



Bashan Newsletter



“Feed thy people with thy Rod, the flock of thine heritage; ...let them feed in Bashan and Gilead....” Mic. 7:14.

“Only those who awake and reform (sigh) and endeavor to share with others (cry) the light that is shining upon them, receive the seal.”—The Answerer, Bk. 2, pp. 29, 30.

Dear Brethren:

March is here and “the north wind doth blow, and we shall have snow,” or rain, or low temperatures. One can never measure the weather at this time. But we do see the beginnings of spring in the return of birds, the budding of daffodils, longer days, and warmer temperatures.

DAVIDIANS INDEED

In contemplating those who are Davidians Indeed, some of the things we learned in the last weeks of studies are worthy of repetition:

“...To be ... a truly religious person, one must first of all organize his entire being, rightly controlling, coordinating, and using his strength, his energy, his means, and his time. ...

“He must, in short, eliminate every wasted motion, as well as every thoughtless, circuitous duplication and overlapping of motions, which bring no results but only deplete his stock of reserve energy. The work of such an **altogether-Christian** will never be found done in a bungle-some or hit-and-miss fashion” (5 Answerer, p. 24). We rarely think of this but it is incumbent to do so if we would be efficient, effective, and wholly Christian.

“...The only way for one to be worthy of life is to be **primarily a producer**, producing more than he consumes...” (Id. p. 7). How sober is the statement that we are not worthy to live if we are not producers.

“It is doubtful, moreover, whether anyone who fails to get his work done well and on time will ever fit himself for the Kingdom and be on schedule when the fiery chariot takes off, and the saints shout, ‘Glory! Alleluia!’” (The Entering Wedge, p. 83). Note well that we are not only to get our

work done but we are to get it done on time. If not, we are setting up ourselves to be late for the chariot.

We “are not to become ... social misfits” (4 Answerer, p. 81). In other words, we must be socially adept. It means practicing what we believe. “Christ carried out in His life His own divine teachings. His zeal never led Him to become passionate. He manifested consistency without obstinacy, benevolence without weakness, tenderness and sympathy without sentimentalism. **He was highly social**; yet He possessed a reserved dignity that did not encourage undue familiarity” (Evangelism, p. 636). Jesus was socially balanced.

Finally, Davidians fit into first, second, or third class sons and daughters of the kingdom.

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What class do you fit in or are striving to fit in? You will agree that it is past time that we fit into the class we profess to be.

1. Davidians
2. Friends of the Truth
3. Professed Friends of the Truth

In keeping with becoming practicing Davidians, we realize that non-practicing “bad apples” cast a stain, a bad reflection, and confusion on the people, the truth, and God, by their actions, words, and general behavior, all of which are condemned by the message. You will agree it is also past time that they are removed from our midst.

“A MAN THAT IS AN HERETICK”

“A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject; Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself.” Titus 3:10,11.

Anyone who continues to believe error after being admonished more than twice is “subverted,” “sinneth,” and we must therefore “reject.” We are not at liberty to ignore God’s instructions regarding heretics and apostates. These are subverted by the enemy and blind to the truth because their light has turned to darkness. To admonish them a hundred times more will accomplish nothing. Since it is the Holy Spirit who convicts us of truth and it is the Holy Spirit they reject, further admonitions will not accomplish anything.

We are all deficient here, Brethren. We feel that by trying repeatedly we can do what the Holy Spirit Himself cannot do, but we cannot succeed where the Holy Spirit has failed. We are not at liberty to continue to admonish our apostate, heretic, unrepentant brethren on the truth they have rejected. Our duty is to admonish them carefully and kindly twice or thrice, and then “reject,” or remove them, if they will not accept the truth. Since all things are possible with the Lord, He may find a way to bring them back to the truth. We should pray for them, treat them kindly and courteously but **they must be separated from the flock because sin and rebellion are contagious.**

The lay brethren are not to study with them. It is a trap of the enemy to do so because “Error never sanctifies” (20

Manuscript Releases, p. 362). Leaders and field workers may encourage the erring *in a general way* anytime (or not at all), as circumstances warrant.

Our understanding of the message will become progressively deeper as we progress with time, but the message itself does not change; it is inerrant. The Rod teaches the truth on the Trinity. All who deny and fight against this truth are guilty of directly sinning against the Holy Ghost, the message, and the Association, the storehouse of present truth. They denigrate God's perfect system of distributing the truth for our time, and elevate themselves to the position of false prophets, independently teaching what they think is truth and what is not truth. Bashan teaches the Triune Godhead because the Bible, the Spirit of Prophecy, and the Rod all teach it. The Rod explicitly teaches the Trinity and that is the final word on the subject for us. There is no new light to come on anything except as revealed or further understood in the Rod. There is no hope at all for anyone who stubbornly holds on to error.

Those who deny the Trinity claim to be returning to the old landmarks of Adventism but Sister White and the Adventist church as a whole never rejected the Triune nature of the Godhead. Some pioneers did, but we are not instructed to follow the false teachings of the pioneers (including Jones and Waggoner, Uriah Smith, and others), but only the truth they taught. The truth we need to know today is made plain and clear by the message. The pioneers do not override the Rod in the slightest matters or in the gravest matters, such as the revealed Triune nature of God and the personhood of the Holy Spirit. Anyone who denies the more sure word of the Spirit of Prophecy on the personhood of the Holy Spirit is subverted.

“We need to realize that the Holy Spirit, who is as much a person as God is a person, is walking through these grounds.”—*Evangelism*, p. 615.

“The Holy Spirit is a person, for He beareth witness with our spirits that we are the children of God. When this witness is borne, it carries with it its own evidence. At such times we believe and are sure that we are the children of God. ...”—*Id.* 616.

Good and evil never walk together. Either Bashan and the Rod are correct or those who deny and reject the Holy Spirit and the Trinity are correct.

NEWS FROM BASHAN

“... The top of [Bashan] each evening appears to be filled with bees without hives” (1SC 14:1). Actually, Bashan’s bees are active all day, every day, inside and outside, at home and afield. Keep praying for these busy bees to accomplish their duties to the end of a great harvest.



Techiman House: Sister Mary Hall arrived in Ghana on the 22nd of February to head the mission school at Techiman where graduate students of the Ghana School of the Prophets will reside for four months while concentrating on missionary work in the nearby churches. Sister

Mary also visited the Ghana School before setting out for Techiman. Her description of the School: “Amazing.”

Sabbath Afternoon Specials: Have you decided to lend your voice to God’s glory and the saints’ enjoyment at the Sabbath Specials? Let us hear from you with your song, poem, instrumental piece. We would love to hear you.



Seminar and Youth Camp 2023: Mark your calendars with these special dates. Monday July 3 to Sabbath, July 8 for Bashan Seminar; Tuesday, July 11 to Wednesday, July 19 for the Bashan Vanguard Youth Camp.



NEWS FROM THE FIELD

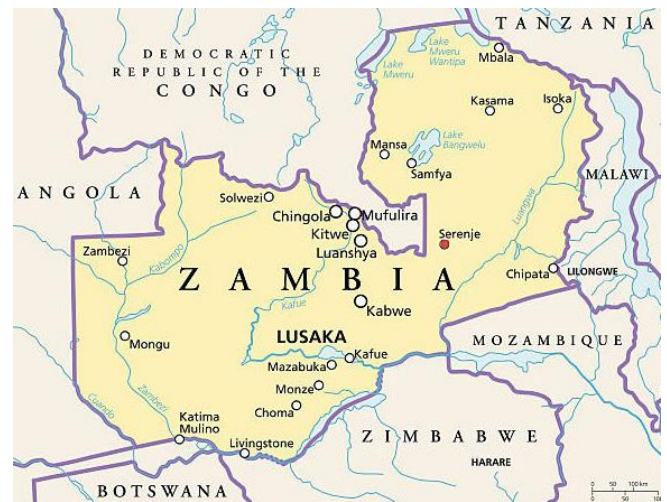
“I would like to thank you for allowing Davidians over here to see the studies on the website and also on Youtube. I am seeing studies I’ve never seen before and

I am truly blessed. Also, seeing the Bashan brethren on the Livestream makes me feel connected to Bashan.”—England

“Should Bashan grow more fruit trees? Sister White advised us to prepare for the latter days (out of the cities). We had no luck with peach and almond trees but have a lemon tree and grape vines.”—Nevada

Bashan might plant some fruit trees this year. It is a good idea.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL OF THE PROPHETS



This month, the School department takes you to the Republic of Zambia, formerly known as Northern Rhodesia. Located in the center of Southern Africa, Zambia distinctively shares its borders with eight countries. There are three official languages spoken, the currency is the kwacha, and its capital is Lusaka. Its most relished meal is Nshima, made from pounded white maize. This meal is served with stew and vegetables, and eaten preferably with the right hand. The School of the Prophets is located in Serenje in the Central Province. The student capacity is 16, with a current enrollment of 15.

As with all the other Schools of the Prophets, the daily activities are the same. Each day begins with morning devotion, followed by doctrinal and character building studies. Practical subjects such as carpentry, plumbing, gardening, electrical work, business management, and agriculture are taught. So far, the gardening project (cabbage, garden eggs, and tomatoes) has yielded an abundance, some of which are sold in the market.



An abundance of Cabbage



The students of the School purposed to follow in the footsteps of the Master. A seven-year-old boy, who lives with his grandmother in the surrounding area, has become the recipient of the guidance and care of the students. Little Nervous

receives assistance with such things as homework, clothing, and haircuts. The students also visit a nearby orphanage and render support as needed.



Brother Raymond Cummings, from Jamaica, arrived safely at the school on the 16th of February. He will work alongside Brother Atkinson Moomba (Superintendent), and Sister Agness Moomba (Kitchen Supervisor/cook).

Atkinson and Agness Moomba – Zambia



I am Atkinson Moomba and my wife is Agness Moomba. I worked for the DSDA Association for 5 Years as the company secretary, under the consecutive training and mentoring of Sisters Karyl

Bingham and Claudette McGibbon. With the experience gained, I was certain that one day I would work for the Lord, but I did not expect it to be so soon. The call to join the work fulltime came when my wife and I were successfully managing two private schools, which gave us financial stability. We thought to reject the call for two reasons: first, we saw ourselves unworthy and second, we are both the first born in our families, with huge financial responsibilities; in Africa ‘a son or daughter who walks first must help his siblings to also walk.’

We thank God for Brother Jon and Sister Allynna Dodd and many others who provided counsel when we needed it the most. By prayer and the persuasion of the Holy Spirit, a decision was made and now we work at the School of the Prophets in Zambia. We don't regret anything. To leave everything behind and work for God is the best decision that one can ever make and that we have ever made. It is often said, “if you take care of the Lord's business, the Lord takes care of your business.” This proves true; the Lord is indeed faithful.

FIELD WORKERS' HIGHLIGHTS

Togo is one of the smallest countries in Africa. The percentage of Christians in Togo is 47.8 %. The most recent statistics show Togo has a population of 8,849,000 inhabitants, 76 SDA churches, and 9,512 Adventist members. Although French is the official language, there is a diversity of languages and dialects spoken by a diversity of ethnic groups.



Kotchi group

The Shepherd's Rod message, as taught by the DSDA Association, arrived in Togo in October 2016 by Brother Abraham Arkolipo, who met with Brother Dossou Defonlo and Brother Koku Kaleku, both members of the SDA church. Today, we have a total of 72 members, not including children. Also, we have a considerable number of elders, church members, and reformed Adventists that

are very motivated to investigate the truth. The interest in giving the message is huge in Togo, and several of our young people have been dedicated to the School of the Prophets in Ghana. They are currently helping at the School and in the field.



Badou group

In Togo, the SDA church is almost everywhere. It represents 40% of the entire population. The present truth message does not face a great challenge because most of the ministers call us Brother and Sister. Every Sabbath, we join together in the Sabbath school class, we are free to share our contributions. During worship service, we pray and sing and even lead the services in some churches.

Our main goal is to bring the present truth message to all the SDA churches in Togo with the help of the Lord.



Anie group

AGENDA AND CREDENDA

The credenda are the doctrines of the message that the Association espouses and lives.

The work for ourselves (sighing), the work for the church (crying), and the work of the Schools of the Prophets entail the agenda of the Association now.

“... As reformation never takes place without a revelation of some new truth, then this ‘closing work for the church’ must be accompanied by a message (*Testimonies*, Vol. 3, p. 266), and must be proclaimed to all. And he who does not reform at the moment he is convinced of the Truth, will not reform later. Therefore, as the sealing message makes its way through the church, only those who awake and reform (sigh) and endeavor to share with others (cry) the light that is shining upon them, receive the seal. They are then accounted sinless through the perfection of Christ imparted in their behalf until they are given the ‘new heart’ promised in Ezekiel 36:26, after which they will be forever sinless—forever without cause to repent.”—2 *Answerer*, p. 34.

“The foregoing quotations [*Education*, pp. 47, 48; *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 224, 225; 6T 152] set forth the fact that little can be done toward restoring Israel to the favor of God and to her former greatness, without the restoration of the schools of the prophets. Hence, for this, more than for any other purpose, Mt. Carmel has been established. This education is, beyond a doubt, the greatest need of today. Yet many Present Truth believers have not recognized this fact or, if they have, evidently have forgotten it.”—5SC 6-12:3.

LEAVING AND CLEAVING

“This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” Gen. 2:23, 24.

The message teaches that the husband and the wife are to “cleave” to each other. While “cleaving together” has a physical component, there are equal or more important emotional and spiritual components to this command. It is not possible to “cleave” to each other when we live separate lives from each other. A married Davidian cannot choose to live separately from his spouse except for pressing economic reasons, or out of necessity for the field work or for the temporary care of aged family members.

No Davidian can separate himself from his spouse emotionally and spiritually. This is contrary to the teachings of the message on marriage. No one who does this has the right to call himself a Davidian. A Davidian wife's place is at her husband's side. A Davidian husband's duty is to love, cherish, and protect his wife. It is completely impossible for married Davidians to deliberately live outside of their marriage out of personal choice. The Lord has defined marriage in a very particular way. He has made it very clear what a Davidian marriage is, and what it means. No one has the right to change that definition, even in the smallest detail.

"He who gave Eve to Adam as a helpmeet performed His first miracle at a marriage festival. In the festal hall where friends and kindred rejoiced together, Christ began His public ministry. Thus He sanctioned marriage, recognizing it as an institution that He Himself had established. ..."—*The Adventist Home*, p. 27.

No one can be a Davidian who does not love, cherish and cleave to their fellow Davidian spouse. No one can be a Davidian who does not have a loving marriage and a happy home life with their Davidian spouse. It is impossible. It is more possible for you to break every health reform rule and still call yourself a Davidian than to have a broken and unhappy Davidian marriage. Marriage, a union for life, is a symbol of the union between Christ and His church. The spirit that Christ manifests toward His church is the spirit that the husband and wife are to manifest toward each other. If they love God supremely, they will love each other in the Lord, ever treating each other courteously, drawing in even cords. In their mutual self-denial and self-sacrifice they will be a blessing to each other. ..."—*Id.*, p. 95

Every Davidian must accept the present truth teachings of Bashan on marriage without reservation. Every Davidian must be willing to live happily ever after with his Davidian spouse. Intractable and irreconcilable marital problems are impossible for Davidian couples. Marital problems are like alcohol problems, but worse: Let go of the shortcoming and with the help of the Lord come up to the standards. Sin of any type must be dealt with directly. It is not possible to be in good standing while you are "struggling" with the sin year after year.

"Satan is ever ready to take advantage when any matter of variance arises, and by moving upon the objectionable, hereditary traits of character in husband or

wife, he will try to cause the alienation of those who have united their interests in a solemn covenant before God. In the marriage vows they have promised to be as one, the wife covenanting to love and obey her husband, the husband promising to love and cherish his wife. If the law of God is obeyed, the demon of strife will be kept out of the family, and no separation of interests will take place, no alienation of affection will be permitted."—*Id.*, p. 106.

While divorce is not possible for two Davidians, it is sadly all too possible when one or both are not Davidians.

"Jesus wants to see happy marriages, happy firesides."
—*The Adventist Home*, p. 100.

IN CLOSING

Our prayers go out for the sick, afflicted, weary and burdened. They also encompass the students and staff of the developed and emerging Schools of the Prophets, and all Davidians everywhere.

PRAYER

I know not by what methods rare,
But this I know, God answers prayer.
I know that He has given His word,
Which tells me prayer is always heard,
And will be answered, soon or late.
And so I pray and calmly wait.

I know not if the blessing sought
Will come in just the way I thought;
But leave my prayers with Him alone,
Whose will is wiser than my own,
Assured that He will grant my quest,
Or send some answer far more blest.

—Eliza M. Hickok

Sincerely yours to be hopeful, grateful, and cheerful,

The Bashan Brethren

GOD SENDS JEREMIAH TO PREACH



Jeremiah 1:1-19; 19:1-11; 20:1-13; 25:8-11; 26:7-16; 38:1-13

God chose Jeremiah to be a prophet to the people of Judah. He told him to preach to the people and warn them that they needed to stop doing bad things. Jeremiah said: 'But Lord, I am only a child. I don't know how to speak to the people.' God told him: 'Do not be afraid. I will tell you what to say. I will help you.'

God told Jeremiah to gather the elders of the people, smash a clay jar in front of them, and say: 'Jerusalem will be smashed just like this.' When Jeremiah did what God said, the elders got very angry. A priest named Pashur beat Jeremiah and put him in wooden stocks. All night long, Jeremiah could not move. Pashur let him out the next morning. Jeremiah said: 'I can't take this anymore. I'm going to stop preaching.' But did he really give up? No. When Jeremiah thought about it some more, he said: 'God's message is like a fire inside of me. I cannot stop preaching.' Jeremiah continued to warn the people.

Years passed, and there was a new king in Judah. The priests and the false prophets hated Jeremiah's message. They told the princes: 'This man deserves to die.' Jeremiah said: 'If you kill me, you will kill an innocent man. I speak God's words, not my own.' When the princes heard that, they said: 'This man does not deserve to die.'

Jeremiah kept on preaching, and the princes got very angry. They asked the king to put Jeremiah to death. The king said that they could do whatever they wanted with Jeremiah. They took Jeremiah and threw him into a deep, muddy well, hoping that he would die there. Then a court official named Ebed-melech told the king: 'The princes have thrown Jeremiah into a well! If we leave him there, he will die.' The king commanded Ebed-melech to take 30 men with him and pull Jeremiah out of the well.

QUESTION TO THINK ABOUT

Shouldn't we be like Jeremiah, who did not allow anything to stop him from preaching?

CONNECT DOTS 1-41 AND COLOR THE PICTURE

