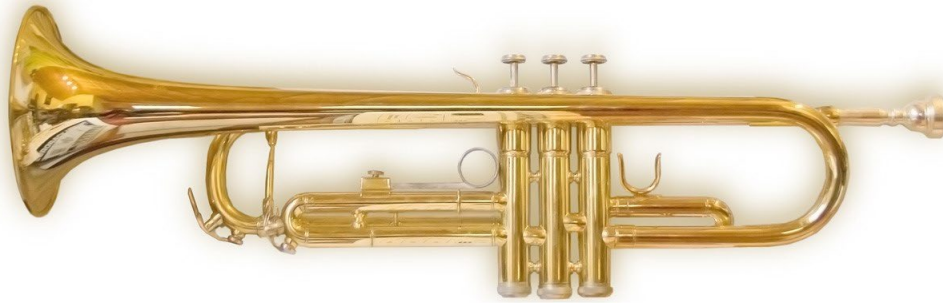
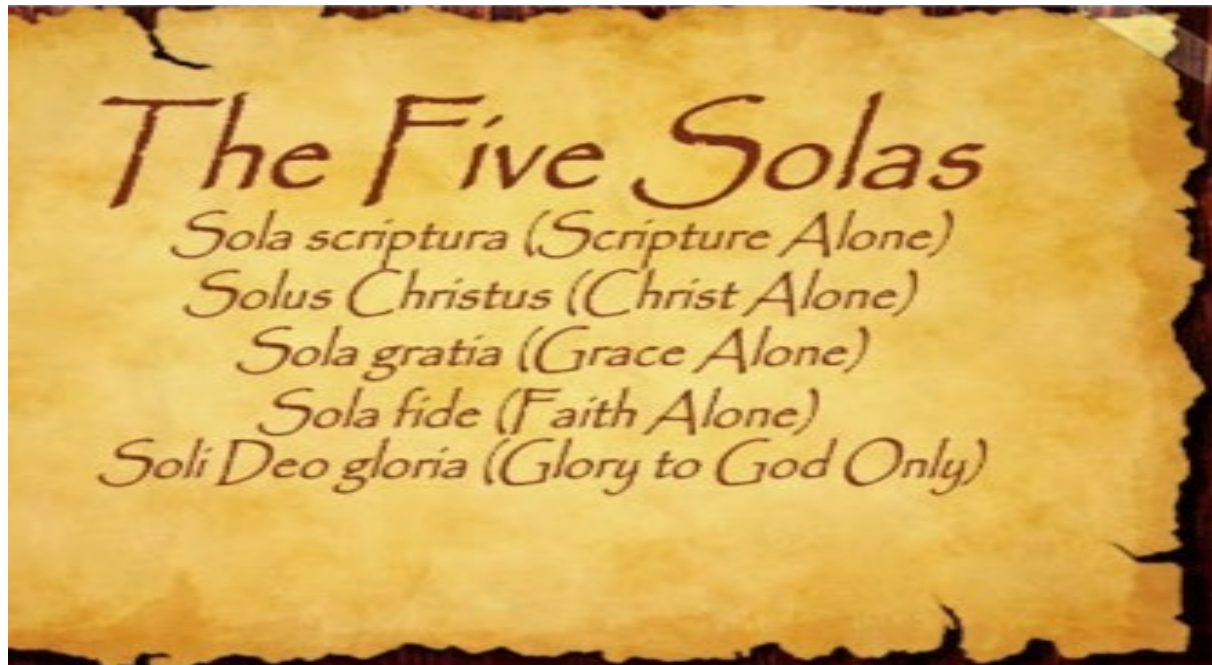


PROTESTANT REVEILLE



**FOR THE WORD OF GOD, AND FOR THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS CHRIST
REVELATION 1V9**



PROTESTANT ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

FOUNDED 1925.

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers

Easter during the Protestant Association's Centenary year, is a fitting time to feature the first mission station in South Africa, the Moravian's Genadendal in the Western Cape. A portrayal of our Lord's suffering as the Passover Lamb of God for our sins, arrested young Count Nicholas von Zinzendorf's attention, and set him on a course that influenced mankind for good, "Jesus, Still Lead On", his rallying hymn for guidance. One pioneer Moravian missionary, Georg Schmidt, sowed the Seed of the Word of God, the Bible, in S.A. and planted a foothold still bearing fruit. The Protestant Association, founded in 1925, remembers all who have served the Lord in Africa, and salutes their labours, including the names synonymous with its own ministry, specifically U.K. born Rev. A. H. Jeffrey James, our staff, Council, and it's benefactors, such as A.W. Baker.

A FORM OF GODLINESS

We are all on the edge of eternity, a heartbeat and breath away from death's threshold! Most vital is the question to each of us, How can a sinful person be justified with God? Job 25V4: "This was the great fundamental distinguishing doctrine of the Reformation, and was regarded by all the Reformers as of primary and paramount importance". On Justification, by William Cunningham (1805-1861), Historical Theology. Principal of New College, Edinburgh. Justification by faith alone counts in Heaven, which saves Christians from trying to get there via man-made forms of godliness, such as Rome's Vatican "tollgate", claiming a monopoly on human salvation, by showing the token of an ecclesiastical Caesar's inscription. The Gospel proclaims our acceptance only in Jesus: cleansed by His Blood, the Lamb of God.

CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME

Jim Figgis resided in Scotland, where he hosted Angus Buchan twice. Jim was of Irish and English descent: and was recently promoted to glory, and is now with his Lord. Due to ill health, he gave up his directorship of the Society for Protection of Africa's Children (S.P.A.C.), and logistical support of C.R.M. mission in Africa and India, which he visited regularly. We pray for Jim's widow, Helen, and family, and that his worthy vision will be continued. Matthew 25V40.

Charity begins at home: as previously mentioned, the Reformed "Dopper Kerk", GKSA's (TSP), Theological School of Potchefstroom's rector, Prof. Henk Stoker, has pointed out a need for young ministerial trainees' tuition financial needs. Reveille will connect directly any who are led of the Lord to help this solid institution, or who want to study for missions and ministry.

With the continued erosion of the Christian Faith's influence in many areas, including education, the Bela Bill has the potential to control schooling, as the humanistic WOKE agenda unfolds. It is all un-African! A faithful brother minister once wrote on a denominational chat group:

"Unfortunately I am a village boy from Gopane in Zeerust and Kraaipan in Mahikeng (old Mafikeng). I do not know all these things". Rev. O. M. on same sex marriages:

REVEILLE EASTER 2025 EDITION

We pray on for our President and all in authority, that they will not promote that which will undermine our nation's need of righteousness and justice, e.g. the tide of evil poison being dumped on Africa's shores! Christians note the anarchists within our borders, including those ranting against our citizens, and ongoing intimidation of farming communities and farm-workers.

"The strength of a nation lies in its homes".

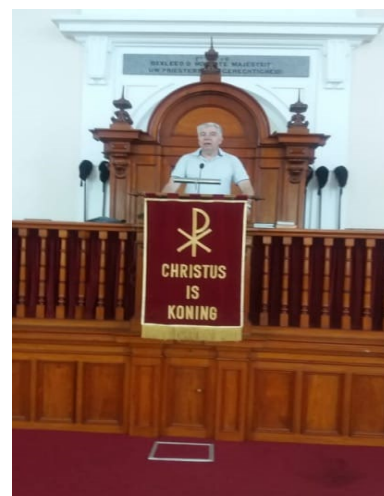
President Abraham Lincoln.

ANASTASIS - JESUS IS RISEN!

In Jesus

Craig.

Always on the winning side.



"It will take all our learning to make things plain."

Archbishop James Ussher of Ireland to John Brown of Haddington, Scotland.

THE SPIRIT OF HAMAN - OR OF HATACH? (Esther 3V8 F & 4V5 F)

The deadly rise of anti-Semitism against the Jewish community is of deep concern, with nursery children, sports, and synagogues, targeted abroad. This is not just referring to the barbaric Hamas genocidal terror attack on Israeli families, and hostages taken. Our government was party to a legal action against Israel, without a mandate from the electorate; a travesty of justice, partiality, i.e. one-sided, which will haunt us. This move emboldened certain within our borders, now more vociferous in their hate for Israel. In this volatile time, does Hamas reflect the spirit of Haman, and should it not rather seek peace to build a lasting security with neighbours?

Our Lord said that "salvation is of the Jews", John 4V22; though blindness in part is happened to Israel, "they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the father's sakes", the apostle Paul in Roman's 11V28. Not without sin, but needy of prayer too.

"This passage, I believe, refers literally to the conversion of God's ancient people". Robert Murray M'Cheyne on Isaiah 26V16 - 19. "he regarded prophecies as history yet to be". Dr. Andrew Bonar.

Our majority Christian population is not uniform in its thinking about the the Middle East conflict, the State of Israel in Biblical prophecy, the age old land issue, but deplores all loss of life in the "tough neighbourhood". No doubt Gaza felt the greater fury of the military reaction, sadly many innocents were caught up in the fray. We mourn over the outcome, and scarred ordinary people, and hurt creatures. I wonder what the Lord thinks of the unspeakable trauma suffered all round.

Seemingly forgotten is the Christian Arab population in surrounding Islamic nations, which faces increasing persecution. Christianity consists mainly of Gentiles, though it is of Jewish roots, the fulfilment of Judaism in its Messiah, Christ, and yet it allows freedom of religion. Why cannot the other religions or ideologies grant us liberty of worship; except the fear that Jesus' love for both Jew and Gentile, conquers, as the Holy Spirit convicts hard hearts? Roman's 8V37.

AFRICA HOSTED THE LORD

Africa was a refuge for the early Hebrews in Egypt, until a Pharaoh arose who did not know Joseph, ultimately leading to the Exodus. Centuries later, the infant Jesus was taken by Joseph and Mary into Egypt, to escape Herod's bloodthirsty rage and infanticide. We must not be allied to any who threaten the ancient people of God, nor for that matter any vulnerable person, including the "stranger", foreign exiles, who legally come to S.A. in peace. Leviticus 19V33 - 34. Is it a dream that the Middle East, and the whole world will one day, worship the Prince of Peace, and that every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God our Father? It is indeed true, that the labour of love missions such as Middle East Christian Outreach (MECO), sharing the love of Jesus to the Arabs of the region, will be crowned; as wealthy and gentle William Borden of Yale (1887 - 1913) once yearned for, but was cut down young by meningitis.! Philippians 2V10 - 11. Dr. Samuel Marinus Zwemer, an American nicknamed The Apostle to Islam, mentored Borden's missionary and language training in Egypt:

*"I just want say right now that any day in which work is not done for Christ is wasted".
William Borden of Yale,
who entered Heaven at 25 years of age.*

Give us such a heart, stretched by Thy unconditional love: which commands all people to repent, and to believe, Lord God; may Jew and Gentile meet at the Cross, the common salvation. Amen!

Craig Hounsom.

*"Take care of His cause, and He will take care of your interests; look after His glory, and He will look after your comfort."
Dr. John "Rabbi" Duncan of Scotland to Rev. William C. Burns.*

FIFTY YEARS OF BRINGING HOPE TO AFRICA

Trans World Radio (TWR)

In 1974, South Africa's Apartheid era was under attack, Muhammad Ali knocked out George Foreman in Zaire's "Rumble in the Jungle," and a skeleton given the name "Lucy" was discovered in Ethiopia's Afar Depression. *Blazing Saddles* and *Young Frankenstein* were box office hits; Billy Joel, Lynyrd Skynyrd and ABBA were among the top pop artists.

And, beginning on Nov. 1, tens of millions of Africans across sub-Saharan Africa were able to hear a new voice, a voice of hope, from TWR (Trans World Radio).

Many things change in 50 years. Apartheid is long gone; today's heavyweight champion is from Ukraine; movies are dominated by superheroes and pop music by Taylor Swift; and Zaire is known today as the Democratic Republic of Congo. TWR was broadcasting then as now from near the city of Manzini, but now that city is in Eswatini, not Swaziland.

More than ever, though, TWR Africa is proclaiming hope through the air, on the ground, in more than 70 languages, and across borders.

“Thank you, TWR, for bringing us broadcasts that are powerful and are restoring lives, giving people hope,” a listener to the English-language *Running to Win* in Zimbabwe texted in February 2024.

With a choir, English hand bell music, prayer, speeches and – of course – a festive meal, the TWR Africa family celebrated its 50th anniversary on Nov. 1, 2024, the exact anniversary of the first broadcast.

‘From the grassroots’

It is a ministry that has endured, in part, because of TWR’s respect for the culture of Africa, said Branko Bjelajac, a TWR ministry vice president whose responsibilities have included Africa since 2016.

“We are not a colonial mission,” Bjelajac explained. “We do not come to introduce our view of this world and our view of how the local church should look. ... But we actually like to see the growth from the grassroots of the country.”

The frontline work is done through 15 partner ministries across Africa. As an organization, TWR provides resources and expertise, continually upgrading and expanding so that more people can hear the gospel in their heart languages, and by the means that is most familiar and available to them.

In a continent as huge, as fast-developing and as diverse as Africa, that can be a lot to manage.

“We are trying to reach the digital audience,” Bjelajac said. “We are trying to ... nurture our FM stations. The same with the medium-wave stations, [and] especially the shortwave stations. Africa is one of the rare continents where the shortwave broadcast is still in full scope, because of the distances, because of the shortage of infrastructure.”

Reaching the West

Perhaps the greatest development since the original transmitters went live in Eswatini was the start of the West Africa Transmitting Station, adding tens of millions more potential listeners, including in Africa’s most populous nation, Nigeria. The first broadcast was on Feb. 1, 2008.

Much of the region is a “Muslim zone,” said the Rev. Dr. Abdoulaye Sangho, TWR’s international director for West and Central Africa. But as long as the message is heard, there is hope.

“I’m encouraged by the fact that when the message is aired or broadcast [and] when the distribution is done, people accept Jesus and we get conversions in the area,” he said.

The way the message of hope in Jesus is conveyed must change with a new generation, Bjelajac said. That’s particularly true in a continent in which the population is so young.

Africa is the youngest continent in terms of the ages of its people, he said. In sub-Saharan Africa, 46% of the population is younger than 14.

“So, the message of Jesus, the teaching from the Bible remains, and TWR is in that respect, I think, well-recognized,” Bjelajac said. “But we change technology. We were shortwave and longwave. Now we are medium wave. We are FM. We are on phones. We are on the apps. We have satellite radio.”

Over 50 years, with leaders such as the late Stephen Boakye-Yiadom, Abdoulaye Sangho and Victor Kaonga, international director for East and Southern Africa, TWR has built up what Bjelajac calls a “good history and credit line” in the continent.

“I think we have a very good position to actually try to reach these young people ... and provide for them the message of the gospel,” Bjelajac said. “Because we are a media organization, but salvation comes one at a time, one person at a time.

“So no matter how many millions of listeners we have, the Lord and the angels sing for one person who has found Jesus today. And that is our goal.”



Submitted by Dr. Ben Booyens.

“Never doubt in the dark what God has told you in the daylight.”

Dr. V. Raymond Edman, Wheaton College USA to Paul Freed TWR Pioneer.

A SHANGAAN YOUTH’S DYING WORDS

While I am here just give me a few minutes to tell you a wonderful story,” and went on to relate the story a young policeman had told me, of a triumphant death of a Shangaan lad in the distributing compound of the Workers’ Labour Association, in Johannesburg.

This is the story: “As I was leaving the compound after my Sunday afternoon’s open-air services, the Zulu gatekeeper stopped me with the remark, ‘ Teacher, I want to tell you about a wonderful thing I saw yesterday in one of the hospital wards here.’

“I said: ‘What was this wonderful thing?’

“He replied, ‘ It was the death of a Shangaan youth.’

“‘Why!’ said I ‘hundreds of Shangaans die almost yearly along these reefs. Could it be a wonderful thing to see *one* Shangaan die?’

“Said he: ‘It was the most wonderful thing I have seen in my life!’

“‘Describe it to me,’ I replied.

“‘When I walked into that room, the beds were all empty save one. The occupants were outside warming themselves in the sunshine. On that one bed lay this youth. His eyes were closed, but there was a smile on his face, and he was talking in a low tone, as if conversing with a companion. Wondering as to whom he might be

REVEILLE EASTER 2025 EDITION

addressing I looked round the room, but there was no other person there. Just then, however, in walked the Compound Manager, with the doctor and his assistant. Addressing the patient, the manager said:

“Young man, the doctor says you will not see the sun set to-day; you are dying. What do you wish me to do with the money you committed to my care?”

“The patient raised himself upon one elbow, and holding up his other arm (with the hand expanded towards the speaker), he said: ‘Sh! Sh! White men, do not interrupt me! No, not even about money matters. I have no further concern about money. I am talking to my Lord Jesus Christ. Distribute the money as you please!’

“And then, assuming a sitting position, his face shining as he looked up, he said: Yes, Lord Jesus, I am coming,’ and repeating those words as he sank back on to his pillow, he passed away. Sir, that day I understood what a blessed thing it is to be a Believer. Far away from home and friends, in a strange land, and with death creeping over him, he had no fear, and saw his Lord coming for him.’

TAKEN FROM GRACE TRIUMPHANT – A.W. BAKER (Born 1856).



“Firstly, careful, sensitive handling of excited crowds reaction in Kigezi, at Gahini, with a strong emphasis on Christ-centred assurance and growth, let a potential spirit cult into a genuinely Gospel centred movement.”

Simon Barrington-Ward, CMS, Quest For The Highest, Dr Joe Church.

GENADENDAL-VALLEY OF GRACE, VISION, AND HOPE

“The beginning of a future that has not arrived.”

T. Vos Sabinet African Journals

Zinzendorf-The Rich Young Ruler Who Said Yes! (Refer Luke 19V18 – 25).

A young German nobleman, Count Nicholas von Zinzendorf (1700 -1760), loved the Lord, yet a visit to a Dusseldorf Art Museum turned his life upside down, when he stood face to face with a thorn-crowned Christ's anguished and bloodstained face; viz. artist Domenica Feti's painting Ecce Homo, "Behold the Man"!

Underneath was the soul-searching question:

"This I have done for you; what have you done for Me?"

The Count had been summoned by God to live for Him, and he did not hesitate in giving his life back to the One who loved His own to the end, not-withstanding the unknown cost.

MORAVIAN HERRNUT PIONEER PROTESTANT MISSIONS

Moravian families, because of proto (pre) Potestant Biblical convictions, fled persecution in Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia. The light of faith handed down to their forebears, Unitras Fratrum, 1457 (Unity of the Brethren), fired by the Pre-Reformers, 2 martyrs, John Huss (Jan Hus 1369 - 1415) and Jerome of Prague (1379 - 1416); Peter Chelchiky (1390 - 1460) a pacifist, Czechs influenced by Englishman, John Wycliffe (+ - 1330 - 1384), and others of whom the world was not worthy, later found a sympathetic heart in this godly Lutheran patron, Count Zinzendorf; and thus relocated to his Hernutt estate in Saxony, Germany about 1722.

Influenced by the Pietism of Lutherans Spener's book *Pia Desiderea* (1675) and Francke's Halle orphanage movement, the ruler's ideals, now elevated by Christ's constraining love, utilized his domain as a refuge for them. Hernutt, means the Lord's watchful care and protection, the hill of watching; and from "the little village that changed the world", the Word of Life, went out in the Gospel: One body, and one Spirit...; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all: a gracious levelling of poor and rich, illiterate and educated, without colour bar, Ephesians 4V4 – 6. The Moravians "affirmed (asserted rights of) ordinary people", as the apostles taught.



"I have one passion, it is Jesus, Jesus only!" Zinzendorf, the Moravian visionary's "theology of the heart", truly Holy Spirit led in "God's happy people", by their simplicity of spirit and faith.

When a life is set at the disposal of the Lord, it will bear eternal fruits, some yielding more, and others less. From Hernutt, the Moravian mission pioneered Protestant missionary societies, well before William Carey, the U.K. "father of modern missions", went to India with the Baptist Missionary Society in 1792 and sowed the Seed abroad. The Moravians included taking on the cruel yoke of slavery to be all things to all men, and thus reach the slaves at their own level; pioneering cross-cultural missionary activity, using greeting terms of "brother" or "sister", a handclasp, handshake, as the right hand of fellowship showing oneness in Christ: "Joseph, a Mohican (American Indian), Departed July 21st, 1746". Bethlehem, U.S.A. Moravian graveyard, called God's Acre. 'Wow, so few words-but what a story".

Dean Taylor.



GENADENDAL - VALLEY OF GRACE, VISION, AND HOPE.

Though the Moravians are best known for their calm composure on an Atlantic storm tossed ship to North America, which proved to be a rebuke to John and Charles Wesley's fearfulness, then both highly religious Anglicans, but without a personal living faith in the One who once stilled the Galilee storm, the planting of the first formally constituted mission in South Africa at Genadendal, meaning Valley of Grace, so named by Governor Janssens in 1806, known previously as Baviaanskloof, Ravine of the Baboons, is relatively unknown even to many local Christians. In 1995 President Mandela, a Methodist, changed his official residence's name from Westbrooke, to Genadendal, after Dr. Isaac Balie's letter to him provoked a visit to the mission.

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Georg Schmidt (1709 - 1785), a German Moravian missionary, formerly a butcher's apprentice, and prepared by extreme prison suffering for the faith, arrived at the Cape of Good Hope in July 1737, and founded what is now known as Genadendal amongst the Khoi tribe on the 23rd April 1738, which is about 5km before the present Greyton on the R406, below the Sonderend mountain range. Nearby is the Sonderend river, meaning river without end, as it joins with, and becomes a tributary of the Breede River near Swellendam, significant in its regional benefits. The early community's firm rule was to consist only of followers of Jesus, and His apostles!



THE PEAR TREE BLOSSOMS - under which Magdalena read the Bible & prayed for 50 years. The establishment of the historic mission has its symbol in the noble Moravian logos of the Divine Lamb; and the planting of the Pear Tree in 1738 by Schmidt, is featured in a book of that name by Bernhard Kruger. Schmidt faced opposition from the Reformed "predikants" (ministers), and the Acting Governor, D. van Henghel, who wanted him to leave the country! Schmidt's ordination credentials were undermined, yet he undertook to teach the Khoi to read, yet with a far deeper end in view, albeit his little flocks' erratic behavior. But, sanctified love conquers:

"...do not tell the locals anything, but that there is a Saviour, who died out of love for all men...If they show signs of belief in Jesus, they may be baptised into the death of Christ, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost". First Bishop David Nitschmann (1676 - 1758).



In a letter of encouragement to Schmidt, Zinzendorf, himself, closed his letter with a hymn as a prayer of protection and favour. By baptising his few Khoi converts, Schmidt put them as equal with the settlers before God, noted author Kruger, which thus brought about persecution. The first teachers training college in South Africa was built at Genadendal in 1838, and today stands: the Emil Weder High School, L.R. Schmidt Moravian Primary School, a museum and mission complex, centre piece, the historic church still looms tall: The Moravian's first Protestant hymnal sung within its walls, one of S.A.'s earliest printing presses, the first to print music.

The Pear Tree died in a storm a century later, and sprung up a new shoot, then again...the story is not ended, the act of faith will still yield more "fruit" in time, if the Bible, the Word of God, truth's kernel, is not choked by a shell of compromised modern neo-ecumemism, poisonous interfaith.

"In distant Europe oft I've longed to see... the patriarch Schmidt's old consecrated tree.."

The Scottish poet Thomas Pringle in a sonnet.

Whereas Robert Moffat, the Scot of Kuruman and David Livingstone fame, a former Cheshire garden overseer, felt a **"holy envy"**, of Schmidt's name being associated with that Pear Tree.



FAREWELL

Schmidt left the Cape in 1742 after a relatively short stay, his work done in laying a foothold there, saying if he was chased away he would flee to another city, as Jesus commanded:

"Preach the Gospel, die, and be forgotten." Mission anthem ascribed to Zinzendorf.

All this I have done for you; What have you done for Me, is for each one of us to answer?

VALLEY OF GRACE FOR MANKIND - not of works lest any shall boast.

VALLEY OF VISION IN AN AIMLESS WORLD - young see visions...old dream dreams.

VALLEY OF HOPE WHEN HOPE HAS DIED - by the Holy Spirit abound in hope.

"I am destined by the Lord to proclaim the message of the Death and Blood of Jesus, not with human wisdom but with Divine power." Count Nicholas van Zinzendorf.

Craig Hounsom, stirred by having just visited Genadendal with my wife, "Meisie", Esme.

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The Pear Tree Blossoms Bernhard Kruger. Refer Vehettge Tikkuie's testimony (Magdalena).

Dispatches from the Shadowlands Don Stephens

History of the Moravians J.E. Hutton on Christian David, carpenter, "the Lord's servant", Hernutt.

What is the Moravian Church? Got Questions.

The Moravians by Dean Taylor Ephrates Ministries, on this "treasure trove of mission history".

"From the desire of being great, good Lord deliver us." Moravian prayer.



AN UNWANTED TESTIMONY

THE LIFE OF ARTHUR W. PINK

I had a very striking demonstration of that some years ago in the city of Oakland, California. One Sunday night a man of some fifty years of age met me at the door of the tent where I had been for eighteen weeks for six nights a week. He asked if he might be allowed to give his testimony on the platform, and I said, 'No!' 'But' he said, 'I have got a real testimony that I want to give.' 'Well,' I said, 'I don't believe in testimonies.' 'Well,' he said, 'won't you give me chance to let the people know that God saved me?' 'Oh,' I said, 'that is a different matter, Yes!'

So that night before I began preaching, he stood up and he said, 'Men and women, I am a Roman Catholic. I was a private secretary to the Cardinal in San Francisco and I had never read a chapter of the Bible and heard the gospel preached until two weeks ago last Thursday. I was passing down the street and I saw the tent, which I thought was a circus, and so I made for it; and just as I got in the tent



door I saw Dr Pink on the platform and something gripped me and just shoved me in. That night for the first time I heard the gospel preached, and right on the spot God saved me.' I said, 'Will you just mention again brother, the night?' He said, 'It was two weeks ago last Thursday.' And I thought to myself, well the man has got that wrong. I said, 'Are you sure?' He said, 'Yes, of course I am!'

And after the meeting was over (it showed my skepticism and how man wants to limit God) I said to him, 'What on earth was there in that sermon that could save you? Why, that particular night was a thanksgiving service and I preached for a whole hour on praising God and there wasn't a word of the Gospel in it, there wasn't a word about hell in it, there wasn't anything about sin in it, there wasn't anything about the Cross in it. What was there in that sermon to save you?'



You see I was silly enough to think that God could not save a man who had never heard the Gospel, except by a Gospel sermon, and I was preaching from Hebrews 13:15, 'By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name', and all through I was exhorting Christians to be praising God. 'Why,' he said 'Dr Pink, I will tell you. As I listened to that sermon, the Spirit of God just struck conviction into my heart by reminding me that I had never praised God and what a terrible sinner I must be!'

Ah, there is the sovereignty of God! God is sovereign in the very texts that he uses.

DOCTRINE OR DIE!

During the last two or three generations the pulpit has given less and less prominence to doctrinal preaching, until today, with very rare exceptions, it has no place at all. In some quarters the cry from the pew was, We want living experience and not dry doctrine ; in others, We need practical sermons and not metaphysical dogmas; and yet other, Give us Christ and not theology. Sad to say, such senseless cries were generally heeded: ‘senseless’ we say, for there is no other safe way of *testing* experience, as there is no *foundation* for practicals to built upon, if they be divorced from Scriptural doctrine; while Christ cannot be known unless He be preached (1 Cor. 1V23), and He certainly cannot be ‘preached’ if doctrine is shelved. Various reasons may be given for the lamentable failure of the pulpit, chief among them being laziness, desire for popularity, superficial and lop-sided ‘evangelism’, love of the sensational.

Laziness

It is a far more exacting task, one which calls for much closer confinement in the study, to prepare a series of sermons on say the doctrine of justification, than it does to make addresses on prayer, missions, or personal-work. It demands a far wider acquaintance with the Scriptures, a more rigid disciplining of the mind, and a more extensive perusal of the older writers. But this was too exacting for most of the ministers, and so they chose the line of least resistance and followed an easier course. It is because of his proneness to this weakness that the minister is particularly exhorted, ‘Give attendance to reading...take heed unto thyself and unto the doctrine: continue in them’ (1 Tim. 4V13,16); and again, ‘Study to show thyself approved unto God, a *workman* that needeth not to be ashamed’ (2 Tim 2V15).

Desire for popularity

It is natural that the preacher should wish to please his hearers, but it is spiritual for him to desire and aim at the approbation of God. Nor can any man serve two masters. As the apostle declared, ‘For if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ’ (Gal. 1V10): solemn words are those! How they condemn them whose chief aim is to preach to crowded churches. Yet what grace it requires to swim against the tide of public opinion, and preach that which is unacceptable to the natural man. But on the other hand, how fearful will be the doom of those who, from a determination to curry favour with men, deliberately withheld those portions of the truth most needed by their hearers. ‘Ye shall not add unto the Word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it’ (Deut. 4V2). O to be able to say with Paul, ‘I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you ... I am pure from the blood of all’ (Acts 20V20,26).

A superficial and lop-sided ‘evangelism’

Many of the pulpiteers of the past fifty years acted as though the first and last object of their calling was the salvation of souls, everything being made to bend to that aim. In consequence, the feeding of the sheep, the maintaining of a Scriptural piety, was crowded out; and only too often all sorts of worldly devices and fleshly methods were employed under the plea that the end justified the means; and thus the churches were filled with unregenerate members. In reality such men defeated their own aim. The hard heart must be ploughed and harrowed before it can be receptive to the Gospel seed.

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Doctrinal instruction must be given on the character of God, the requirements of his Law, the nature and heinousness of sin, if a foundation is to be laid for true evangelism. It is useless to preach Christ unto souls until they see and feel their desperate need of Him. The Life of A.W. Pink, Iain H. Murray.

December 1939.

“The Scriptures explain themselves.”

A.W. Pink’s dying words, Isle of Lewis, Hebrides, Scotland.

THREE UNIQUE LADIES OF FAITH IN GOD.

"I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me... Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My Brethren, you did it unto Me".

Matthew 25V34 – 40.



FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE (1820 – 1910)

The Lady With The Lamp.

Florence Nightingale was born in Florence, Italy, the same year that the 1820 British Settlers landed in the Cape Colony, the Eastern Cape of South Africa. Her parents were from the United Kingdom, and members of the Church of England. There was a strong Unitarian family legacy, which does not hold to the Trinity, that the One God is three Persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is allied to the heresy of Arius (256 - 336). Happily, her paternal surviving grandmother was fiercely low-church (of England) Evangelical, and other influences, less the Congregational's, than the Methodist's, ultimately gave her the eternal vision:

"She singlehandedly revolutionized the field of nursing, a mission that began with a call to God's service at the age 17 years."

Her single-mindedness in life, partly shaped by her Crimean War nursing preparation, reaching out to the wounded and ill, lamp in hand, opening windows, and promoting hygiene, has helped the lasting perception of Florence Nightingale as founder of modern nursing, collector of statistics leader, data for medical records, and social reformer in reaching out to the needy. She tended to think that miracles were not to be expected now, making God somewhat remote. Though the Christian Faith maintains the need of means at hand, it yet never rules out the role of the Divine in medical recovery: man's extremity is God's opportunity. She held that Dr. David Livingstone was the greatest man of his generation. C.H. Spurgeon, wrote to her from his home at Nightingale Lane, Clapham, London, promising support for her efforts in finding applicants for the Nightingale nursing school. There was certainly no lack of sound Christian influence: "Life is a shallow thing...if it lacks depth of religion...If we have not true religious feeling and purpose, life...becomes a mere routine and bustle...Our work must be the first thing, but God must be in it...Life is a prayer". Florence Nightingale, her life's texts' Exodus 33V18, a thirst for God's glory; and Luke 1V38, as a handmaid, submissive servant of the Lord, lowly in service. Editor: Dedicated to all Christian medical staff and missionaries down the years.

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DORIS MKIHZE

The Lady with the isiZulu and English speaking Bibles.

During my 7 year ministry chapter back in my beautiful and bounteous home province, KwaZulu-Natal, it was enlightening to meet a Zulu woman of God based in the church complex, a "Bible Woman". In her pastoral Bible study ministry to women, Doris Mkihze uses an "isiZulu speaking Bible" for her own people, and an English edition for the women from Zimbabwe and Sudan. The scope of her love is a lesson to the diverse peoples and cultures of this verdant continent, Africa.

MY TESTIMONY

My name is Doris, Zulu name is Nonhlanhla. I was born in Pietermaritzburg, and I grew up at Mid-Illovo, my mother was single, and my granny looked after me. And every Sunday she took me to Sunday School. I still remember at Sunday School no one was telling us about Jesus. In 1992 someone shared story about love of Jesus, and he explained about born again, and salvation of Christ, John 3V5, Roman's 10V9. The Lord touched my heart, and I received Jesus in my heart.

1998 the Lord opened the Bible study door at the female prison. 2004 I went to the Union Bible Institute (Sweetwaters), to study Theology up until 2006. And in 2008 I started to work with city women from Zimbabwe and Sudan (life skills in sewing, handcraft, like Dorcas of old.)



N.B Edited script of pastor Doris, who points out that her one Bible study message at the prison, was about calling, and that God gives one a personal message, In her call from Him it was 1 John 4V8, and pointing out the minor prophet, Jonah, his message was Jonah 3V4, entailing walking through the city of Nineveh. This has been the case in many servants of the Lord's lives. Aptly described as a Bible Woman, this humble servant of Jesus has spiritual insight and discretion that no human learning can provide. In the current striving for academic accreditation, has the Church lost its power to reach the hearts of desparate sinners, looking for help from above? Needed, is a real person in a real world in real need, armed with a real Remedy, Jesus!

"Let brotherly love continue."

**"Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have entertained angels unawares".
Hebrews 13V1-2.**

The encouragement I have received, when needed, is often from unknown servants of the Lord. "Rev. Craig, well said, the church has delegated its spiritual responsibility and convictions to an elite group who don't have community accountability. The very same group is unable to account for social ills that have become our media of instruction". M.G.S. Editor.

***"active, buoyant, all life motion, the glad sunshine and bright angel of the house."
Said of Elizabeth Burns mother of William Chalmers Burns.***

DR. HENRIETTA KLAASING

The Lady With The "Pen" Of True Grit - S.A. "Mother In Israel."

I first heard of Dr. Henrietta Klaasing, then of Groblersdal, through the late N.G.K. Ds. Danie du Plessis of the Cape Study Group, and told about her continued faithfulness in the church denomination she belongs to, the Dutch Reformed Church (N.G.K.); albeit her strong stance. In an age of the user-friendly Gospel congregation planting, brand building, and empire growing, on the one hand, and on the other, certain of the old main-stream Protestant churches shedding off the yoke of the Christ of the Bible, amidst the rise of intellectual respectability, Pluralism and Inter-faith; the result is that confusion reigns. This understandably has resulted in the "sheep" being scattered, and seeking greener pastures elsewhere, some ending up at churches which ostensibly do stand on the Bible, but dismiss the importance of sound "doctrine."



Dr. Klaasing (Centre of her family)

Enter the likes of Henrietta Klaasing, standing her ground when others would be long "retired", and as Deborah of the times of the Judges, a "mother in Israel", showing real backbone in spurring the timid "Baraks" of the Christian Church not to throw in the towel, but to be obedient to the Lord God's calling, and fight the good fight of faith, Judges chapters 4V4 - 10. When I asked this brave lady about her inclusion in Protestant Reveille alongside the above ladies, her response was:

"Oh no! Such formidable women! ...(I) am just a kaalvoet boere meisie (barefoot farmgirl)...plain Jane, but blessed by our Lord's amazing grace".

A schoolteacher, lecturer at a teachers training college, school inspector in Limpopo, and PhD. pastoral theology graduate of the Theological Faculty of Potchefstroom (PUKKE), now North West University; no ordinary person indeed, no ordinary lady, no ordinary love for Jesus. She did not charge the Lord foolishly like Job's wife, when her world came crashing down! Henrietta's husband Willem Hamman and son Willem jnr. were both born on the 9th April, and both were killed together on the 20th October 1984 in a light aircraft crash! Refer Job 2V9 and 42V10. Dr. Henrietta Klaasing has got up off the floor of grief, and strengthened the hands of her associates in Koinonia Synod and Kairos Network (KN); she has contributed to the book, Die Trojaanse Perd in die NG Kerk (The Trojan Horse in the Dutch Reformed Church); her letters pop up all over in the media, with empathy she counsels broken-hearts, by pointing them to the One whose love nothing can separate us from, Romans 8V37 39: a Deborah, a true mother in Israel.

**"Lord though Thou bend my spirit low,
Love only shall I see,
For Thy very Hand which struck,
The blow was wounded once for me"**

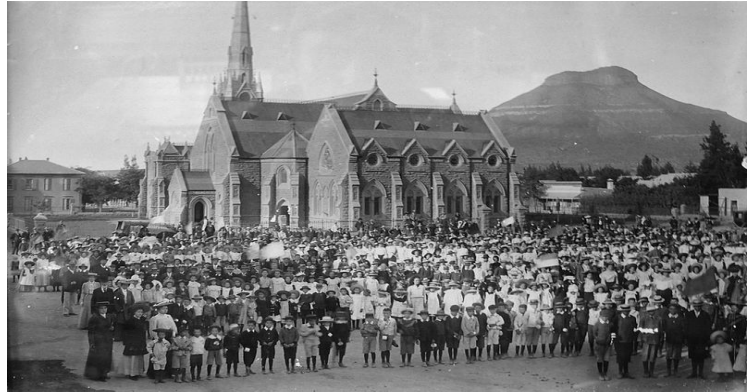
On a gravestone, it carved its words on my heart. Editor

REVIVAL BREAKS OUT AT A YOUTH MEETING IN WORCESTER (1860's)

Quoted and adapted from South Africa's forgotten revival by Olea Nel.

After the revival broke out on the farms outside Worcester it spread to a youth meeting in town. Their leader J.C de Vries gives us the account:

On a Sunday evening there were gathered in a little hall some sixty young people. I was leader of the meeting, which commenced with a hymn and a lesson from God's Word, after which I engaged in prayer. After three or four others had (as was customary) given out a verse of a hymn and offered prayer, a local girl of about fifteen years of age, in service of a farmer from Hex River, rose at the back of the hall and asked if she might propose a hymn. At first I hesitated, not knowing what the meeting would think, but better thoughts prevailed and I replied, Yes.



She gave out her hymn-verse and prayed in moving tones. While she was praying, we heard as it were a sound in the distance, which came nearer and nearer, until the hall seemed to be shaken, and with one or two exceptions, the whole meeting began to pray – the majority in audible voice, but some in whispers. Nevertheless, the noise made by the concourse was deafening. A feeling which I cannot describe took possession of me. Even now, forty-three years after these occurrences, the events of that never-to-be-forgotten night pass before my mind's eye like a soul-stirring panorama. I feel again as I then felt, and cannot refrain from pushing my chair backwards and thanking the Lord fervently for His mighty deeds.

Again, just like with the outbreak on the farms, the Rev. Andrew Murray tried to call the meeting to order, but to no avail. After that (the outbreak of revival amongst the young people) the prayer meetings were held every evening. At the commencement there was generally great silence, but after the second or third prayer the whole hall was moved as before, and everyone fell to praying. Sometimes the gathering continued to three in the morning. And even then, many wished to remain longer, or returning homewards, went singing through the streets.

They then moved their meetings to a larger hall. It was at this larger hall that Andrew Murray was confronted by a stranger after he tried to quiet another “disorderly” revival meeting. De Vries tells that the stranger, (possibly Rev. William Taylor of USA) who was watching the proceedings from the entrance door, approached Murray, touched him gently, and said in English, ‘I think you are the minister of this congregation. Be careful what you do, for it is the Spirit of God that is at work here. I have just come from America, and this is precisely what I witnessed there.’ After this time, we never find Andrew Murray trying to bring another “disorderly” meeting to order. The historical record makes it clear that Murray, after an initial period of scepticism, later embraced the revival wholehearted. Some historians even refer to it as the Andrew Murray revival, because of the leading role he played in the spread of the revival.

A REVIVAL THAT BROUGHT REFORMATION.

The 1860's revival had a lasting impact on society. Stellenbosch University, the schools for the deaf and blind in Worcester, a mission training institute and teacher training college in Wellington (now CPUT campus) all had its roots in this revival. Even the Afrikaans language owes its official status to the hard work of the revivalists in the late 19th and early 20th century. Afrikaans was the language of the poor and the revivalists worked hard to establish the status of Afrikaans as a language, so that the poor could get a Bible in their mother tongue.

CHRISTIANITY'S OLDEST CHURCHES - A GLANCE AT.

**"Antiquity is not Authority, but may be only 'vetustas erroris' the old age of error".
Cyprian.**

JERUSALEM (+ - A.D. 30-33)

"...beginning at Jerusalem." The Lord Jesus speaking to His disciples. Luke 24V47.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ sounded forth in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost, following our Lord's Death on the Cross for our sins, Resurrection from the grave, and Ascension to Heaven, as He had promised the apostles were baptized with the Holy Spirit and empowered on the day of Pentecost while they waited in Jerusalem, ACTS 1V5 - 8 & 2V14.



"Christianity, in its earliest beginnings, is part of Judaism...it is a sect among a number of varieties of Judaism in the Roman Empire." www.pbsa.org. But, Peter, standing up... raised his voice... Jerusalem.

Jewish Christianity is thus the foundation of Christianity, the early Church's composition being largely Jewish; the apostles confirmed the Law & Prophets' fulfilment in Christ, Hebrews 1V1-3.

The Church of the Holy Sepulchre, is the seat of the Greek ORTHODOX Patriarche of Jerusalem.

ANTIOCH (+ - A.D. 32 - 34)

EASTERN ORTHODOX/GREEK ORTHODOX & RUSSIAN ORTHODOX.

The later missionary centre, Antioch in Syria, was where the believers were first called Christians, and initially made up of Greek speaking Jewish believers. Acts 11V20 – 26.

"The Eastern ORTHODOX Church claims to be the original Christian Church...bases its claim primarily on its assertion that it holds to traditions and beliefs of the original Christian Church". Wikipedia

The demographics have changed through the centuries, the Christian Church now mainly consists of Gentiles. Europe's first documented convert to Christianity was at Philippi, Macedonia, Lydia a worshipper, "seller of purple", whose heart the Lord opened, Acts 16V14.

The ORTHODOX Christian Church does not claim a monopoly on grace, truth and salvation.

ALEXANDRIA (+ - A.D. 42) THE COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH/ORIENTAL ORTHODOX CHURCH..

The Coptic Church of Egypt has the See (Latin for Episcopal Seat) of St. Mark. The Word Coptic originally meant ancient Egyptian, and the Copts regard themselves as direct descendants of the ancient Pharaohs, and include some of the present day intelligentsia of the nation. The tattoo symbol of the Cross usually on the wrist, is significant in an increasingly hostile militant Islamic threat of persecution. No Cross, No Crown, so different from the prosperity gospel!

The Coptic Church differs from the greater Christian Church, regarding the nature of Jesus Christ, by maintaining He has one united nature, the Divine and Human forming a perfect union.

The Armenian Apostolic Church is part of Oriental Orthodoxy, the Kingdom of Armenia was the first state in history to adopt Christianity as its official religion.

The Ethiopian ORTHODOX Tewahedo Church only took form long after the Ethiopian eunuch's conversion and baptism in Acts 8V27-40, during the early fourth century.

LATER CHURCHES

Rome (+/- A.D. 49) and established as it is now known, Roman Catholic Churches, about A.D.590.

Saint Thomas Church in India (+/- A.D. 52)Syrian Christians of India. Has historical links to the hierarchy of the Church of the East, but is presently divided into several different bodies, Eastern Catholic, Oriental ORTHODOX, Protestant, and Independent.

Protestant Church (1517), preceded by proto-Protestants Unitras Fratrum/Unity of Brethren, Moravians. N.B. The remnant of rue Christian believers goes back to the early apostles and disciples. As “the Bible is the religion of Protestantism”, Rev. Murdo Gordon, it has a unique pedigree in principle, connecting it directly to the New Testament Church of our Lord Jesus; and faith in God's Word, as in the Old Testament Patriarchs, including faithful Abraham. Hebrews 11.

Craig Hounsom

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THE ROYAL NAVY OFFICER WHO LANDED UP IN SWITZERLAND. **ROBERT HALDANE (1764-1842) - SCOTTISH ARISTOCRAT EVANGELIST. INTRO.**

In 1860 Charles Spurgeon, the prince of preachers and Free Churchman, stood in John Calvin's former Geneva Cathedral pulpit, agreeing to honour the French Reformer by wearing his old clerical gown. He was presented with a gift of Calvin's medal, and was so overcome by emotion that he kissed his "worn by disease" visage on the obverse (head), which bore the inscription:

"...for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible". Hebrews 11V27 on Moses' faith in God.



Spurgeon's invitation to visit Geneva, and Montauben, came from the eminent historian of the Reformation, Dr. Merle D'Aubigne, and was the indirect fruit of the 1815 - 1816 planting there of the Word of God, in particular the Book of Romans. Certain Theological students, which included young D'Aubigne, paths crossed with a Scottish evangelist, church visionary, and philanthropist, Robert Haldane's heart yearned for Geneva, once so prominent in the Protestant churches, but gripped by religious formalism and spiritual decline, he was moved by the Holy Spirit to visit it:

"Our confidence in Christ does not make us lazy, negligent or careless, but on the contrary, it awakens us, urges us on and makes us active in living righteous lives and doing good". Zurich Swiss Reformer Ulrich Zwingli.

LAKE OF GENEVA - REMINISCENT OF PAUL & SILAS AT THE PHILIPPI RIVERSIDE, ACTS 16V13.

"Robert Haldane was sitting on a park bench by the lake of Geneva one day when he got into a conversation with some university students. They were studying for the ministry, but they were clearly not converted. So Haldane invited them to his flat in the old city, not far from the great church once pastored by John Calvin, where they participated that Winter in what we call a Bible study. Haldane taught them from the Book of Roman's, on which he would eventually write a great commentary. Each of those young men was soundly converted through that study and became an effective leader in the revival that followed" (Haldane's Revival). James Boice.



Notables among them Cesar Malan, catalyst of the hymn, Just As I Am, by Charlotte Elliot; Merle D'Aubigne, historian, Louis Gaussen, author of books on the Canon and the Inspiration of the Bible. Others include the French brothers Frederic and Adolphe Monod, mighty in the Scriptures.

AIRTHREY CASTLE & ESTATE SOLD FOR THE GOSPEL'S FURTHERANCE: UK & AFRICA.

As one of the first members of the illustrious Kuruman LMS Mission in 1795, Robert Haldane funded John Campbell's Society for the Education of Africans, and also started the African Academy in Clapham for African children, though the work was hampered by an outbreak of smallpox. Added to this was his Society for the Propagation of the Gospel at Home, including pioneering 85 chapels in Scotland and Ireland. Haldane's siblings, James and Helen, were most supportive.

"Forever with the Lord forever forever". Robert's death bed triumphant words.

**"... a unity of spirit, with a diversity of forms." (Unity is not uniformity).
Edward Bickerseith on the Evangelical Alliance (1844) in E.J. Poole-Conner.**

THE DIVERSION OF THE BIBLE

Dr John Wenham, a man endued with the grace of humility.

The Identity of the New Testament Text, we read, this is a shocking book – at least it delivered a shock to my system. It is not often that one reads a book which re-orientates one's whole approach to a Westcott and Hort theory of the N.T. Text, the general soundness of which I had accepted without question for forty years. Two or three years ago I had the first tricklings of doubt about it; then I chanced to read George Salmon's "Some Thoughts on the Textual Criticism of the N.T." (1897), which increased the trickle to a stream; now with this book it has become a flood...

This is not an academic matter, for it affects the working of the hundreds of millions of scriptures which we are distributing across the globe. It is shocking to think that we may have been giving the world a bad text.

From his review of Wilbur N. Pickering's Identity of the New Testament Text.

ENDINGS AND BEGINNINGS IN JAPAN

DALE AND KAREN VILJOEN

**"Missionaries... Simply a bunch of nobodies trying to exalt Somebody".
Jim Elliot, missionary martyr at 27yrs with his associates Ecuador 1956.**

There have been many changes in our ministry:

1. The Lord led us to take over the three-fold ministry of COEN in 2018.
 2. Coworker Hiromi's tragic death (yet glorious 'graduation' into the presence of Jesus) occurred on June 18, 2023. Hiromi played an integral role in our three-person Lead Team and was in charge of the English School side of COEN.
 3. The Lord led us to close the COEN business (the Café and the Professional English School) on December 2nd, 2023. After Hiromi's death and months of prayer, the Lord clearly showed us that closing the business was necessary. (We did not have assurance that God would continue to provide for enormous monthly deficit; God used the book "Necessary Endings" by Henry Cloud to challenge us.)
-

REVEILLE EASTER 2025 EDITION

- The Lord led us to end the COEN Bible Community's OMF connection on June 23rd, 2024. One reason was that OMF does not have a replacement leader. Without OMF's supervision, the Bible Community (church) restarted independently as an online community on June 30th, 2024.

We praise God for the 20 neighbours and relatives who gathered at Hiromi's parents' home in Hokuto (Southern Hokkaido) on June 27th as we officiated at Hiromi's one-year memorial service.

We are thankful for how the Lord met us during our closing church service on June 23rd. Twenty-four members and "friends" (former café customers and students) met to worship our Shepherd-King by singing some of Hiromi's favourite hymns. It was a healing time for those still profoundly grieving Hiromi's absence from us. Many stayed for hours after this meeting to talk together.

We continue to meet with these people as God leads, over meals and in more informal conversation classes. New missionaries desire to spend time with us "picking our brains." Dale connects with couples and families through a wedding ministry. We are slowly healing from the trauma of these past few years.



OMF Japan
23h · 🌐

"I arrived in Japan on March 3rd, 1979, so Hinamatsuri, the doll festival, marked my 45th anniversary in Hokkaido this year.

My life verse is Ephesians 2:10: "We are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." (NLT) These past 45 years serving in Japan have been years of learning to discern Jesus' voice as I commune with him daily. I am called to reveal Jesus as his image bearer in God's new creation.

Despite, and maybe because of, intense suffering, I know that God transforms me. I can journey on because of God's faithfulness to me and his creation. "If we are unfaithful, he remains faithful, for he cannot deny who he is." 2 Timothy 2:13 (NLT)

Paul writes in Romans 12:12, "Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying." My vision and desire is to see many more Japanese come to know freedom and joy in Jesus. I continue to believe that revival will come to Japan in my lifetime. After retiring from OMF International in 2025, Karen and I plan to return to Sapporo, Japan, to be salt and light to the people around us."

Thank Dale in the comments for his faithful service in Japan throughout all these years!

#omfjapan #prayforjapan

Dale Viljoen
45 years serving in Japan

Dale and his wife Karen

My vision and desire is to see many more Japanese come to know freedom and joy in Jesus.

OMF Japan acknowledged Dale's 45-year ministry in Japan (3rd March 2024) and posted this on social media. After a final Home Assignment in South Africa and the US, we will "retire" in our apartment in Sapporo, Japan, from May 2025 and continue ministering to the Japanese. Fewer than 1% experience the joy, love and grace of Jesus. Please continue to pray!

We wish the Lord Jesus' presence with Dale & Karen Viljoen : Well done good and faithful servants.

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS 100 YEARS ON.

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