

# Asia Harvest



'Put in the Sickle, for the Harvest has Come!' (Mark 4:29)

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## 2012 Annual Report

Harvest Season in Asia

# Asia Harvest Annual Report

by Paul & Joy Hattaway

During the time of the prophet Elisha, the Aramean army besieged Samaria, trapping the people inside the city walls. Before long the besieged people of Samaria were starving. Things became so bad that one child was boiled and eaten by his mother and another woman just so they could survive (see 2 Kings 6:24-33).

In their desperation, the besieged people cried out to the Lord to help them. God performed a great miracle by sending a spirit of confusion into the enemy camp, causing the soldiers to flee into the night.

The captives inside the city wall were unaware of what had happened. God chose four lepers, considered the lowest part of society, to break the news. These men walked into the deserted Aramean camp and entered a tent. They *“ate and drank, and carried away silver, gold and clothes, and went off and hid them. They returned, and entered another tent and took some things from it and hid them also”* (2 Kings 7:8).

Many Christians today are also happy to receive God's blessing and keep it for themselves, but God's purpose for His children is not that we become absorbed with His blessings, but that we share His abundant goodness with others, especially those most in need. The four lepers thankfully came to their senses and realized it was a sin to keep all those good things to themselves while their countrymen perished inside the city walls. They said to one another, *“We're not doing right. This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves. If we wait until daylight, punishment will overtake us. Let's go at once and report this to the royal palace”* (2 Kings 7:9).

It is with joy and gratitude that we bring you the summary report of our ministry activities for 2011. This indeed is a “day of good news!” It humbles us to present such a report because it does not reflect “our” activities at all, for we are merely a link in the chain between Christians like you and the expansion of the kingdom of God taking place throughout Asia. We are thankful for the many people who believe the Lord has led them to help the work in Asia and share their blessings with those in need.

You may be aware that in 2011 we placed an emphasis on providing more Bibles to the house church believers in China. For more than 20 years now this has been a

major focus of our work, but the urgency and scale of the need in rural areas of China has reached epidemic proportions in recent years. Yes there are Bibles being produced in China today, both legally and secretly, but the revival fires have been burning so brightly in remote provinces like Inner Mongolia, Hainan Island, Qinghai and Xinjiang that the need has far outstripped the supply. Millions of new believers are unable to gain access to Bibles, and many without a firm foundation in God's Word will perish or be snared by cults.

In 2010 we printed and distributed a little more than 500,000 Bibles to hungry believers in China. We sensed that God wanted to substantially increase this number, so on New Year's Eve at the end of 2010 our family knelt down around a table and asked God to do a miracle, according to His will. We asked Him to triple the number of Bibles our co-workers in China would print and deliver in 2011, for His glory and for the extension of His kingdom.

Humanly speaking we had absolutely no way of achieving this goal. Apart from sending out our newsletters we do no fundraising at all, and while we do present opportunities people can give to if they so choose, we don't specifically ask anyone for anything. We figure if we had to rely on human strength to get things done, everything would be a waste of time anyway!

In the final week of 2011, we received donations for the China Bible fund which pushed the number over the 1.5 million mark for the year, and **we ended with a total of 1,589,258 Chinese Bibles printed and delivered for the year. This works out at 4,354 Bibles every day throughout 2011; 181 Bibles every hour; or one Bible every 20 seconds!**

We don't know many wealthy people, and not many churches contribute to our projects. The bulk of giving comes from regular Christians who sense a God-given opportunity to make a difference in Asia. What matters to God is not the size of someone's bank balance, but an obedient and loving heart. **In 2011, the medium donation to our China Bible fund was \$51.50.** Added together, this has resulted in a great number of Bibles and a great harvest for the kingdom of God in China!

Each and every Bible is a miracle from the Lord, in a Communist country which tightly controls the number of Bibles they allow to be printed, and where anyone caught printing "unauthorized books" receives an immediate three year prison sentence without trial. **Please pray for the continued success of this project, and for the protection of the Holy Spirit over everyone involved.**

In this lifetime you may never meet the Chinese believers who have been blessed by this project, but we know there will be many in heaven because of your prayers and support.

Researchers say that every Bible provided to a Chinese believer results in an average of

two to three people coming to know the Lord Jesus, so we knew a marked increase in this project would result in literally millions of people being saved from the clutches of hell. We knew this would attract intense opposition from Satan. Indeed, it was a challenging year in many ways. In July, I (Paul) entered hospital for a heart valve replacement operation, after a surgeon warned me I could drop dead at any time if I failed to act. I was greatly encouraged and humbled by the many believers around the world who prayed fervently for me. The Lord answered those prayers and I am now fully recovered. In fact, I am now able to work with even more energy after my brief pit-stop for repairs!

Thank you for responding to the opportunities we present to transform lives in Asia through the Gospel. Every Bible placed in the hands of a spiritually-hungry believer, each evangelist and 'living martyr' supported, and every life impacted for Jesus Christ occurs because someone cares enough to pray and help advance the Gospel in the darkest and most needy regions of Asia, where 60% of the world's population lives and dies.

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*In the following pages we are glad to present our Annual Report for 2011. It is a great joy to serve the Lord Jesus in Asia for another year, and we have been privileged to witness many people come to know Him for the first time through the witness of our co-workers. Multitudes of believers have been strengthened in their faith after receiving Bibles through the China and Southeast Asia Bible funds, and hundreds of Asian evangelists we support have led thousands of people to faith in Jesus Christ, among dozens of remote unreached people groups. More than 700 injured or ill Chinese church leaders have been supported through the Living Martyr's fund, and almost 1,400 children in Vietnam received free surgeries through Project Smile.*

*Our strategy has always been to operate with as few overhead expenses as possible, so that more resources get to the hands of the frontline workers of God's kingdom—the many Asian Christians whom we are privileged to assist and serve.*

*We are thankful for each person who prayed for us and our work, who encouraged us, or provided support last year. In 2011 our projects helped advance the Gospel in China, Vietnam, Laos, India, Japan, North Korea, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Iraq, and Bangladesh.*

*While this world system seems to be rapidly falling apart at the seams, we are determined to serve our soon-coming King until the very last moment, before the sun sets and all labor will cease. The Lord Jesus said, **"As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."** (John 9:4-5)*

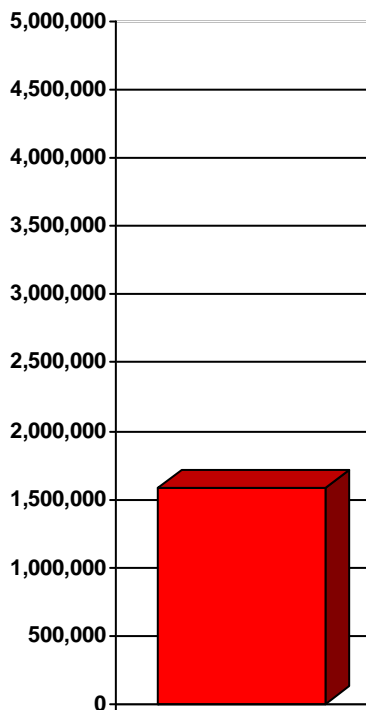
# CHINA BIBLE PRINTING

## *Equipping China's Christians with God's Word*

We are thankful to the many people who pray and give so that Christians in China will have access to God's Word. Since 2000, we have supplied almost 5 million Bibles to the rural house churches in China, with 1,589,258 printed and distributed in 2011 alone. This figure represents **4,354 Bibles every day** throughout the year! Yet the need for God's Word remains great, especially in rural areas where the revival is burning brightest. One house church leader in Inner Mongolia recently wrote:

"We are blessed that our province is a crossroads of trade and transportation for the region. This makes it an ideal evangelistic base for the entire northeastern part of the country. We face many obstacles and much opposition, but God has given us the strength and grace to continue despite great pressures. Our greatest need at this time is more Bibles. New believers need the precious Word of God to keep them from being deceived by cults. For each new believer in our network to have their own copy we need 683,923 Bibles. Thank you so much for the Bibles you have already provided! May God's grace and peace be with you!"

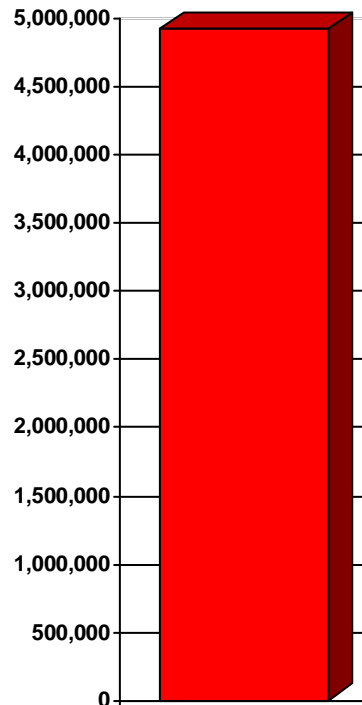
2011 Bibles  
printed: 1,589,258



There remains a critical shortage of Bibles in China because of the massive growth of the church in rural areas. Tens of millions of Christians are still without God's Word. We are partnering with house church networks in China in a long-term goal to print Bibles for these new believers. They are distributed for free to all parts of China, equipping the believers and helping add fuel to the fires of revival that are burning throughout the world's largest nation.

Each Bible costs just \$1.80 to print and deliver.

Total Bibles since  
2000: 4,917,420





# SOUTHEAST ASIA BIBLE FUND

*Current Total: 267,141 Bibles printed in 35 different languages.  
Each Bible costs an average of \$2.70 to print and deliver.*

Asian countries like Vietnam, Laos, India and Myanmar (Burma) contain hundreds of different tribes, many of which had full Bibles or New Testaments translated into their languages in the past. In some cases, these tribal believers have been deprived access to the Scriptures for decades and their need for God's Word is great.

Last year we continued putting God's Word into the hands of as many believers as possible through the Southeast Asia Bible fund. Recent projects we helped with include printing 20,000 Bibles in the Burmese language of Myanmar (Burma), 5,000 Bibles for Koho tribal believers in central Vietnam, and 5,000 and 12,000 Bibles in the national languages of Laos and Indonesia respectively. In coming months we have plans to provide 10,000 Wa Bibles to the Wa tribe of Myanmar and 10,000 Bibles in the Blue Hmong language to the hungry Hmong Christians of Vietnam. The Lord is always bringing new projects to our attention. Please pray for the Southeast Asia Bible fund and all those involved with providing God's Word to these precious tribes.



# ASIAN WORKERS' FUND

*Partnering with Pioneer Asian Evangelists*

*Because of your prayers and partnership, in 2011 we were able to support 519 Asian church-planting missionaries — working among 151 unreached tribes and people groups.*



***Members of a tribal group in China hearing the Gospel at a recent meeting held by one of the evangelists we support through the Asian Workers' fund.***

The Asian Workers' fund provides support to evangelists in Asia who are involved with strategic and ground-breaking work in areas that have never had a Gospel witness before. We work alongside Asian Christian leaders, helping strengthen their ministries and providing support to those who are serving God wholeheartedly.

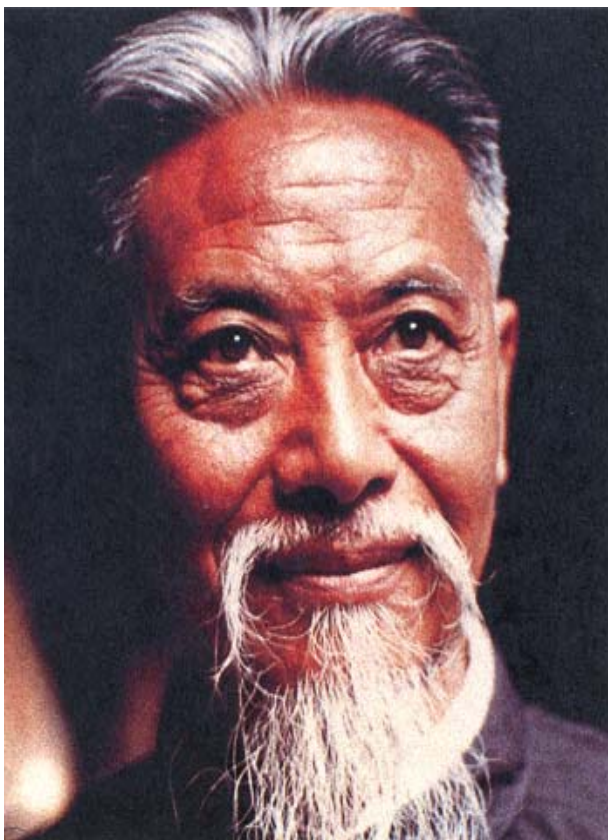
The fruit of their work can be clearly seen as thousands of people found faith in Jesus Christ last year, with dozens of churches established in some of the darkest parts of Asia. They have encountered many hardships and persecutions, but have persevered and are now seeing breakthroughs among certain people groups after years faithfully planting seed.

This work is constantly expanding and new workers are being recruited. You can help support one or more of these workers with a gift of **\$25 per month each**. A laminated worker's prayer card is sent to every supporter of this project.

# CHINA LIVING MARTYRS

## *Supporting Christians disabled by Persecution*

*Because of your prayers and support we were able to help 717 living martyrs throughout 2011. This strategic project has been a tremendous blessing to the Church in China.*



*"A martyr is a Christian who chooses to suffer death rather than deny Christ or His work... One who sacrifices something very important to further the Kingdom of God and endures great suffering for Christian witness." (The Voice of the Martyrs)*

In China today, many house church Christians are still beaten and persecuted because of their faith. House church leaders have provided us with lists of hundreds of Christian leaders who have been disabled or who face long-term illness or injury as a result of persecution and imprisonment.

The **China Living Martyrs Fund** assists many pastors and evangelists who are now unable to work because of persecution. They and their families face extreme

poverty and hardship. The families of imprisoned Christians are also supported. A house church leader wrote, *"The Martyrs' fund is very important. It helps many who are not able to support their families because they are in prison or disabled and unable to work. It also helps the Church provide for the families of martyrs. Many of them have no other means of income."*

You can support one or more of these living martyrs with a gift of **\$35 per month each**. A prayer card is sent to every supporter of this project, with information about a living martyr to help you pray for him and his family.



# PROJECT SMILE

## Helping Children in Vietnam

*Your generous gifts helped bring a smile to the faces of 1,389 children in Vietnam in 2011 (10,422 since 1999).*

*Project Smile helps children from poor families in Vietnam who were born with cleft-palate or cleft-lip disabilities, various forms of cancer, burns, club-feet, and other deformities. Many lives continue to be dramatically changed by this project. We recently received the following testimony from our coworkers in Vietnam:*

One little boy named Diep had a dream. His dream was to wake one morning and find his face normal, and that the raw gash of his cleft lip would have disappeared overnight. Then he could be like the other children in the village. If Diep's dream could come true he would have friends, no one would laugh at him, and no one would throw stones at him. Each morning when Diep awoke his hope was shattered again, for there staring back at him in the mirror was the face of the child the villagers called "the ugly boy."

Diep's parents were shocked one day when they were told families were being invited to bring children just like their son to the city for free surgery. There would be no cost at all, everything would be provided, even the bus fares for the 250 mile (400 km) journey.



Diep and his parents arrived in the city to find many other families whose dreams had also been shattered when their children were born with disabilities. The family was deeply touched to see the genuine love exhibited by our team, and to hear how God cared for them. When it was time for Diep's surgery, the nurse gently told him, "I am going to give you something to make you sleep." In less than an hour Diep's dream was made reality as the surgeons skilfully repaired his face.

Diep has returned to his village. No one laughs at him now, and no one throws stones at him. He can't wait to wake each morning, for now he has friends to play with. The mirror no longer reflects a shattered dream, for Diep has been given the gift of life, and life abundantly.

*It costs just \$60 to help put a smile on the face of a child in Vietnam through Project Smile. Your prayers and support make a great difference to Diep and many others like him.*

# BACK TO JERUSALEM

## *Equipping Chinese Christians to serve as Missionaries*

We continue to serve the Chinese Church as they train and send cross-cultural missionaries to unreached people groups in Asia and the Middle East. This God-given vision to preach the Gospel to the unreached world is known in China as “Back to Jerusalem.”

There are many ways we support this vision. In 2011 these included providing support to Chinese missionaries working in Muslim and Buddhist nations, printing evangelistic literature in various languages, and funding training centers where new workers are taught foreign languages and cross-cultural skills. Depending on their intended field of work, they learn how to effectively reach Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists.

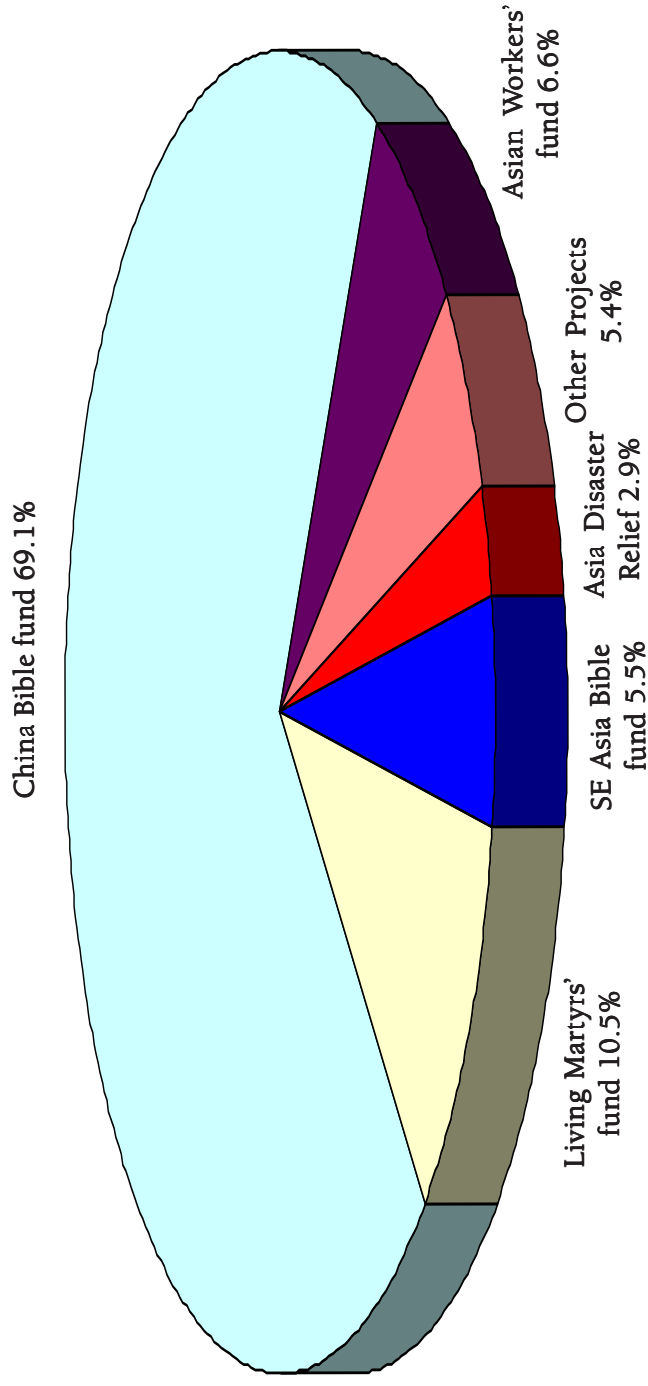
Support for our Back to Jerusalem project assists in other practical ways such as purchasing motorbikes or bicycles for evangelists who serve in remote areas, funding Bibles to the most persecuted Christians in the world (North Korea), and other strategic initiatives we are not permitted to share publicly.

Please pray the Chinese Church will continue to take up the challenge to spread the light of Jesus Christ to the darkest corners of the earth.



***When will they hear about Jesus? .... Some of the 12 million Uyghur people in northwest China. The Uyghurs are a Turkic-speaking Muslim group, with just a few thousand known Christians among them.***

# Asia Harvest Projects Supported in 2011



## 2011 Financial Statement

Asia Harvest desires to be open and accountable in the area of finances. Our financial statement for 2011 will soon be available to those who request it. Please write and ask if you would like to receive a copy.



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## The Asian Workers' Fund

Helping the Unhelped and Reaching the Unreached

# From the Front Lines

by Paul & Joy Hattaway

One of the strangest things we have encountered during our time serving the Lord in Asia is the argument over whether or not Western churches should support Asian evangelists to reach the lost in their own countries, or whether it is best for foreign missionaries to continue being the main focus of their efforts and funding.

The argument usually boils down to one side warning that we should not support 'third-world' missionaries because it can create an unhealthy 'dependency.' On the other side, organizations which specialize in supporting native missionaries often point out that local workers can live on a fraction of the budget that the average foreigner can.

While both sides have valid points worth considering, to us, they both miss the point. A drowning man who is in his last gasp of breath before sinking under the water doesn't care whether it is a Westerner or Asian person who throws him a life preserver! All he cares about is getting saved before it is too late. It seems a lot of Christians waste their precious time arguing about who should do the job, while millions of people all around them plunge into eternity in hell.

We are convinced the best way to get the job done is for the worldwide Body of Christ to *work together*. It is not a case of either foreigners or locals doing the work. Both have strengths and weaknesses that compliment one another.

A number of years ago Paul was blessed to attend a meeting in northern Myanmar (Burma) with many key Chinese house church leaders. One man, Brother Wang, had spent 23 years in prison for the Gospel. After his release, he travelled around China visiting many churches and renewing his relationships with key leaders.

Brother Wang stood to his feet and spoke directly to the Western mission leaders in the room. Decades in prison meant there was no 'beating around the bush' which often characterizes Chinese speech. He said, ***"We appreciate that you want to help reach China. However, many times you come in with your ideas and plans, and start bossing us around. You don't even take the time to ask what plans and strategies we have to reach our own nation. To be honest, we wish you would all leave, because you are getting in the way and slowing down the Gospel in China because of your work."***

As his words were translated into English there was a hush over the foreigners in the room. They had never been told the truth in such a direct manner before. The other Chinese leaders in the room were a little embarrassed by the bluntness of Brother Wang's

message, but I noticed as they looked down at the floor that they were all nodding in agreement!

It is important to understand that Brother Wang was *not* saying there is no place for foreign Christians to serve in China. But they must go to serve and not to be served. They should learn the vision God has given the local believers and become a part of it, rather than impose their own agenda.

When we first arrived in Asia back in the 1980s, we thought we would walk into villages and proclaim the Gospel to people. It didn't take long for us to realize, however, that local believers were far better equipped to do the job. They spoke the language fluently, were part of the culture, and to be honest, in countries like China and Vietnam the Christians had undergone decades of refining which made them far more spiritually effective at reaching the lost than we were.

After a few years we became aware of hundreds of unreached tribes and ethnic groups in the countries we were called to serve in. Instead of us taking a traditional 'West to the Rest' missionary philosophy, we realized God's kingdom could advance far more effectively if we adopted a different approach. We took a step back, and instead of imposing our own vision on the Christians in Asia, we decided to serve *alongside* them and find ways to *help them* get the job done. Over the years this strategy has taken many forms, including supplying Bibles and other resources to Christians in persecuted nations, humanitarian relief projects that focus on reaching the lost, and providing support for Asian missionaries going to the most unreached people groups.

We learned the first step in this process was to come in humility, asking local church leaders what vision and strategy God had already given them. Then, we prayerfully found ways we could come alongside and serve them.

Believers involved with mission work should be careful to guard against having a kind of Christian imperialist mindset, thinking what we have is better than what Christians elsewhere have. It is impossible to truly serve with such an attitude. It takes a bit of humility for people and organizations to be willing to let someone else get the credit, while they stand back and serve in the background. If a Christian can get to the place where he is content to remain in obscurity, where he does not have to be up front but would rather sit in the back seat than on the platform, then God can use him. After all, it is Jesus Christ alone who deserves all credit and glory!

All of this might sound good, but how does it work out on a practical level? Let us provide one example.... We are frequently contacted by someone who has written a book. They want us to help them translate it into Chinese so that the house churches in China will be blessed by their teaching. We thank them for their offer, but also inform them that among the more than 100 million Christians in China today, God has gifted many to write and teach His Word in a powerful and effective way. The Chinese church

has been filled with countless books translated from the West. Some have been helpful, many have not. More than a few have caused division and confusion.

Do you think we should look first to translate Western books into Chinese, or should we encourage and help develop the gifts God has placed in the Chinese Church? We believe it is wonderful that God has raised up many Chinese believers who preach, teach, sing and write in a way that glorifies Jesus. Perhaps it might be more beneficial for the kingdom of God if more books by Chinese Christians are translated into English!

If we truly want to serve the Church in Asia, we should never want to take over their churches or dominate their work in any way. This is why when we support Asian evangelists we always do so through existing local churches and ministries. By God's grace, things have grown and today we support hundreds of faithful and courageous frontline workers through the Asian Workers' fund.



It might surprise you to know that most of the field workers we support have never heard of Asia Harvest. We are content if nobody knows who we are, as long as the work is advancing and souls are being saved. The workers are simply told by their ministry leaders that the support comes from "God's people." By giving in a non-controlling manner like this, the local Body of Christ is built up to maturity, and foreign influence is minimized. Another key principle is that we only provide partial support for any worker. They must also be supported by their home churches and friends. This ensures it is a joint effort, and if for any reason our support should end, they will continue to serve God where He has placed them, because they are looking to the hand of the Lord and not to us for their provision.

The ideas we have are not new. The Apostle Paul was always careful not to outstay his welcome. He established a work and moved on, allowing the believers to grow and take responsibility. The great 19th century pioneer to China, Hudson Taylor, had a similar



view on the role of missionaries. He wrote, ***“I look upon foreign missionaries as the scaffolding around a rising building. The sooner it can be dispensed with, the better; or rather, the sooner it can be transferred to other places, to serve the same temporary use, the better.”***

This year is exactly one century since an English missionary named Roland Allen wrote a ground-breaking book, *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours?* In the book, Allen went even further on this theme, writing, ***“Foreigners can never successfully direct the propagation of any faith throughout a whole country. If the faith does not become naturalised and expand among the people by its own vital power, it exercises an alarming and hateful influence, and men fear and shun it as something alien.”***

Unfortunately, instead of seeing themselves as the “temporary scaffolding” as Hudson Taylor described, many mission organizations end up thinking they are the grand building, and the Asian Christians are the scaffolding privileged to hold them up! Tragically,



we know of one house church network in China which became so tired of being manipulated and used that they have decided to cut off all contact with foreigners.

Armed with a God-given determination to serve (and not use) the Asian Church, over the years we have developed many wonderful relationships with leaders who know and trust us, and we know and trust them. This has led to effective partnership. They often tell us how thankful they are to God for the way we encourage and support their work. They know we will never attempt to sign their workers up as *our* employees or staff, and they also know we would never dream of asking for Asia Harvest to be named on the sign above their Bible schools or church doors (if they had such a thing as a physical building!).

In the early part of our time in Asia, we realized it would take a lot of effort for little success if we tried to reach just one people group for the Lord by ourselves. Today,

# TELLING THE UNTOLD, REACHING THE UNREACHED

Asia Harvest is privileged to support many faithful and courageous Asian evangelists. In order to be most effective for the kingdom of God, we only support those working in difficult areas, taking the Gospel to the most unreached tribes and people groups. Below is a list of many of the key unreached people groups that are hearing the Gospel because of these dedicated workers. Thank you for praying and for supporting them!

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**BHUTAN** ♦ Drukpa ♦ Nepali ♦ Sharchocka ♦ Tsangla ♦ Zongkha

**CAMBODIA** ♦ Khmer

**CHINA** ♦ Achang ♦ Amdo Tibetans ♦ Axi ♦ Baima ♦ Bonan ♦ Bouyei  
♦ Deqin Tibetans ♦ Derung ♦ Dong ♦ Dongxiang ♦ Eastern Khampa ♦ Hani  
♦ Hei Miao ♦ Hmong Shuad ♦ Hui ♦ Jiao Miao ♦ Jiarong ♦ Kawa ♦ Kazak  
♦ Kirgiz ♦ Lahu ♦ Lisu ♦ Miao ♦ Mosuo ♦ Mulao ♦ Northern Zhuang ♦ Nosu  
♦ Nu ♦ Qiang ♦ Salar ♦ Shui ♦ Southern Zhuang ♦ Tajik ♦ Uyghur ♦ Wa  
♦ Western Xibe ♦ Yi ♦ Zhongdian Tibetans

**INDIA** ♦ Adi ♦ Adivasi ♦ Aka ♦ Apatani ♦ Assamese ♦ Bengali ♦ Bhatra  
♦ Bhutai ♦ Bhutanese ♦ Bugun ♦ Chakma ♦ Dam ♦ Darua ♦ Gondi ♦ Gujar  
♦ Hill Miri ♦ Kachari ♦ Karbi ♦ Kashmiri ♦ Keaute ♦ Khampa Tibetans ♦ Ladakhi  
♦ Lepcha ♦ Lumchan ♦ Mahara ♦ Mangali ♦ Miji ♦ Mirgan ♦ Monpa  
♦ Mossang Naga ♦ Muklom ♦ Nepali ♦ Nishing ♦ Nocte ♦ Oriya ♦ Pahari  
♦ Pashtun ♦ Punjabi ♦ Rai Sikh ♦ Rana Tharu ♦ Santal ♦ Sherdukpen ♦ Sikh  
♦ Sulung ♦ Tagin ♦ Tangsa ♦ Tharu ♦ Tibetan ♦ Toto ♦ Tripuri ♦ Wangcho  
♦ Zeme Naga

**KYRGYZSTAN** ♦ Dungan

**MYANMAR (BURMA)** ♦ Bahmar ♦ Chin ♦ Konyak Naga ♦ Shan ♦ Somra Naga

**NEPAL** ♦ Bhawun ♦ Brahmin ♦ Chapang ♦ Chetri ♦ Dalit ♦ Dhimal ♦ Gurung  
♦ Limbu ♦ Magar ♦ Newar ♦ Pun ♦ Tamang

**THAILAND** ♦ Isaan ♦ Shan

**VIETNAM** ♦ Cham ♦ Churu ♦ Co ♦ Ede ♦ Gie Trieng ♦ Hoa ♦ Hre ♦ Jarai ♦ Katu  
♦ Khmer ♦ Khmu ♦ Koho ♦ Lat ♦ Ma ♦ Mnong ♦ Muong ♦ Nung ♦ Raglai ♦ Stieng  
♦ Tai ♦ Tay ♦ Thai ♦ Vietnamese ♦ Xo Dang

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thanks to the blessings of God and the wonderful participation of many Christians like you, the Asian Workers' fund has grown and **we are supporting hundreds of Asian missionaries who are reaching 173 different tribes and people groups throughout Asia.** Tens of thousands of people have met Jesus Christ over the years, and many hundreds of fellowships have been established in places where there was previously no knowledge of the Gospel.

We don't often specifically mention the Asian Workers' fund in our newsletters, but it is a great opportunity for those who would like to help an Asian missionary working among a people group that has never before heard of Jesus.

Because we want to make the greatest impact possible, we carefully select evangelists who are working among truly unreached people groups. Some of the workers have to walk for days just to reach the nearest road. Their work is often difficult and dangerous, and sometimes it takes years before they experience a breakthrough. They have left the comfort of their homes and the love of their family members to take the light of the Gospel to a tribe trapped in spiritual darkness. They have few possessions in this world, and few people know their name, but God is with them mightily!

On pages 8 and 9 you will find an outline map of Asia covered by red asterisks. Each asterisk represents the general location of an unreached people group being presented with the Gospel by those we are privileged to support through the Asian Workers' fund. We were encouraged when we recently produced the map for the first time, because the original vision God gave us for Asia was to reach tribes along the spine of the Himalayan Mountain Range, and down into the hills of southwest China, Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam. The map clearly shows that God has been faithful in seeing this vision come to pass.

We rejoice for the fruitfulness of this project, but there are hundreds more tribes in Asia waiting to hear about Jesus. For centuries they have lived and died in sin, and nobody ever bothered to tell them the Name of He who said, ***"I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me"*** (John 14:6).

The number of workers needing support continues to expand, and we have many right now who are prepared and ready to go, but lack the provision to do so. The amount of support we provide for each worker depends on their location and circumstances, but **for each monthly gift of \$25 we send a laminated prayer card of a worker your support has been applied to.** For those who continue in their support, we provide updates every six months.

Please pray for the Asian Workers' fund, and please consider supporting one or more workers as the Lord leads you. This is a great investment opportunity, helping to trigger breakthroughs for the Gospel among many of Asia's darkest regions.

# ASIAN WORKERS' FUND

Each asterisk represents the location of one of the 173 tribes and people groups being reached for Jesus Christ by an evangelist we support through the Asian Workers' fund.

# UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUP MAP





## CHINA BIBLE PRINTING



***Current Total: 5,408,241 Bibles printed and delivered.***

We are partnering with house churches in China in a long-term project to provide Bibles for Christians. We receive countless requests for God's Word from church leaders throughout the country. These Bibles are distributed free of charge, equipping the believers and helping add fuel to the fires of revival in China. **Each full Bible costs just \$1.80 to print and deliver.**

**Asia Harvest is able to print and distribute 230,000 Chinese Bibles per month depending on incoming funds. So far this year we are operating at 71.1% capacity.**

## ASIAN WORKERS' FUND

***Thanks to your support we are currently able to support 521 Asian evangelists working among 173 unreached tribes and ethnic groups.***



The **Asian Workers Fund** assists church-planting evangelists who are involved in strategic ministry in Asia. These servants of the Lord have committed their whole lives to the Gospel but are hindered by lack of finances. We only support evangelists/missionaries and not pastors, as we believe pastors should be supported by the flocks they shepherd. Please pray about whether you or your church could help support these dedicated workers, at **\$25 per month** each. A prayer card is sent to all regular donors.

## SOUTHEAST ASIA BIBLE FUND

***Current Total: 276,146 Bibles printed in 37 languages***



The Communist nations of Laos and Vietnam are home to more than 250 different tribes, dozens of which had full Bibles or New Testaments translated into their languages prior to the arrival of Communism in 1975. Since then, these believers have been deprived of Bibles by the authorities. We are also providing God's Word to tribes in Myanmar (Burma), Cambodia, and other Southeast and South Asian nations as the need arises. **Each Bible costs \$2.70 to print and deliver.**

## LIVING MARTYRS' FUND

*Because of your partnership we are supporting 720 living martyrs.*



"A martyr is a Christian who chooses to suffer death rather than deny Christ or His work... One who sacrifices something very important to further the Kingdom of God and endures great suffering for Christian witness." (The Voice of the Martyrs)

The **Living Martyrs Fund** assists pastors and evangelists in China and Vietnam who are unable to work because of injuries or illness caused by persecution. They and their families face extreme poverty and hardship. Through a gift of **\$35 per month** you can help support one of these living martyrs. A prayer card is sent to every regular supporter of this project.

## PROJECT SMILE



*Your generous gifts have so far helped bring a smile to the faces of 10,917 children in Vietnam.*

**Project Smile** helps children from poor families in Vietnam who were born with disabilities such as cleft palates, cleft lips and club feet, as well as others who need operations for burns, cancerous growths and other conditions. The cost of helping a child varies depending on the kind of surgery required, but each gift received of **\$60** helps a child have a better life. A laminated prayer card of a child helped through Project Smile is sent to all donors.

## ASIA DISASTER RELIEF FUND

*Transforming lives from ashes to beauty with God's love.*



Over the years Asia Harvest has provided relief assistance to the victims of natural disasters such as the earthquake in China and cyclone in Myanmar (Burma); the Tsunamis of Southeast Asia and Japan, and a host of other disasters in India, Afghanistan, Vietnam, and elsewhere. In addition to providing aid through medicine, tents, blankets, food and water, rebuilding homes etc., the Christians we partner with take every opportunity to share the Gospel, and thousands of people have come to know Jesus Christ. This long-term fund helps us respond immediately whenever a disaster strikes.



## **Asia Harvest Addresses**

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### **UNITED KINGDOM & IRELAND**

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# Asia Harvest



'Put in the Sickle, for the Harvest has Come!' (Mark 4:29)

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July 2012 - Newsletter #115



## The Ring of Fire

God's Kingdom Continues to Advance in Asia



# From the Front Lines

by Paul & Joy Hattaway

In our previous newsletter we spoke about the Asian Workers' fund, and how the Lord has led us over the years to help the Church in Asia reach the lost in their own countries. We don't impose our agenda on those we work alongside. Instead, we ask church leaders to tell us the vision God has given them, and we get involved and support certain projects as God leads and provides.

It sounds like a pretty simple concept, but we have been overwhelmed with responses to our last newsletter from people who are amazed at what we wrote. Even a few missionaries who have worked in Asia for decades said they have never seriously considered that things could advance more quickly if they simply serve and equip local believers to do the job instead of trying to do it all themselves.

It shouldn't come as a surprise that many Christians have never heard of the concept of serving local believers. After all, we are taught in church every week, both with word or by implication, that 'our' Christianity is superior to that in the 'Third world'. Bible colleges and seminaries spend years telling students they need to embrace their particular set of doctrines and spread it around the globe. Old missionary biographies are studied, reinforcing the idea that we will be doing the world a big favor by going and reaching the heathen in distant lands.

The implication is that we are the masters, and the churches in Asia, Africa, Latin America or elsewhere will be greatly blessed by our coming. After all, we have more resources, programs, sound systems and money than they do. We have preachers who know how to crack jokes and stimulate listeners.

Let me share a personal experience to bring a small dose of reality! A few years ago I travelled to Heilongjiang Province in northeast China. It is the coldest part of the country, bordering Siberia, and I happened to be there in the middle of winter with temperatures around minus 25 degrees during the day.

The house churches in central China had hastily arranged the visit to Heilongjiang. The believers further south were aware of my teaching and beliefs, but those in Heilongjiang had never met me. I was taken to a small inner-city apartment where about 30 house church leaders had gathered for fellowship and to feast on God's Word. Many of these leaders had experienced severe persecution and imprisonment for their faith. They had also been privileged to spearhead much of the tremendous

revival that had swept Heilongjiang in the previous 15 or 20 years, with literally millions of people coming to faith in Christ. The growth had been greatest in and around Daqing, where one house church group had 80 believers in 1990. By 2003 they had grown to 200,000! It has continued to grow steadily to the present day.

The leader of the meeting warmly welcomed me, but before he let me speak he said he had a few questions and ushered me into a side room. He bent over and dragged a heavy suitcase out from under the bed. He popped the locks and revealed the contents — dozens of colourful, glossy Christian teaching books by Western preachers, which had been translated into Chinese.

The house church leader told me to look through the books and tell him if I approved of them. I truthfully told him that I was not familiar with many of the books, but the books I did know about I considered extreme, unbiblical and dangerous. The elderly brother smiled and said,

***“Thank you for your honesty. We keep these books locked away because they are toxic. A few years ago a foreigner visited us and wrote down our address. Ever since he has been sending us large boxes of these books. We never asked for them nor do we want them. They would destroy the faith of our people if they read them. We told him to stop sending the books, but they keep coming anyway. There are so many boxes coming that we are worried the authorities might get suspicious and investigate why we are receiving so much religious material from overseas.”***

The expression on his face looked pained when he told me this, but a wry smile appeared when he concluded, ***“Actually the books have been a blessing to us in one way. At this time of the year they have been a great help in starting the furnace every morning!”***

The reason we mention this story is to share a fundamental problem in missions, and in serving God in general. In order to effectively serve, we must be willing to display humility and learn how to best meet the needs of those we are serving. It is arrogant to assume we know best and force our ideas, teaching, or books down people's throats.

Note the kind of attitude the Lord Jesus told us to have: ***“You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them.***



***Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many*** (Mark 10:42-45).

The very word “minister” in the New Testament is the same Greek word used for slaves who were chained together in the bow of a ship, and ordered to row. Hidden from sight, their job was to serve in such a way that helped the vessel move forward towards its destination, for the benefit of others. In many parts of the Christian world today, being a “minister” is the exact opposite — someone up on stage with a nice suit and a big smile. This kind of “church on a stage” Christianity automatically assumes that if something is going to get done, then it is me who will do it. If someone has to go somewhere, it is me who should be that person.

Recently a pastor in one Western nation was convicted after reading one of our books on the Church in China. His response? He arranged a trip for himself to China and told his congregation God had “called him to preach the Gospel in China.” After a few weeks of vacation he returned home.

Why do people assume they have to be the ones to do things and go places? Why do we necessarily have to be the ones up front preaching and baptizing? Wouldn't it be better if local church leaders baptized their new believers?

We believe China needs missionaries, but not the traditional kind. China needs people who are willing to come and serve the vision that God has given to His Church in China. There are at least 50,000 fulltime Chinese house church evangelists in China right now who are unable to share the Gospel among the unreached because they lack the financial support to do so. These are battle-hardened warriors, fluent in the language and completely integrated into the culture — their culture. Surely it would make more sense to spend our energy helping some of those 50,000 go out.

The crucial question anyone wanting to serve God should ask is this: are you willing to be behind the scenes and let others get the credit, or do you have to be the one doing the upfront work? The Lord Jesus said, ***“He who speaks on his own does so to gain honor for himself, but he who works for the honor of the one who sent him is a man of truth; there is nothing false about him”*** (John 7:18).

The person who is willing to work for the benefit of other Christians, regardless of whether or not anyone finds out what they are doing, is an important member of the Body of Christ. Indeed the Bible teaches the whole reason God gives various ministry gifts (apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers) is not so that people can become famous and enjoy their moment in the limelight! No, these roles of service exist ***“to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the Body of Christ might be built up”*** (Ephesians 4:12).

I recently read a book by a Christian journalist who reported on a powerful revival more than a century ago. Compare his words to today's prevailing Christian culture of self-promotion and self-importance. He wrote: ***"The fact is that when a man gets to the place where he really loves obscurity, where he does not care to preach, and where he would rather sit in the back seat than on the platform, then God can lift him up and use him, and not very much before."***

Many churches today don't hesitate to help send a foreign missionary family somewhere with \$4,000 per month support, where they struggle to learn the language and they stand out like a sore thumb, but they turn their noses up at the idea of investing the same money to support 160 Asian evangelists at \$25 each per month, who are already part of the culture, speak the language, but just don't have the resources available to go.

We are thankful for the many Christians around the world who understand they can make the greatest impact for the kingdom of God in Asia by helping Asian believers get the job done. Instead of viewing themselves as the great Prophet Elijah, they see their role more like the desparate widow of Zareptath. Despite her own poverty, she served Elijah by providing food for him (see 1 Kings 17:7-24). In a similar way, we are thankful for those who help us and other ministries provide real food, the Word of God, to His people in China, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar, and other countries where Christians are starving for their daily bread.

As the widow continued to serve Elijah, God blessed her and her son, so that their jar of flour and jug of oil never ran out. Some Western church leaders have told us how their congregations used to be stagnant and in spiritual decay. They didn't know how to turn the situation around until they started to provide Bibles to the persecuted Church. Over time the Christians in those fellowships stopped grumbling about one another and started focusing their energy on helping God's kingdom grow.

One day tragedy struck, and the widow's son died. The widow complained bitterly to God. Elijah ***"stretched himself out on the boy three times and cried to the Lord, 'O Lord my God, let this boy's life return to him!'"*** ***The Lord heard Elijah's cry, and the boy's life returned to him, and he lived. Elijah picked up the child and carried him down from the room into the house. He gave him to his mother and said, 'Look, your son is alive!'"*** (1 Kings 17:21-23).

There never seems to be a shortage of believers putting their hand up to have a powerful ministry like Elijah. Not so many, however, are willing to be like the widow of Zareptath.

Has your life or church become dry, or even spiritually dead? The good news is that God can raise the dead. Make a commitment to serve God and His people, in completely anonymity if necessary. If you do this, especially if you focus on helping an unreached people group know Christ, you will be aligning yourself to God's purposes. You may even find that the Holy Spirit breathes life back into you and your church.



# COUNTRY UPDATES FROM THE RING OF FIRE

Scientists have labelled the countries surrounding the Pacific Ocean 'The Ring of Fire' because of the large number of earthquakes and volcanic activity there. Many of the Asian countries in the Ring of Fire are at the heart of the ministry efforts of Asia Harvest. In the following pages we would like to give a brief overview of how the Gospel is advancing in 7 of the countries we work in, along with vital data. In many places the kingdom of God has been advancing strongly, and **the region is gradually becoming home to a Ring of Holy Spirit fire!**

For consistency, the statistics come from the last three editions of *Operation World* (1993, 2001, and 2010). Please use the following information to pray for each country as the Lord leads you.

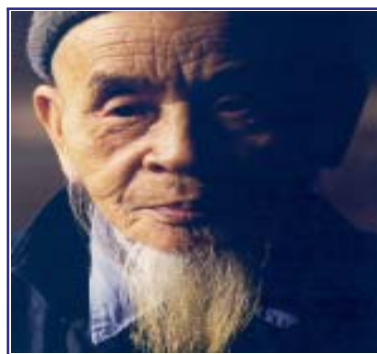
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## CHINA

Population: 1,330,584,000  
Unsaved People: 1,225,284,000  
Capital: Beijing  
People Groups: 490  
Main Religion: Non-Religious 44.4%  
All Christians:  
    2010 - 105.3 million (7.9%)  
    2001 - 91.5 million (7.2%)  
    1993 - 72.2 million (6.1%)

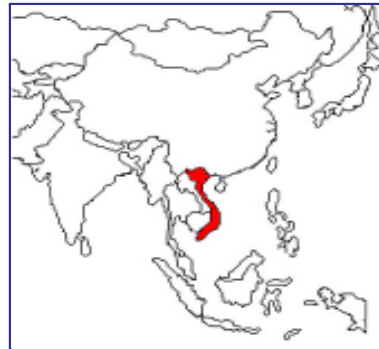


God continues to move powerfully throughout China, with constant growth in many parts of the country. More than 30 million people have been saved since 1993. The greatest need is for Bibles and discipleship materials to match the tremendous zeal for evangelism the churches possess. Most of the ethnic minority groups, however, remain unreached. The Gospel has spread rapidly among the Han Chinese majority, but has encountered many difficulties penetrating across the ethnic, cultural, geographical and language barriers to the more than 450 distinct (non-Han) minority groups in China. Of these, no more than 100 groups have a consistent Gospel witness capable of impacting a significant proportion of the population.



## VIETNAM

Population: 89,028,000  
Unsaved People: 80,628,000  
Capital: Hanoi  
People Groups: 139  
Main Religion: Buddhist 52.4%  
All Christians:  
2010 - 8.4 million (9.4%)  
2001 - 6.5 million (8.1%)  
1993 - 7.0 million (9.8%)



Most professing Christians in Vietnam are Catholics. Protestants make up only about 2% of the population. The Gospel has spread inconsistently, with most churches in the south and central provinces, but there are fewer believers the further north one travels. Dozens of tribes remain completely untouched by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Please pray every segment of this nation will soon hear the Good News of the Living God.



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## LAOS

Population: 6,436,000  
Unsaved People: 6,218,500  
Capital: Vientiane  
People Groups: 145  
Main Religion: Buddhist 57.2%  
All Christians:  
2010 - 217,500 (3.4%)  
2001 - 100,500 (1.9%)  
1993 - 64,000 (1.5%)



Laos is one of Asia's forgotten countries. Because of its small population of just 6 million, many organizations do not consider it a priority for action. Yet Laos is one of the most ethnically-diverse countries on earth, containing 145 distinct tribes. Only about a dozen have significant Christian presence, and more than 130 tribes remain untouched and unevangelized. Please pray for their salvation.



## MYANMAR (Burma)

Population: 50,500,000  
Unsaved People: 46,000,000  
Capital: Naypyidaw  
People Groups: 135  
Main Religion: Buddhist 80.0%  
All Christians:  
2010 - 4.5 million (8.9%)  
2001 - 4.0 million (8.7%)  
1993 - 2.9 million (6.5%)



The spread of Christianity in Myanmar is uneven, with some areas in revival and other regions and tribes full of dead religion. There is a great need for the Scriptures. Please pray that revival might come again to those tribes that have experienced moves of God many decades ago. Pray many of the 31 million Buddhist Bama ethnic group will soon know the Living God.



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## INDONESIA

Population: 232,500,000  
Unsaved People: 195,700,000  
Capital: Jakarta  
People Groups: 750  
Main Religion: Islam 80.3%  
All Christians:  
2010 - 36.8 million (15.8%)  
2001 - 34.0 million (16.0%)  
1993 - 23.8 million (12.5%)



Indonesia is a paradox. There are more Muslims here than any other country on earth, spread across 6,000 inhabited islands and more than 750 distinct tribes and ethnic groups. God has been moving powerfully, with 13 million new Christians since 1993. Most believers, however, are ethnic Chinese and hundreds of ethnic groups remain unreached and unevangelized. Please pray for the Name of Jesus Christ will be glorified throughout this large and important country.

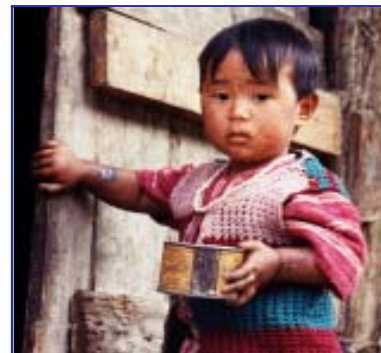


## INDIA

Population: 1,214,464,000  
Unsaved People: 1,143,464,000  
Capital: New Delhi  
People Groups: 2,500  
Main Religion: Hindu 74.3%  
All Christians:  
2010 - 71.0 million (5.8%)  
2001 - 25.0 million (2.4%)  
1993 - 23.1 million (2.6%)



India is the most complex challenge for the Gospel on earth. Home to more than 2,500 distinct tribes, castes and languages, the Gospel has recently flourished in some areas, while others remain completely devoid of spiritual light. India will soon surpass China as the world's most populated country, but about 94 out of every 100 people remain unsaved, hell-bound, and in need of salvation in Jesus.



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## NEPAL

Population: 29,852,000  
Unsaved People: 29,002,000  
Capital: Kathmandu  
People Groups: 323  
Main Religion: Hindu 75.0%  
All Christians:  
2010 - 850,000 (2.8%)  
2001 - 452,000 (1.9%)  
1993 - 112,000 (0.6%)



Living among the highest mountain range on earth, more than 300 distinct tribes and castes inhabit Nepal. Today less than 3 out of 100 people are Christians, but the growth has been staggering. There were just 25 known Christians in Nepal in the 1950s, compared to 850,000 today. Many tribes have experienced revival in the past 20 years, but dozens more remain relatively untouched by the Gospel. There is much work left to do in Nepal.





## CHINA BIBLE PRINTING



***Current Total: 5,773,027 Bibles printed and delivered.***

We are partnering with house churches in China in a long-term project to provide Bibles for Christians. We receive countless requests for God's Word from church leaders throughout the country. These Bibles are distributed free of charge, equipping the believers and helping add fuel to the fires of revival in China. **Each full Bible costs just \$1.80 to print and deliver.**

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## SOUTHEAST ASIA BIBLE FUND



***Current Total: 282,853 Bibles printed in 40 languages***

The Communist nations of Laos and Vietnam are home to more than 250 different tribes, dozens of which had full Bibles or New Testaments translated into their languages prior to the arrival of Communism in 1975. Since then, these believers have been deprived of Bibles by the authorities. We are also providing God's Word to tribes in Myanmar (Burma), Cambodia, and other Southeast and South Asian nations as the need arises. **Each Bible costs \$2.70 to print and deliver.**

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October 2012 - Newsletter #116



## Spiritual Genocide in China

Interview with Paul Hattaway, Part Three



# SPIRITUAL GENOCIDE IN CHINA

## Straight Talk on the Need for Bibles

### An Interview with Paul Hattaway (Part 3)

*Last year we conducted two interviews with Paul Hattaway, the director of Asia Harvest, about the present need for Bibles in China. These interviews were published in our June and August 2011 newsletters. We recently sat down with Paul, and asked him to update us on the current need...*

**Asia Harvest:** *Last year we spoke about the emergency need for Bibles in China. What kind of response did those newsletters receive?*

**Paul Hattaway:** I'm glad to have the opportunity to share with you again. We are thankful for the wonderful response that came in. We shared research showing the house churches in China needed 34 million Bibles just for the Christians in their congregations. We also explained how they were unable to access God's Word despite the claims of many who falsely claim Bibles are freely available to all Christians in China.

Many people wrote to say how confused they had been by the conflicting information coming from China, with some organizations saying Bibles are plentiful, and others claiming there is a massive shortage.

Other people said it had baffled them why the need for Bibles in China has remained strong for so long. When we explained that each copy of the Scriptures acts like an evangelist, and often two or three people come to faith in Christ as a result of each Bible, they were better able to understand

the reality that that the more Bibles we provide, the more are needed. This is why the need is so great and persistent.

**AH:** *How has been the progress of the project over the past year?*

**Paul:** We praise God that many people responded with prayer and generous support, and we have experienced a sharp increase in the number of Bibles printed and distributed to the house churches.

In 2011 we were privileged to provide just under 1.6 million Chinese Bibles, which works out to one Bible printed every 20 seconds.

A single snowflake is fragile and easily brushed aside. But if enough snowflakes join together they can become strong enough to stop a large truck in its tracks!

Similarly, the strength of the Bible project is in the fact that many normal Christians have heard about the need, and have sensed the Lord wanted them to help.

The overwhelming majority of people who give to this project are not wealthy. The average donation we receive is in the \$20 to \$50 range. Added together, the

result has been a very powerful force for the kingdom of God!

This year we have seen similar progress. By God's grace we recently passed the milestone of six million Bibles since the project first began.

**AH: Has all the feedback been positive?**

**Paul:** The overwhelming majority of people know what we share about the need for Bibles in China is true and not an exaggeration. A few people have been upset, because they have been misled by the propaganda that Bibles are freely available all over China.

The deception is so prevalent that someone living in a big Chinese city, where Bibles are easier to obtain, may be totally blinded to the fact that tens of millions of Christians in the countryside of China are starving to death without access to the Bread of Life.

One gentleman rebuked us strongly for our lack of faith! He read about the shortfall of 34 million Bibles and asked why we have printed so few (just six million) in comparison to the need. To people with such strong faith we have a simple answer: please come to China and begin to print Bibles without government permission. You will soon find out just how easy it is to print and distribute God's Word in a tightly-controlled Communist country opposed to the spread of Christianity!

We are aware, more than ever, that every single Bible produced is a miracle, a provision of God's grace towards His children in China.

If we ever thought for a moment that this project operated by our own skills or

cunning, the whole thing would collapse in a heap.

**AH: You mentioned how Bibles are like bread to starving Christians in China. Is that analogy accurate? Are the believers really starving?**

**Paul:** How healthy would your Christian walk be if you were a new believer and had no way of reading God's Word for yourself?

I think it is often hard for people in other countries to comprehend the value of a Bible in China. Whereas in nations where Bibles are plentiful, they often sit unread on people's shelves, in China the Word of God is like the pearl of great price Jesus spoke of (Matthew 13:44-45).

Let me remind you that these are fellow Christians who need God's Word. They are our family members, millions of them, who have heard the Good News about Jesus and responded to it by repenting of their sins and believing. Tragically, their faith often stagnates because of a lack of understanding, due to their inability to get a Bible.

It is clear to me and those I work with that one main way China tries to stop the spread of the house churches is to deliberately starve them from access to Bibles. The hope is that the house churches will stop spreading the faith, and will gradually decay and crumble. It is a kind of spiritual genocide against the house churches of China.

**AH: 'Spiritual genocide' is a strong phrase to use. Can you explain what you mean?**

**Paul:** The dictionary defines "genocide" as "the deliberate and systematic extermination

*of a national, racial, political or cultural group.”*

From the time Communism first appeared, it has been a priority of governments to crush religion, especially Christianity. The founder of this godless ideology, Karl Marx, stated, “Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world, and the soul of soulless conditions. It is the opium of the people.”

As most people know, there are two main kinds of churches in China today: those approved by the government, and churches that refuse to register or come under government control. These latter congregations are commonly referred to as ‘house churches’ or ‘underground churches’. Every Bible we print and deliver is to a house church Christian.

I believe China long ago realized they could not totally destroy Christianity, although they tried hard to do so in the 1960s and 70s. Today, the strategy is more one of containment. They don’t mind too much if Christians agree to meet in approved church buildings which they can exert an element of control over. Indeed, they have even agreed to print a limited number of Bibles for such ‘patriotic’ Christians who attend these churches.

What China loathes is the kind of vibrant Christianity which refuses to be contained within the four walls of a church building. Such faith scares the government, because it spreads quickly like wildfire, transforming lives and making millions of people willing to live and die for a new Master, Jesus Christ!

We do not have anything against Christians who meet in the government

approved churches—indeed God is moving powerfully in many of them. We supply Bibles to the house churches simply because they have far less opportunity to access God’s Word than those who attend a government church. Most of the areas where our Bibles are distributed are extremely poor farming areas in remote provinces like Heilongjiang, Inner Mongolia, Gansu and Qinghai.

Another way they achieve this goal is to spread clever propaganda throughout the Christian world, telling them, among other things, that Bibles are plentiful in China today. They may be if you attend a government church, but if you are a rural house church Christian, it seems you are looked down upon and treated like a second-class Christian, not only by the

“Blessed be the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I have been a traveling evangelist for many years in the remote areas of our province. For so long we have struggled to receive enough Bibles, but now that you are providing God’s Word to us I see such strength and depth in our ministry that it lacked before. Many times in years past we would preach the Gospel in a village and come back later to find that the villagers had believed many false things because they did not have a Bible to lead them in Truth. God bless you and thank you so much for providing these Bibles!”

— Letter from Anhui Province

government but sadly, even by some other members of the Body of Christ.

**AH:** *You mentioned there is “propaganda” spread about the need for Bibles in China. Can you give an example?*

**Paul:** Late last year I was in the United States and flew into the city of Charlotte, North Carolina. While I waited for my bag, I noticed an advertising poster on the wall. It promoted a ‘China Bible Exhibition’ which was underway at the Billy Graham Library in the city.

I excitedly went along to see what it was all about. The exhibit put on by the Chinese government-approved China Christian Council, in conjunction with the Amity Press. I was disappointed that there was nobody from China there I could ask questions to, but overall there was nothing technically wrong with the exhibit. Displays told about the history of the Bible in China, and lots of posters showed smiling Chinese Christians holding their Bibles in the air.

While there was nothing to fault technically, the problem I had with the exhibition was one of perception. If I didn’t know any better from first-hand experience, I would have left the place convinced that there are plenty of Bibles in China now, and that the need has been well and truly met.

Come to think of it, I would probably also think that claims there are tens of millions of Christians in China without any access to God’s Word are grossly exaggerated.

After all, at the China Bible Exhibition I saw the “evidence” of all the happy Chinese Christians with their Bibles, and I would think if the good folk behind the Billy Graham Library have endorsed the

exhibition, then who am I to doubt what is being presented?

This is the kind of propaganda I mean. It is subtle and implied, rather than outright lies. No wonder so many Christians are confused. They need the wisdom of Solomon and the gift of discernment just to be able to make sense of it all.

Gary Russell, the director of China Harvest, recently wrote a newsletter about the China Bible Exhibition which toured major cities throughout America. He wrote....

“Be aware that this is a “double-edged sword.” On the one side Amity Press does print millions of genuine Bibles, most for export in other languages, but also in Chinese for Christians in China. Thank God for each one!

On the other hand they purport that therefore these are enough to supply the need, and that they are available all over. **This is mere propaganda and simply NOT TRUE!** Do not be deceived. There are unquestionably tens of millions of Chinese Christians who have no Bible and no access to one, plus hundreds of millions more empty hearts seeking the only Way, Truth and Life that the Holy Scriptures reveal. Picture your whole life without even one Bible.”

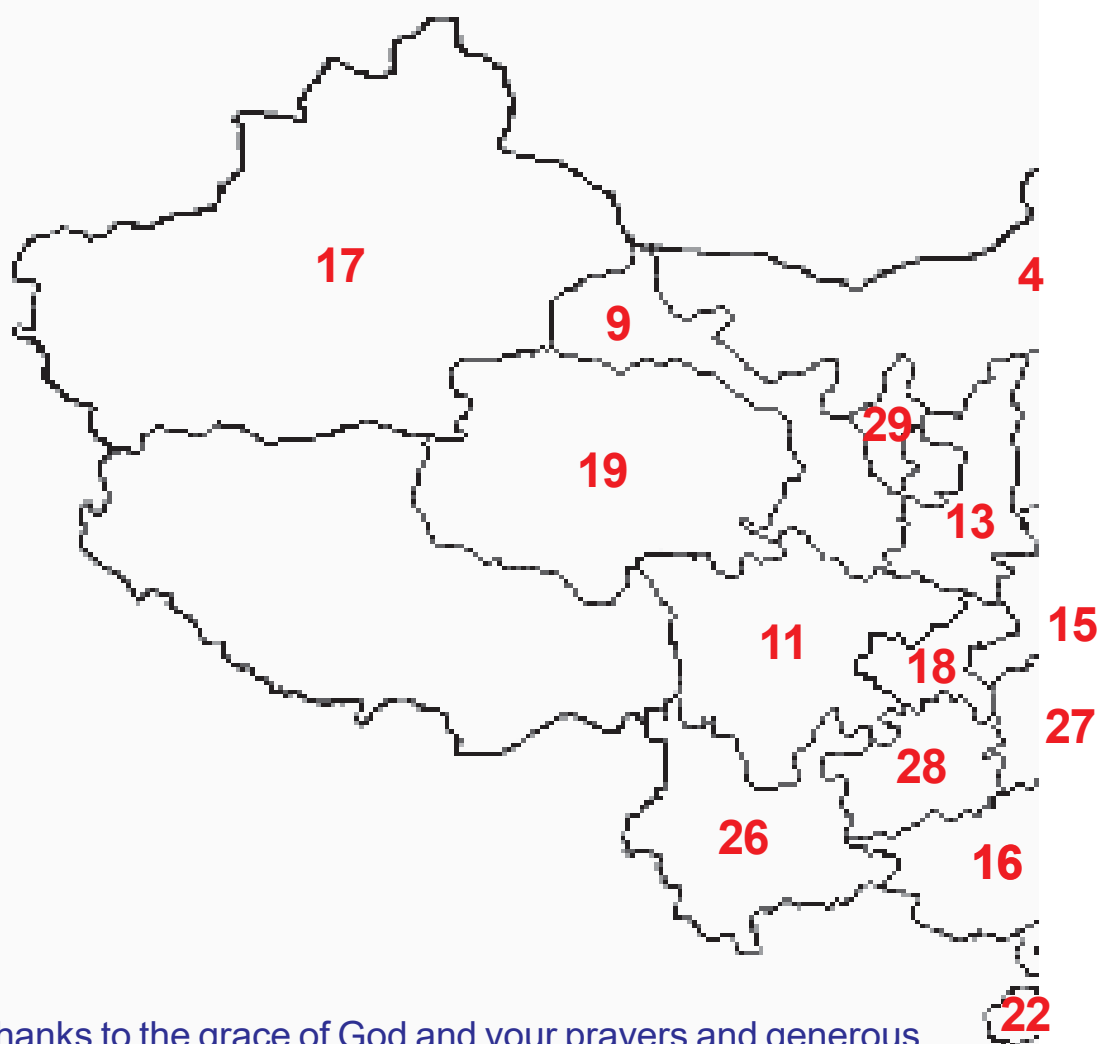
**AH:** *What is the best way to try to convince Christians around the world about the reality of the need for Bibles in China, and hopefully wake some of them up from the misinformation they have been fed for years?*

**Paul:** All we can do is tell the truth, pray, and let the Holy Spirit convince people of the reality of what we and others are saying about the desperate need for Bibles in China.

To be honest, I find it a very strange battle, and much of what we argue against is



# CHINA BIBLE MAP



Thanks to the grace of God and your prayers and generous support, Asia Harvest recently passed the milestone of 6 million Chinese Bibles printed and delivered to the house churches in China. Our Chinese coworkers provide detailed reports, which allow us keep track of every Bible we print and to create this distribution map. On behalf of all the believers in China, thank you and God bless you!

Bibles Delivered by Province:

<b>1 Heilongjiang</b>	<b>552,989</b>
<b>2 Anhui</b>	<b>534,307</b>
<b>3 Henan</b>	<b>498,070</b>
<b>4 Inner Mongolia</b>	<b>460,845</b>
<b>5 Zhejiang</b>	<b>432,092</b>
<b>6 Shandong</b>	<b>399,111</b>
<b>7 Jilin</b>	<b>307,291</b>
<b>8 Shanxi</b>	<b>250,161</b>
<b>9 Gansu</b>	<b>214,856</b>
<b>10 Jiangsu</b>	<b>205,668</b>
<b>11 Sichuan</b>	<b>204,764</b>
<b>12 Liaoning</b>	<b>203,081</b>
<b>13 Shaanxi</b>	<b>184,731</b>
<b>14 Hebei</b>	<b>174,396</b>
<b>15 Hubei</b>	<b>173,830</b>
<b>16 Guangxi</b>	<b>168,941</b>
<b>17 Xinjiang</b>	<b>159,734</b>
<b>18 Chongqing</b>	<b>150,478</b>
<b>19 Qinghai</b>	<b>140,390</b>
<b>20 Shanghai</b>	<b>132,205</b>
<b>21 Jiangxi</b>	<b>122,357</b>
<b>22 Hainan Island</b>	<b>97,319</b>
<b>23 Fujian</b>	<b>95,725</b>
<b>24 Guangdong</b>	<b>60,600</b>
<b>25 Beijing</b>	<b>50,722</b>
<b>26 Yunnan</b>	<b>31,595</b>
<b>27 Hunan</b>	<b>13,466</b>
<b>28 Guizhou</b>	<b>11,029</b>
<b>29 Ningxia</b>	<b>5,902</b>

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,036,657</b>
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completely irrational thinking. Let me give you an example of what I mean.

What would you say if a Christian leader from your home town went to Africa for a couple of weeks, visited a few churches in major cities, and then returned home to energetically conduct media interviews and tell everyone: “There are no hungry children in Africa! I have been there in person, and I can tell you the stories you have heard for years are all false. Everywhere I went there was plenty of food, and all the children appeared well-nourished and happy.”

You would (hopefully) realize such a man was totally deceived, and his extremely limited experience did not qualify him to form any worthwhile judgments on Africa. Decades of evidence has shown that there *are* millions of starving children in Africa, that corruption and the interference of wicked men diverts food from reaching them, all while drought continues to devastate vast regions.

Indeed, such a deceived Christian leader should be rebuked and feel humiliated for making such false statements about something so serious—the survival of millions of fellow human beings in Africa.

Well, dear friends, is there any real difference between this and what happens in China today?

Numerous Christian leaders, some of them world famous names, have flown into China for a few weeks, been taken around by officials from the government church, and return home absolutely convinced that they know the truth about China! “Everywhere I went the Christians had Bibles” they confidently declare. “I

“Words cannot express the gratitude our family feels for the Bible you provided for us. We treasure it and read it every day. Reading the words of our Lord makes our hearts overflow with joy. For so many years we longed to know the truth, and now we understand more and our faith is becoming stronger every day. God bless you for your sacrificing and giving so that we can know the truth!”

— Letter from Zhejiang Province

even visited Amity Press, where millions of Bibles are produced each year.”

Such people ***“do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm”*** (1 Timothy 1:7).

Don’t listen to people speaking on the subject of Bibles in China unless they have travelled far from the modern cities, to the poor farming communities where the majority of house churches are based. If they are willing to leave their hotel in Beijing and catch a series of rough trains and buses for two days into northeast Inner Mongolia, they will find tens of thousands of new believers with absolutely no way of obtaining Bibles.

If they go a thousand miles west to the remote province of Qinghai, they would discover thousands more new Christians eager to learn the Word of God, but deprived of doing so by the system of spiritual genocide that has been put in place to choke the life out of the “illegal” house churches. There are hundreds of other

examples throughout China I could share with you.

I feel scared for those Christian leaders who become active propaganda tools for China. Most are completely unaware that they are contributing to the spiritual starvation of millions of God's children. The sad thing is that most of these men are genuine believers, and the last thing they would ever want to do is harm other Christians, yet this is exactly what is taking place.

Over the years, a number of house church leaders have wept openly before me. They simply can't understand how Christians around the world are so easily deceived. They view their famine of Bibles as a form of persecution. They are used to persecution, but not at the hands of fellow believers.

**AH: Some Christians might be upset at what you have said. What would you say to them?**

**Paul:** It is not my job to say or write things that make people feel 'happy' and comfortable. The role of every Christian should be to tell the truth, in love. Any preacher worth a grain of salt will preach what people *need* to hear, not what they *want* to hear. Not to do so is to be a man-pleaser, and the Bible warns us that ***"the fear of man is a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe"*** (Proverbs 29:25).

My primary concern is for the tens of millions of Christians starving in China without Bibles. We continue to be flooded with letters from senior house church leaders throughout China, begging for hundreds of thousands of Bibles to be sent urgently for new believers in their churches. They are afraid the harvest will spoil, and

they know of no other place to access Bibles in the kind of quantities they need.

We have not told you these things in some kind of bid to manipulate you for our own benefit. It is the Christians in China who benefit from this project. We use the funds we receive so that the maximum numbers of Bibles are produced, for the cheapest possible price. That is why we print and deliver Bibles for just \$1.80 each. It is a project that operates on a shoe-string budget, with all the fat already cut out!

***In our next newsletter we will conclude our interview with Paul Hattaway.***

Recently, a generous donor gave a "dollar for dollar" matching grant to Asia Harvest. A matching gift has a multiplying effect, so that for a period of time each donation we receive for Bibles will be doubled. Therefore, if you give \$1.80 for one Chinese Bible, it will be matched, so that two new Bibles will be provided instead of one!

We thank God for this wonderful opportunity to help feed God's neglected children in the world's most populated country.

We ask you to please pray that God would continue to provide His Word to China's house church Christians.

If you would like to help provide the Word of God to China's house church Christians, please fill out the yellow response form and send it back to us. Alternatively, you can give via our secure website: [www.asiaharvest.org](http://www.asiaharvest.org)



## CHINA BIBLE PRINTING



*Current Total: 6,036,657 Bibles printed and delivered.*

We are partnering with house churches in China in a long-term project to provide Bibles for Christians. We receive countless requests for God's Word from church leaders throughout the country. These Bibles are distributed free of charge, equipping the believers and helping add fuel to the fires of revival in China. **Each full Bible costs just \$1.80 to print and deliver.**

Asia Harvest is able to print and distribute 230,000 Chinese Bibles per month depending on incoming funds. So far this year we are operating at 60.8% capacity.

## ASIAN WORKERS' FUND

*Thanks to your support we are currently able to support 556 Asian evangelists working among 179 unreached tribes and ethnic groups.*



The **Asian Workers Fund** assists church-planting evangelists who are involved in strategic ministry in Asia. These servants of the Lord have committed their whole lives to the Gospel but are hindered by lack of finances. We only support evangelists/missionaries and not pastors, as we believe pastors should be supported by the flocks they shepherd. Please pray about whether you or your church could help support these dedicated workers, at **\$25 per month** each. A prayer card and occasional worker updates are sent to all regular donors.

## SOUTHEAST ASIA BIBLE FUND



*Current Total: 286,893 Bibles printed in 46 languages*

The Communist nations of Laos and Vietnam are home to more than 250 different tribes, dozens of which had full Bibles or New Testaments translated into their languages prior to the arrival of Communism in 1975. Since then, these believers have been deprived of Bibles by the authorities. We are also providing God's Word to tribes in Myanmar (Burma), Cambodia, and other Southeast and South Asian nations as the need arises. **Each Bible costs \$2.70 to print and deliver.**

## LIVING MARTYRS' FUND

*Because of your partnership we are supporting 731 living martyrs.*



"A martyr is a Christian who chooses to suffer death rather than deny Christ or His work... One who sacrifices something very important to further the Kingdom of God and endures great suffering for Christian witness." (The Voice of the Martyrs)

The **Living Martyrs Fund** assists pastors and evangelists in China and Vietnam who are unable to work because of injuries or illness caused by persecution. They and their families face extreme poverty and hardship. Through a gift of **\$35 per month** you can help support one of these living martyrs. A prayer card is sent to every supporter of this project.

## PROJECT SMILE



*Your generous gifts have so far helped bring a smile to the faces of 11,180 children in Vietnam.*

**Project Smile** helps children from poor families in Vietnam who were born with disabilities such as cleft palates, cleft lips and club feet, as well as others who need operations for burns, cancerous growths and other conditions. The cost of helping a child varies depending on the kind of surgery required, but each gift received of **\$60 changes a child's life**. A laminated prayer card of a child helped through Project Smile is sent to all donors.

## ASIA DISASTER RELIEF FUND



*Transforming lives from ashes to beauty with God's love.*

Over the years Asia Harvest has provided relief assistance to the victims of natural disasters such as the earthquake in China and cyclone in Myanmar (Burma); the Tsunamis of Southeast Asia and Japan, and a host of other disasters in India, Afghanistan, Vietnam, and elsewhere. In addition to providing aid through medicine, tents, blankets, food and water, rebuilding homes etc., the Christians we partner with take every opportunity to share the Gospel, and thousands of people have come to know Jesus Christ. This long-term fund helps us respond immediately whenever a disaster strikes.



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### *MALAYSIA*

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### *UNITED KINGDOM & IRELAND*

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# Asia Harvest



**'Put in the Sickle, for the Harvest has Come!' (Mark 4:29)**

[www.asiaharvest.org](http://www.asiaharvest.org)

[office@asiaharvest.org](mailto:office@asiaharvest.org)

**December 2012 - Newsletter #117**



## **Spiritual Genocide in China**

**Interview with Paul Hattaway, Part Four**



# SPIRITUAL GENOCIDE IN CHINA

## Straight Talk on the Need for Bibles

### An Interview with Paul Hattaway (Part 4)

*Last year we conducted two interviews with Paul Hattaway, the director of Asia Harvest, about the present need for Bibles in China. These interviews were published in our June and August 2011 newsletters. In our last issue we continued with part 3, and this month we conclude the interview...*

**Asia Harvest:** What do you find is the main point of confusion people have when you share about the need for millions of Bibles in China today?

**Paul Hattaway:** Without doubt the most difficult thing many Christians outside China struggle to grasp is how come there is still such a huge need when they have heard that Bibles are now legally printed inside China by the government-approved Amity Press.

We dealt with this subject extensively in our previous interviews, but basically the frustration is one of scale. In a country of more than 1,300 million people, to allow a

trickle of legal Bibles, only available to believers in the registered churches, is obviously not going to satisfy the need of the 60 million+ Christians who don't belong to the government-approved churches. They have been isolated and left alone to fight for a few crumbs which might fall from the table.

At the same time, it is a tricky balancing act because we *are* thankful for every single Bible that is legally printed in China! We just wish they did tens of millions more, and that there was a way to feed *all* of God's hungry children, rather than favoring those who attend a certain kind

### CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS FROM ASIA HARVEST



As this is our fifth and final newsletter for 2012, we want to thank you for your prayers, encouragement and support throughout the year. We pray the risen Jesus Christ will truly be part of the Christmas and New Year period for you and your family. Next year we hope, by God's grace, to continue serving the Church in Asia and we invite you to partner with us to see this happen. God bless you!

of church while ignoring those who fellowship elsewhere.

**AH:** *If the need for Bibles among the house churches is so great, why do so many people, and organizations like The Bible Society, claim there are plenty of Bibles available for Christians in China today?*

**Paul:** People need to understand one more key element to the need for Bibles in China. Unless people understand this, they will remain confused about why there are such varying claims.

There are three government-approved Christian entities in China: the Three-Self Church, the China Christian Council, and the Amity Press (which is sponsored by The Bible Society). These three entities do NOT acknowledge the presence of the (illegal) house churches which we serve. If they do mention the house churches at all, it is grudgingly, but they scoff at any suggestions that there are 50 or 60 million

house church Christians, compared to only about 20 million believers among the registered churches in China.

This being the case, in the eyes of these organizations there ARE plenty of Bibles in China today among the registered churches they serve, because they have chosen to close their minds and eyes to the vast need of the house churches.

The house churches are often treated like a senile relative seated in the corner of the room during family gatherings. The registered church people are aware of the house churches, but they are a bit embarrassed by them and they wish they would go away. Usually they find it easier to simply ignore them altogether.

Tragically, the need for Bibles among the house churches has become even more acute in recent years because several ministries who used to supply Bibles to them are no longer doing so. Some decided



it was more politically correct to give their money to print legal Bibles than risk their reputations helping the illegal believers.

By the grace of God we will not ignore our precious brothers and sisters in the house churches, even if everyone else gives up on them! As long as millions of Christians in China are perishing with no access to Bibles, we will advocate for them and work hard to meet the need.

**AH:** *In many countries there is an abundance of Bibles sitting on Christians' shelves, and they can even be found in the homes of unbelievers. Why are the Chinese so desperate for God's Word compared to many Christians in other parts of the world?*

**Paul:** The difference is that the Word of God is fresh and new to many people in China. They have no Christian background or worldview, so when they hear the message it is amazing and transformative to them. This is especially true in poorer rural areas, but a little less so in the bigger cities where materialism has taken hold.

More than 60 years of atheistic Communist teaching in China has resulted in a large spiritual void in the lives of a billion people, which creates a hunger for truth. When many people hear truth, they are eager to embrace it and wholeheartedly live for God.

There is also a desire among China's house churches for *all* of God's truth.

I recently read about the "Jefferson Bible" exhibition on display at the Smithsonian Institute. Thomas Jefferson disliked much of the Bible, so he took a pair of scissors and cut out all the sections he didn't

approve of! He especially disliked the supernatural stories in the Bible, the account of creation, the virgin birth, etc, so he gave them the chop. He described the Book of Revelation as "the ravings of a mad man" so cut that out as well.

When I first read about 'Jefferson's Bible' I laughed, but then the thought occurred to me that Jefferson was no different to many Christians today. We may not go as far as using a pair of scissors to disfigure the Word of God, but we may have our own favorite teachings and parts of the Bible which we focus on, while ignoring other

"Our fellowships have experienced great growth in recent years. One of the side effects of this growth is that we struggle to get enough Bibles to meet the need of the new believers in our fellowships. This is vital so they can grow deeper in their understanding about our Lord Jesus Christ. We cannot thank you enough for providing Bibles to us in recent years. Our churches are growing stronger in faith and wisdom as well as in number as a direct result of these precious gifts you provide. At this moment, we need 146,238 more Bibles so that each new believer in our fellowships can have their own copy. From the bottom of our hearts we say thank you and God bless you!"

— Recent letter from a senior house church leader in Shandong Province.

whole sections which make us feel 'uncomfortable'.

This is very dangerous. We must accept the whole Bible, and change our lives so that we live in God's truth, and never try to bend the Bible to suit our lifestyles.

There are problems in the Chinese church, but I have always appreciated the hunger and reverence the majority of Chinese Christians have not only to read God's Word, but to live it. The first step, however, is for them to have access to it!

**AH: Several people have asked us if it would be a better idea to stop printing paper Bibles in China, and use more modern methods to get God's Word to the Christians there, such as Bibles on smart phones, MP3 players, CDs etc. What do you think?**

**Paul:** It is always wonderful to hear how Christians are using their initiative to provide Bibles in electronic and other forms. As long as God's Word is getting to Christians who need it, I am happy!

When it comes to the 60 million or more house church Christians in China, however, it needs to be understood that the majority of them live in poor, remote farming areas. In such areas, the average income is often just a few hundred dollars per YEAR. Most of the house church believers we serve have never owned a smart phone or computer in their lives.

There are house churches in the cities too, but they tend to have an easier time accessing Bibles, so practically 100 percent of the Bibles we print and distribute are to these rural regions of China.

There is a more basic part of the equation however. Let me ask, would you be happy if the only access you had to God's Word

was electronic or on your phone or computer? There remains an overwhelming desire among those we serve in China for paper Bibles. If our co-workers turned up at a village with a bag full of CDs or micro-chips, and said "here are the Bibles you requested," they would receive very strange looks!

While we are thankful for every effort people are making to get God's Word into China in more modern formats, we remain committed to helping meet the stated needs of those we serve. Their requests remain for paper Bibles, and lots of them.

**AH: If there is one little known fact about the China Bible project you would want people to know, what would it be?**

**Paul:** Here is something people should know. The vast majority of churches in China, probably 99 percent, only want to

"I was blessed by your interview with Paul Hattaway in your October newsletter. Less than a year ago I spent several weeks in China and was involved with taking Bibles across the border from Hong Kong.

The need is great, and if one is willing to question whether Bibles are needed outside of the registered churches they will find exactly what Paul said in the article to be true. People need to realize how controlling the government in China is, and be in contact with house church members before they might understand the size of the need for God's Word. Keep on serving God and the Chinese believers!"

— Jared T., Ohio, USA





"My heart feels like dancing before the Lord since receiving this Bible and having the opportunity to know more about our Lord and His plan for my life. God bless those that made it possible for me to have a Bible!"

— Recent letter from  
Heilongjiang Province

use the Union Version of the Chinese Bible. This was translated directly from Hebrew and Greek more than a century ago.

In the early 1980s a large gathering of church leaders from across China took place, from all streams of the church. They vowed that China should only have one Bible, the Union Version. They wanted to avoid the confusion we have in the West with dozens of competing translations.

This was a vital decision, not least because many Chinese Christians learn doctrine and memorize Scripture by singing together. In a sense the Bible doubles as a hymn book. This would have been impossible to do if there were multiple translations in circulation.

In recent years some have tried to introduce modern translations of the Chinese Bible, and these have been strongly rejected by the believers. They are desperate for Bibles, but specifically the Union version which has been a great unifying force among them for the past century.

**AH: What would you say to people who would like to help Christians in China get**

**Bibles, but feel their contribution will not make much of a difference?**

**Paul:** One famous missionary arrived in India and was asked how he could possibly make a difference among a billion needy people. He replied, "One life at a time." That is how the kingdom of God grows, one life at a time. As you know, we can print and deliver a Bible to a house church Christian in China for just \$1.80 each, yet the eternal fruit from that single Bible can be staggering!

I would ask two things of anyone considering giving financially to this project: firstly, don't give if you feel compelled or manipulated by us or anyone else to do so. That is not our intention at all. Rather, people should see this as a God-given opportunity to make a big difference in the lives of fellow Christians in need.

The Bible says **"Each one of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"** (2 Cor. 9:7).

The second thing I would say is this: If you would like to give to this project,



please don't in any way be concerned or embarrassed if the amount is small. Each and every Bible is precious and will be treated like gold by those who receive it.

I think we Christians need to adjust our understanding when it comes to the concept of "living by faith" so that all of us are doing so, not just those in so-called "full-time ministry".

**AH: What do you mean?**

**Paul:** Let me explain what I mean this way....

There are many amazing books written about people who "live by faith" on the mission field. They trust God and He provides their needs. Such books are stirring and faith-lifting to read. One of the most famous accounts is that of George Mueller, who ran an orphanage in Britain which helped thousands of desperate

children over many decades. Mueller held a strong conviction that he should only let his needs be known to God, and he never asked any person for anything.

On a number of occasions Mueller records how the orphanage completely ran out of food. He and the orphans sat down to dinner with no food at all, yet thanked God for His goodness to them. Invariably, there would be a knock at the door and a large basket of delicious cooked food would be found there in answer to their prayers.

Such accounts of living by faith are wonderful! But, alas, how many times do we read about the other side of the coin?

Yes, it is an act of great faith to serve the Lord like George Mueller and many others have done, and still do. But were not the people who heard God tell them to prepare



the basket of food and leave it outside the door of the orphanage also living by faith?

We might present a need like the China Bible project, and trust God to provide the resources required to meet the need. More often than not, He will do so my moving on the hearts of people who respond by willingly giving a portion of their hard-earned wages.

God sees the whole picture, and He will surely reward each person for their faithfulness.

It is an unbiblical distinction to think that “full time ministry” is holy, whereas “work,” especially manual labor, is somehow not considered special to God.

A man who works long hours digging ditches, and then willingly gives some of his wages to help Christians in China have Bibles, or any other need God leads him to help with, is displaying great love for

the Lord Jesus Christ by his practical demonstration of faith.

We thank God for the many people who live by faith through giving this way, and we are always thrilled when people write and tell us what a great spiritual or material blessing they have received since they began helping the persecuted believers in China or elsewhere, even though they did not give out of a motivation to receive a blessing.

We are acutely aware how much people sacrifice to help the believers we are privileged to serve in Asia. It motivates us to make sure nothing is wasted, and we do the work God has called us to do in the most efficient way possible. That is why the Bibles in China cost just \$1.80 each to print and deliver.

Years of effort have been expended by our co-workers to find more cost-effective ways to print the Bibles, while at the same time

“In our fellowships we often talk about heaven and eagerly anticipate the day we can go home, but the only reason we want to stay on earth a little while longer is to bring more souls into the Heavenly Kingdom. Our evangelistic efforts have been tremendously blessed and strengthened by the Bibles you have provided. Before we received them, many of our evangelists did not have their own copy of the Bible and it was very difficult for them to teach only from memory. Now we are so blessed to report that all of the full time evangelists have their own copy! Now we are equipping more evangelists as well as providing Bibles to many new believers. As a result, we are now seeing much more fruit and there are now many new believers in our churches. To provide every new believer in our network with God’s Word we need 271,396 more Bibles.

We thank God for you and the brothers and sisters who have sacrificed so that we can have Bibles. We are asking our Heavenly Father to pile up treasures for you in Heaven because of your gift of love to us. Stay strong in Jesus Christ and we will meet in Heaven and thank each of you in person for providing us with God’s Word!”

— Recent letter from a senior house church leader in Liaoning Province.

being careful not to compromise the quality. The motivation for doing this is quite simple: it means more hungry Christians are able to be fed by the Word of God.

**AH:** *We have arrived at the end of our interview. I think everyone reading this will no doubt be much more knowledgeable about the need for Bibles in China today. Do you have any last things you would like to say?*

**Paul:** In the Parable of the sheep and goats, Jesus taught His followers that there is much more to life than us sitting around trying to perfect our doctrine. His kingdom is very practical. To the sheep, Jesus said, ***“Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.”***

***Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,***

***or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me’”*** (Matthew 25:34-40).

There are millions of Christians in China right now who are hungry and thirsty for God’s Word, but they cannot obtain it. There are believers who are spiritually sick, naked and bound because of a famine of God’s Word.

This is not some kind of fundraising appeal. We are presenting an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of many Christians in China.

Thank you for the opportunity I have had to share the reality of this great need with you. Please pray our Heavenly Father will provide all of His children in China with Bibles, so that they may know His Word intimately.

We invite you to be part of this wonderful and strategic opportunity to help the Church in China.

Recently, a generous donor gave a “dollar for dollar” matching grant to Asia Harvest. A matching gift has a multiplying effect, so that for a period of time each donation we receive for Bibles will be doubled. Therefore, if you give \$1.80 for one Chinese Bible, it will be matched, so that two new Bibles will be provided instead of one!

We thank God for this wonderful opportunity to help feed God’s neglected children in the world’s most populated country.

We ask you to please pray that God would continue to provide His Word to China’s house church Christians.

If you would like to help provide the Word of God to China’s house church Christians, please fill out the yellow response form and send it back to us. Alternatively, you can give via our secure website: [www.asiaharvest.org](http://www.asiaharvest.org)

## CHINA BIBLE PRINTING



*Current Total: 6,306,477 Bibles printed and delivered.*

We are partnering with house churches in China in a long-term project to provide Bibles for Christians. We receive countless requests for God's Word from church leaders throughout the country. These Bibles are distributed free of charge, equipping the believers and helping add fuel to the fires of revival in China. **Each full Bible costs just \$1.80 to print and deliver.**

Asia Harvest is able to print and distribute 230,000 Chinese Bibles per month depending on incoming funds. So far this year we are operating at 60.4% capacity.

## ASIAN WORKERS' FUND

*Thanks to your support we are currently able to support 559 Asian evangelists working among 185 unreached tribes and ethnic groups.*



The **Asian Workers Fund** assists church-planting evangelists who are involved in strategic ministry in Asia. These servants of the Lord have committed their whole lives to the Gospel but are hindered by lack of finances. We only support evangelists/missionaries and not pastors, as we believe pastors should be supported by the flocks they shepherd. Please pray about whether you or your church could help support these dedicated workers, at **\$25 per month** each. A prayer card and occasional worker updates are sent to all regular donors.

## SOUTHEAST ASIA BIBLE FUND



*Current Total: 291,941 Bibles printed in 46 languages*

The Communist nations of Laos and Vietnam are home to more than 250 different tribes, dozens of which had full Bibles or New Testaments translated into their languages prior to the arrival of Communism in 1975. Since then, these believers have been deprived of Bibles by the authorities. We are also providing God's Word to tribes in Myanmar (Burma), Cambodia, and other Southeast and South Asian nations as the need arises. **Each Bible costs \$2.70 to print and deliver.**

## LIVING MARTYRS' FUND

*Because of your partnership we are supporting 728 living martyrs.*



"A martyr is a Christian who chooses to suffer death rather than deny Christ or His work... One who sacrifices something very important to further the Kingdom of God and endures great suffering for Christian witness." (The Voice of the Martyrs)

The **Living Martyrs Fund** assists pastors and evangelists in China and Vietnam who are unable to work because of injuries or illness caused by persecution. They and their families face extreme poverty and hardship. Through a gift of **\$35 per month** you can help support one of these living martyrs. A prayer card is sent to every supporter of this project.

## PROJECT SMILE



*Your generous gifts have so far helped bring a smile to the faces of 11,690 children in Vietnam.*

**Project Smile** helps children from poor families in Vietnam who were born with disabilities such as cleft palates, cleft lips and club feet, as well as others who need operations for burns, cancerous growths and other conditions. The cost of helping a child varies depending on the kind of surgery required, but each gift received of **\$60 changes a child's life**. A laminated prayer card of a child helped through Project Smile is sent to all donors.

## ASIA DISASTER RELIEF FUND



*Transforming lives from ashes to beauty with God's love.*

Over the years Asia Harvest has provided relief assistance to the victims of natural disasters such as the earthquake in China and cyclone in Myanmar (Burma); the Tsunamis of Southeast Asia and Japan, and a host of other disasters in India, Afghanistan, Vietnam, and elsewhere. In addition to providing aid through medicine, tents, blankets, food and water, rebuilding homes etc., the Christians we partner with take every opportunity to share the Gospel, and thousands of people have come to know Jesus Christ. This long-term fund helps us respond immediately whenever a disaster strikes.





## Asia Harvest Addresses

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