



REFORMED BAPTIST MISSION REEF FIELD

Dear Highway Friends,

"Surely the Lord is in this place and I knew it not"! This verse comes to mind as we stand with our hand over our mouth, as it were, in astonishment...you know the attitude? And then a feeling of guilt comes over us; why didn't we expect just such an answer to our prayers?

We have been praying for workers for the REEF FIELD. We're human you know, so started naming over likely ones and soon came to the conclusion that no one could be spared.

Eugene had suggested that Rev. Malaza would be a good one, and could perhaps be persuaded to come. Then Glendon's illness made it quite plain (humanly) that he could not be spared from the Altona area, as he is Glendon's right hand man.

Then a phone message came that Eugene and Gladys were coming up bringing Rev. Malaza, with some of his furniture; and that Timote Nkosi, one of our Preachers, was also coming with them to see the new Locations; (Native Townships) and had agreed to settle and work in Kalfontein.

Now how did all this come about? Why did it seem so impossible to us? Why were we surprised at all, when we had been praying for workers feeling so burdened for the many who had come out at the altar calls, and had no shepherds to lead them on in the way of salvation?

We feel humbled before our wonderworking God, how we do PRAISE Him for answering our prayer, though our faith is quite evidently very small!

Eugene and I took our men to Natal Spruit and Kalfontein Native Townships. The vastness of these new Locations quite overcame them. There are temporary quarters in each that we can rent, till sites are granted and we can put our own buildings up.

The Superintendent of Natal Spruit was very glad that we were able to put a pastor in now. He urges us to build right away; and offered to help all he could. He can let us have building materials at cost, plus a small percent. Do join with us as we pray for these two new homes to be built, and for these Native Pastors as they come to work in these great Townships. There will be a lot of difficulties to overcome, life will be so different. There will be no large gardens supplying fresh vegetables and grain for the year. No chance of keeping a cow for milk, everything must be bought if you can find it.

Then there is the constant noise of coming and going, and of numerous children playing in the streets. The work is so different from that in the country. There is the disconcerting hurry to catch busses and trains to work, many having to work on Sundays and night shifts. Strange to say, though civilization has such a compelling hold on these people, now crowded into towns, the Witch Doctor's evil influence is to be felt, bringing fear, distrust and hatred.

There is a marked difference in the people who come to the services, as well. Time, is a real factor! Meals have to be got ready for those going to work, or returning tired and hungry. This would explain a restlessness and an occasional one leaving before the service is out. The large numbers of children, are more unruly and difficult to control.

Yes, let us pray that special grace may be given these workers, as they enter this new field, and for Kumalo our Preacher now in Daveyton!

Last Sunday Mary and I held one service, by the building site reserved for us in Natal Spruit. (This Church and residential site is very centrally situated in the rapidly extending part of this Town). Three hundred and forty gathered here in the open, the Spirit of the Lord was there in evident blessing. Two adults and a number of children responded to the altar call. We were very happy to have our preacher at Wattville Township with us. He, Elias Nkosi, was an added blessing in the service. I was very interested in the way he impressed on a man who had given his heart to the Lord that he must earnestly follow the Lord, for he held an important place in the work of the Lord. You see, his home is right near the building site, and Elias told him, his is the home we would shelter in from the rain!

We earnestly request your prayer support, for ourselves dear friends, in this NEW YEAR of 1959. The opportunities before us are vast; yes "the fields are white unto harvest but the labourers are few".

Mary joins me in wishing you the Lord's very best, during this whole year.

Yours for the advancement of HIS Kingdom.

H. Paul Sanders.

P.S. Mary says please resume sending old Christmas cards.

★ THE CHALLENGE OF THE CROSS ★

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help, and blessing. The cross proves His concern, and His promise to be with us to "finish the work" begun! He is waiting to carry on the work through His ambassadors. Missionary praying is "going." Missionary giving is "going." Lay your heart at the cross until it absorbs Calvary love—missionary love!

A CHALLENGE TO PRAY

Prayer is an integral part of God's redemptive plan. It is interwoven throughout the Book of Acts and the Epistles. Certainly He that sent His Son to die will with Him freely give us all things if we will but ask. He that did not withhold His Son from dying for us "while we were yet sinners," will He withhold things vitally connected with the plan of redemptive love? God depends on our prayers. He has ordained it so! Contemplate Calvary! Christ alone can save, but Christ cannot save alone! He has ordained witnessing! He has ordained prayer! We are laborers together with God!

A CHALLENGE TO HOLY LIVING

"Bought with a price!" "Ye are not your own!" thunders forth the apostle! Paul, in his writings, gives "principles" and then exhorts to "practice." "Doctrine" and then "duty" is his pattern. Christ came that He might "deliver us from this present evil world." He came to destroy the works of the devil! "God forbid. How shall we that are dead to sin live any longer therein?" The figure of "dying with Christ" and the subsequent "burial" gives no quarter to sinful living!

Let me ask, as the foot of the cross, "Why did He do this for me?" "Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures." What line of depraved thinking seeks to countenance and condone sin that cost that "crimson flow"? How dare we have light thoughts regarding "holiness" as though God were not concerned? Stay at the cross until the "weights" and "besetting sins" begin to loosen and fall off! The cross is truly a challenge to holy living!

THE CHALLENGE TO EXPECTANCY

Such "a price" paid for a possession would seem to demand a completing of the work—a coming for the "purchased possession"! It would seem that the Lord

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