
2020 Christmas Update on Malawi

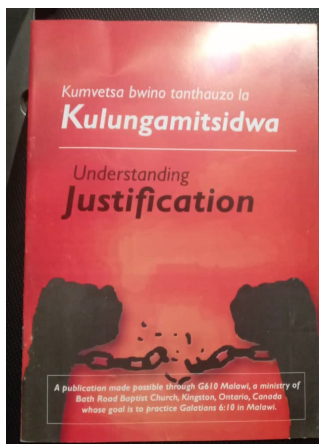
At this Christmas season we are thankful that “the Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us” (John 1:14)! We count ourselves blessed that “in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son” (Hebrews 1:2)! We are grateful to have that great book of God’s, our Holy Bible, “breathed out by God”!

In Malawi the work that we are involved in is all about God’s Son and God’s message. Many of you have given regularly and have prayed regularly for these brothers and sisters and so this is a brief report to keep you up to date with what’s going on and how your gifts are being used. Some of this has been covered before but is expanded on in this letter and other information is new. May it all be a blessing to you!

A number of years ago a brother from Burlington Ontario told me of a place where I could get electronic Bibles that have a built-in solar panel for charging, were available in many languages and suggested I check them out for the work in Malawi. Sure enough we could get them in the Chichewa language. These have been distributed to pastors and have been a great help in the ministry in Malawi.

During the pandemic larger groups are now allowed to gather but we have had many groups of 8-10 meet together with a mature leader. Everyone listens to the electronic Bible and everyone has a hard copy of the Bible to follow along. They usually meet for an hour or two of reading and an hour or two of discussion. After they have read the whole New Testament through with a leader they are able to keep their hard copy of the Bible. These groups are very popular and we have a waiting list of those who would like to form/join a group and so we start new groups as Bibles are available. Hundreds have already gone through these groups. (Good quality paper Bibles with a vinyl cover cost about 12-13 dollars.)

Decades ago I heard a man give a testimony of how he read the Bible through every year and what an impact it had on his life. Following his good example I’ve read the Bible through at least once a year for decades and in my church I annually exhort others to do the same. My hope is that many Christians in Malawi will find that wonderful blessing of reading regularly!



“Justification is the main hinge on which salvation turns” (John Calvin).
“Indeed this is one of the greatest mysteries in the world - namely, that a righteousness that resides with a Person in heaven should justify me, a sinner on earth” (John Bunyan). Believing in the importance of justification by faith in Christ we have had a booklet translated into the local language, Chichewa, and have formed reading groups for this also. Over 400 are presently involved in reading groups.

A man who does work for Bath Road was out to a church checking on the Bible reading and Justification booklet groups when he noticed the church was not quite finished. The congregation had given sacrificially for building the walls and putting on a lot of the roof but had no more funds. We were able to use gifts you have given to finish the roof and to coat the outside walls with



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cement so that they will be more prepared to last through many rainy seasons.

The Evangelical Baptist Churches of Malawi have a great Leadership Training Program under the leadership of a man named Abusa Yakobe. Over the last year they have not had the funds to have a man out doing this training and so we have supplied the funds for a pastor, Abusa Maiden, to be out doing the training and have supplied a motorcycle for him to use while doing this work. We have also helped with the costs of instructional booklets. Looking after Abusa Maiden's support and travel money is again possible because of gifts we have received.



The Evangelical Bible College of Malawi had its graduation just over a week ago and so newly trained men will be available for work in the local churches. They each received an electronic Bible, headphones, a good quality hard copy of the Scriptures and a small cash gift.

Christians in Canada have been incredibly generous with gifts for seed and fertilizer for pastors and other poor Christian families. It is hard to comprehend fully the blessing this is to the families there! Many will reap enough in 2021 to last them until harvest season in 2022! It will also help them to have enough to

sell a little of their crops to pay for some other necessities!

Thank you for your continued interest in Malawi! May the Lord bless each of you with a wonderful Christmas and a great New Year of serving our Lord!

With warm Christian love,

Peter

Peter Ryttersgaard (pryttersgaard@bathroadbaptist.com)

Cell: 613-329-6285/Church: 613-548-4564

Anyone who would wish to contribute to the Malawi work can send e-transfers using the following email address: bathroadbaptistchurchdonations@gmail.com; these funds are received the same day in our church bank account. Christine McNaul, our Head Teller, will carefully record all these gifts and ensure they are recorded properly for giving receipts at year end.

Cheques can also be sent to our mailing address:

Bath Road Baptist Church

193 Bath Road

Kingston Ontario

K7M 2X6

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