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[TheMembersAtKSR] Report from Professor Mashoko in Zimbabwe

1 message

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To: Members <themembers@spreadingtruth.net>

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Greetings to you brethren. I am sure this letter finds you all doing well. I am very privileged and glad at the same time to present the following report of some work that was done in October in Zimbabwe.

Sundays 10 and 17 October 2021

Both these two Sundays, I preached at Hillside. Both these two sermons are uploaded on YouTube. One is titled "Does the advent of Covid 19 signal the end of the world?"

The other one is titled "Covid 19 vaccines are touted by some as fulfilment of "Mark of the Beast". Does the Bible agree?". In the first sermon I spent much time in Mathew 24 trying to correct an erroneous teaching that is prevalent in the religious world. Nowadays we have many people who quote the above-named passage and they teach that Jesus was talking about the end of the world and his sudden coming to judge the world. These false teachers say because there are many wars going on around the world and many diseases like Covid 19 that are untreatable, these are the very times that Jesus referred to in Mathew 23 and we are right in those times when the world will just screech to a sudden halt.

In my second sermon I spent time in Revelation 13 talking about the two beasts and the mark and the number 666 that John wrote about. The lesson was motivated by many who are teaching that the Covid 19 vaccination that is happening everywhere around the world and in some countries being forced on the citizens is the mark of the beast referred to by John in Revelation 13. I tried to dispel these rumours.

Sunday 24 October 2021

I left Bulawayo at 5am heading to the rural areas where I would be stationed for eight days. That Sunday I particularly was rushing to be with Bera brethren at 9 to 11am. Then I would be with Ruware brethren between 11am to 1pm. I worshipped first with Bera and taught from Mathew 18 wherein Jesus taught some steps to follow when dealing with an errant brother/sister.

Below: Bera brethren present for worship



At Ruware I taught from Revelation 2. I looked at the positives and negatives that the Lord noted in the two letters that were written to the churches in Ephesus and in Thyatira. The negatives can still be found in us Christians today hence the need to be wary of them and correct them urgently.

Below: Ruware brethren present for worship



Monday 25 to Friday 29 October 2021

On the above dates, I taught the book of John at four congregations namely Chitowa, Bera, Ruware and Masunda on different days. Last year I was able to study the other three gospels with these brethren. Had we not been subjected to crippling lockdowns earlier this year, we would have already studied the gospel of John also. I am glad we finally managed to do it. Until recently, I had what I called "triplets" in terms of the number of rural congregations that I constantly teach. Whenever I came up with a teaching programme especially when teaching a book or some series, I made sure I taught the same material to Masunda, Chitowa and Bera. But now I have what I call "quadruplets" because of the recent addition of newly started Ruware. When I have classes for men, I also make sure that I accommodate men from all these congregations so that no congregation will lag behind.

Below photos in their order: those present at Chitowa, Bera and Ruware met at one place and those Masunda brethren present studying John.







This was during the week and during school term which is challenging for those members who have young children that need monitoring going and coming back from school. This caused some people to be absent. Nevertheless, we enjoyed a lot with those present. Pertaining to the book of John, taking into consideration the available time vis a vis the number of congregations that needed attention, I simply divided the book into five sections that formed the objectives which I wanted everyone to have learnt by the end of the study at each place.

Section 1- who is the author of the book and what else do we know about him,

Section 2- what some people confessed about Jesus especially John the writer, John the Baptist, Andrew, Philip and Nathaniel as recorded in chapter 1.

Section 3- what Jesus confessed about himself i.e., his seven I ams (I am the bread, I am the Light, I am the door, I am the good shepherd, I am the resurrection and life, I am the way, truth and life and I am the true vine).

Section 4- the seven miracles he did before his crucifixion as recorded in the book of John.

Section 5- several general fundamental principles and lessons in the book that are very much applicable to us today e.g., being born again Ch3, loving each other Ch13, abiding in Jesus if we need to bear fruits Ch15 and many more.

Sunday 31 October 2021.

Reason Bwatikona, Theresa his wife, Ishmael his son, a young man called Freddy Chomurenga and myself went to Mashava about 30 kilometers away from our village. Between 2009 and 2016 there was a congregation in that area which was called Shashe Block. I helped start that congregation early 2009. I made several teaching and preaching trips during those seven years. I even went with some visiting evangelists to the area once with Paddy and Sandi Kendall Ball from America in 2012 and once with Robin Bauer from South Africa in 2015.

Sometime in 2016 some members who formed the core of Shashe Block moved away from the area some seeking employment and others for other reasons and those who remained grew weak and started backsliding. I have been talking and encouraging Ndashaiwa Gwenda whom I tried to teach during those years so that he could preach for the congregation. I even visited him in May this year. Him and his wife have shown new interest. They have started gathering with a few who are still around and some that have come back from temporary migration. Reason and Ishmael

visited them three weeks ago and baptised four people. Fourteen baptised people are now back together.

During this latest visit I got an opportunity to teach a variety of lessons that encourage growth of both new and old Christians. We met for worship with these brethren and we hope this will renew teaching and learning relationship with these old friends. I then came back to Bulawayo after having been out for eight days.

Below photo from left: Ishmael, myself, Reason, Ndashaiwa and the women present

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