



Asia Harvest

2017

NEWSLETTERS

(Combined)

Asia Harvest



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

www.asiaharvest.org

office@asiaharvest.org

February 2017 - Newsletter #140



2017 Annual Report

Because He Lives!

From the Frontlines

with Paul & Joy Hattaway

“If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised... And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins” (1 Corinthians 15:13-15, 17).

As we launch out into another year serving the Lord Jesus Christ among the people of Asia, the thing that excites us most is how the Gospel has continued to advance despite (or perhaps because of) fierce demonic opposition. People who try to understand why the Church is growing so quickly in Asia will never understand it unless they have a personal relationship with Jesus. Without first knowing Him, they will reach wrong conclusions as to why millions of Asians are pressing into God's kingdom.

When we think about what the Living God is doing in many parts of Asia right now, we can boil the reason for the phenomenal growth down to just three words: **“Jesus is Alive!”**

In China, 2016 saw the government launch a massive crackdown against the house churches. Many pastors throughout the country have been bundled into vans and not seen again, or taken to dreaded ‘black jails’ (secret facilities where they are mercilessly tortured). Reports have come across our desk about some church leaders who were arrested and injected with an unknown substance. They were returned to their families in a vegetative state, and are now permanently mentally incapacitated.

This evil crackdown is all because the insecure Chinese government is desperate to stop the growth of Christianity. They don't understand that it cannot be stopped, because the Church is a living, breathing entity which follows a living, breathing God. **Jesus is Alive!**

In India the believers face similar challenges. The government there is also deeply alarmed by the rapid growth of Christianity in many parts of the country, where Hindus are coming to the Lord Jesus by the thousands. The RSS (a radical Hindu organization) has vowed to eradicate Christianity from India by 2021. They are destined to fail! The enemies of the gospel don't realize who they are up against. Like Saul of Tarsus, when

they persecute Christians they are persecuting Jesus Christ, and the more they attack the Church the more it grows, because **Jesus is Alive!**

If Christianity was merely a human religion or man-made philosophy it would have folded centuries ago. Muslim extremists are just one group determined to wipe out Christians, yet experts say the fastest growing church in the world right now is in Iran. It makes no natural sense how this could be possible, but when sin-bound people encounter the Living Jesus Christ and are healed and set free by His power, their lives are completely transformed and nothing can separate them from the love of God. Only a living Savior could perform such a mighty miracle!

The kingdom of God continues to march forward, quietly but surely. Wicked governments can't hinder God's plans. Nor can Muslims and Hindus stop them. The more they try, the more the Church will grow. This has always been the case with the people of God. The Bible notes that when the Israelites were enslaved in Egypt, *"The more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites"* (Exodus 1:12).

The nations of this world will grow increasingly frustrated and violent as God's plans march on towards His ultimate goal. One day before long, God's timetable will be completed, and He will close the curtain on this sick and sorry age. A trumpet will sound, and a loud voice will be heard in heaven, saying, *"The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"* (Revelation 11:15).

A Special Prayer Request from Paul

Many who pray for and support the work of Asia Harvest first heard about us by reading one of our books, like *The Heavenly Man* or *Operation China*.

In the past few years I have taken a break from writing books, and have concentrated on leading the ministry well and getting over a few health issues. By God's grace I am strong and back in the midst of the battle. I believe the Lord has led me to begin writing books again for His glory and the edification of His people.

I have been working on several books recently, which I believe will be a great blessing and encouragement to many. May I please ask you to pray for me as I write? Pray the Lord would guide each step of the process and lead us to the right publishers. *Please pray the Lord Jesus would be lifted up through the books, and that the Holy Spirit would use the pages to communicate God's heart.*

I believe the first book will be a surprise! We plan to announce its release in a few months. Thank you and God bless you.

2017 Annual Report

In the remainder of this newsletter we share our 2017 Annual Report, detailing the help Asia Harvest provided to the Body of Christ throughout Asia in 2016.

It has been a privilege to serve the Lord in Asia for another year, and we feel greatly blessed to be a link in a chain that has resulted in many people coming to know Him. Last year, just under a million believers were strengthened in their faith after receiving God's Word through our Bible projects, and the small army of Asian evangelists we support led thousands of people to faith in Christ among hundreds of unreached people groups.

For more than 25 years our strategy has been to operate with as few overhead expenses as possible, so that resources get to the hands of the frontline workers—the many Asian Christians we are honored to assist and serve. We are thankful for each person who prayed for and supported our work last year. Without your vital partnership none of these things would have occurred.

From the time of Asia Harvest's inception in the late 1980s, we have always strived to be transparent in the area of finances, and our annual financial statements have been available to anyone upon request. Now, we have taken the extra step of having our finances independently audited each year by a respected firm. These reports will be freely available on our website.

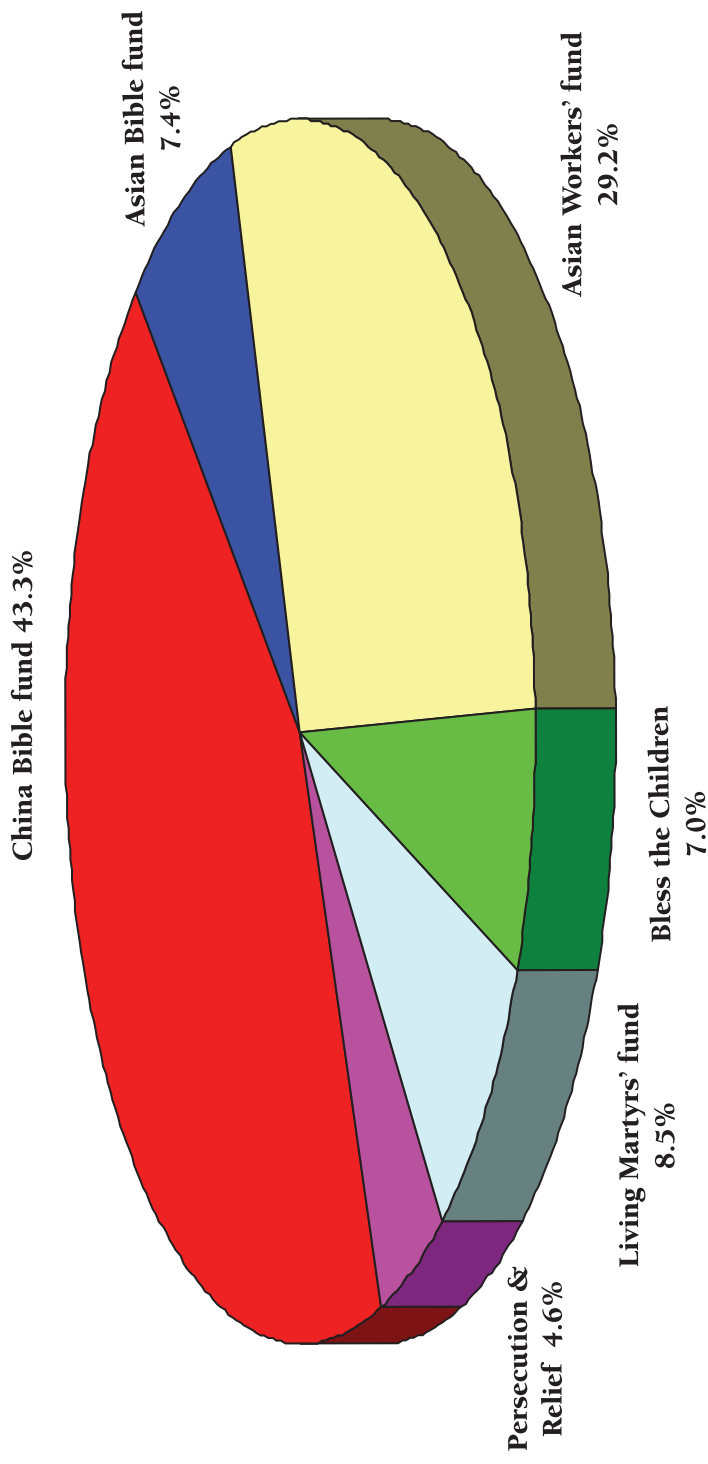
We thank God that last year we were able to send out substantially more project money than we received!

How is this Possible?

Although our operating costs are minimal, we do of course have some expenses. These are covered by general, non-project donations, and also from income generated by book sales. **Our ongoing commitment is that 100% of all project donations will be used exactly as specified. Nothing is deducted for administration, bank fees, or any other expense.** As a result, if someone sends us \$100 for Bibles or to support evangelists, \$100 really does go to the workers on the field.

If you would like to read our latest financial statement, please go to the "Resources" tab at our website www.asiaharvest.org

Asia Harvest Projects Supported in 2016



ASIAN WORKERS' FUND

Partnering with Pioneer Asian Evangelists

Because of your prayers and partnership we are supporting 1,677 Asian missionaries, serving among 756 unreached people groups. More than 67,000 people experienced God's salvation last year.



The Asian Workers' Fund provides support to evangelists in Asia who are working among ethnic groups that have never heard the gospel. By the end of 2016 we were privileged to support 1,677 evangelists among 756 unreached groups throughout Asia. These workers encounter many hardships and persecutions, but have persevered and are now seeing breakthroughs among many groups.

In 2016, those we support through the Asian Workers' Fund led **67,496 people to salvation in Jesus Christ**. A total of more than **164,000 conversions** have been reported since this project commenced. Hallelujah! This is even more remarkable considering most of them labor among some of the darkest and most unreached areas of Asia, including numerous Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist people groups.

The Asian Workers' Fund is constantly expanding and new workers are being recruited. We invite you to support one or more Asian missionaries with a gift of **\$25 per month each**. A laminated prayer card and worker updates are sent to every supporter of this project.

CHINA BIBLE FUND

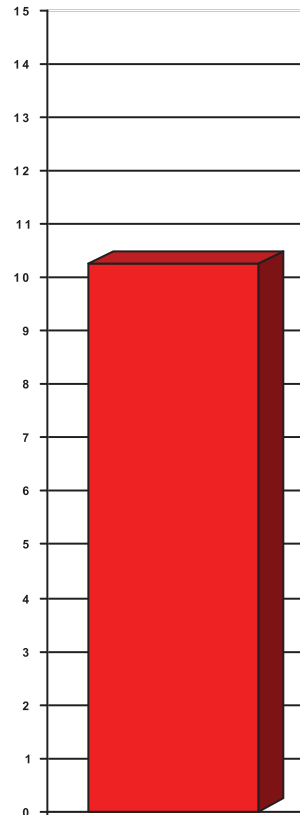
Equipping China's Christians with God's Word

There remains a critical shortage of Bibles in China today because of the massive growth of the church in rural areas. Tens of millions of house church Christians are still unable to access God's Word. Our Bibles are distributed to all parts of China, helping establish new believers in the faith and adding fuel to the revival that continues to burn throughout the world's most populated country. **Each Bible costs just \$1.80 to print and deliver.**

Since 2000, we have printed and distributed more than 10.2 million Bibles to house churches in China, with **673,852** in 2016 alone. This represents **1,846 Bibles every day, 77 per hour, or one full Bible every 47 seconds** throughout the year. Each one is a miracle. Thank you for praying and giving.



**Total Bibles since
2000: 10,255,226**



ASIAN BIBLE FUND

Providing Bibles to Asia's Christians

*Current Total: 719,266 Bibles printed in 72 different languages.
Each Bible costs an average of \$2.70 to print and deliver.*

Asia is home to many ethnic groups where people have been deprived access to God's Word, sometimes for decades. The **Asian Bible Fund** provides the Scriptures in numerous languages throughout Southeast Asia, North Korea, the Indian subcontinent, and elsewhere.

In 2016 we printed 77,179 Bibles through the Asian Bible Fund. Last year we were privileged to provide God's Word in the following languages:

Bengali, Bengali (Muslmani), Cham (Eastern), Chin Haka, English, Gujarati, Hindi, Hmong Bua, Indonesian, Kannada, Marathi, Mnong (Central), Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Vietnamese.

Please pray for our project and all those who are involved with providing God's Word to the precious Christians of Asia. **Each Bible costs an average of \$2.70 to print and deliver through the Asian Bible Fund.**



BLESS THE CHILDREN FUND

Reaching and Discipling Asia's Children

Your generous support has so far helped lead an estimated 63,014 children to Christ throughout Asia, and multitudes more have been exposed to the Gospel for the first time.

The **Bless the Children Fund** introduces children to Jesus Christ in India, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Nepal, and a host of other Asian countries. Activities include printing and distributing literature designed for children, providing free surgeries for those with special needs, and generally lifting children out of spiritual and physical poverty. The fruitfulness of this project has been tremendous. It costs an average of just **\$20 to reach a child for Christ**.

In our December 2016 newsletter we shared about a strategic initiative to distribute 100,000 children's Bible story books to children in two countries of Asia. To meet that goal we required \$170,000, but when we sent out our newsletter we had practically nothing in our account for it. We are deeply thankful for the generous response, and **we received just enough to complete the project!** The books have been distributed to appreciative children and their parents among many different tribes, and follow-up work is currently under way. It will take a few more months before all the reports come in, but we bow before the Living God for His goodness and mercy. Thank you for praying and partnering with us to bless the children of Asia!



LIVING MARTYRS' FUND

*Because of your partnership we are supporting **368** living martyrs.*



"A martyr has been defined as "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 **Living Martyrs' Fund** supports pastors and evangelists in China, Vietnam and elsewhere 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.

BLESS THE CHILDREN FUND



*Your generous support has so far reached **63,014** children throughout Asia.*

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PERSECUTION & RELIEF FUND



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

Over the years Asia Harvest has provided assistance to the victims of natural disasters that have struck Asia. 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 many people have come to know Jesus Christ. This project also provides physical and spiritual relief to Christian communities and families throughout Asia who have been affected by persecution.

TESTIMONY CORNER



"Greetings in the Name of Jesus! My name is Enkhsarul and I live in Mongolia. I had been a Buddhist my entire life, and I knew nothing at all about Christianity.

I first heard the Good News when a team of Christians visited our remote area. They shared about Jesus Christ and gave me a New Testament. When I discovered that Jesus had the power to deliver, I confessed my sins and received His salvation into my heart.

Sometime later my youngest son Chinbatar developed a kidney problem and was unable to go to the toilet for days. The doctors said it was hopeless and we should prepare to lose him. They told us to call on a

Buddhist lama or a spirit-priest for spiritual help and comfort. Instead, I went to the hospital and I held the hand of my seven-year-old son and spent the whole night praying for him in the Name of Jesus Christ. The next morning he was much better and his body started to function normally again.

Because of this great miracle, our entire family became followers of the Living God, and He brought real transformation to our lives. God has been so good to us. We all love Him, and the Holy Spirit has given us the strength to keep on believing. All glory to the true and living God!"

Brother Enkhsarul, from Mongolia, is one of hundreds of Asian evangelists we support through the Asian Workers' Fund. We invite you to join us as we help them take the Gospel to the unreached peoples of Asia.



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April 2017 - Newsletter #141



Indonesia

Jesus is Reaching the Muslim World

From the Frontlines

with Paul & Joy

“But Jonah ran away from the Lord and headed for Tarshish” (Jonah 1:3).



It's unfortunate that many Christians know so little of the Book of Jonah, except that a 'great fish' swallowed him and later spat him out. Most people's knowledge of Jonah seems to stop there, and they have missed the main point of the book.

When God commanded Jonah to preach in Nineveh, not only did he run away, but he went as far as possible in the opposite direction. Nineveh was 550 miles northeast of Israel, but he headed to Tarshish, located on the coast of Spain some 2,500 miles to the west! The Prophet Jonah was a man of God, so what motivated him to disobey the Lord in such an extreme way?

After he returned home from his remarkable ordeal, God again instructed Jonah to go to Nineveh. This time he went, albeit reluctantly. He preached God's coming judgment, and incredibly the whole city repented of their sins, from the king down. Jonah's worst fears were confirmed. Those evil-doers had met God's conditions and he knew the merciful Lord would relent of His punishment.

Jonah was "very angry" when the city repented. He threw a major hissy-fit and prayed, *"Isn't this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. Now, Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live." But the Lord replied, 'Is it right for you to be angry?'"* (Jonah 4:1-4).

To understand why Jonah was so upset we need to know what Nineveh was like at the time. The city had emerged as the center of the Assyrian empire, known for its cruel and ghastly acts. For generations they had bullied and destroyed surrounding nations. The Ninevites were similar to Islamic extremists today, performing barbaric acts of terror.

If we understand that similarity, we may begin to grasp why Jonah was so keen to disobey God. **If we're honest, if the Lord told us to travel to the Middle East and preach to ISIS, we might head in the opposite direction too.** Interestingly, Nineveh was located just outside the present-day city of Mosul in Iraq, which is still in the news today as a terrorist stronghold, thousands of years after Jonah's visit.

Before we rush to judge Jonah, we see many similarities between his attitude and that of many Christians today. In the past few years a number of people have rebuked us for our desire to reach Muslims with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Some church-going professing Christians have brazenly told us we are false believers because we don't appear to "hate God's enemies with perfect hatred." Just like Jonah, they don't want a certain group of people to experience God's grace. Some have even said they would rather see all Muslims annihilated and wiped off the face of the earth.



Friends, if you love the Lord Jesus, please guard your heart closely and ensure it doesn't grow bitter against Muslims or anyone else. While it's right to hate the demonic, filthy acts of terrorist groups like ISIS, if we allow a root of bitterness to gain hold we will be defiled and it will affect everyone around us. Satan would love for that to happen. One way to tell if bitterness has crept into our hearts is to gauge our response when we see pictures of Muslims.

When you look at the above picture, do you feel anger or disgust rising up in your heart? If so, please cry out to God for deliverance. The three young women in the photograph have just obtained their first ever copies of the New Testament. They are thrilled, and can't wait to get home and study the teachings of Jesus. **Millions of Muslims have been searching for Bibles for years because they are tired of centuries of dead legalism and bondage and they long to know the Truth.**

A few people have asked us if we are “for or against” Muslims. **We are for Jesus Christ**, and if the Holy Spirit is drawing people to God out of the Muslim world, we want to be part of it. There is no greater joy than to see a Muslim transformed by the blood of Jesus.

We currently support more than 150 evangelists throughout Asia who were once Muslims, but who now love the Lord Jesus with all their hearts. They daily risk their lives to make Him known in the midst of their communities. We regularly receive amazing reports from these co-workers, telling how many Muslims are surrendering their lives to Jesus after discovering that He is the living Savior of the world.

Finally, we encourage you not to harden your heart against Muslims for one more reason you may not be aware of: **God is working powerfully in the Muslim world and every day thousands are becoming born-again Christians!** The respected mission publication, *Operation World*, recently released a list of countries with the fastest growing churches in the world. It may shock you to learn that the top three countries are all Muslim—Iran, Afghanistan and Gambia! Rounding out the top ten are four more Muslim nations: Algeria (6th), Somalia (7th), Kuwait (9th) and Tajikistan (10th).

May God search our hearts and motives, lest, like Jonah, we find ourselves out of touch with His eternal plans for our generation. We will miss what God is doing today if we don’t want Him to show mercy to a group of people we consider undeserving of His grace.

We serve a wonderful God who desires to know all people. We’re glad that’s the case, otherwise we would be lost and heading to hell. The day is coming when the Lord Jesus will judge the whole earth and purge all evil and evil-doers. Indeed, Nineveh’s repentance was not permanent. The Prophet Nahum foretold the destruction of the city 150 years after Jonah’s visit.

While the door of opportunity to bring lost people to salvation remains open, we plan to do all we can to help bring in the harvest, realizing that it’s not our role to tell the Lord whom He should or shouldn’t accept into His family, for **“God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden... I will call them ‘my people’ who are not my people; and I will call her ‘my loved one’ who is not my loved one”** (Romans 9:18, 25).

One day, just as He did in the time of Noah, the hand of God will close the door on this sick and vile world. When He does, many will be surprised to discover that millions of former Muslims have been saved by His grace and washed clean by His precious Blood.

Indonesia — A Holy Wind is Blowing



Next year it will be 30 years since we first started working in the enchanting country of Indonesia. While Christians around the world tend to know more about other parts of Asia like China, Japan, and India, Indonesia is often left off people's radar. This is sad, because the Lord Jesus is beginning to move powerfully among the maze of 18,000 islands (922 of which are inhabited) that make up this beautiful and complex country.

Did you know that Indonesia contains the most Muslims of any country on earth? Don't allow this fact to make you fearful, however, for most visitors to Indonesia are met with a very warm welcome from smiling and friendly people. Indeed, Muslim leaders from other more fanatical countries like Saudi Arabia do not consider Indonesians to be genuine Muslims, and label them 'infidels' (unbelievers). It is in this context that the wind of the Holy Spirit has been sweeping multitudes of Indonesians into the kingdom of God.

Throughout history the Lord Jesus has used political events for the benefit of His kingdom, and He has used political events to establish His Church in Indonesia. In the 1960s Communism was sweeping through much of Asia, backed by China. One by one the nations of Southeast Asia were becoming Communist. Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia had embraced the empty philosophy, and many other countries were doing all they could to crush Communist insurgents in their midst. Indonesia had one of the largest Communist parties in Asia, with 800,000 members. With the



government losing control, President Suharto launched a massive crackdown on the Communists, killing hundreds of thousands of them.

In 1967, the government of Indonesia decided they would rather live with religious people than with Communists, so laws were passed that every Indonesian citizen must identify with one of four accepted religions—Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism or Christianity.

Before that time, Christians in Indonesia had been a small and persecuted minority, often struggling to survive in a sea of Muslims. All of a sudden it was legal to be a Christian, and over the next few years more than two million Indonesians joined Christian churches.

Although it's true that some joined the churches out of political expediency, hundreds of thousands of people genuinely repented of their sins and placed their trust in Christ. Most of the newly baptized Christians were ethnic Chinese or from tribes like the Dayaks, but thousands of Muslims also heard the gospel and believed, especially on the main island of Java. While many devout Muslims firmly resisted the gospel, others who followed a more relaxed form of folk Islam were disenchanted with their religion and decided to follow Jesus Christ instead.

In the five decades that have passed since the constitutional change guaranteeing freedom for Indonesian Christians, the Church has continued to grow steadily. The shining witness of their transformed lives has influenced many of the believers' friends and relatives. Millions of Indonesians have been blessed to discover



that Christianity is based on the living Jesus, and is not a dead religion made up of oppressive rules.

Over the years the growing number of Christians in Indonesia has caused tension, as the more devout Muslims try to keep control of the population. Severe persecution occasionally breaks out against the children of God, but through it all the kingdom of the Lord Jesus has continued to expand, and many hungry people have been swept into His family.

While we should rejoice greatly over the awesome things God has already done in Indonesia, there remains 222 “most unreached” ethnic groups in the country today, totalling more than 150 million people. The linguistic, cultural, and spiritual barriers between Indonesian Christians and these unreached tribes means that few of those people have ever heard the gospel in a clear way.



We are in contact with Indonesian evangelists who need prayer and financial support through our **Asian Workers' Fund**. Please pray fervently for the salvation of every people group in Indonesia. Until each one has believers redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb, the Lord Jesus will not return to rule and reign upon the earth.

You can support one or more workers with a gift of \$25 per month each. If you have a preference, please note the name of the group(s) you would like to help to reach when you send a gift for the **Asian Workers' Fund**. A laminated prayer card of the worker being helped will be sent to each donor.

**MADURA**

8.1 million people
<0.1% Christian

**RAWAS**

207,000 people
0.0% Christian

**JAMBI**

1.1 million people
<0.1% Christian

**JAVA
BANYUMASAN**

8.2 million people
1.9% Christian

**BALINESE**

3.6 million people
0.2% Christian

TESTIMONY CORNER



Of the hundreds of worker reports we receive from Asia, many are from faithful evangelists reaching their own tribes in Indonesia. Every now and then a testimony reaches us which is particularly God-glorifying. Here is one man's remarkable story:

"Praise God, for He is very good. I am grateful that He chose me to be His servant. I am from a large ethnic group that is outwardly Muslim, but in reality many people practice black magic. I was one such person, trapped

in deep sin and spiritual darkness. For 30 years I kept thousands of snakes and I slept in the same room with them. I used magic charms and demonic power to prevent the snakes from biting me, and many people came to witness the spectacle of a man surrounded by thousands of poisonous snakes. I even had a small group of disciples whom I taught my magic arts to. I was well known in our area of Indonesia.

One day I had a terrifying vision that I was going to die for two days but would come back to life, and I told it to my wife. A short time later I was bitten in the leg by a venomous snake and I fell unconscious. Thankfully my wife did not bury me because she remembered my vision.

While I was dead or in a coma, a man dressed in white stood in front of me. I dared not look into his face because it was so bright it would have burned my eyes out. I fell down and worshipped Him, and He said, 'Come to me and I will make you a fisher of men.'

After two days I was revived and my life was spared. I wondered who the great Man was that I had seen. I asked my wife but she didn't understand what I meant. One day I shared my experience with a young man. He told me the person who spoke to me was the Lord Jesus Christ, and he showed me verses in the Bible about others who had met the glorified Jesus.

Over time I surrendered my life to God and became a dedicated Christian. I also brought many of my disciples to faith in Christ. Over the years I have experienced many trials, but God has always been with me. I have started three churches and now many hundreds of my people also follow the Living and True God. Hallelujah!"

ASIAN WORKERS' FUND



We are currently supporting 1,898 Asian evangelists working among 819 unreached people groups.

The **Asian Workers' Fund** assists indigenous church-planting evangelists who are involved in strategic ministry to unreached Asian tribes and ethnic groups. These servants of the Lord have committed their whole lives to the Gospel but are hindered by lack of finances.

You can help support these dedicated workers for **\$25 per month** each. A prayer card and occasional updates are sent to all regular donors of this project.

CHINA BIBLE FUND



Current Total: 10,339,022 Chinese Bibles printed and distributed.

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 Body of Christ and helping add fuel to the revival in China.

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

ASIAN BIBLE FUND



Current Total: 733,489 Bibles printed in 74 languages.

Asia is home to many ethnic groups where people have been deprived of God's Word, sometimes for decades. The **Asian Bible Fund** provides the Scriptures in numerous languages in **South-east Asia, North Korea, the Indian subcontinent**, and elsewhere.

Each Bible costs an average of \$2.70 to print and deliver.

LIVING MARTYRS' FUND

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BLESS THE CHILDREN FUND



Your generous support has so far reached 64,606 children for Jesus throughout Asia.

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

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Asia Harvest

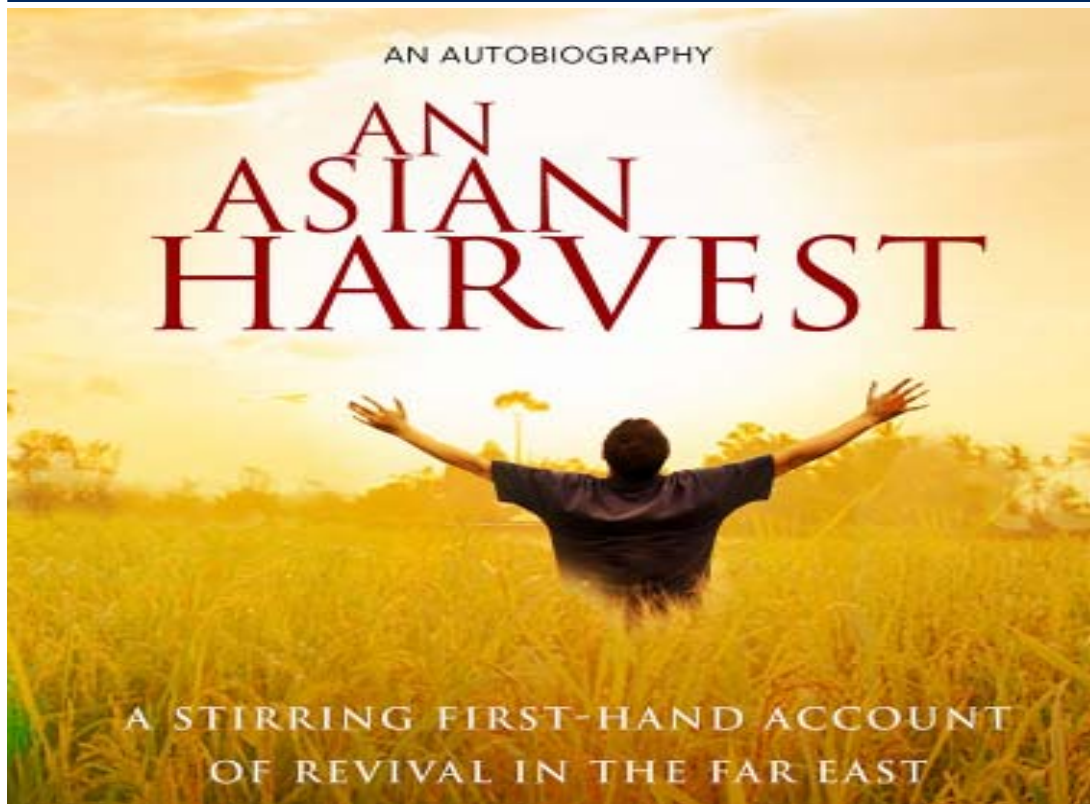


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June 2017 - Newsletter #142



‘An Asian Harvest’

The Autobiography of Paul Hattaway

'An Asian Harvest'

A Stirring First-Hand Account of Revival in the Far East

The Autobiography of Paul Hattaway

About 15 years ago, missionary friends who were familiar with my testimony encouraged me to write a book to inspire others. I hesitated, not least because our work in Asia requires me to maintain a low public profile. For years I pushed all thoughts of writing an autobiography to the back of my mind and concentrated on the work at hand.

A few years ago I realized that 25 years had elapsed since God first launched me out in Christian service. At the time, various people asked how Asia Harvest had been founded, and what principles had spurred our growth over the years. After receiving a number of these enquiries, I began to seek God more earnestly about whether or not He wanted me to share my testimony.

It gradually became clear that the time had come to share my story. This month we are glad to announce the release of my autobiography. I hope the Lord Jesus Christ will use it to encourage you as you walk with Him.

I am greatly honored to have witnessed some marvelous things on my adventure with God. I have shared many of those experiences, as well as some of the severe trials we have been called to endure along the way.

In the remainder of this newsletter we share one of the chapters from the book. Only in hindsight did I realize the event described in this chapter, which took place on a remote Himalayan mountain in 1991, was the moment the Holy Spirit first brought Asia Harvest into existence. Since that time, everything useful that has sprung from my life has been the direct result of God's grace and mercy to me, and the focus of Asia Harvest's work has flowed from the supernatural vision God gave me that night.

May the Lord be exalted through this book, so that many of God's children will be challenged, encouraged, and drawn closer to Him. May Jesus receive all the glory, for He alone is worthy.

The following excerpt is taken from Paul Hattaway's new autobiography, 'An Asian Harvest'. If you would like to order a copy, please see the enclosed form or visit our website (www.asiaharvest.org) for details.

A Heavenly Vison

April 1991

My extensive travels throughout Asia in 1991 included a trip to the Himalayan kingdom of Nepal. Nepal was a tightly controlled country at the time, and Christians were persecuted for their faith. Prayer meetings were often held in secret, with believers pressing pillows or cloth over their mouths to muffle the volume of their prayers, lest their neighbors report the gathering to the police.

A ministry in Kathmandu asked if I would travel to western Nepal to help deliver a load of Bibles to a rural community of new believers. I jumped at the opportunity, and a few days later I joined a Nepali Christian named Ramesh on a seventeen-hour bus ride to the west side of the country. It was the first stage of an arduous journey that almost ended my life.

Our first stop was the town of Nepalgunj near the Indian border. After resting for the night, we caught another bus deeper into the mountains. I was only able to fit fifty Bibles into my backpack, owing to the large size of the Nepali Scriptures. My pack weighed at least 50 kg (110 pounds), and it felt like I was carrying bars of iron. Instead of sitting inside the bus, Ramesh and I decided to travel in the “air-conditioned” compartment. We climbed onto the roof and sat inside the spare tire that was secured to the roof by ropes.

Typically, bus journeys in Nepal are exciting experiences. This was a particularly hair-raising ride, as our driver navigated the narrow dirt roads at breakneck speed. As he drove around blind corners, with the cliff edge just a few feet away, he would calm his nerves with an occasional swig



of whiskey or a puff of marijuana. It didn't help my state of mind when I glanced down from the roof and saw the burned-out shells of wrecked buses and trucks at the bottom of the valley floor, thousands of feet below.

That day we commenced our travels on the plains of southern Nepal, not far above sea level. Eight hours later we were at more than 10,000 feet above sea level, in the midst of the Himalayas. Through the day we had crossed numerous mountain passes and traversed into deep valleys, only to begin climbing again toward the next pass.

After sunset we arrived at a small town and found lodging for the night. The following morning Ramesh woke me before dawn. We had a full day's hiking ahead of us if we were to reach the Christian village by nightfall.

I set out with great determination that morning. What a great joy it was to deliver God's Word to new believers! I looked forward to meeting my Nepali brothers and sisters, with whom I would spend eternity.

After a few hours of difficult hiking, my heavy backpack felt like it weighed a ton, and the energy began to drain from my limbs. I knew I was holding Ramesh back, but he was my guide and translator and I would have been totally lost in those mountains without him.

For hours I pressed on, one step at a time. I was determined to reach our destination and deliver the Bibles, no matter what. By mid-afternoon, as we climbed yet another steep incline, I sensed I was in trouble. I was sick from both ends, and my body shook from dehydration and the stress of my endeavor. A few hours later I felt even more disorientated, and was barely able to walk. Feeling frustrated, Ramesh could see I wasn't going to make it to the village, which still lay three hours ahead.

We passed a tiny village of homes constructed from uncut stones and dried mud, before continuing up another hill. We were now in a remote area, far from any road, as the sun began to set. When we reached a clearing at the top of the next hill, I sat down to rest. Feeling too exhausted to unclip my pack, I just lay on my back.

Ramesh was growing increasingly anxious. Being a local, he knew the dangers of spending the night outside in the Himalayas. Wolves, jackals and other wild animals roamed the hills at night, in addition to some of the world's most venomous snakes and spiders.

"Okay Paul, let's go!" he ordered. "We've got to get moving! We can't stay here any longer. It's too dangerous. We Nepalis say only crazy people sleep out in the open."

By this time I was scarcely able to acknowledge Ramesh. My mind had become clouded and confused. I was so weak that the most I could do was to motion with my index finger, signaling to my guide to go on alone. "Okay brother," he exclaimed. "I'll go ahead and will try to send someone to help you."

That was the last time I ever saw Ramesh.

I was now alone, and a chill ran through my body as the last rays of sunlight descended behind the mountain peaks. I had never felt so totally devoid of energy, and my mind seemed to be shutting down.



Ironically, I knew what was happening to me, but I wasn't able to do anything about it. A few days earlier in Kathmandu, I had picked up a magazine at the mission guesthouse and read an article about altitude sickness. Every year, many trekkers in the Himalayas perish from it. Altitude sickness strikes people who ascend too quickly, before their bodies have time to adjust to the reduced air pressure and lower oxygen levels. Many people die when, in their weakened state, they simply close their eyes and fall asleep. Their lungs fill up with fluid, causing them to suffocate, and they never wake up. The medical term for this fatal condition is pulmonary edema. I already had most of the symptoms and was coughing uncontrollably. A bubbling sound was coming from within my chest as my lungs began to fill with fluid.

Even though I knew what I was suffering, I was completely powerless to overcome it. The only solution for someone suffering from altitude sickness is to quickly head down to a lower altitude, in the hope that their body will adjust to the thicker atmosphere.

Another half-hour passed, and it was now completely dark. The temperature had plummeted, and for the first time I was aware that I was about to die. An overwhelming exhaustion enveloped me. Every cell in my body wanted to rest. My eyes were heavy, and I was on the verge of nodding off to sleep.

A few months earlier I had read *Foxes Book of Martyrs* — a book full of stirring accounts of Christians who had died heroically for the gospel. I wondered if my church back home would ever learn how I had died.

Incredibly, at the point of my greatest weakness, pride rose up within me. I wanted my friends to know I had perished while serving Jesus, so I made a huge effort to pull my personal Bible out of my pack and place it beside me. When my body was

discovered, I wanted people to know that I had been reading God's Word to my very last breath!

As I contemplated the end of my life, I suddenly had a dramatic and life-changing experience.

Firstly, my heart was overwhelmed with *"the peace of God, which transcends all understanding"* (Philippians 4:7). I *knew*, without a shadow of doubt, that I was going to heaven. It was a supernatural revelation, not something I conjured up by myself. I didn't merely hope or wish that my eternal destiny was secure. My confidence had nothing to do with me. I had numerous faults and my life was still very much a work in progress. Every particle of my being, however, knew I was saved because of the blood of Jesus Christ! It was His blood that made me acceptable to God, and nothing else. I realized I was saved not because I was good enough, but because Jesus is good enough.

"Lord Jesus," I whispered, as tears welled up in my eyes, "I'm coming to see You soon. Thank You for saving me. Thank You for your precious blood. I love You."

Now lying on my side, I turned on a small pen light that I kept in my Bible cover. Mustering my last ounce of energy, I opened the Bible to near the middle of the book. I looked down to find I had opened to Psalm 91. When I read to the end of the Psalm, these words grabbed my attention:

"Because he loves me," says the Lord, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation" (Psalm 91:14-16).

As I pondered these beautiful words, a heavenly vision suddenly flooded my spirit. It lasted no longer than a few seconds, but it came with such clarity I will never forget the details.

Some people later suggested I may have been hallucinating because of my weakened state. All I know is that this brief encounter altered the course of my life and resulted in me loving the Lord Jesus with a greater passion than ever before.

In the vision I was positioned high up in the air, looking down upon a huge open plain containing countless millions of Asian people, from a myriad of ethnic groups. Each person was adorned in their traditional tribal clothing. The colorful sea of humanity stretched to the distant horizon, further than my eyes could see.

As I gazed upon the vast multitude, a deep, overpowering sense of God's love and compassion flooded my soul. These words about Jesus were impressed on my mind: *"He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd"* (Matthew 9:36).

The vision ended as abruptly as it had begun, and I remained alone in the dark of the Himalayas, lying on the cold ground. For the next ten or fifteen minutes I was awestruck by the vision. My heavenly Father, in a moment of time, had shared His heart with me for the lost peoples of Asia. His amazing love so overwhelmed me that I could scarcely contain it. It felt like my heart might explode within me.

After the vision, a deep sense enveloped me that I was not going to die that night. God had shared a glimpse of His heart for a reason. He wanted me to invest the rest of my life taking the gospel to as many Asian people groups as possible. I realized my work was far from complete, and Jesus wanted me to live!

Although I felt spiritually uplifted from my heavenly experience, I was still unable to move and I remained completely devoid of energy. As I looked up into the star-filled sky, I began to shiver uncontrollably, and wondered how I was going to survive the night without a sleeping bag or warm coat. As I lay there, I thought I heard a sound way off in the distance. My ears perked up, but all I could hear was the chirping of crickets.

A few more minutes passed, and again I thought I heard a tiny sound in the distance. Then it stopped again. The third time I heard the sound, I knew my mind wasn't playing tricks on me. I really was hearing something. It sounded like a faint trickle of water, ebbing and flowing in intensity. Sometimes it was louder, then it would fade away for a few minutes before returning.

As the time went by, it was apparent that the sound was getting closer! It was now just a few hundred yards behind me, and I recognized the sound as the tinkling of a bell. Someone was coming down the trail toward me!

A Nepali man and his donkey suddenly emerged into the clearing. The donkey had a small bell around its neck, which tinkled as it walked along. Because of the hills and valleys, the sound-waves had reached my ears when the donkey was at the top of a hill, only to disappear when it went down into a hollow.

The man didn't say a word to me. He looked at me lying in the dirt and immediately summed up the situation. He lifted up my pack, and with a great struggle managed to secure it with rope across the back of his donkey. He then helped me to my feet, and although I was unstable, the Lord provided a boost of energy and I was soon staggering back down the trail from where I had come earlier that day.

After about thirty minutes we reached the small village of stone and mud houses that Ramesh and I had passed hours earlier. The man motioned for me to wait while he spoke with a woman who managed the only shop in the village. Beneath the shop was a tiny space with a small opening. I got on my hands and knees and crawled inside. The woman pushed my pack into the opening, said some things in Nepali that I couldn't understand, and left for the night.

Although the Lord had spared my life, I remained extremely ill. For days I lay under the shop, too sick to move. The lady brought me water and some lentil soup, but everything that passed my lips immediately came back up. She gave up trying to provide me with sustenance and brought me an old broken bucket to throw up in.

That Nepali woman was like an angel to me, emptying my bucket every day and trying to cheer me up by bringing children from the village to stare at me. That part of Nepal was isolated and far from the normal tourist routes. I was almost certainly the first foreigner any of the locals had ever seen.

Finally, after remaining there for a full week, I regained some strength and was able to contemplate my situation. The next day I decided to try to retrace my steps back to the capital city of Kathmandu. I walked all day back to the road and hailed a bus. This time I took a seat inside. From Nepalgunj I bought another ticket for the long journey back to Kathmandu. I was upset because I had failed to deliver the Bibles to the new believers, but hauled them all the way to Kathmandu, where I placed them back on the shelf at the mission guesthouse.

During the week I spent recovering beneath the shop, I expected my friend Ramesh to come back and find me, but he never did. I found out later that he had continued on to the Christian village, hoping I would be able to make my own way back to civilization. I asked the ministry leaders to thank Ramesh for sending the man with his donkey to rescue me. They replied, "Ramesh says he doesn't know what you mean. He didn't send anyone with a donkey."

I weighed myself on a set of scales at the guesthouse, and was shocked to discover the toll my illness had taken on my body. I had lost 23 kg (50 pounds) during the ten days I was away. Looking back, the experience in Nepal had a major effect on my life.

The brief supernatural vision God shared with me of His heart for the peoples of Asia revolutionized my life and service for Him.

Although the Lord Jesus had first called me in 1987, and had thrust me onto the mission field while still in my teens, with the benefit of hindsight I believe the ministry of Asia Harvest commenced that night in April 1991 atop the remote Himalayan mountain.

My heavenly vision in Nepal was the launching pad for everything that has happened in my life and ministry since that day. Over the years, God has unfolded this vision in amazing ways, as the remainder of my story will reveal.

My hope and prayer is that one day, like the Apostle Paul, I may be able to say, "*I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven*" (Acts 26:19).

ENDORSEMENTS

“It has been my privilege to have known Paul Hattaway for nearly 20 years. I have not met anyone else with his knowledge and understanding of the Church and people of Asia. He has experienced missionary life first hand, his research is legendary, and he appreciates the challenges of going to the unreached. Paul has been an invaluable friend, partner and advisor. If you meet Paul, you will know that overriding all of this is his God-given desire to see Asia’s billions saved from eternal death.”

— **Colin Dudgeon, AsiaLink, United Kingdom.**

“We are grateful to Paul Hattaway and Asia Harvest for providing millions of Bibles to the people of China. We cannot find words to express our thanks for the unselfish giving of those who have provided the Word of Life to us.”

— **Brother Chen, A Senior House Church Leader, China.**

“I first met Paul twenty years ago when I visited his home in Asia. From the start, I saw love, integrity, humility, brokenness, giftedness, and most of all the authenticity of a child-like resoluteness to follow only God’s agenda in his life—all the major ingredients for the makings of a champion advocate in the Lord’s work.

The pathway God has laid out for Paul and his family has not been easy. They have shown God’s majesty by humbly taking the high road many times when their flesh and natural instincts shouted the opposite.

God has chosen Paul and his precious wife, Joy, to display the might of His power, to impact world missions, and in so doing has sent many of the mighty and the highly credentialed of world ministry scrambling for answers to their own degree of usefulness to the kingdom.

I pray this book brings much glory to God and great encouragement to His people. In this day when many feel discouraged and cynical, may this testimony become a success for His glory.”

— **Bo Barredo, Co-Founder, Advancing Native Missions.**

“Over the past 12 years we have seen the powerful and lasting impact Paul Hattaway and Asia Harvest have made for Christ Jesus among the Vietnamese people. Paul’s driving passion for being about his Father’s business, combined with his insight and deep understanding of the spiritual needs of our nation are a great blessing that has resulted in much fruit for the kingdom of God.”

— **Joshua & Ruth Nguyen, Ministry leaders, Vietnam.**

“I first worked with Paul and Asia Harvest in 1992, delivering Bibles to house churches in China. We have increased our partnership together, as we intensify our commitment to providing God’s Word.”

— **Gary Russell, Founder, China Harvest Inc.**

“Paul Hattaway’s zeal and dedication for reaching the unreached has highly motivated us. His fervent pursuit of God’s call, even in very difficult circumstances, is exemplary. The many years of collaboration with Paul have expanded our vision and helped us see God’s big picture. We count it a tremendous privilege and blessing to represent Asia Harvest in Europe.”

— **Jürgen & Ruth Rintz, Stiftung SALZ Germany and Switzerland.**



ASIAN WORKERS' FUND



We currently support 1,931 Asian evangelists among 832 unreached people groups.

The **Asian Workers' Fund** assists indigenous church-planting evangelists who are involved in strategic ministry to unreached Asian tribes and ethnic groups. These servants of the Lord have committed their whole lives to the Gospel but are hindered by lack of finances.

You can help support these dedicated workers for **\$25 per month** each. A prayer card and occasional updates are sent to all regular donors of this project.

CHINA BIBLE FUND



Current Total: 10,378,646 Chinese Bibles printed and distributed.

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 Body of Christ and helping add fuel to the revival in China.

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

ASIAN BIBLE FUND



Current Total: 740,816 Bibles printed in 75 languages.

Asia is home to many ethnic groups where people have been deprived of God's Word, sometimes for decades. The **Asian Bible Fund** provides the Scriptures in numerous languages in **South-east Asia, North Korea, the Indian subcontinent**, and elsewhere.

Each Bible costs an average of \$2.70 to print and deliver.

LIVING MARTYRS' FUND

Because of your partnership we are supporting 374 living martyrs.



A martyr has been defined as "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 **Living Martyrs' Fund** supports pastors and evangelists in China, Vietnam and elsewhere 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.

BLESS THE CHILDREN FUND



Your generous support has so far reached 64,815 children for Jesus throughout Asia.

The **Bless the Children Fund** introduces children to Jesus Christ in India, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Nepal, and a host of other countries. Activities include printing and distributing Gospel literature designed for children, providing free surgeries for those with special needs, and generally lifting children out of spiritual and physical poverty. The results of this project have been staggering. It costs an average of **\$20 to reach a child for Christ**.

PERSECUTION & RELIEF FUND



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

Over the years Asia Harvest has provided assistance to the victims of natural disasters that have struck Asia. 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 many people have come to know Jesus Christ. This project also provides physical and spiritual relief to Christian communities and families throughout Asia who have been affected by persecution.



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Asia Harvest



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

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August 2017 - Newsletter #143



The Living Martyrs

Helping those who have Given all to Jesus

From the Frontlines

with Paul & Joy

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers” (Galatians 6:9-10).

In the Book of Acts we see the early Church reaching entire communities. There are many places in Acts where the believers prayed for the sick and saw them instantly healed by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Greek word used to describe these supernatural healings is *iáomai*.

Are you aware, however, that on more than two dozen occasions in the New Testament a different Greek word, *therapeuo*, is used to describe healings? This word, from which we derive the English word ‘therapeutic’, is used to describe the healing of the paralyzed man in John chapter 5 and the healing of the daughter of the Canaanite woman in Matthew 15:28. The Apostle Luke, a medical doctor, used this word fifteen times in his writings.

Finally, when the Apostle Paul and his colleagues were shipwrecked on the Island of Malta in Acts 28, they decided to make the most of the situation by reaching out to the local population. Both kinds of healing, the supernatural and the natural, occurred when the father of the chief official of the island was healed of fever and dysentery. The Scripture says, ***“Paul went in to see him and, after prayer, placed his hands on him and healed him [iáomai]. When this had happened, the rest of the sick on the island came and were cured”*** [*therapeuo*] (Acts 28:8-9).

It seems that after seeing God heal the sick man supernaturally, Dr. Luke and his fellow believers held a medical clinic to minister to the people of Malta, and as a result many were exposed to the Gospel for the first time.

The Living Martyrs' Fund

Helping Church Leaders who have Given their All for Christ

A martyr has been defined as *"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."*



In this newsletter we would like to share about one of our long-standing projects, the **Living Martyrs' Fund**. For almost twenty years this project has been a foundational part of our work, and hundreds of church leaders have been greatly blessed and encouraged by the help they have received through the fund.

This project is available to church leaders in Asia who have been persecuted because of their witness for Christ. Often, as a result of brutal torture, imprisonment, and extreme hardship, these leaders are now physically or mentally disabled and are unable to earn a living.

In China, where the majority of our Living Martyrs' Fund recipients are located, many house church pastors who have been imprisoned for their faith are declared to have lost their "political rights." This means they are not permitted to have a passport or travel freely within China; they are banned from ever having a government job, and any benefits such as a pension or medical insurance is taken away from them.

Furthermore, their wives and family members are also frequently punished. Their sons and daughters are often banned from attending university or college. Subsequently, many of the 'living martyrs' we are honored to support are left destitute, and in dire need of additional help over and above what their own families are able to provide.

The monthly amount we give to these faithful servants of God goes a long way to relieve some of their daily struggles. They come from churches that believe in the supernatural healing of God, and they have been prayed for many times. They remain gravely ill or injured, however, and so they deeply appreciate the support they receive, which is often used to buy medicine and other daily essentials like nutritious food and clothing. The local churches in their area are also expected to take care of these saints as is fitting for believers to do, but some live in remote areas where there are few Christians to assist them.

Many of the testimonies we receive from our project leaders are heart-rending. One former church leader in Vietnam, who boldly stood for the truth of the Gospel for decades and endured horrible punishment for the sake of Christ, was found by our colleagues to be living in a bamboo shack on the edge of a jungle. This widower, in his 70s, was struggling to scavenge enough food to stay alive. His relatives had long ago deserted him, ashamed of his stubborn faith in God, and the believers in that part of the country had lost touch with him and didn't know his whereabouts.

For the past several years this precious Vietnamese brother has been helped through the Living Martyrs' Fund. He is deeply thankful and tears well up in his eyes whenever he thinks of how God's people did not forget him in the time of his greatest need.

In the following pages we will share a few short summaries from among the hundreds of applications that have come across our desk for the **Living Martyrs' Fund**. Some of these we are already supporting, while others we hope to begin helping soon. Although we have changed their names and details to protect their identities (and the pictures are not of these specific believers), their testimonies are true.

VIETNAM

Brother Vue is in his late 50s. For decades, he and his wife faithfully took the Gospel to the lost, establishing countless believers in the Christian faith. In the course of serving the Lord they endured terrible hardship and persecution. Several years ago his wife suffered a trauma which left her paralyzed. Now she has a growth on her neck and a brain disorder which doctors are unable to treat. She experiences constant pain and neither Brother Vue or his wife is able to earn an income. They have exhausted their personal funds after selling their property and Brother Vue must devote his time to caring for his wife's failing health. This precious couple needs help just to survive.



Sister Qui is a widow, all alone and almost 90-years-old. She told our co-workers of her deep loneliness as her health deteriorates. She suffers from insomnia and cardio vascular difficulties and is partially blind. In the last few years her memory has also been fading as she nears the end of her life in this world. Sister Qui misses her husband greatly, and deeply appreciates the support we send her as it enables her to afford medicine and daily food.

Brother Trinh, who is now in his late 60s, was enlisted into the North Vietnamese army as a young man. As payment he received a small block of land to build a hut. Trinh became a Christian in 1991, however, and served the Lord by sharing the gospel at every opportunity. The Communist authorities labelled him a traitor and began to severely persecute him. His government support was stopped and the police continually harassed him. Despite these hardships he continued to serve the Lord. Some time ago he had an accident and suffered a broken jaw, which never healed properly. He also has dangerously high blood pressure, the result being that he can no longer work for a living. The amount Brother Trinh receives through the Living Martyrs' Fund is a great blessing to him. It allows him to buy medication and receive treatment for his health issues. Subsequently, he is still testifying about Jesus Christ to everyone he comes into contact with.

INDIA



Simon had been an effective church planter for several years when radical Hindus ran his motorcycle down in an attempt to murder him in February last year. A few days later the Hindus came and attacked him and other believers during a church service. Simon was hospitalized for weeks with head and chest injuries, and his leg was broken in several places. He thanks God for helping him survive, but his family is now destitute and he is unable to work due to the severity of his injuries. Please pray for this courageous and faithful family.

Brother Sodi and his family were ostracized from their village by Hindus because they refused to participate in idolatrous festivals. They were severely beaten and their goats and all worldly possessions were seized and sold, to force them to pay for the village rituals. Now they are not allowed to draw water from the village well, and the entire community refuses to speak to them or do business with them. Brother Sodi and his family are in great need of help just to survive. Despite this persecution they refuse to deny Christ and are faithfully continuing to worship Him.

Martha was a widow when she met Jesus Christ and surrendered her life to Him. Her simple home was used as a place to worship God, until one day radical Hindus sexually assaulted Martha and mercilessly beat her and her two children. They were forced to flee the village to a neighbouring state, where they are hiding from packs of bloodthirsty men who are hunting for them as they seek to take their lives. We are providing funds for this precious family as they reconstruct their lives and Martha learns a new trade.



CHINA

Brother Zhou has been a house church leader for more than twenty years, faithfully leading God's flock and reaching many people for Jesus Christ. Because of his refusal to close his house church and join the government-approved Three-Self Patriotic Movement, Zhou was abducted from his home by the secret police and tortured mercilessly in 2008 and 2014. As part of his punishment, the guards held him on the ground and poured some unknown liquid down his throat. As a result, ever since that time Brother Zhou has suffered severe stomach diseases which have ruined his health and caused untold suffering. Through it all, Brother Zhou has remained faithful to the Lord, but he is unable to work for a living and his family is destitute. Because he has been in prison, Brother Zhou is denied access to any government assistance and is not permitted to have medical insurance. The Living Martyrs' Fund helps Brother Zhou buy medicine and treatment, as well as providing basic necessities for him and his family.

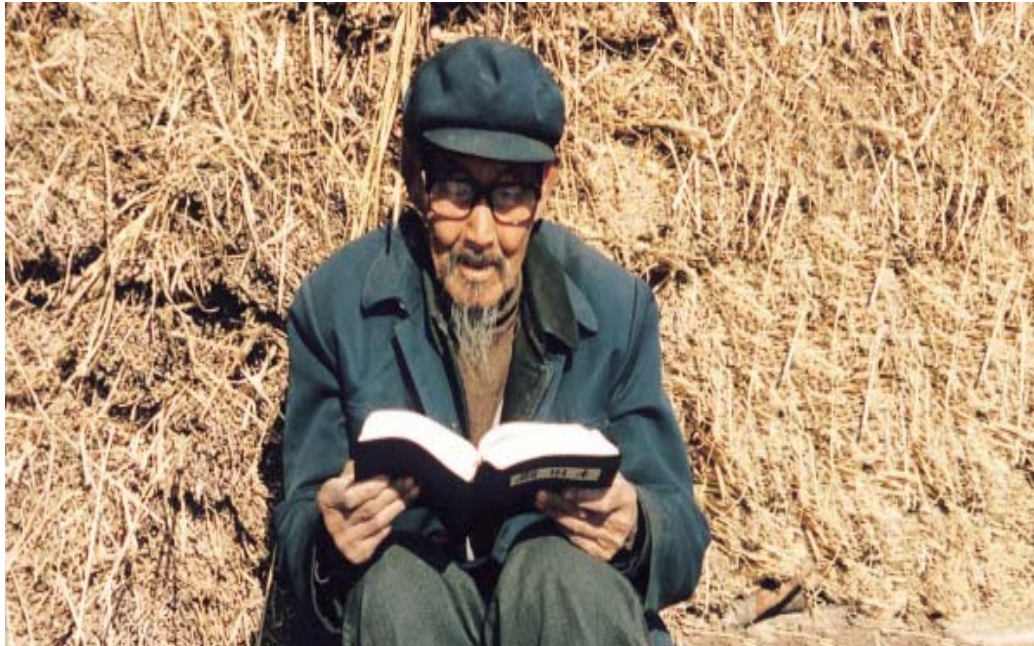


Brother Wan, who is now in his sixties, has served God as an evangelist since the time he first met Jesus Christ many years ago. Over the years he has been targeted by the authorities and has been called to endure four imprisonments for the sake of the Gospel between 1996 and 2013. On each of those occasions Brother Wan

was tortured and treated with utter contempt. He is now a broken vessel and was recently diagnosed with a brain tumor. Brother Wan is a dear brother who needs a “cup of cold water in Jesus’ Name” to help him make it through to the end. He is deeply appreciative of the prayers and assistance to help alleviate his struggles.



Although he is a relatively young man in his late 40s, **Brother Xin** has been a bold witness for Jesus Christ and has led many people to repentance. He is also a highly respected Bible teacher. The Communist authorities targeted him because of his house church activities and he was arrested and jailed three times (2004, 2009 and 2014). During those incarcerations, this man of God was publicly humiliated and nearly beaten to death. Now a widower without any family members to help him, Brother Xin suffers from post traumatic stress and has a slipped lumbar disc in his lower back, causing him constant and severe pain. He does not complain, however, and has patiently endured the scorn of sinful men. By receiving support through the Living Martyrs’ Fund, this precious brother will be able to afford treatment for his injuries and will hopefully begin on the road to recovery. Meanwhile, he continues to be a great blessing to many believers by encouraging them in God’s Word when they come to visit his home.



Brother Chee, who is now approaching the age of 70, faithfully served as a house church leader in north China for many years. After shepherding God's flock through many trials and difficult times, Brother Chee was arrested and thrown into prison four times for the sake of the gospel, most recently in 2013. On each occasion he was brutally tortured and forced to pay a heavy fine, all because he refused to compromise his testimony about Jesus Christ. Despite massive pressure, he withstood the tests and continues to love the Lord and His people to this present day. All the hardships over the years have taken their toll on Brother Chee. He and his wife are now destitute and he is battling Parkinson's disease. In China, being a convicted criminal means he is forbidden from receiving any government pension or medical benefits. He is relying on the Lord Jesus, and is thankful that believers around the world have not forgotten him.

If you would like to support one or more living martyrs, we invite you to fill out the yellow response form in this newsletter and send it back along with your gift. Alternatively, one-time or monthly donations to the project can be made via our website: www.asiaharvest.org

All supporters of this project will receive a laminated prayer card of a living martyr, with a short summary of who they are and their testimony so you can pray for them.



ASIAN WORKERS' FUND



We currently support 1,954 Asian evangelists among 855 unreached people groups.

The **Asian Workers' Fund** assists indigenous church-planting evangelists who are involved in strategic ministry to unreached Asian tribes and ethnic groups. These servants of the Lord have committed their whole lives to the Gospel but are hindered by lack of finances.

You can help support these dedicated workers for **\$25 per month** each. A prayer card and occasional updates are sent to all regular donors of this project.

CHINA BIBLE FUND



Current Total: 10,512,465 Chinese Bibles printed and distributed.

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 Body of Christ and helping add fuel to the revival in China.

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

ASIAN BIBLE FUND



Current Total: 760,525 Bibles printed in 93 languages.

Asia is home to many ethnic groups where people have been deprived of God's Word, sometimes for decades. The **Asian Bible Fund** provides the Scriptures in numerous languages throughout **Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent,** and elsewhere.

Each Bible costs an average of \$2.70 to print and deliver.

LIVING MARTYRS' FUND

*Because of your partnership we are supporting **368** living martyrs.*



A martyr has been defined as "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 **Living Martyrs' Fund** supports pastors and evangelists in China, Vietnam and elsewhere 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.

BLESS THE CHILDREN FUND



*Your generous support has so far reached **65,517** children for Jesus throughout Asia.*

The **Bless the Children Fund** introduces children to Jesus Christ in India, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Nepal, and a host of other countries. Activities include printing and distributing Gospel literature designed for children, providing free surgeries for those with special needs, and generally lifting children out of spiritual and physical poverty. The results of this project have been staggering. It costs an average of **\$20 to reach a child for Christ**.

PERSECUTION & RELIEF FUND



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

Over the years Asia Harvest has provided assistance to the victims of natural disasters that have struck Asia. 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 many people have come to know Jesus Christ. This project also provides physical and spiritual relief to Christian communities and families throughout Asia who have been affected by persecution.



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Asia Harvest



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

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September 2017 - Newsletter #144



A Gathering Storm

Asian Christians Brace for Persecution

A Gathering Storm

Massive Persecution is Brewing Across Asia

"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. Remember what I told you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also.

They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the one who sent me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. Whoever hates me hates my Father as well" (John 15:18-23).

In terms of influence for the Gospel and where Asia Harvest invests the most resources, the three main countries we work in are China, India and Nepal.

Many Christians are unaware that in each of those countries, dark and foreboding storm clouds of persecution have been gathering on the horizon, and are now starting to break forth on the followers of Jesus Christ.

Thankfully, the Lord never hid the truth from His children. In the Gospels, including the above verses, Jesus told us to expect to suffer and be hated for being His disciples. That is the normal Christian life. For many centuries, believers understood that to be identified as a Christian equated to a death sentence, and the Church grew in leaps and bounds. In recent decades, however, a false gospel has arisen in the West, which has spread to Asia and around the world.

This false gospel teaches that if we follow Jesus we can expect great blessings, ever-increasing rewards in this life, and that we will be overwhelmed with happiness and good times, all because "God loves us so much."

A number of years ago we were honored to write *The Heavenly Man*, which told the story of the intense suffering and endurance of a Chinese Christian named Brother Yun. Although multitudes of believers around the globe were deeply encouraged and strengthened in their faith after reading his testimony, others were angry and rejected it. One large American denomination, with thousands of churches, banned the book from their bookstores, because its message of faith

amid persecution didn't match their narrative that Christians are destined to only experience 'success' in this life.

We know of many Christians who embraced this false message, and now their lives are ruined, swamped by sin, and they have grown disillusioned by the daily grind that comes from following Jesus in a sinful and demonized world.

The good news is that the Lord helped prepare us for suffering. He promised, *"A time is coming and in fact has come when you will be scattered, each to your own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me. I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."* (John 16:32-33).

Let's take a brief look at some recent developments in Asia, and **we ask you to pray for your brothers and sisters in each country.** Please *"remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering"* (Hebrews 13:3).

CHINA



While many Christians around the world have believed the lie that persecution of Christians is something in China's distant history, house church believers throughout the country continue to experience extreme hardship. Church leaders in some parts of China say that persecution is now the worst since the 1960s and 1970s.

The current wave of brutality against God's people began about two years ago, when President Xi Jinping announced his government was cracking down on religion. To start with, hundreds of foreign Christians who were living in China as students, teachers, businessmen and the like had their visas revoked. They were expelled permanently from the country, including more than 150 workers affiliated with one mission alone. Many of them were faithful believers who had served many years in China.

Last year, President Xi summoned a small group of prominent house church leaders to Beijing for a personal meeting. Although the contents of that meeting have been kept strictly confidential, within weeks severe persecution broke out against the unregistered house church movements throughout the country.

The attacks started as discrimination. At first, Christians were hassled, lost their jobs, or were blocked from entering university. As time progressed the heat has been turned up, and this year we have received reports of many church leaders and evangelists being bundled into unmarked vehicles, not to be seen again.

Various reports have reached us from China of harsh and widespread persecution. One tribal pastor in the remote mountains of southwest China was recently beaten to death for his faith.

Please pray God will continue to be glorified through His Church in China. For more than half a century the Holy Spirit has moved powerfully throughout the land, saving more than 100 million people and setting them apart for His glorious kingdom. The atheist Communist authorities have always hated the Church and wanted to destroy it, but the Lord Jesus has laughed at their plans and has gathered a huge harvest.

Please pray the harvest in China would continue to be gathered, until He who sits on the throne of heaven returns to wreak vengeance on the nations for their wicked deeds. All the wrath of men will amount to nothing in the end, as we all bow our knees before the King of Kings who declared,

"Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the Lord and against his anointed, saying, 'Let us break their chains and throw off their shackles.' The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath" (Psalm 2:1-5).

INDIA

India, which in a few years is poised to overtake China as the world's most populated country, has generally left Christians alone in the past, as they have been a tiny minority among countless millions of Hindus.

In the last twenty years, however, the situation has changed, with a rapidly increasing number of Christians causing alarm to the authorities. At the same, groups of fundamentalist Hindus have emerged, threatening to kill Christians and destroy the rise of Christianity. One of the most powerful of these groups is called the RSS. They are implicitly backed by the Indian government, and have published detailed plans of how to eliminate Christian communities, including sending Hindu doctors to sterilize Christian girls so that they will never be able to have children.

Please pray that the Living God would continue to be glorified throughout India through His redeemed children. Intercede so that Satan and his plans would come to nothing, but the Name of Jesus Christ will be lifted up over every people group in India.

NEPAL

Nepal, the Himalayan kingdom sandwiched between the two giants of China and India, also recently launched a major crackdown. On August 8th, the parliament passed a new 'anti-conversion' law which is obviously aimed at Christians, since hundreds of thousands of Nepalis have eagerly pressed into the kingdom of God in the last few decades. This has caused other religious leaders to fume with envy as sin-bound people experience the forgiveness and freedom of life in Jesus.

The new law carries a sentence of up to five years in prison for anyone caught influencing another person to change religions, while a second part of the vague legislation makes it an offence to "hurt the religious sentiment" of another person or community. This charge carries a two year prison sentence. **Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Nepal.**

Thousands of years ago another earthly ruler arrogantly stood up against God's purposes, so for seven years the Lord turned him into a cow! King Nebuchadnezzar finally learned a lesson that the leaders of China, India and Nepal will also need to learn. The humbled king declared,

"His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation. All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: 'What have you done?'" (Daniel 4:34-35).

Our Response: Elijah or Jesus?

Over the years the Church in many parts of Asia has faced intense pressure and seasons of persecution. Believers in other parts of the world now feel similar storm clouds gathering on the horizon in their countries.

We have learned a few things about how to deal with intimidation and threats, which we hope you may find useful. First, it's crucial not to give in to fear and anxiety, but to remain calm and focused on Jesus, daily meditating on the Word of God. Satan loves nothing more than to intimidate believers into a state of immobility.

Two men in the Bible were the targets of intimidation as evil-doers sought to stop their work. The way they responded could not have been more different. One man responded wrongly, while the other man responded how God wants us to.

Elijah was threatened by the wicked Queen Jezebel, who vowed to cut off his head. The prophet was terrified and fled into the desert, where he prayed that he might die. *"I have had enough, Lord," he said. 'Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors'"* (1 Kings 19:4). A short time later he was instructed to anoint Elisha to succeed him in the ministry.

The second man who was the subject of attempted intimidation was the Lord Jesus. When He was told to be on guard because Herod wanted to kill him and stop His good works, Jesus responded with great boldness and without a hint of fear: *"Go tell that fox, 'I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.'" (Luke 13:32).*

By God's grace, the attitude of those we serve in China, India and Nepal will be the same as that demonstrated by the Lord. The Gospel must continue to go forward, because the sun is still up and there is much work to do! Jesus taught, *"As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work"* (John 9:4).

In the meantime we plan to keep marching forward with our vision securely fixed on Jesus Christ, as we continue to print and distribute tons of Bibles in many languages. By God's grace and provision we will also continue to support as many evangelists among unreached people groups as we can.

We invite you to join us in helping the kingdom of God continue to advance throughout Asia.

ASIAN WORKERS' FUND



Asia Harvest currently supports 1,161 Asian evangelists among 822 people groups.

You can sponsor an Asian evangelist among an unreached people group for **\$25 per month** each. Prayer cards and updates are sent to all regular supporters of this project. To date, the evangelists we help have reported **211,640 conversions to Christ**.



CHINA BIBLE FUND



Current Total: 10,560,732 Chinese Bibles printed and distributed.

Bibles are distributed free of charge to house churches in China, equipping the Body of Christ. **Each full Chinese Bible costs just \$1.80 to print and deliver.**

LIVING MARTYRS' FUND



Asia Harvest is currently supporting 289 living martyrs.

Supporting church leaders and widows in China, Vietnam and elsewhere who are unable to work because of injuries or illness caused by persecution. **\$35 per month** helps a living martyr.

ASIAN BIBLE FUND



Current Total: 788,377 Bibles printed in 93 languages.

The **Asian Bible Fund** provides the Scriptures in many languages to Christians in **Southeast Asia**, the **Indian subcontinent** and elsewhere. **Each Bible costs an average of \$2.70 to print and deliver.**

BLESS THE CHILDREN FUND



So far 65,790 children in Asia have been impacted by the Gospel.

Providing children's Gospel literature, surgeries for those with special needs, and lifting children out of spiritual and physical poverty. It costs an average of **\$20 to reach a child for Christ**.



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November 2017 - Newsletter #145



The Two Sides of God

Gaining a Balanced View of the Bible

The Two Sides of God

Gaining a Balanced View of the Bible

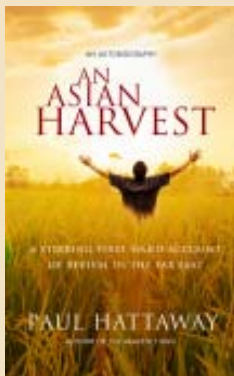
“Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God” (Romans 11:22).

“You feel sorry for us in India because of our great poverty in material things. We who know the Lord in India feel sorry for you in America because of your spiritual poverty. We are praying that you also might come to church with a hunger for God and not merely a hunger to see some form of amusement.”

— **Bakht Singh, Indian church leader**

Several years ago the Smithsonian Institute displayed an exhibit of Thomas Jefferson’s Bible. Jefferson had taken a pair of scissors and cut out all the parts of the Bible he didn’t like, and God’s moral laws which he felt were outdated. He removed all mention of hell, and because he didn’t believe in miracles, he chopped those passages out too!

While most Christians would agree that Jefferson’s actions were ridiculous, I’ve met numerous believers who do exactly the same thing to God’s Word, albeit not usually with a pair of scissors. By picking which parts of the Bible they want to accept, people invariably choose those verses that make them feel good about themselves, while ignoring the rest.



The following excerpt is taken from Paul Hattaway’s autobiography, **‘An Asian Harvest’**. Thousands of Christians have already been greatly blessed and encouraged by the book. With Christmas approaching, we invite you to consider giving the book to friends or family. Orders can be placed by mail, or from our website (www.asiaharvest.org).

Alternatively, if you send a donation to any Asia Harvest project, please indicate that you would like a complimentary copy of book and we will gladly send you one. If you give online, add a note “please send your new book” when you donate.

During the years when I spoke in meetings throughout the world, at times I found it difficult to effectively communicate testimonies from the Church in Asia to believers in “free” countries. Often when I spoke in meetings, people looked at me like I had just dropped in from another planet.

I became aware that the spiritual dynamics of the persecuted Church in Asia were completely different from those in Western Christianity. The differences were so stark that it sometimes felt like I was interacting with two different faiths. Even the most basic understanding of God’s character appeared to be fundamentally different.

For example, on one occasion in China I shared a powerful testimony from the Mru tribe of Myanmar. The Mru number about 25,000 people, most of whom are Buddhists. The gospel had recently experienced a breakthrough among them, and several Mru villages turned to Jesus Christ. The Buddhist monks were furious when they heard about it, so they hired two gangs of thugs and sent them to the Christian villages to beat the believers, rape the women, and burn their houses down.

Armed with chains and machetes, the first group of thugs made their way on foot to the Christian area. Before reaching their intended destination, however, a freak electrical storm descended on them as they traversed a mountain pass. All of the men were killed by lightning. The lightning also struck the 400 year-old Buddhist temple in the Mru township, burning it to the ground.

The second mob of would-be persecutors traveled to the Christian villages aboard a large raft. As they made their way down the river, a thick fog suddenly enveloped them, making it impossible to see where they were going. A barge sliced through the fog and struck the raft, hurling the thugs into the rapids where they all drowned.

When news of these events spread, the fear of God fell on the Mru communities. Realizing that the Living God had displayed His awesome wrath, hundreds more people turned to Christ and repented of their sins.

When I shared this testimony with the Christians in China, they literally jumped up and down with joy and shouted, “Hallelujah!” at the top of their voices. They rejoiced in the judgments of God, as the Bible says: ***“Zion hears and rejoices and the villages of Judah are glad because of your judgments, Lord”*** (Psalm 97:8).

Just a few weeks later I found myself standing in front of a congregation in Texas. As I shared the same testimony from Myanmar, I looked out at a sea of grim faces staring back at me. There was no rejoicing in that meeting, and not a single “Hallelujah” was uttered.

After the service, an elderly lady came forward to confront me on behalf of the other church members. She strongly rebuked me with the words, "Our God is not like that, brother. Our God is a loving God!" I noticed many people behind her nodding their heads in agreement.

Like that congregation in Texas, many believers imagine God to be a cuddly teddy bear-like figure, whose main purpose is to encourage and bless them. They think God is so gentle and loving that He would never harm a fly, and Christians who dare to mention His wrath or coming judgment are often pushed into a corner and considered a threat to the peace of the church.

With such a skewed, chummy attitude toward God, it's no wonder that many Christians no longer fear Him. They love to hear about how John reclined at the dinner table by leaning against His best friend Jesus, but few remember that the two men met again many years later. This time the resurrected Lord Jesus was dressed in the robes of a Roman judge. John was absolutely terrified, and wrote, *"When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead"* (Revelation 1:17).

All followers of the Lord Jesus need to cultivate a deep, loving intimacy with Him, while not becoming so familiar that we lose a healthy fear of God. May we never forget that one day the anger of the Lord will be so fierce that people will *"call to the mountains and the rocks, 'Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can withstand it?'"* (Revelation 6:16-17).

I once shared at a home meeting in New Zealand about the need for every Christian to take up their cross and follow Him. To illustrate my message, I shared the testimony of Sister Yuen of Shanghai. It is a favorite story of the house church believers in China, and touches a deep chord in their hearts whenever they hear it.

Sister Yuen, a widow with two small children, was arrested and thrown into prison because of her faith. In a bid to make her renounce Christ, the guards brought Sister Yuen's children and had them stand outside the prison gate. With their arms outstretched, they begged their mother to come home.

The guards taunted Sister Yuen by asking, "Doesn't your God want you to take care of your own children? You can return home today if you just sign a statement declaring you will no longer be a Christian."

Like any mother, Sister Yuen's heart was torn at the sight of her crying children, and she asked the guards to bring her a sheet of paper and a pen. They hurriedly fetched the items, thinking they had finally found a way to break her faith in God. Sister Yuen calmly wrote on the paper and handed it to the prison warden. A moment later his

face turned red with rage. She had written in large letters: "Jesus can never be replaced! Even my own children cannot replace Jesus!"

Sister Yuen was sentenced to 23 more years in prison. By the time she was released her children were adults, having been raised by the atheistic state. She spent months trying to locate them, and was finally able to reconcile with her daughter. Her son, however, had become a policeman and his heart was filled with hate for his mother and her God. He wanted nothing to do with her ever again.

As I shared this powerful testimony with the small group of New Zealand believers, a married couple, who were well-regarded in the Christian community of that town, threw their heads back and began to sigh and moan.

After the meeting, coffee was served. The couple marched straight up to me, obviously wanting to get something off their chests. "Your story is stupid!" they protested. "If we were in that woman's position, we would have signed the paper. Of course God wanted her to take care of her own children!"

"So are you saying you would willingly deny the Lord Jesus to avoid going to prison?" I enquired.

"Yeah, we would," they stated matter-of-factly. "God would understand and forgive us."

I was astonished that a pair of professing Christians could openly admit they would willingly deny their faith under pressure, and they didn't see anything wrong with it. I asked if they were concerned about the words of Jesus, who said, ***"Whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven"*** (Matthew 10:33).

"God wants us to take care of our children," they reiterated.

Following that incident, I was more careful about who I shared precious testimonies with, and was reminded of the warning the Lord gave His followers: ***"Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces"*** (Matthew 7:6).

* * * *

Anyone who wants to be a true Christian must first get to know who Jesus Christ really is, as revealed in the Scriptures. It may surprise them! Many church-goers have created a sentimental image of God in their minds. They imagine Him according to how they want Him to be, and not as He really is.

Our lives must be shaped by the Word of God, and we need to make sure we never shape the Word of God according to our lives. Possessing a self-made image of God is a dangerous form of idolatry.

My prayer for our family and co-workers, and for all Christians, is that we would gain a correct Biblical view of God. We must abandon all views of His character that do not conform with Scripture, for if that is distorted, the rest of our faith will be warped. The Bible instructs us to ***“consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God”*** (Romans 11:22).

For years the Lord had been stripping me of wrong ideas about His nature. The Holy Spirit gradually opened my eyes to see God as He really is in the Bible, and not how I think He ought to be.

As I studied His Word, I obtained a more balanced view of the two sides of God’s character. Just from the *New Testament* I discovered that God is love, but He is also an all-consuming fire (Hebrews 12:29);

I learned that the Heavenly Father is building a heavenly mansion for those who belong to Him, but He has also created a dreadful lake of fire for all who ***“refuse to love the truth and so be saved”*** (2 Thessalonians 2:10);

I read how the love of God has been revealed in Jesus Christ, but also that the wrath of God is being revealed against mankind (Romans 1:18);

I saw that the Lord delivers people from sin but He can also hold people under His punishment (2 Peter 2:9), and that while the Holy Spirit softens hard hearts, He is also able to harden people’s hearts (Romans 9:18);

I trembled to learn that while God loves to display the riches of His glory through vessels of mercy, He may also display His power by patiently preparing vessels of wrath for destruction (Romans 9:22-23);

Finally, I realized that in the New Testament the Living God opened blind eyes, but He also blinded seeing eyes (Acts 13:11), and while He brought the dead back to life, He also struck some people dead (Acts 5:1-10);

The good news is that if we still have breath in our lungs, it’s not too late to change! Whether it’s the persecuted Church in Asia or the Church in other parts of the world, ***“the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him”*** (2 Chronicles 16:9).

ASIAN WORKERS' FUND



Asia Harvest currently supports 1,171 Asian evangelists among 843 people groups.



You can sponsor an Asian evangelist among an unreached people group for **\$25 per month** each. Prayer cards and updates are sent to all regular supporters of this project. To date, the evangelists we help have reported **229,643 conversions to Christ**.

CHINA BIBLE FUND



Current Total: 10,618,650 Chinese Bibles printed and distributed.

Bibles are distributed free of charge to house churches in China, equipping the Body of Christ. **Each full Chinese Bible costs just \$1.80 to print and deliver.**

LIVING MARTYRS' FUND



Asia Harvest is currently supporting 289 living martyrs.

Supporting church leaders and widows in China, Vietnam and elsewhere who are unable to work because of injuries or illness caused by persecution. **\$35 per month** helps a living martyr.

ASIAN BIBLE FUND



Current Total: 795,481 Bibles printed in 93 languages.

The **Asian Bible Fund** provides the Scriptures in many languages to Christians in **Southeast Asia**, the **Indian subcontinent** and elsewhere. **Each Bible costs an average of \$2.70 to print and deliver.**

BLESS THE CHILDREN FUND



So far 132,387 children in Asia have been impacted by the Gospel.

Providing children's Gospel literature, Sunday school materials, and lifting children out of spiritual and physical poverty. It costs an average of **\$10 to impact a child for Jesus Christ**.



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Asia Harvest



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

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December 2017 - Newsletter #146



Bibles for Asia

Millions are still without God's Word

From the Frontlines

with Paul & Joy

"I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: 'Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb'" (Revelation 7:9).

One of the greatest blessings we have experienced over the years is to meet Christians from all kinds of tribes and ethnic groups. Although believers often speak different languages and come from vastly different economic and cultural background, we've seen how barriers can be broken down in seconds by the common bond of love for Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit dwelling in the hearts of our brothers and sisters.

On the cover of this newsletter you will see some of your family members, from a group you may never have heard of before. They are Christians from the Hakha Chin tribe of western Myanmar (formerly Burma), photographed just seconds after receiving the first Bibles in their language for many decades. Our co-workers found two districts where there were **35,000 Hakha Chin Christian families without any Bibles.**

The recent Hakha Chin distribution was due to a partnership between several ministries, including Asia Harvest. The overwhelming joy and happiness that you can see in the faces of these precious believers is just a small glimpse of an incredible day in the future, when the redeemed from every tribe, language, people and nation will worship the Lamb of God and give glory to His Name!

More Bible printing and distributions are in the pipeline right now, in six different countries. In this newsletter we would like to share testimonies and photos from some of the believers who received the Word of God for the first time. As we share some of their stories, we invite you to pray for them, and please consider giving so that more Christians like these can read God's Word for themselves. In China we print and deliver full Bibles for just \$1.80 each, while in Myanmar and other Asian countries the average cost per Bible is \$2.70.



I am Mr. Pa. There are many born-again Christians among our tribe who cannot get a Bible in our language. They have tried to use the Burmese Bible, but they don't understand it very well because it is not our "heart" language. Now we are all so blessed by the Lord Jesus Christ to receive these new, beautiful, and understandable Bibles in our language. Thank you so much!

My name is Far. I am 55-year-old. I was raised in a Christian family, but was not serious in my walk with the Lord. I fell seriously ill in 1998 and all the elders of our Baptist church came and prayed for me. Within three hours the Lord had completely healed me. At that moment I realized that Jesus Christ is not only my healer, but also my Savior. I committed my life to God and was born-again, and I fell in love with God. It has been too difficult to get a Bible. Today I am so happy to receive this gift from my brothers and sisters overseas. Now my family has His Word of life. It is the greatest gift we have ever received.



My name is Joshua. I am 29 and an evangelist from the Holiness Church. As a teenager I was addicted to alcohol, smoking, and chewing beetle-nut. The Holy Spirit convicted me of my sins and I repented, and He set me free from all my addictions. It was a miracle. God gave me a ministry of caring for 18 orphans, and all of them have received Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. Many times I have wanted to buy a Bible in our language, but it was impossible. I cannot understand other languages. Thank you, Lord! Now I have my own precious Bible thanks to your love and generosity.





My name is Tei. I am 22-years-old and I was born in Myanmar. When I was a child the Burmese army came to my village and killed people. They burned our houses, so my family had to live in the jungle for many years. I never went to school, but later I learned about Jesus in the refugee camp. I came to know that Jesus really loves and me and now I have hope. Thank you for giving me the Bible. May God bless you.

My name is Cherry and I am 19. My mother was born into a family that worshipped demons, and my grandfather was the shaman for our village. In 2008 he heard about Jesus for the first time and he became a Christian. Little by little the people in my village became Christians, and there are few who still worship evil spirits. I am very happy to receive this Bible, because it is God's Word. Thank you for helping me know the Lord Jesus Christ!



My name is Shan and I am a 68-year-old widow. Some years ago the Burmese army shot and killed both of my sons. Now I take care of my only remaining family member, my six-year-old grandson. When the soldiers burnt my house down I grabbed by grandson and we ran into the forest. We walked for three days before reaching a refugee camp. I lost my home, possessions, and my Bible. I have lost everything except my grandson. Only God can give me hope and peace. Thank you for coming and helping us with precious Bibles.



My name is Zuam and I am 46-years-old. My parents died when they placed chemical fertilizer on their vegetables when I was only six months old. My aunt and uncle took me in and loved me as if I was their own child. However, when I was five a man told me they were not my real parents. I was devastated and it caused me incredible emotional pain. I tried to commit suicide several times. In 2005, when I was 34, I repented and submitted my life to Jesus Christ, and God accepted me as His child. For years we prayed for a Bible, and God has amazingly used you to provide us with His precious Word. It is my dream come true. Thanks to all who have blessed us.

My name is Thong and I am the Principal of a Bible college. My have 100 students at the school, but only 8 of them have a Bible. Our students want to buy a Bible, but there are none available. Now you have come and distributed so many copies of God's Word in our language for free. It will make a tremendous difference in our school and community. Thank you and God bless you all! May the Lord use you more and more to help all people have God's Word, especially those who are of the family of faith.



The believers highlighted in this newsletter are representative of countless thousands of others who receive life-changing Bibles through Asia Harvest's two Bible projects. Our **China Bible Fund** continues to build up the house church believers in China. Each full Chinese Bible is printed and delivered for just **\$1.80**, while the **Asian Bible Fund** continues to provide the Scriptures in numerous languages of Asia for an average of **\$2.70 per Bible**.

If you would like to help provide God's Word to hungry believers like these, we invite you to fill out the yellow response form in this newsletter and send it back along with your gift. Alternatively, one-time or monthly donations to the project can be made via our website: www.asiaharvest.org

ASIAN WORKERS' FUND



Asia Harvest currently supports 1,157 Asian evangelists among 822 people groups.

You can sponsor an Asian evangelist among an unreached people group for **\$25 per month** each. Prayer cards and updates are sent to all regular supporters of this project. To date, the evangelists we help have reported **211,521 conversions to Christ**.



CHINA BIBLE FUND



Current Total: 10,550,845 Chinese Bibles printed and distributed.

Bibles are distributed free of charge to house churches in China, equipping the Body of Christ. **Each full Chinese Bible costs just \$1.80 to print and deliver.**

LIVING MARTYRS' FUND



Asia Harvest is currently supporting 289 living martyrs.

Supporting church leaders and widows in China, Vietnam and elsewhere who are unable to work because of injuries or illness caused by persecution. **\$35 per month** helps a living martyr.

ASIAN BIBLE FUND



Current Total: 786,826 Bibles printed in 93 languages.

The **Asian Bible Fund** provides the Scriptures in many languages to Christians in **Southeast Asia**, the **Indian subcontinent** and elsewhere. **Each Bible costs an average of \$2.70 to print and deliver.**

BLESS THE CHILDREN FUND



So far 65,696 children in Asia have been impacted by the Gospel.

Providing children's Gospel literature, Sunday school materials, and lifting children out of spiritual and physical poverty. It costs an average of **\$10 to impact a child for Jesus Christ**.



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