the spread of the Message in their country. Although they are under isolation orders, as is most of the world, they anticipate the usage of these materials for much outreach once they can leave their homes. In the

meantime, they can avail themselves of this spiritual food in due season.

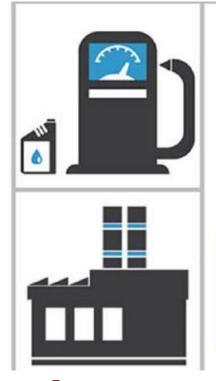
There are over 50 believers in Addis Ababa with many more scattered in groups around the country. Translation into Amharic, Afaan Oromo, and Tigrinya languages has been a focus as the Message of the Hour, a lifegiving resource for all peoples, must reach God's bride.

This labour is the culmination of a 12-month effort by Brother Assegid to make this book, along with the corresponding tracts, available to the Ethiopian people. In the May 2019 issue of the Believers' Faith Challenge Update, we announced that 25 witnessing tracts were now available for every language that has translated the Church Age Book. We are grateful for the effort of Brother Ken Andes in putting these tracts together, along with our technical staff in automating the process.

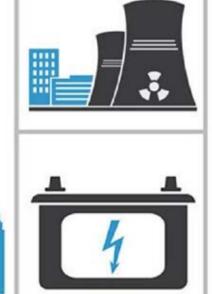
With your support, Bible Believers sponsors the outreach, translation and printing work in Ethiopia.



L-R (front): Bro Tim Dodd, Bro Moges, and Bro Assegid and his wife







The Missing Sector

Bro Mark Aho

n times of crisis the governments of the world prioritize those things theybelieve are most necessary to the health and prosperity of the generalsociety. As many people are in lockdown, unable to work, leave their homes, or gather with others, the "CriticalInfrastructure Sectors" are allowed to remain open, functioning, and attended to. How these sectors are chosen reveals much about the priorities of the world, what they consider important, and what they consider "expendable."

In the United States, 16 "Critical Infrastructure Sectors" are identified, and they are: 1. The Chemical Sector 2. The Communications Sector 3. The Dams Sector 4. The Emergency Services Sector 5. The Financial Services Sector 6. The Government Facilities Sector 7. The Information Technology Sector 8. The Transportation Systems Sector 9. The Commercial Facilities Sector 10. The Critical Manufacturing Sector 11. The Defense Industrial Base Sector 12. The Energy Sector 13. The Food and Agriculture Sector 14. The Healthcare and Public Health Sector 15. Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and WasteSector 16. The Water and Wastewater Systems Sector.

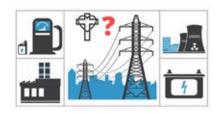
What is missing from this list is the most important sector of all, which is in fact the underpinning and foundation of them all: The SPIRITUAL sector. No sane person would deny the importance of attending to physical needs, for we are physical creatures. But from Genesis 3 onward we have learned that the physical creature is dying, and nothing can stop that. We are locked into mortal combat with a much worse disease than Corona Virus, or any of the other maladies that

may come and go. We are in combat with death itself—and there IS no cure—outside of the SPIRITUAL sector.

As many edicts around the world have forbidden gatherings for any purpose, they often specifically call out "spiritual purposes." Spiritual meetings are "expendable" in the light of the threat of a contagious virus. The world believes a vaccine will develop after a while, which will solve the problem. After all, it always has, for these flu type sicknesses.

In all ages, true Believers have been submissive to the God-ordained authorities, for this is the command of Scripture.

"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake." - Romans 13:1-5 (KJV)



The Missing Sector

hristians are not rebels. They take no joy from being controversial. But Christians are also admonished by Scripture to meet together, for their own Spiritual health and well-being, something which is NOT expendable.

"And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." - Hebrews 10:24-25

How these two very Biblical injunctions are to be balanced in this troublesome age is something that true Believers everywhere must very prayerfully consider. Many Believers are using electronic means to stay connected, and are reporting good results. The current pandemic is expected to be temporary. But the question we are probing is, for how long would this be a viable solution for Believers? If the command to not meet became permanent, would that be acceptable?

Already two religious leaders are in legal trouble for holding services and spreading the disease, and more may be coming. See these stories:

Pastor arrested for violating rules amid virus outbreak

South Korea seeks criminal charges against Christian sect over coronavirus spread

In the case of the South Korea sect, their meetings were considered directly responsible for spreading the Corona Virus. But why did they catch it? When God has truly led his people to act contrary to the Law of the Land, He protects them. When Moses came against Pharaoh, none of the plagues fell on Goshen, where the Israelites lived. (Exodus 9)

When Israel left Egypt, a promise of immunity from diseases came with obedience:

And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put NONE OF THESE DISEASES upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee. - Exodus 15:26

However, if they became disobedient, a curse of diseases came upon them:

The LORD will smite thee with the botch of Egypt, and with the emerods, and with the scab, and with the itch, whereof thou canst not be healed. - Deut 28:27

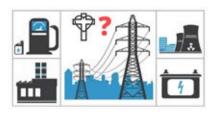
Immunity from disease was also the privilege of the Priests, who were commanded to examine lepers, and leprous houses. (Leviticus Chapters 13-14) Only when acting in this capacity could they be spared catching contagious and fatal diseases. Surely this put a great sobriety upon the priests, to be sure they were doing everything precisely according to the command of God, for their lives were at stake. But are not these things are types and shadows? Are we not facing the substance? If so, we ought to feel the same sobriety, and more so, for we also are in need of God's protection.

In our age, there are thousands of voices, all claiming to be the true people of God. Who can separate the claims from the reality?

What if a disease were to come along for which there were no cure, no vaccine, in spite of every attempt to find one? That situation is exactly what is coming; it is in the prophetic forecast for our age. In those conditions, with the world grasping in desperation for an answer, men may wish they had put a little more emphasis on the Spiritual Sector.

"We see thenewspapers, and the oncoming storm! Whenyou go home tonight, do me one favor, don't go to bed till you read Revelation, the 8th chapter. You see theoncoming plagues and storm that's to hit the earth, and thunders and lightningsare going to shake the heaven. Woes aregoing to pass over the nation. Man will rot in their flesh. Diseases willstrike them, the doctors know nothing about."

- The Oncoming Storm 60-0229 p 134



The Missing Sector

ome have assumed that these conditions only emerge in the Tribulation, after the Bride is gone in a rapture. In the opinion of the writer of this article, the exact timing is not so perfectly clear. There is a showdown coming, by which it will be proven who has power with God and who doesn't. Diseases with no cure would certainly make that case. Social distancing for a season wouldn't help that. The lockdown would have to be permanent, and the world can't survive with everyone living in individual caves. Men will start grasping for a spiritual answer. But it may well be too late.

The world has considered Spiritual things optional and unnecessary for too long. You can't build up overcoming faith in a day. Constructing a healthy spiritual life is a long-term process, perfected over a lifetime. A freeway or a bridge does not magically appear in a day. Neither does a healthy and mature spiritual walk with God, which empowers a person to face and overcome challenges that are insurmountable in the natural. Unless God supernaturally accelerates the process, this can only come from a steady investment in spiritual priorities over time.

I wonder if someday, a society, racked by the attack of a disease for which no cure can be found, will, instead of forbidding spiritual gatherings, encourage them? What if those who have invested in the Spiritual Sector are found to be the ONLY ones immune to the disease? I wonder if they will be begged and pleaded with to intervene with God for the deliverance of the rest of the world? God will have made his point: man's priorities have been fundamentally wrong all along.

A world without God can never prosper. It may muddle through for a while, andeven think it is doing ok. But without ahealthy Spiritual Sector, there are certain things it can never overcome. Godknows that, and He knows what those things are. In His providence He may allowthe incurable to come forth, to show that the

Genesis 3 problem has only one answer, and that is the Matthew 27 solution.

The problem is not the lack of resources, or water, or food, or defense, or vaccines for incurable viruses. The problem is sin in the human heart. That is at the root of it all, and the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross is the solution to it all—the ONLY solution.

More Stories:

Another Pastor Charged with Defying Corona virus
Orders Against Large Gatherings

71 infected with coronavirus at Sacramento church.
Congregation tells county 'leave us alone'

Article written by:



Bro Mark Aho

More from Bro Mark @ Secretwine.org





Mission Pakistan

Bro Matthan Gray

Greetings everybody!

rom March 4 to March 18, 2020, I had the opportunity to travel to Pakistan and meet in the flesh the brethren that we had been having Skype Bible study meetings with on a weekly basis for the past two years. The prayers of the saints were very much with me on this visit. From the beginning I witnessed God come on the scene when I arrived three minutes too late

for the checkingin of my bag on the domestic flight at New Plymouth airport. The woman responsible for the check-in procedures would not budge on the airports iron rule and so I missed my



flight to Auckland. However, by God's grace, whilst the passengers were boarding the flight that I would miss, a sister from our church entered the airport terminal with a trolley-load of bags. She had just arrived back home from overseas and was gracious enough to give me a cabin bag which I could transfer some of my luggage into. Then I caught another flight which was going to Wellington, and from Wellington I boarded a jet that flew me to Auckland where I could catch my flight to Islamabad in Pakistan (via Bali and Dubai).

After 19 hours of flying, I arrived in Islamabad and was collected by some brothers who took me to a place called Wah Cantt where I would spend about three days and preach six services (one of those services was in Rawalpindi). The Pakistani saints are very precious people whose way of welcoming and hospitality are something I will never forget. After the meetings there would be many varied prayer requests, especially from sisters that desired to have children. These people are earnest and sincere when you pray. They have such expectant and straightforward faith that God granted them many of their requests when various ministering brothers have visited and prayed for them in the past. Throughout my visit I was shown the children that were born as a result of the prayers of ministering brothers who had visited in the past. It was wonderful to see, but what was more excellent was the respect and reception the people had to the preaching of the Word, which was sometimes very direct and cutting.

On the Sunday afternoon of March 8, myself and brother Jabran (my interpreter) travelled by bus to Lahore which

is about five hours south of Wah Cantt. Brother Jabran is from Pakistan but now lives in the United Kingdom with his wife and family. He is also a minister and has been the main interpreter for the Skype meetings. It was really nice to meet him in the flesh too. He is a tremendous interpreter with a good understanding of the message and a man who can catch the vision of the preaching and express it to the Pakistani people in a way that they can understand.

I stayed in a guest house in Lahore, and from there we would travel various places to take the meetings that had been scheduled. Over those days we had nine meetings with churches/groups at various levels in the faith. The message has been in Pakistan a long time, but access to material is not abundant like what we enjoy in the West. Because of this, a lot of what we take for granted in the West is very fresh and exciting to the saints there. It was good to visit the different churches and not know anything about them; this meant that the preaching of the Word could take whatever turns were necessary without any inside information influencing the direction of the preaching. We were well received wherever we went and had a couple of small services with the village people who had been newly introduced to the message via one of the local pastors. These village meetings were held in corrals which are outdoor walled holding spaces for animals. The village people would lay mats on the ground and intently listen to the messages that were shared with them. It was like being hundreds of years in the past. An unforgettable time with those village people. Such respect and a thirst for the Word of God.

Between the meetings there were lots of times of fellowship. The Pakistani people constantly kept "pulling" on the Word, desiring to understand about many things that God has revealed in these last days. I think that the times of fellowship were the most special moments of the entire trip. The personal fellowship dealing with specific needs and the necessity of wisdom to answer the questions according to the situations faced by the people was essential in this type of work. I was very conscious that whatever I said the people would hold to, so it was important to make sure that every answer was tied to scripture and to what the prophet taught. This was something that was emphasized time and time again during the meetings, the absolute necessity for the people to read the Bible and read the message, so that the understanding and spiritual growth of the people would be pure

and gun-barrel straight.



Mission Pakistan

Bro Matthan Gray

•he Friday and Saturday of March 13 and March 14 were days of minister meetings. It was good that these meetings were at the end of the trip because it had given me time to observe the general condition of the churches and the ministries etcetera in order to know the approach to take when speaking to the brothers who would be gathered.

The specific thrust of the meetings was to explain about the responsibilities and anointings of the fivefold ministry as well as addressing the various offices of the church and the importance of encouraging and utilizing the gifts in the local body of each church assembly. The feedback of the ministers was positive, with a general agreement that there had been too much politics and not enough attention given to see a people built-up into the image of Jesus Christ.

There were minister discussions between the meetings and at the end of the meetings. Being surrounded by so many brothers with a fervent, unwavering desire to understand more about the things of God was quite a unique experience. Again, much wisdom was needed to accurately answer the brothers with balance and an understanding of the situations they were facing. I thank God for the experiences He has put me through in my life and for the things that He has shown me in the Word, for such things were of immense value during those minister meetings. At the conclusion of the meetings, whilst we were eating dinner, there was a breaking news broadcast from the Pakistani government stating that from the next day, no more public gatherings would be allowed due to COVID-19. I went back to my accommodation that night and marveled how that God let us finish all of our meetings before the broadcast was given.

The next day, with no more meetings, we had a great time of fellowship in the evening with some brothers who had gathered at the home of one of the deacons. This was a time to just share and draw from the things God has allowed me to go through in life. Again, this time of fellowship in a humble home was numbered amongst the most memorable moments of the trip, to see brothers encouraged and helped as the Lord would direct me to speak. I was very conscious of God ordaining my footsteps in this visit, and was especially aware of the prayers of the saints that were going up before God continually. To all who prayed, may God bless you. All those prayers reached the Throne.

The guest house in Lahore was operated by

denominational people, and during my stay there I was able to join some of them for a morning devotion and have times of fellowship with two ministers. They had such respect and graciously listened and welcomed the things that I shared with them. One of the ministers (a pastor) is active among the Muslim people and has led some of them to Christ. He invited me to visit these people, but due to our busy schedule I was not able to do so. He is a firm believer that the Gospel is not just for Pakistanis whose families have been Christian for generations, but is for the Muslims too, and of that I whole-heartedly agree. God willing, next time I would like to meet those Muslim people who are "underground converts" to Christianity and share the message to them. It is extremely dangerous for a Muslim to convert to Christianity. The churches I visited were not underground but were composed of people who come from families that have been Christian for generations.

Since arriving back in New Zealand, I felt the need to see the acceleration of the translation work in Pakistan. At present the nation only has about 130 message books in the Urdu language. Having visited the nation and become acquainted with the people, I was able to source the various skills of translators, typists and proofreaders to build a team responsible for furthering the translation effort in Pakistan. God has allowed us to achieve so much in the space of just over one month since arriving home, with the first messages approaching ever closer to the printing press and being made available for download.

Pakistan was a trip ordained by God and overseen by God. The Pakistani saints are a very special people whose generosity, hospitality, appreciation and love for the message will not be forgotten. Please remember these people and the translation work in your prayers.

God bless you all.





Return.

1.I know you think God doesn't see, He really, truly does, The little sins that eat away That break down love & trust 2. Will take you further than you meant To go, but still you fell And while you think that no one knows God sees & bids me tell, 3. That He is waiting, arms out spread To save from Hell that burns The fire's hotter, horror's real, He's simply saying - "Return". 4. It's not His will that any burn It's where the sin will go Default setting, keeps Heaven pure That's why it must be so. 5. His real will is Heaven's home For you & all His saints Just rest in Jesus' saving grace The picture that He paints.

