

GLOBAL MISSIONS

Autumn 2005

Taking God's Word to God's People

Meeting Believers in Kazakhstan

In July of 2005 the city of Taraz, Kazakhstan celebrated an extraordinary anniversary. The ancient city was now 2000 years old! After two millennia, the Message of the Hour found its way to the city of Taraz. In a simple gathering of about thirty-five Believers, we held five days of special services with the saints and baptized two new converts. These new converts are very young in the Lord, but still excited about discovering the Message in this late hour.

This country is the ninth largest in the world, but is dwarfed by its neighbor, Russia. With a population of fifteen million, forty-nine per cent of the population is Moslem. The city is a very "open" or international city with one of the largest open air markets in the entire former Soviet Union. To put its location in perspective, Tokyo is only two time zones away and the country is directly north of Afghanistan.

While the country had gone through a dangerous heat wave just prior to our visit, the conditions did not hinder the gathering of the Believers. We held a minimum of three services daily among them and spent hours answering questions, and relating personal experiences in the life of Bro. Branham.

The Believers of Kazakhstan were all of Korean descent. Many people in the country have very strong oriental features, having been deported from southeast Russia during World War II because the authorities feared an attack by Japan. Anyone who looked Japanese was considered a potential spy for the Japanese government so Stalin ordered

all of the oriental population deported to Kazakhstan! Today, Kazakhstan sits on one of the richest oil fields in the world, and is beginning to wake up to the potential of its vast wealth. The Believers are also beginning to realize the unlimited spiritual riches that have been quickened to them, and they are anxious to begin the process of taking the Message to the people of their country and neighboring nations. This group had a freshness about them, having never experienced any false teachings, and manifesting a wonderful appetite for the Message in their language.

One of the purposes of making such a long trip is to assess the needs of Believers, especially since they are new to the Message and so far removed from the other churches in their area. (The closest Assembly was estimated to be 1500 miles north!) Books, tapes, MP3s, convention videos and ministry are all being sent from Russia to the group so they can begin to enjoy the Message in the Russian language.

Because of the hostilities exhibited by the neighboring country of Uzbekistan, we were not able to enter that nation. A visit will have to wait until the government changes its position toward Christianity. There are over 300 Believers already in the nation of Uzbekistan.

We are preparing to edit our film footage of the trip and will be producing a short DVD of the people and the services. Details on the availability of the film will be posted on our websites. Please remember these precious saints in prayer; it will be a pleasure to visit with them again in 2006.



Listening intently during a church service



Bro. Eugene Fouk (Russia) joined Bro. Barry in Kazakhstan



Believers listen during an informal question & answer session



Seventh Annual Alushta Convention

Brother Barry Coffey

With each passing year it is inspiring to witness the spiritual growth and maturity of the Believers in the Russian speaking nations. From September 27th to October 2nd, 2005, almost 600 Believers from nations of the former Soviet Union gathered in Crimea, Ukraine for thirteen services with Brother Eugene Braun, Brother Gerrie Furrie (both of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada), Brother Per Johansen (Norway), Brother Gerd Rodewald (Germany) and myself. Along with the services, several administrative issues were addressed in separate meetings with ministers and brethren who are directly involved in the translation and printing processes. We were able to meet with all the pastors from the country of Russia and finalize plans to place a new printing press in that large nation. This will complete our projected goal of having three presses in three separate countries for the printing of individual sermon books. Then we established five distribution centers in five logical "zones" to reduce the cost of mailing.



We were pleased to be able to distribute \$2,000 worth of Bibles and children's Bibles which were made available by a church in Michigan. We had reprinted the poster "The Revelation of Jesus Christ" in Russian and were able to bring several hundred of them with us in the luggage to distribute to the saints. This poster reprinting coincided with the release of the 1200 page "Revelation of Jesus Christ" series of fifteen sermons. This hard-cover book was the result of one and a half years of translation and printing work and becomes a beautiful addition to the Believer's library of translated sermons. New sermons are coming out now at an approximate rate of two per month which ensures a steady flow of new titles to the ministry and the Believers. We are also continuing to retranslate and reprint older, out of date sermons along with those new sermons. We have newly translated fourteen English tracts designed specifically for outreach. With all the additional translation activity and continued growth, we added two new individuals to our translation team, which brings us to six full or part-time translators. These dedicated young men communicate, translate and proofread via the internet from within five separate countries.



Bro. Eugene: force behind book printing



We are both thankful and excited about what the Lord is doing among His Bride.

Left: Revelation of Jesus Christ books are distributed



Convention Testimony

Brother Dmitry Doronin

The other day I returned from Alushta convention and am still under the impression of the Word preached by our beloved ministers. I could say it was the best year ever. I've never been so mightily blessed by the preaching of the Word. We had three meetings a day plus two youth night meetings with Brother Eugene, but I never felt tired till the midnight.

There was one line of thought that could be traced through the whole convention: redemption, returning back to our original state and personal relationships with God. Brother Gerd opened the meetings with the subject of "Repentance unto life." Then Brother Per picked it up and continued building on that. Brother Eugene preached tremendous services on redemption based on Revelations five. This subject unfolded even more when he brought it down to us, that we become bloody lambs and redeemers for the fallen people around us: father for the family, pastor for the church and Bro. Branham for the people of our age.

We had many trials on our road to Alushta and back. There were three cars of young people from Latvia and one car from Lithuania driving together. It took us fifty hours to get there. The brakes refused to act in one of the cars when we crossed Poland, but we prayed together for the car, and the Lord was so good to the driver; we drove all the way to Alushta and back without any accidents. I don't know how he drove without brakes in Alushta Mountains, but he did. Later, two

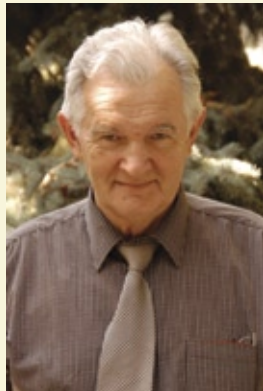


Translators Dmitry Doronin, Vitaly Sokolov, & Dennis Petsevitich

cars broke down, but they were quickly fixed, and we went on. In the middle of these troubles I told the brothers that Bro. Branham said that if troubles are on your way, then great blessings lay ahead, and it was really so. All of us were greatly blessed and encouraged by the services...



Bro. Gerd Rodewald



Bro. Per Johansen



Left: Brothers discuss printing and distribution arrangements for Russian-speaking nations

Russian Youth Camp

Church camps, whether for youth or for whole families, are special events that offer a unique atmosphere in which the Lord can deal with hearts and change lives. However, camps of any kind require a monetary sacrifice, both from those sponsoring it as well as for those attending, and they require a dedicated staff willing to work long hours to serve those in attendance.

Finding a suitable facility for the event is also necessary, and sometimes very difficult.



Bro. Anatoly Sklonny speaks to the youth

While these gatherings are quite common in the United States where money, facilities, and basic freedom are more readily available, they are not as common in other nations. So when Believers in Russia were able to have a youth camp in August it was a precious time.



Singing at one of the youth camp services

Seventeen children, ages nine through sixteen, from four churches, were able to attend the camp. Despite the small number, one

of the ministers at the camp, Brother Anatoly from Ulyanovsk, Russia, told us that it was still a great deal of work for the adults, but worth it because of the many benefits to the young people. Many of the churches in Russia are small with only a few children, so a youth camp provides the kids the opportunity to meet and fellowship with other youth. It also gives them a godly group of people from which they may

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Listening to Bro. Eugene Yakovlev (back to camera)



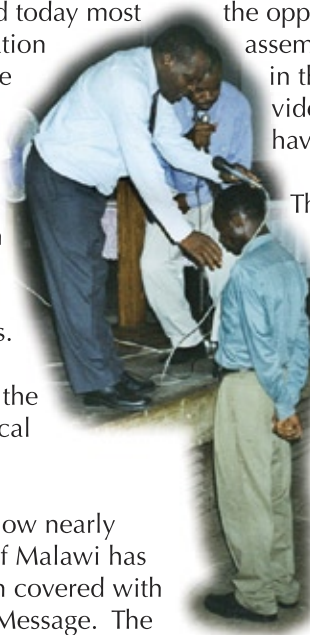


Moving On In Malawi



It has been more than twenty years since the Message first reached Malawi and today most of the missionary work in that nation is done by the brothers who live there. Every month they send letters to BCF with testimonies of what is happening in their nation, and the letters often read like the book of Acts. Each month one or two churches are born in Malawi and presently there are about 220 believing churches with thirty-five pastors. Ministers such as Brother Paddington Ngwira and Brother Dixon Kandoje travel throughout the country helping churches who do not have local pastors.

funeral. So Message ministers take the opportunity to perform the duty and to preach to those assembled at the same time. Many have come to the Lord in this way. Other brothers travel with tape players and videos and through their witness twenty-six churches have been established.



These men have not confined themselves to only working in Malawi. They have also taken the Message into neighboring Mozambique. Mozambique is a very poor nation and during the rainy season the roads become impassable making it very difficult to minister there. Many ministers from other nations have visited Mozambique, but never go back; yet there is a Bride there that needs to hear the Word. So the brothers from Malawi have taken it upon themselves to meet that need.



Bro. Ausward (right) uses a bicycle to travel throughout Malawi, preaching the Gospel

By now nearly all of Malawi has been covered with the Message. The brothers look for every opportunity to witness. Often when a person dies in Malawi, it is difficult to find some one to conduct the

Please keep these faithful stewards in prayer as they labor both in their own nation and in Mozambique.



Bro. Paddington is helped out of the mud on his travels

Center: Bro. Dixon lays hands on a Believer

Youth Camp Continued

choose a spouse when they are old enough for marriage.

The camp was conducted much as camps in the US. The children participated in games, skits, and competitions and attended services every evening. After the evening service, they all sat around a bonfire where the adults testified of how they met the Lord. Unlike youth camps in the US, rather than sleeping in dorms or cabins, the children slept in tents on the bank of a water reservoir; but though the conditions were somewhat primitive, the young people all enjoyed themselves and are eagerly anticipating another camp next year.



Preparation for sailing during Russian youth camp



Bro. Anatoly, Bro. Eugene, & an unidentified brother helped conduct the camp

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