

The Work of God in Ghana

Ghanians have an enormous interest in religion. Ghana is officially 60% Christian and 15% Muslim. The remainder practice one of the traditional African religions. We have had congregations in Ghana for over thirty years, but no numbers approaching our present outreach in this West African country. Our congregations in Ghana face daunting economic challenges.

With 22 million inhabitants, Ghana is the second most populous nation in west Africa. The southern coast sits just 300 miles north of the equator, which means that sunrise and sunset never vary more than a few minutes.

A brief look at the country

Ghana is a beautiful country with the flora ranging from tropical rain forest in the south to a more arid open savannah in the north. The people are as beautiful and warm as the country in which they live!

Two of our United Church of God congregations, *Yeji* and *Makongo*, sit on the shores of Lake Volta, the

largest man-made lake in the world. The lake was formed by damming the Volta River to create a lake that is 520 kilometres from north to south and covers more than 8,500 square kilometres. The hydroelectric output from the dam is sufficient to generate nearly all the electrical power Ghana needs, and it provides an important transportation avenue for goods and services with cargo boats and ferries.

Ghana was a British colony until independence was granted in March 1957. Under Britain's rule it was known as the Gold Coast, indicating Ghana's mineral wealth. The deepest operating gold mine in the world is in Obuasi, south and west of *Kumasi* (where another Church congregation is located). The hills of western Ghana yield bauxite and manganese and industrial diamonds. Timber is also an important resource taken mainly from the southern portion of the country.



After Sabbath services at the Mile 9 congregation.



Church family from Sefwi, far western Ghana, who have just had twins.

Very recently oil was discovered offshore near the port of Takoradi, and the field is expected to start producing sometime late this year or early in 2010. Additionally, Ghana is the world's number two exporter of cocoa – which every chocolate-lover will appreciate!

In spite of fertile soil and a wealth of natural resources, Ghana remains one of the poorest nations on earth. Although most people are subsistence farmers, those in the 'cash' economy average an income of 2 to 3 new Ghana cedis per day (equivalent to £1.50 to £2.00 per day).



Church members gather outside UCG meeting halls in Yeji (above) and Takoradi (right), in Ghana.

Challenges the Church faces

Seven full-time pastors look after God's people in the United Church of God (UCG) in Ghana. Most of our current membership there came from the Remnant Church of God, a Sabbath-keeping group who made contact with us in the late 1990's. They eventually decided to dissolve Remnant and become fully a part of UCG.

One of the greatest challenges our Church members face is the same as that of most of the rest of the country – poverty. A large percentage of the membership earn a living as subsistence farmers, especially in the more rural areas. These conditions lead to another of the major challenges members face, and that is illiteracy. The illiteracy rate is higher in rural areas, where it can reach 80 percent or more of the population. This means that they are dependent on the pastors or someone else to read Scriptures and Church literature to them in order to learn.

Health issues are another major concern. Malaria, which is spread by mosquitoes, is the number one killer

in all of Africa. Yellow fever, another mosquito-borne disease, has been greatly diminished, but still exists and can still claim lives. Because clean drinking water is often difficult to come by, many people also have to deal with water-borne illnesses such as typhoid,

are willing and able to come and volunteer to serve at this camp. The UYC volunteers are subsidised by the Church, but they pay the majority of their airfare and expenses themselves.

In return they are able to make a significant contribution to the lives of the campers, and they gain what in some cases may be a once-in-a-lifetime experience! Anyone who is interested in serving on a Youth Corps project can find more information at www.ucgyouthcorps.org.

During this age God has chosen to call people from all nations into His Church. Currently we have twelve congregations and numerous outlying



Bible Studies in Ghana. We are very blessed to be associated with them in our mutual task of preaching the gospel to the African peoples (Matthew 28:18-20). This article has depicted the major challenges confronting the work of God in Ghana. Your heartfelt prayers can be an important factor in helping Ghanaian members to meet these difficult

challenges. hepatitis and dysentery. In the very young, elderly or those who are already physically weakened, these can also be fatal.

Our young people in Ghana

Since 2002 United Youth Corps (UYC) has organised and hosted a summer camp for the Ghanaian youth every August. This year, as in 2008, the camp is going to be held near the town of Ejura, north and east of Kumasi, where we will have room to host a maximum of 100 church youth from around Ghana.

Through this summer camp we also have an opportunity for three or four young adults who

challenges.

*Tom Clark,
a United Church of God elder,
pastoring three congregations in
Kansas and assisting in Ghana*



Author Tom Clark about to cross Lake Volta from Makongo to Yeji on traditional transport.

Does God Trust Us?

*For God to trust us enough to give us eternal life,
it is essential that we first learn to trust God.
The relationship has to be mutual.*

According to a sobering feature article in *The Spectator*, ‘Trust in politics is dead.’ It went on to say that ‘In one of the great cultural changes of our times, trust in all forms of authority is collapsing.’ *The Daily Mail* specifically commented that the public is also losing trust in our police officers around Britain. Trust in bankers continues at a very low ebb.

Yet trust remains a very valuable quality. It comes in many forms and degrees. Society cannot conduct commercial and social business effectively without it. We trust our employers to pay us at the agreed-upon time. In turn they have to entrust us with the task of performing their work successfully. Mutual trust is the oil that keeps things moving.

You trust a contractor to add a room to your home for a certain sum of money. You check out his credentials first and then expect him to do a competent job.

Collins English Dictionary defines trust as ‘reliance on and confidence in the truth, worth, reliability, etc. of a person or thing.’

The Bible has a great deal to say about trust. God’s Word warns us about the limitations of trusting human beings, especially when it comes to the eternal truths like everlasting life in God’s Kingdom.

Psalm 146 explains

‘Put not your trust in princes, nor in a son of man, in whom there is no help. His spirit departs, he returns to his earth; in that very day his plans perish’ (verses 3-4).

Even the most trustworthy of men and women go to the grave (Hebrews 9:27).

On the other hand, ‘Happy is he that has the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them’ (Psalm 146:5-6). Our Creator is far more capable than mere human beings, and our ultimate trust must always be with Him. He has unlimited powers to help us with our difficulties (verses 7-9).

Yet we must have a certain degree of trust in others, even if it is to an extent guarded, or society would cease to func-

How often have you prayed to God silently in your mind? We know and believe that God can and will hear our silent prayers. That is when we are openly wanting to communicate with God, deeply desiring to share our thoughts with Him in mutual trust.

tion and descend into anarchy.

Flying is actually fairly safe these days. Certainly we can and should ask God for His protection. But at the same time we are relying on the airline to have high maintenance standards and the pilots to be competent and well trained. We are relying on the crew not to drink alcoholic beverages or use drugs prior to the flight. We are trusting that they are well rested, so they are not going to doze off during the flight. This has happened on rare occasions.

The same thing applies if you are a

passenger in a car – and probably more so. Travelling by road is much more dangerous than flying, and car drivers have far less controls on them than airline pilots.

Trust in family relationships

Our own families and relatives constitute an arena where a greater degree of trust should exist, and great harm is done should that trust ever be betrayed.

The closest physical relationship God has granted to mankind, that of husband and wife, is the one which should have the greatest mutual trust.

Notice what God’s Word declares:

‘Who can find a virtuous wife?
For her price is far above rubies.
The heart of her husband safely trusts her, so he will have no lack of gain. She does him good and not evil all the days of her life’ (Proverbs 31:10-12).

Trust is a two-way street in marriage. Both partners should be able to safely rely on each other. Sadly, that two-way trust doesn’t always exist, as we so often see in celebrity marriages described by the media.

Mutual benefits

Looking at the way trust operates between people reveals important principles on how trust operates on a spiritual level – between mankind and God.

The degree of trust that already exists had to be earned. If we employ a bricklayer or plumber to do some work on our homes, we want to know that the person is professionally qualified and competent before we employ them. We

will also wish to examine the results of their work.

If the finished product turns out to be sloppy workmanship, we won't employ that person or firm again. If it is a well performed job, we may use that individual for other tasks again, simply because they have earned our trust.

Trust is a two-way street – you employ someone because they do a good job. He or she works for you because they know you will pay them promptly.

Both parties need to do their part for that trust to remain. But our most important relationship of mutual trust should always be with God.

Trust in God

We asked the question: Does God trust us? Can He entrust us with responsibility?

Because trust is a two-way street, for God to trust us it is essential that we first learn to trust God. Obedience is one vital key. As we begin to faithfully submit to His will, our trust increases.

The Bible gives us many examples of righteous persons who trusted their Creator. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego provide us with a prime example.

King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon thought he had ultimate control over their lives. He found out otherwise.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied to the King when he insisted on idolatrous worship. 'Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up' (Daniel 3:17-18).

When Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego gave this reply, they hadn't read the book of Daniel – they didn't know what the outcome would be. But they did know they were putting their lives on the line, trusting God to resolve

things the way He saw fit.

Nebuchadnezzar became very angry and commanded that the fiery furnace be heated exceedingly hot and the three men were cast therein. Later the king was astonished to see 'four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God' (verse 25).

Examples like this, but usually a lot less traumatic, regularly occur in a Christian's life. These occasions are opportunities to increase our trust in

God is a loving God who realises our weaknesses, and is prepared to provide the extra help that we need in learning to trust Him (Mark 9:24). His own relationship with Christ is the paramount model.

God and His Word.

King David wrote: 'In God have I put my trust; I will not be afraid what man can do to me' (Psalm 56:11). A thousand years later the apostle Paul wrote of his trust in the living God (1 Timothy 4:10).

Does God trust us?

Before God will allow us to become spirit beings in His Kingdom, He needs to know that we are going to be fully in line with His way of thinking. He needs to know that He can completely trust us to live according to His will and His perfect laws throughout eternity.

God has given mankind freedom – and that's essential for His plan. Ultimately every person will have to make a choice, to accept our Creator's gift of salvation and follow His ways – or not. God wants His sons and daughters to be a part of his kingdom because they deeply desire to obey Him and follow His way of life. We have to become worthy of His trust.

Long ago God tested Abraham's faith, and he passed the test with flying colours – becoming the father of the

faithful. Afterwards God said: 'Now I know that you fear God' (Genesis 22:12). God knew then that He could fully trust Abraham.

The supreme trust

Possibly the most supreme form of trust was between God and Christ when Jesus was on earth as a human being.

Jesus Christ had enormous trust in God the Father, but again this was very much a two-way street – God the Father was relying on Jesus Christ to fulfill this part of their joint plan for all mankind.

Jesus was putting His eternal life on the line to save mankind. Our Saviour had free choice, just as we do.

Consequently, Christ had to continually fight against His humanity, even on the Passover night when He was about to be crucified. Christ suffered both physically and psychologically. On a human level He was understandably apprehensive about the forthcoming day of enormous pain and agony (Luke 12:50).

Yet despite immense pressures, Christ never broke the trust that had been put in Him by God the Father.

God is a loving God. He realises our weaknesses, and is prepared to provide the extra help that we often need in learning to trust Him (Mark 9:24). His own relationship with Christ is the paramount model.

Jesus Christ is our forerunner, the Author and Finisher of our faith and the Captain of our salvation (Hebrews 12:2; 2:10). We should always follow His sterling example.

Brian Crook

Recommended Reading

If you wish to learn how you can increase your trust in God, request our free booklet *You Can Have Living Faith* or you may view it online at www.gnmagazine.org/booklets/LF.

Why the Twelve Tribes of Israel?

What possible connection do these ancient biblical tribes have with the British Isles today? What is their relationship to New Testament Christianity? Do they figure in any future events? What does God's Word say?

Biblical passages whose significance we sometimes casually overlook should serve to pique our interest in the intriguing story of the twelve tribes of Israel, the descendants of Jacob. The expression, 'Abraham, Isaac and Jacob' or 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob,' is found a number of times in the New Testament (Luke 13:28; 20:37; Mark 12:26, etc.)

In his second sermon after Pentecost, Peter referred to 'the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers' (Acts 3:13). The New Testament actually begins with 'the book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham. Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers' (Matthew 1:1-2).

Who are the brothers of Judah?

Judah's brothers were the eleven other sons of Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel. Including Judah, they make up the twelve tribes of Israel. Pick up the general narrative from the Old Testament. God promises a bright future for these sons of Jacob in Genesis 28:14. 'Also your [Jacob's or Israel's] descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in your seed [posterity] all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

How this happened in history is explained in our free booklet *The United States and Britain in Bible Prophecy*. It

takes 110 pages to tell the story in full. This publication provides the essential background to understanding the historical and prophetic significance of what is happening today to our English-speaking peoples and the present nation named 'Israel' – the latter's inhabitants (with notable exceptions) being principally descended from the tribe of Judah.

Our focus in this article is to explain and summarise the historical and spiritual significance of the twelve tribes themselves.

The names of the twelve tribes and the twelve apostles are engraved into the very framework of the family of God throughout all eternity (Revelation 21:12, 14).

How Jacob's twelve sons came into the world

Moses does not write the human story without poignancy and pathos. Our father Jacob sometimes learned his lessons the hard way and his whole family was deeply affected by his sins and mistakes. Nonetheless, in due time God will make it so that all his experiences turn out for good (see Romans 8:28). This man and multiple millions of his descendants will be stalwart members of the Kingdom of God forever (Luke 13:28).

The first four of Israel's children – Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah – were conceived by his first wife Leah because God saw that Jacob did not really love Leah and took pity upon her (Genesis 29:31-35). Our Creator understands

our emotional sufferings and seeks to relieve them. That is His very nature. 'God is love' (1 John 4:8).

Rachel was temporarily barren and naturally jealous of her sister Leah. So Rachel persuaded Jacob to beget children by her maid Bilhah: first Dan and then Naphtali (Genesis 30:1-8). Meanwhile Leah had stopped bearing. She also gave her maid to Jacob as an additional wife. Two more male children, Gad and Asher, came from this union.

Later Leah used dubious means to entice her husband into returning to marital intimacy (verses 14-16). Two more sons and one daughter emerged from this marital reunion – Issachar, Zebulun and Dinah (verses 17-21).

Then in due time 'God remembered Rachel and God listened to her [prayers] and opened her womb' (verse 22).

Feeling that her Creator had taken away her reproach among men, 'she called his name Joseph, and said, "the LORD shall add to me another son"' (verse 24). A considerable period of time passed before God gave Rachel that other son on Jacob's return journey to the land of his father Isaac and grandfather Abraham. However, she died tragically in childbirth, but not before giving her husband his last son whom he named Benjamin (Genesis 35:16-20).

So Jacob lost his first love, for whom he had served her father Laban for a number of years. The writer's observation was: 'They seemed only a few days to him because of the love he had for her' (Genesis 29:20).

Yet in spite of all his difficulties, near the end of his life Jacob reminded his son Joseph about 'the God who has

fed me all my life long to this day, the Angel who has redeemed me from all evil' (Genesis 48:15-16).

Summarising the story

The first book of the Bible confers great importance on these 12 tribes. Genesis 35:22-26 lists the 12 sons of Jacob under each of his wives' names: first Leah, then Rachel, followed by the two maids Bilhah and Zilpah. Then the aged patriarch spells out the future destiny of each of his 12 sons in chapter 49.

The nine genealogical chapters in 1 Chronicles tell us the names of many of the descendants of the twelve tribes of Israel. 1 Chronicles 9:1 states: 'So all Israel was recorded by genealogies, and indeed they were inscribed in the book of the kings of Israel' – summing up this entire genealogical account.

The twelve tribes in the New Testament

All twelve tribes remain important in the general overview. Jesus acknowledged Israel's existence by sending His disciples 'to the lost sheep of the House of Israel' (Matthew 10:6). The apostle James addressed his general epistle, not specifically to the Church of God, but to the twelve tribes of Israel (James 1:1).

Three whole chapters (9 through 11) of the book of Romans address Paul's deep personal concern for the salvation of Israel. With many quotes from the Old Testament, he takes us through crucial parts of the nation's history and expounds how they will be saved in the future.

Paul explains that 'All Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob"' (Romans 11:25-27).

Return with us now to the first century when Christ chose the original twelve apostles, the same number as the twelve tribes.

Why twelve apostles?

Why did Christ choose twelve apos-

ties? After Judas Iscariot died, why did Mathias have to be chosen to replace him as the twelfth apostle? (Acts 1:26). Peter had previously said that one of two men 'must become a witness with us of His [Christ's] resurrection' (verse 22).

This happened during the early history of the New Testament Church. "And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 4:33).

Jesus Christ once declared to His apostles, 'Did I not choose you, the twelve?' (John 6:70). Jesus knew why He had chosen 12 apostles. One specific reason is revealed in Matthew 19:28. 'So Jesus said to them, 'Assuredly I say unto you, that in the regeneration [resurrection], when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.' This is their personal reward in the Kingdom of God. See a similar account in Luke 22:28-30.

But this is not the end of the story of Israel's salvation. It gets even better.

The incredible testimony of Revelation

Surprisingly, the book of Revelation addresses the twelve tribes of Israel in chapters 7, 14 and 21. Each tribe is listed by name in Revelation 7:5-8 in the context of the 144,000 who will be sealed and saved (verse 4).

Revelation 21 and 22 reveal the concluding part of God's plan, culminating in that final glorified kingdom to which we should all actively aspire. The Father and the Son and all the Family of God are present in eternal glory. In describing 'the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,' John added: 'Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel' (Revelation 21:10, 12).

What began in the book of Genesis,

in somewhat sorrowful and difficult circumstances, ends in the glorified City of God. What a fantastic, permanent future for the whole House of Israel!

Continue this revelation of our prophetic future. 'And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb' (verse 14). The names of the twelve tribes and the twelve apostles are engraved into the very framework of the family of God throughout all eternity. All of the spiritual children of God (whether Israelites or Gentiles) will be present in that great city (Galatians 3:28-29).

The apostle Paul wrote these encouraging words to all of us, not just to Israel: 'He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all; how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?' (Romans 8:32).

John Ross Schroeder

The Perils of Polygamy

The biblical patriarch Isaac was married for life to his one wife Rebekah. He sent his younger son Jacob on a long journey to his father-in-law in order to find a wife (not wives) in Padan Aram (Genesis 28:1-2). Jacob only wanted the one wife Rachel, but was deceived by his father-in-law into marrying her older sister, Leah (Genesis 29:25).

Why did God allow this to happen? Instead of trusting his Creator to make things turn out right for him, Jacob had previously participated in a scheme contrived by his mother Rebekah to deceive his father Isaac into giving him the birthright blessing. This whole story is told in Genesis chapter 27. To teach us a valuable lesson, God sometimes allows our deceitful behaviour to come back on us (see Jeremiah 2:19).

The examples in the Old Testament clearly show that the practice of

(Continued on page 7)

Questions & Answers

Q Which is the best Bible version to read? And where can I get one?

P C, Luton

A Our own publications normally use the New King James Version as a basic translation. On occasion, however, other translations may bring out the meaning of a particular passage more accurately and we employ them in our literature as appropriate.

There are three broad types of Bible translations: word-for-word, meaning-for-meaning, and paraphrased. The New King James Version (NKJV) and the King James Version (KJV) are both word-for-word translations. The NKJV updates the language of the original KJV (1611).

The text of these two basic versions is trustworthy and reliable. But no translation is perfect and in a few specific passages other versions render particular texts more accurately.

Meaning-for-meaning versions of the Bible can be valuable as secondary sources. The New International Version (NIV) is a good example, but a few passages are tainted by doctrinal bias in translation. The Revised English Bible (REB) also fits this category of translation, but we would add the same caution.

Paraphrased versions like The Living Bible can also be useful. However, the translators of these ver-

sions sometimes employed poetic license to transform some basic terms according to their own religious ideas. The best way to come to truth is to compare such versions with a word-for-word translation such as the New King James Bible.

You might wish to consider purchasing a Bible with wide margins that will allow you to add notes from your personal study.

If we had to recommend only one Bible as a starting version, it would be the New King James Version. However, over time most Christians very likely will want to add other versions as their studies become deeper and more proficient.

Bible helps often prove of considerable value as we grow in our understanding of Scripture. A Bible concordance is of enormous help in locating specific passages. *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance* can also be helpful in coming to understand the meaning of biblical words. A Bible dictionary can be a valuable tool as well. One of the more conservative titles we recommend is *The New Bible Dictionary*.

A one-volume Bible commentary such as *The New Bible Commentary Revised* may also be helpful. However, we should never seek to establish biblical doctrines by consulting Bible helps. Scripture should be compared with Scripture (see 1 Corinthians 2:13).

Bibles may be purchased at a Bible bookstore in most reasonably sized towns

in Britain and Ireland or ordered online. You might consult www.e-sword.net.

For further understanding, request our free booklet *How to Understand the Bible* and the free reprint 'Which Bible Translation Should I Use?' This literature will explain the basic principles put forward in this reply in much greater detail.

The study of the Judaeo/Christian Bible contributes greatly to our spiritual growth. To help you with your biblical studies, we invite you to enrol in our free twelve-lesson *Bible Study Course*. It comprehensively explains the major doctrines of Scripture.

Polygamy

(Continued from page 6)

polygamy is fraught with perils. The New Testament pastoral letters insist that an ordained elder or deacon must set the example and be 'the husband of one wife' (1 Timothy 3:2, 12; Titus 1:5-6).

Polygamy is now illegal in nearly all Western nations. Yet great care, wisdom and patience should be exercised in dealing with Christians in polygamous relationships in other nations because of a cultural framework that could leave 'rejected' wives without economic support. Marriage to extra wives must be avoided.

God created one woman for Adam. This is the biblical ideal. After all, Christ will marry one bride (Revelation 19:7).

How our literature is funded

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Letters From Our Readers

Spreading the truth

I was looking through *The Good News* magazines which you so kindly send us. The information is so useful that I was speaking to my daughter about it. She and her family live in the United Kingdom. She was also amazed at the well-planned information. I am requesting that you add my daughter and her husband to your mailing list. They have four children to train up in God's way.

Mrs M D, Queensland, Australia

'God, Science and the Bible'

I am taking Religious Philosophy at college and I found your column 'God, Science and the Bible' very enlightening, especially as I have long been studying this subject. Please find a donation toward your good work.

M E, Lydbrook

The Good News

I first wrote to you about receiving the wonderful booklet *The Middle East in Bible Prophecy*. You also sent me *The Good News*, a superb mine of information. I have also received some very informative emails from a staff member as well as the booklet about Revelation which I am now reading.

Mrs K S, Kent

I have found *The Good News* very helpful in keeping me up to date with national events and relating them to the salvation history of the Bible.

B B, Bolton

I am very grateful to you for your magazine. It has given me lots of understanding regarding God's plan for mankind. This is one of the best magazines in the world.

K B, Bilston

Thank you for reminding me to renew my subscription to your great magazine. Please continue to send it.

R M, Crewkerne

The Good News is a balanced presentation of current events from a biblical correctness perspective – and not a political correctness perspective. Well done!

E O, London

Thank you for sending me *The Good News*. I have found the articles in it very enriching and they have helped me to understand certain fundamental issues in the Bible.

C A, Colchester

God's merciful judgement

Your teaching about God's judgement about hell has lifted a heavy burden from my heart and introduced me to the reality of God's grace and mercy. Thank you.

P C, London

• *Other readers may request the free booklet, Heaven and Hell: What Does the Bible Really Teach?*

Why Saturday worship?

Why do you keep stressing the importance of Saturday worship? I worship God and honour Him on every day of the week. Can't you see the disruption these changes would cause? I am not of this secular world, but I have to live in it. Thank you for your wonderful articles in *The Good News*.

R T, Pontypool, Wales

• *Meeting challenges to the Christian way of life is a part of the faith (Acts 14:22). The two booklets you requested,*

Sunset to Sunset: God's Sabbath Rest and You Can Have Living Faith, will show you how God backs up those who trust and obey Him.

Regarding which day is the Sabbath, I would like to say many thanks for the work you are doing in spreading the word of the Bible. May I say it is a delight to read *The Good News* that states Saturday is the Sabbath day – seeing that Jesus could not and did not disobey His Father's Word (Luke 4:16). Why don't we obey Him? Please kindly send two copies of *Sunset to Sunset: God's Sabbath Rest*.

Dr E C, Cheshire

Bible Study Course

First of all I would like to thank you for the *Bible Study Course* lessons I have received. I have learned a lot, especially about the second coming of Jesus Christ. I understand the explanation of this important point.

F Y, Sunderland

Readers show gratitude

Thank you for *The Good News*. It is good news in this war-torn world. I know it costs money to mail these magazines, so please accept this donation.

Mrs I G I, Tonyrefail, Wales

Thank you for the free monthly magazines that you sent me and also for the free booklets you have mailed. Therefore, I would like to show my gratitude to you by enclosing a small gift.

R T, Heywood

• *We deeply appreciate the help and support of our readers.*