

The Seeker

"Seeking the Souls of Men and Pointing Them to Christ"

March 2025

Vol. 14 No. 3

Dear brethren,

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord. Our preachers in Africa continue to preach the Gospel and get great results. In February they reported 501 baptisms, 361 confessed sins and 3 new congregations were started. We are very thankful to hear this good news from Africa. We have sent \$7,200.00 divided between several locations in Zambia, Malawi, Kenya, Tanzania and Sierra Leone for Gospel meetings to be conducted by the men at some of these preacher schools. We are hearing back from some of these schools and they are reaching many with the Gospel of Christ. We are thankful for those who send \$300.00 for each of these meetings.

We are in the process of raising funds for Bibles in local languages for different African nations. In 2025 so far we have sent \$11,600.00 to Africa for Bibles. We are thankful for those who have helped but we are in need of many more Bibles to give to new converts and those who do not have a Bible.

We just completed another new church building in Malawi. The Kamangasokoya church of Christ meet in their new building for the first time on March 9, 2025. They had 117 present and they were very thankful to now have a place to meet for worship inside this building instead of being outside during the rain. Another church building project is the Sinazongwe Valley church of Christ in Zambia near the Zimbabwe border. As of March 11th they have put the roof on the church building. This church building will also be used by brethren there who have started a preacher training school. These brethren were meeting for 2 years under a straw shelter and graduated 7 preachers in their first graduating class. We have sent funds to help 6 churches that have buildings but some of these lost roofs due to high winds and others are in need of repairs.

We are continuing to raise funds for our mission trip to Malawi and Zambia in August. We need to get most of our funds in soon. We are purchasing Bibles in local languages to be there when we arrive. We have sent \$8,000.00 for printing 200,000 Gospel tracts and Tonga song books. Funds have been sent to print a few thousand of the booklet God & man into Chichewa language. Many of these will be given out during our Gospel meeting in Malawi. Last year we had over 12,000 at this meeting. They are telling us this year we will have even more to attend. If you have not sent funds to help with our mission trip yet please do so and we can get many things done before we depart for this trip.

We are still working on 2 containers to ship to Africa. Barry is working on one in Florence, AL and we are working to fill one in Cookeville, TN. We look forward in the near future to shipping both of these containers to Africa.

We continue to put many good books on our College web page. Go to www.icotb.org then click on resources, then English resources, then books and you will be able to see these books. There are hundreds of good books you can read on our web page.

Please consider putting our work in your budget for 2025. Thanks for your prayers and help with our work. Continue to help us as you can to take the Gospel of Christ "into all the world". Ronald D. Gilbert



International Bible Teaching Ministries
C/O Rock Valley church of Christ
PO Box 49494
Cookeville, TN 38506-0494

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage Paid
Cookeville, TN
Permit No 15

A Great and Effectual Door in Malawi

In 1 Corinthians 16:9 Paul discussed a great opportunity that was opened to spread the Gospel of Christ. These evangelistic doors open and close at certain times in history and God's people must take advantage of such entries when they are presented. Such a great and effectual door is now opened in the African country of Malawi. The receptiveness of the Malawian people to the gospel of Christ is quite high. Malawi is often described as a deeply religious country, with a significant majority of the population identifying as Christian. There are several factors that contribute to the receptiveness of the Malawian people:

1. CULTURAL INFLUENCE: Christianity has been integrated into the cultural fabric of Malawian society. Though there are many traditional beliefs in the country, more and more Malawians are open to Christian teachings, making the gospel desirable to the local population.
2. COMMUNITY AND FAMILY: Religion plays a central role in community life and family gatherings in Malawi. Churches often serve as important social hubs and provide a sense of belonging and collective identity.
3. EVANGELISTIC EFFORTS: There have been numerous evangelistic campaigns funded locally and internationally, contributing to the spread of the pure gospel message. International Bible Teaching Ministries has been very active in efforts to evangelize and plant congregations in this developing nation.
4. SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHALLENGES: Many Malawians face social and economic hardships, and the gospel is often seen as a source of hope and consolation by the locals. Proclaiming a promise of spiritual fulfillment of a better life in Christ is very appealing to these who face so many challenges.
5. YOUTH INVOLVEMENT: The younger population in Malawi are very active in the activities of the local congregation. It is common for congregations in Malawi to have special youth days or Gospel meetings to reach the younger demographic with God's truth.

While receptiveness to truth is generally strong in Malawi, it is important to acknowledge that, like in Paul's day, there are many adversaries that must be confronted in achieving evangelistic success. Denominational strongholds, local superstitions, the lack of Bibles and financial resources are some of the challenges in working with the local population.

Overall, the future for growth of New Testament Christianity in Malawi is very bright. International Bible Teaching Ministries is working to meet these challenges through effective means that are showing great results. We look forward to bringing many great reports as we seek to enter through this great and effectual door that has been opened unto the Lord's church in our generation.

Barry Gilreath
Jamesbg2@yahoo.com
256-856-0015

A publication of International Bible Teaching Ministries
Sponsored by Rock Valley church of Christ
Websites
www.IBTMinistries.org www.ICOTB.org
Contacts
RDG@IBTMinistries.org INFO@IBTMinistries.org

Things You Helped Accomplish
Baptisms.....54,034
Restored.....47,786
New congregations started..... 993
BCC students enrolled.....52,149
Preachers to graduate..... 1,018