



The Seeker

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

October 2023

Volume12, Number 7

Dear brethren,

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. During the month of September there were 358 baptisms, 30 restored and 3 new congregations started in connection with our work in Africa. This report was from several different preacher schools. Some of these reports are still coming in for the month of September. We rejoice to hear this good news!

We are hearing from schools in Africa concerning the Gospel meetings IBTM is sponsoring. In September we have heard from several schools and the results from their Gospel meetings: Zambia- 2 baptisms, Tanzania 3 meetings with 3, 10 and 40 baptisms, Malawi with 5 meetings- 16 baptisms, 13 baptisms, 29 baptisms and 40 baptisms, Livingstone, Zambia with 8 baptisms and 11 restored. Since our return from Africa at the end of August the brethren in Malawi, where we had over 10,000 in attendance for the meeting, have continued to study with several people and currently have baptized over 100 more precious souls. One place in Zambia where we recently helped the brethren build a new church building had a meeting and had a full house with 5 restored. The school in Bomet, Kenya recently had a break for a few weeks and the preacher students conducted 22 Gospel meetings with 43 baptisms and 68 restored. The congregation at Bomet school has been meeting in the preacher school building for some time now but they have outgrown the class room. We sent funds recently for the school to purchase a lot joining school property in order to build a new church building. We hope to raise funds to start this project soon. The cost should be around \$22,000.00. We have just finished 2 new church buildings, one at Tione, Malawi. They had their first worship service in the new building Oct 15th with 372 present. Not all could get in the new building so some had to sit outside. They had several visitors for their first service. The other congregation that we helped build a new church building is in Zambia. It is the Matebele congregation and they plan to have their first worship service in the new building on October the 22nd. We have other church building projects that we hope to build as we raise the funds for these buildings. The local brethren make their own bricks and help with the construction of these buildings and we can build them for around \$10,000.00 each. We have had churches and individuals to help build these needed church buildings. Recently we sent funds to preacher schools to purchase 30 bikes for preachers. Last week we sent funds to Zambia to purchase 10 more bikes for preachers at \$300.00 for each bike. We are in need of several more bikes .

In November the school in Solwezi, Zambia will graduate 4 preachers from the school there. We have sent funds for all 4 men to get a new bike to help them in their work as preachers. The work of training faithful Gospel preachers is a very important work. We are working with 13 preacher schools in Africa to help with this great need. At this point we have had 852 preachers to graduate from these schools. Most are in Africa but some are in other parts of the world also. We have had 130 to graduate from our Distance learning school, International College of The Bible for a total of almost 1,000 Gospel preachers. These men are doing good works for the cause of Christ around the world. We need your help to train more faithful men to preach the Gospel of Christ, II Tim. 2:2. There is a great shortage of faithful Gospel preachers around the world! The words of Jesus are still true today, Luke 10:2 The harvest truly *is* great, but the labourers *are* few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. Please help us in this task.

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Shipping Container Reminder

Unless one has traveled to a third world country, it can be difficult to comprehend the extent of poverty that some Christians experience in other parts of the globe. For the most part members of the church in the United States enjoy many comforts that we have come to expect in our daily lives. We are better housed and better fed than perhaps any other nation that has ever existed. Yet with these tremendous blessings comes a tremendous responsibility to share with those who are without, especially those of the household of faith (Gal. 6:10).

Recently, we announced an effort to help bring needed supplies and religious materials to poor Christians living in the country of Malawi. We asked brethren to send a contribution to help with providing costs for a shipping container that we will be filling with clothing, books, Bibles, tracts and other pressing needs to distribute to the local congregations in Malawi, located in southern Africa. We are seeking to raise \$15,000 to cover the shipping expenses associated with this monumental effort. Some of you have already responded with a much-needed contribution. We thank you for your compassionate and generous contribution. Yet we have not yet raised all the funds required to secure the costs for the container. We need other brethren to join us toward this end.

We would like to have all these funds raised within the next 60 days. Please assist with this important endeavor. The Jackson Heights congregation in Florence, Alabama is collecting these funds for this work. Please make your checks payable to the Jackson Heights Church of Christ and note that the funds are for the shipping container for Malawi. Barry Gilreath

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Things You Helped to Accomplish

Baptisms.....	43,623
Restored.....	40,963
Congregations started.....	795
ICOTB Students.....	554
Preachers graduated.....	852