







# List of Congregations in Central Region

58

Lilongwe	271
Dowa	200
Kasungu	240
Ntchisi	102
Nkhotakota	129
Dedza.	40
Ntcheu.	30
Mchinii.	6

• TOTAL. 1,076

Salima.

#### The Situation with Doctrine

- Billiat and Raphael have visited these districts and warned the brethren of the coming storm.
- Still severe persecution for Billiat and Raphael.
- William Chitsulo still has not taken a stand.
  - He informed me he has sleeping sickness (encephalitis) and has been very sick. This has delayed his report.
- Please continue to pray.
- As you can see from the reports the preachers we are supporting are busy.

### Report from Raphael

- Lilongwe rural,
- Dowa,
- Ntchisi,
- Kasungu are the hardest hit.
- Mchinji and Dedza have some parts badly hit while others are better off.
- Salima and Nkhotakota have also some parts badly affected while other parts are slightly affected.

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- Kasungu 240 Hit
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- Salima. 58 Parts
- Dedza. 40 Badly
- Mchinji.6 Affected
- Ntcheu.
- TOTAL. 1,076

### Latest on the Hunger -- Chimkande

- I had been receiving many letters from elders asking for help.
- Hunger is critical situation
- Some slept without eating
- Some only eat mangoes
- But also mango season is going out,
- so there is no hope to poor brethren as maize is going higher in price.
- In fact hunger is serious in our country that even the government is only selling 10 kgs to each through Admark once a week people sleep in lines but coming back empty telling them next week again.

#### When the Need Arises

- Sometimes a church is faced with a need that exceeds its ability to meet.
- When this happens, an appeal is made to the brethren to make greater sacrifices.
- Then one of them, named Agabus, stood up and showed by the Spirit that there was going to be a great famine throughout all the world, which also happened in the days of Claudius Caesar. 29 Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. 30 This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul. Acts 11:28-30

### Why did Spirit Record Paul's Prayers?

- For The Ephesians (1:15-23)
- For the Ephesians (3:14-21)
- For the Philippians (1:9-11)
- For the Colossians (1:9-12)
- For Philemon (1:4-7)
- These are heartfelt prayers asking God to give these brethren what they most need.
- If Paul prayed for these things and the Holy Spirit chose to include them in the inspired text, it must be something very important.

# Paul's Second Prayer For Ephesians

- For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, 16 that He would grant you, ... Eph 3:14-16
- What Paul had just finished saying is what led him to offer this prayer to God.

### The Context of the Second Prayer

- 1. As one of the apostles, God had chosen Paul to help lay the foundation.
- Naving been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. <a href="Eph 2:20-22">Eph 2:20-22</a>
- When we follow their writings we too are built onto this foundation.

### Paul's Work Led to Imprisonment

- 2. Paul, a prisoner in Rome because of his work in building the Gentiles on to this foundation.
- For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles — 2 if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, 3 how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, 4 by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), Eph 3:1-5
- God used Paul to write a portion of Scriptures.

#### Paul considered it an Honor

8 To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ... 10 to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, 11 according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him. 13 Therefore I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is your glory. Eph *3:10-13* 

### How Paul Saw The Church

- But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. 21 Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work. 2Tim. 2:20-21
- Paul saw himself as a vessel for honor.
- That is what he was suffering ... He was Glad
- The Ephesians are vessels of gold in this great house. So are we if we are helping!

### How Paul Came to the Great House

- <u>● Eph 3:8-13</u>
- Chosen not from obscurity, but infamy.
- One of God's greatest enemies became one of God's greatest vessels of honor!
- Imprisonment and death were a small price to pay to be given such an important role.
- "Therefore I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is your glory. For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ"

### Paul's Heartfelt Prayer

- A prayer of gratitude awe and reverence to God for His grace and mercy to him and them
- For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, Eph 3:14-16
- Do we pray like this? Do we thank God that He called us and by His grace we work together?
- Paul then moved to what he knew they needed.

### Strengthened with Might!

- Convictions based on faith & evidence
- All Scripture is given by inspiration,
- no prophecy of Scripture... came by the will of man... men of God spoke ... as moved by the Holy Spirit (2Tim 3:16; 2Pet 1:20-21).
- The power of the Spirit is stored in God's word!
- His sword, living and active, effectively working in(energizing) those who believe.
- It is also the power(dynamite) of God unto salvation (Eph 6:17; Heb 4:12; 1Th. 2:13; Rom 1:16).

#### Do not be deceived!

- When the word fills our heart and directs our path it strengthens with might in the inner man!
- Just look at Jesus' battle with the devil (Mt. 4:1-11). No matter what the attack, the word gave him power to overcome.
- Every debate with the Pharisees was won when he quoted Scripture.
- Abraham said it best, "If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead" Lk. 16:31

# The Might that brings Victory -- Faith

- 4 And this is the victory that has overcome the world our faith.
- If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son. 10 He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. 1 John 5:9-13

## The Might that brings Victory -- Faith

And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God. 1 John 5:9-13