



Volume XXXIV

July/August

No. 5

10,000 Hope Bibles Arrive!

Rejoice!



^ "Breaking" pallets down by sheer "elbow grease."



< Unloading - one pallet at a time.



Last pallet of bibles! ^



< What "Brown" did for us!

HOH PR Team Shares HOPE in Local Congregation!

Sun. July 17, 7:30pm Rawlinsville Mennonite Church Holtwood, PA

Letters from our Swahili Listeners

Among the listeners of “Heralds of Hope” are individuals whose marriages are troubled. Such listeners write seeking help in securing their troubled marriages.

One such listener is Mrs. “M”. She listens to “Heralds of Hope” Swahili aired by Trans World Radio-Kenya FM from the town of Voi. Her home is a small town of Wundanyi about 60 kilometers from Voi.

In the entire coastal region of East Africa, beliefs in witchcraft and the supernatural reign supreme. Teachers of the gospel in churches and via radio have an uphill task drawing people from traditions to the gospel. Many are not convinced that Christ is the answer and will “mix” Christianity and traditions. The result is that they attend church at the same time they consult witchdoctors when faced with marital problems and sickness.

But once in a while, the gospel breaks through and an individual abandons traditions and turns to Christ. This describes Mrs. “M.”

Mrs. “M” says since she got married, she has had countless quarrels with her husband. At the time of writing, this 35-year-old mother of four had abandoned her matrimonial home and gone to her residence in the town of Wundanyi.

Before abandoning her home, she had been an avid listener of “Heralds of Hope.” She says, although appreciative of the gospel message, she still consulted a witchdoctor in a bid to save her marriage. The witchdoctor convinced her that her marriage was on the rocks because her in-laws (father in law and mother-in-law) never liked her. So, her conflict

moved from her house to include her in-laws. The result is that the marriage is on the rocks.

While away from her matrimonial home, she continued to listen to “Heralds of Hope,” and at the point of extreme disappointment, the message from Pastor Mungai (presenter, HOH Swahili) was on forgiveness. **She said the message made her think through her conflict and ask herself if she had ever thought of forgiving her in-laws and husband for what she perceived to be their wrongs.**

Mrs. “M” says the program made her realize that she did not have a forgiving heart.

She decided to forgive her in-laws and her husband. She went ahead and called them and told them so.

At the time of writing, her husband has also asked her to forgive him. Her in-laws have asked for forgiveness. What began as a message of forgiveness heard by a distraught wife has spread to a husband and two in-laws.

Recently a listener of “Heralds of Hope,” Swahili called to ask for help from the presenter of the program, Pastor David Mungai. The listener, Mr. John Mwatoza says one thing he has learned from the program is the importance of influencing those around him for Christ.

John Mwatoza is in his 50s and works in a company in a small township, Mghange Nyika, in the

coastal province of Kenya.

John Mwatoza says what he receives every day, Monday to Friday through “Heralds of Hope” Swahili is so important that **he finds it difficult to keep it to himself. “I will be mean if I keep the truth I have been getting for the past one year to myself,”** he told Pastor Mungai.

So intense is his desire to share the contents of “Heralds of Hope” Swahili that **he’s asked that his employers allow him to hold “mini” services during work breaks.**

As often happens, Mr. Mwatoza’s request has been rebuffed by his superiors. He then turned to the “Heralds of Hope” Swahili radio pastor for advice.

“Thank you for all the great lessons on Heralds of Hope. Thank you, Bible teacher. **You have enabled me to understand the scriptures better.**”

“I am glad to inform you that you have been of great spiritual help both through the sound biblical teachings over the radio and through the biblical study material that you sent me. **I am spiritually blessed and I am very appreciative of this support from your broadcasts.** I recently shared a word with colleagues here at my work place about the great ministry.”

Responses from the quarterly report sent by TWR.

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The President's View

LORD, IF YOU WILL...

Imagine, spending your life as a social and religious outcast in a society that places great value on religion. Can't relate? Neither can I! But recently, I read the opening verses of Matthew chapter eight where a leper says to Jesus, "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean."

This man was reminded of his "uncleanness" every day! Forced to live separately from loved ones and to announce his presence to warn passersby of his condition, he knew very well the stigma of being held at arm's length and beyond. None dared touch him for fear of contracting his dread disease!

But he came to Jesus and worshipped Him. He saw in Jesus something he didn't see in other people, and especially religious people – compassion. What he saw strengthened his faith and motivated him to ask for healing. He had nothing to lose if Jesus refused to heal him. If, however, Jesus chose to heal him, his life would change dramatically!

In response to his appeal, Jesus put out His hand and did the unthinkable – He touched him and said, "I will, be clean." Jesus could have healed him with the words. But He demonstrated compassion and acceptance by violating cultural and religious taboos of touching the man! Our Savior seemed to delight in doing the unconventional.

Today, there are many "untouchables" around you and me. In the eyes of religious people they are sinners of the worst sort: drunkards, drug addicts, serial adulterers, and so on. They don't go around announcing themselves as unclean but their dress (or lack of it), their spiked hair in rainbow colors, their body piercings, their vacant stares, and their (to us) obnoxious music, all give evidence of their need of a compassionate touch from Jesus. Since He is no longer here in the body, it is our hands that must provide that touch.

Are you and I willing to step out of our comfort zone? Are we willing to acknowledge our attitudes of spiritual superiority and pride? Are we willing to be the hands of Jesus to touch the untouchables of our day? Are we, first of all, willing to say "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean?" It is only when we recognize our own sinfulness and are truly clean before God that we will be willing and able to offer His compassion and cleansing to those around us. Will you join me to pray, "Lord if you will..."

Sincerely in HOPE of the Gospel,
HERALDS OF HOPE, INC.

J. Mark Horst, President

Stewardship

God Loves a Cheerful Giver

I have been so blessed by the encouraging notes received with some of our donations. Following are some for your blessing too:

"Thanks for the privilege of being a small part of your great work."

"We appreciate your faithful proclamation of the Word."

"First of all, let me express my sorrow for being so late in sending this contribution to you for all your wonderful ministry....But rest assured I pray for you all as you are spreading the life-giving Word to a dying world. May God richly bless you as you faithfully serve Him and may you all know the rich rewards of your faithfulness to Him. I wish it could be more but I trust it will help you in your ministry."

"Thanks for the challenging messages."

"We heard your program this morning. It was very clear and a blessing."

"God is able and good all the time."

"Keep up the good work!"

"Go till the Lord says Whoa."

We would appreciate your prayerful consideration of our financial needs during these lean summer months. Any gift during this time would be greatly appreciated. As Paul wrote in II Cor. 9:7, "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give: not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

Joy & Peace, Bob Kauffman

ALONE, BUT NOT LONELY

Artan was paralyzed at the age of two. He can move only two fingers of one of his hands. Since then his life has been so full of pain both physically and emotionally. He had to depend on his family for his daily personal needs. He could not eat by himself, could not clean himself, could not go where he wanted. He could not go to school, he could not play or live a normal life like his brother and sisters. The rejection and the inner pain of not being like everyone else, the loneliness and the emptiness of not being able to dream was harder than the pain in his body. Artan didn't know the reason for his existence and often felt useless and a big burden for his family.



In 1993 and 1994 when the first missionaries came in the country, he first heard about God. Eager to know more, Artan began learning how to read. While reading the Bible and trying to know the purpose for his existence on earth, he gave his life to Jesus one day after reading the Bible for

months. He was living in a small village in Southern Albania and never met a Christian until his brother came to the Lord a few years later. But that was for a very short period of time, because his brother left to go to Greece after much persecution from his family that was another religion.

Artan knows very well what it means to be alone, but now it was different because he knew in his heart Jesus was there for him and with him and he never would leave nor forsake him. He was alone, but not lonely. Artan continued to read the Bible, the first book he ever read. He often says, "God taught me how to read." He was praying for Christian friends and God answered his prayer through Radio 7. Now he is 38 years old and never goes out of his home, but as he says, Radio 7 brings great pastors in his home and great friends. He writes a sms to us every morning and never misses the discussions on different themes on the live shows. He is encouraging thousands of our listeners with his deep knowledge of God's grace and mercy.

Artan is a great evangelist and he learned everything on the radio and by reading the Bible on his own. He listens to the radio all day long and calls the staff often saying that he is praying for every single one of us and for all the pastors that so faithfully are thinking of people like him. Artan has never been to church, but he has great pastors and friends through the radio. Touched so deeply by his faith, his parents came to the Lord two years ago. His sister came to the Lord last year, and they pray together every morning with our speakers. Artan brings so much encouragement and joy to our hearts.

Reprinted from the Radio 7 newsletter.

Radio 7 staff have assured us that Artan has been blessed very much by "Messages of Hope," the Albanian language broadcasts of Heralds of Hope, Inc.

Muslims Need Love Too--God's Love

Join the worldwide movement to pray for Muslims during the month of Ramadan, the holy month of fasting in Islam. Ramadan this year is observed August 1st - 30th. This



focused prayer for Muslims has expanded during a crucial time in our world. We believe that God has called it into being and continues to call us to faithfulness in prayer with "faith, hope and love" for Muslims everywhere.

Order your copy today! Call our offices toll free 1-866-960-0292 To purchase multiple copies please visit www.30-days.net

