



Dear Friends

We greet you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

As we look out of the window today many things have changed, greenery as far as the eye can see. The Lord has blessed our area with an abundant supply of rain. The fields that were once so dry are now full of maize. The cows that were so thin, starving to death and being moved from the area are now returning and eating the lush grass.

Although it is lovely to see, it hides the suffering of the people as they wait the 4 months until the maize harvest. It has been quite a tough time for the locals as the prices of food have more than doubled due to the knock on effect of the drought. The Kenyan government is having to import maize from other countries, Maize flour has been selling at 110 ksh (77p) per Kg .The average family eats 2/3 Kg per day. That is 330ksh per day without any other expenses. A labouring man can earn 300 to 500ksh per day if there is work. Because of this our food aid distribution went up but so did the price of maize. A 100kg sack went from 2000ksh to 6400ksh (£14 to £44) Every week we are distributing 300kg! Thankfully now they have begun to harvest, although the ongoing rain is stopping it from drying out! This week, however, we were able to buy local maize for the food aid distribution.

James 5: 7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. 8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

The ongoing rain has filled our original rainwater tank. It now overflows into the new bigger tank and we currently have about 212,500 litres of stored water with capacity for more. The store on top of the tank contains a solar system, pump, filters and UV light. We are very thankful for all who supported this project, even by UK standards it was a big project to undertake. It took 3 months to complete, during which we (mercifully) had no injuries. The only one to be taken ill was James, with heat



exhaustion. At times it was over 40 degrees in the tank! To the amusement of the workers his treatment was to oversee the work sitting in the car with the AC on!

It has been good to have some visitors again after the long covid break! Sam's brother Matthew Kingham and his wife Lucy visited in May helping with various practical elements around the mission. Henry and Milly De-Vogel are with us currently, helping with classes, medical and general life here. In the photo is Henry teaching in Mbita with Michael.

The Lord has seen fit for us to go through a long period of various illnesses in both families. Thankfully these have not proved to be serious so far, and due to having the others helping, the work of classes and evangelism has not significantly slowed.

Last week we held our quarterly conference, in which the students from the various classes congregate at the mission for a day of study on a particular subject. This time the subject was 'Christ in the Old Testament' and around 50 students came. There are common misconceptions here



regarding the person of Christ, and they do not typically look for Him in the Old Testament. There are currently classes running in the following areas: Mbita, Mbegani, Majoreni, Chigombero and here at the mission. These classes typically run for around 2 years, once per week and cover all major aspects of truth as well as a book-by-book review of the Scriptures. As mentioned in previous newsletters, there are now a few men working alongside us in the work here, helping with translation, classes and preaching, namely Michael, Festus and Yohana.

We endeavour to do open air preaching once a week, usually on a Friday, in which we go to one of the



surrounding villages to speak from the Word of God. The same lethargy and indifference are largely present as in any part of the world, but there are always some people listening from their various vantage points. Those that do hear will have almost certainly never heard the truth, with a most appalling ignorance of the truth being so widespread, even within the churches. Most churches on Sunday open for healing, deliverance from poverty and other problems of this world, and perhaps a pastoral prayer on behalf of the paying congregant. The Word of God is a foreign book, and the truths within are lost to the vast majority of churches, which have become hierarchical businesses

with the promise of wealth and relief from suffering as the primary draw. How terrible to think of the vast numbers in this area who will cry 'Lord, Lord!' on that day, only to hear the awful response, 'I never knew you, depart from me!' If there is something painful in the consideration of people groups lost for lack of knowledge, there is something yet more poignant in the thought of the thousands perishing who believe themselves safe, and who believe themselves to be within the confines of the church. *'Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you.'* (Matthew 11:21-22) We are in great need of the Lord to reveal the truth to souls in this area; that He may be seen in His true nature, and that men may fear the Lord and flee to Him.

A baby of a few weeks old was brought to us a few weeks back, suffering with a very distended abdomen. He was sent to the local hospital, where he was transferred on to the main government hospital, and then to Mombasa. On that first occasion he was sent home, and the mother reported that they had asked her why she had come, and to go home! It would appear that they looked down on her, being a very rural person and uneducated. He became worse and it was evident his condition was serious. One of our colleagues took him back to the government hospital in Mombasa, but he was told to come back in a month! We took him to a private hospital to see a consultant who was very good and quickly got to the bottom of the problem. She kindly rang the 'high-up people' in the government hospital, and we took him back where he was finally admitted. Thankfully one of the members of the church where Dalmas is pastor works in the hospital ward and has been our point of contact. The mother is not familiar with Swahili and so the member has been able to help with communication. The child's condition stems from serious congenital kidney problems, and we expect an operation to be forthcoming. Please remember the family in prayer, who are all pagans, and some of whom believe the child to be bewitched. We also had another boy who was scalded when his sibling threw hot water over him for not helping with the household chores!





The Chapel building is progressing well. If the Lord wills, by the end of the week we should be able to put the metal roofs sheets on and begin plastering, wiring and painting on the inside. We are humbly asking the Lord that He would bow down His ear unto us for we are poor and needy, that He would bless the preaching of His Word and the house might be filled.

In other news, Elsie and I have booked our flights for our move back to the Uk for November 24th 2022, God willing. I am due to begin a 3 month trial for the pastorate at Hastings chapel in January 2023. We are filled with mixed emotions and there seem so many unknowns and

impossibilities ahead, yet our eyes are unto the Lord who made heaven and earth, for there is nothing too hard for Him.

We thank you all for your prayerful and practical support and we pray the Lord will bless you each and keep you, especially over this hot summer period.

Christian greetings from us all at the mission.