

SOUTHERN SUDAN MISSION

Jesus

shining the "Light" into South Sudan



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**Dear friends and supporters of Southern Sudan Mission,
Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

I returned today from a very exciting three-week trip to Ethiopia. I am always amazed at the Lord's blessings upon me and the mission. I have been traveling to Ethiopia multiple times a year for the past thirteen years without any specific incidents, but this trip was an exception. When I picked up my luggage to leave the Addis Ababa airport at 11:30 pm, my baggage tag was marked with purple ink. This has never happened before. I was departing and a customs agent stopped me and directed me to a room filled with several people and their luggage. I asked the agent if something was wrong? He said, "We need to check your luggage." There were several people in front of me and it was 2:30am before my luggage was checked. Upon checking they saw one of my suitcases was filled with medicine (I have taken medicine for our clinic donated by Jasper and Keisha Lovio for the past several years). The agent took all the medicine out of the suitcase and began itemizing everything. I told the agent a Pharmacist in Houston, Texas donated the medicine for the poor people in Ethiopia. I have been taking donated medicine to Ethiopia for the past several years and have never had a problem. The agent put some of the medicine back in the suitcase and said I would have to pay taxes on the rest. He bagged most of the medicine and gave me a copy of the itemization. He said I could get the medicine tomorrow after I paid taxes on it.

Upon leaving customs at 3 pm I was permitted to use my phone and I tried to call Bekele, the Ethiopian Brother that was going to pick me up. The network was busy, and I was unable to contact him. Before departing the airport, I asked an officer at the door if I went outside to look for my ride and did not find him, could I get back into the airport? He said, "no." Thinking Bekele had probably thought I had missed my flight and returned home; I walked to the gate I was to depart from at 2 pm the same day; however, when I arrived at the gate all the chairs and benches were filled with sleeping Ethiopian employees. I asked a guard if he would wake one of the employees and ask if he would share his bench with me? The guard said, "no." I walked a short distance and saw a chair and sat down, opened my bag to get my computer to try to communicate with someone and I heard a voice saying, "Tyrone, Tyrone," I said I am Tyrone. A man said, "Bekele is waiting outside for you." I was overwhelmed with joy. Upon meeting Bekele, he said I have been waiting for five hours for you and I called and asked if they would search the terminal for you because I am responsible for you. I hugged his neck and said, thank you God and you, Brother Bekele. I realize writing about this even probably bored you, but I just want to remind you how God takes care of His family.

Upon arriving in Gambella, Brother James told me of a tragic event that happened a few days before my arrival. There was an Anuak girl (19) and two young men walking down the road and some Nuer men ran out of the woods to attack them. The two men deserted the girl and the Nuer men cut her throat and ran back into the woods. When the news reached the other Anuak Community there was an uprising of men ready to search and kill the Nuer men. The father of the girl heard of their intent and pleaded with the men not to disgrace his daughter or his family's name by killing in the name of his family. Brother Ojulu, the Anuak preacher, told me I knew the girl because I had taught her mother and sister and they had obeyed the gospel. I asked him to contact the family and tell them I planned to visit them, which he did. Unfortunately, I could not get transportation to their house due to the unrest. Ojulu called the family and explained my problem and told them we would be praying for them.



Friday, October 15th, the Fall semester of the School of Biblical Studies ended, graduating twenty-eight level one and level two students. Most were level one students that had been working with newly established congregations. They will return to their congregation better equipped to serve as preachers. The two Anuak students were not permitted to complete the school due to an earlier tribal uprising I

mentioned in the previous newsletter. Brother Ojulu will continue training them and they will work with Ojulu in their community. Note the picture. The mission bought shirts for the graduates with the inscription Church of Christ Preacher, Mark 16:15-16. After Brother James passed out the shirt to the students he made an amazing statement, “We do not buy caps and gowns for you, but we bought you shirts which are more valuable. Once the cap and gown is worn it is put away, probably never to be worn again. However, you will wear the shirts frequently and they will remind you and identify you as a “Man of God,” desiring to teach others about Jesus Christ.”

Where is your cap and gown?

Three of our graduates, left to right: Bilie Michael, level two, Buay Michael, level one, and their father, Michael Kolang, Level two. Michael Kolang is also a graduate of a Nazarene Seminary. He preached for the Nazarene church for many years. He was approached by one of our graduates and asked if he would like to study the Bible? He said “yes.” After several studies Michael said, “What I was taught and have been preaching is not consistent with the Bible.” Having the opportunity to visit with Michael, he said, “When I studied and learned the truth according to the Bible, I realized I needed to obey the gospel as recorded in the Bible, Mark 16:15-16, Act 2:8-39.” He further said, “I took all my robes and materials to the Nazarene Officials and told them, I could no longer teach Nazarene doctrine because it was not consistent with the God’s Word.” He continued, “When I obeyed the gospel as Jesus commanded, I taught my family and others, ‘the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.’ Ephesians, 1:13. I told my wife, Nyapuoch Tut, and family I wanted to attend the School of Biblical Studies and preach for the Lord’s Church, Colossians 1:18. I began helping my Brother (our graduate) until the next semester of school started. Before leaving for school my oldest son said he wanted to attend the school also. We both completed Level one and returned to South Sudan to teach others. I preached at one congregation and my son preached at another congregation. As my



son and I were planning to return to school for the second Level, another son, Buay, asked if he could attend school also? A few days before graduation this year, my wife and Buay obeyed the gospel and were added to Christ's church, Acts 2:47." Finally Michael said, "I am pleased God afforded me and my family the opportunity to learn and obey God's Word. I am also appreciative of the opportunity to attend the school."



Pictured is Brother John Jock. John was in medical school in 2008, the first time I came to Addis Ababa to teach South Sudanese Refugees. He was also preaching at the South Sudanese Congregation in Addis Ababa. John graduated in 2011 and moved to Pajock, South Sudan to practice medicine and teach in a newly founded School of Biblical Studies, South Sudan Bible School. The work was sponsored by Mt. Juliet Church of Christ near Nashville, Tennessee. Unfortunately, the rebels overthrew the church and school compound in the middle of August 2016. The Brethren escaped without injury and moved to Uganda and began to work with Sudanese Refugees. John and I have kept in touch over the years, and I invited him to meet me in Addis Ababa on my return to the states. We spent an enjoyable thirty plus hours visiting and discussing the works each of us are involved with. John told me of a leadership seminar where he had taught the preachers in the camps in Uganda that helped them tremendously. We discussed different aspects of the program and it sounded very useful to me. The seminar is seven hours a day for five days. I invited John to come to Gambella in November and teach the seminar to the mission preachers. John will teach twenty preachers a week for four weeks (as our dorm only houses twenty students). I know God will be glorified through this special opportunity.

There were several other great ideas and plans I will share as they are finalized. Be assured we are looking forward to a fruitful 2022 in the furtherance of the gospel to the glory of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Thank you for partnering with the mission. You are as much a part of the work as we are. We cannot go without your prayers and support. If you would like to support this great English-speaking mission, make checks payable to Southern Sudan Mission or Third & Kilgore Church of Christ, ear-marked Sudan Mission. Checks should be mailed to Tyrone Mynhier for posting. You may also contribute one time or monthly through PayPal or Vemno at missioninsouthernsudan.com

"To Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever Amen"
Ephesians 3:21

Tyrone Mynhier, President for the Board