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

**The Seeker** 

April 2023

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Dear brethren,

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. During the month of April there were 1,805 baptisms, 2,331 restored and 2 new congregations started in connection with our work in Africa. This report was from several different preacher schools. Some of these reports were from preachers who were just now reporting on their work for 2022. We rejoice to hear this good news! Sometimes we get discouraged when we don't see much visible results with our preaching and teaching efforts. We need to remember it is our job to sow the seed and to water but it is God who gives the increase! In Luke 8 in the parable of the sower only 25% of the soils brought forth a good harvest. It is our task to sow the seed everywhere we can. We can't look with human eyes and tell which soil is good soil! Keep on sowing the seed that's our part. God will take care of His part.

Our thanks to those who sent funds to help with the flood victims in Malawi. Much good was done by purchasing blankets and food to help these brethren. These brethren have suffered much loosing family members and all their belongings. We will be sending more during the next few months.

We have recently sent a shipment of materials to several preacher schools in Africa. We sent several English Bibles, booklets, books, tracts, BCC booklets and other printed materials. This shipment was over 1,300 pounds. We also wired \$7,400.00 to different preacher schools in Africa to purchase Bibles in local languages. These funds will purchase about 500 Bibles.

We continue to have great success from the Gospel meetings in Africa that brethren here in the USA are sponsoring. We had over 100 baptisms last month from these meetings. Please continue to pray for these meetings and help sponsor these meetings. In the past few days we wired \$4,300.00 to 5 different preacher schools for 14 more Gospel meetings. We are averaging over 100 baptisms per month from these meetings.

We have started another building project in Zambia at Siamafumba school of preaching. We are in need of a staff house at the school so one of the instructors can live at the school. This will greatly help things run better at the school. We have just started up with the walls and hope to have the house completed in a few weeks. We are also ready to start building 2 new church buildings, one in Malawi and one in Zambia. The brethren in both places are working hard to make their bricks and get the sand in place and other needed things for these new buildings. We thank brethren here in the USA who have sponsored these 2 building projects and hope that these 2 new church buildings will be finished in June or July. Our brethren in Africa appreciate so much having a nice dry building to worship in and they say thanks to the brethren in the USA who are helping build these church buildings.

## NEW PROMOTIONAL VIDEO



We are pleased to announce that a new **IBTM** video is available to view at <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FpyvUV4V92k&t=86s</u>. Please take time to watch this informative video. We also encourage you to link the URL to your church webpage and provide it in your church bulletin. It is our prayer that this video will help us get the word

out to more brethren about the effective evangelistic efforts of IBTM.

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

We are continuing to work on another container to send to Africa. We now have about 270 boxes of books, tracts, Bibles and clothing ready for the container. Our thanks to the churches and individuals that have brought boxes of books and clothing to us for this container.

## Give Me the Bible

The Bible is a common possession in most American households. Often multiple copies are found throughout the home. Yet many would be surprised to know that upon the continent of Africa, possessing a Bible is considered a luxury, unattainable for the masses. This is why a portion of the work of International Bible Teaching Ministries is to make the Bible available to the poor and downtrodden, who do not have a copy of God's word. This year we are seeking to raise a total of \$20K for the purchase of Bibles overseas. Due to world-wide inflation, Bibles now cost in the range of \$12-\$20 each, depending on the country in which they must be purchased. We must raise \$10K more in less than 90 days in preparation for planned evangelistic campaigns that will be initiated in Africa. Can you help us with this important venture? Every dollar you specify to go towards this aspect of our work will be directed toward providing Bibles to those who desperately long for the lamp of light immortal. Your special donation will help bring a Bible to someone who would otherwise never know the joy of having their own copy of God's word. **Barry Gilreath** 

Many souls are being brought to the Lord around the world through the efforts of IBTM and our partners. Our brethren in Africa are calling upon us for help. Will you help us answer that call?

Act 16:9 "And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us."

Please continue to keep our work in your prayers and help us as you can to take the Gospel of Christ "into all the world". Ronald D. Gilbert-Director-IBTM

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> Websites www.IBTMinistries.org • www.ICOTB.org

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Baptisms	41,188
Restored	
Congregations started	784
Preachers graduated	849