



BRINGING GOOD NEWS

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Rejoicing in the darkness



An evangelist in Aweil said to me we are living in the darkness. By that he meant there was no electricity, no TV, no running water and in many villages no schools or medical clinics. We are starting from ground zero he said. Yet as I travelled around Northern Bahr el Gazhl with Bishop Abraham Nhial crowds and crowds came singing and dancing to hear him speak. At one place in Jorbioch over 2000 people came to worship and meet the bishop. The gospel had only reached this area in 1995 and there were already 9 churches. On one single

day I saw the bishop confirm 570 people. I was told that in the Darfur region many Muslims are coming to faith in Christ. Yet life is not all rejoicing. While I was travelling with the bishop 3 times the Northern troops with heavily armed Arab Misseriya attacked the people in Abyei which is in South Sudan and the United Nations peace keepers did nothing to stop them.

Power in the darkness

This man was a powerful witch doctor in the region of Mamier, Northern Bahr el Gazahl and everyone was afraid of him. During the long war with the Khartoum government he watched the Arab troops from the north burn down the church in Mamier three times. He then watched the women of the village rebuild the church 3 times and he realised that compared to the women he had no power. Compared to the power of these ladies he had nothing. He turned away from witch craft and joined the church. Many others followed him.



Helping in the darkness



I spent two days in Jorbioch teaching and training some of the pastors and later in the trip I went to Ibba and with the help of Jason Gbagaza and Rev Samuel did further training for pastors. Both bishops were very encouraged by the teaching and training. I gave funds to purchase 500 New Testament Bibles and gave out simple discipleship Bible study booklets and several MP3 players donated by 1st Baptist Atlanta. The pastors were very grateful for the gifts.

We have also funded the purchase of tools and food to help start an income generating farm in Aweil

We are supporting Rev John Bennett, Rose BI and Rev Emmanuel to attend a 3 year Bible course at Bishop Ngalamu Bible College in Mundri. Rev John and Rev Emmanuel have completed their first year and Bishop Wilson was greatly encouraged by how much they had learnt in the first year. Rose Bi will start her first year in April.



Rev Timo on the left from the Nuba Mountains has identified 6 students all from Nuba who he has recommended for a two year teacher training course in Yei. Each one promised they would return to the Nuba Mts to teach the children when

they have finished their course. We have made a commitment to fund the 6 students to be trained.

Suffering in the darkness It is very easy to portray the positive side of my trip but many many people are suffering especially in the Nuba Mts. Each of the students told me about the extreme suffering of their people. Every day they receive bombardment from the Antinov bombers. Civilians and innocent children are killed every day. There is no food because of the bombing; there is no medicine if you get sick and no education for the children. Thousands are walking to the refugee camps in the South and many die on the way and others die when they reach the camp. I have pictures on my computer of the effect of these Antinov bombers. Dead children cut in half by the bombs, dead bodies without heads and others with horrific injuries. All the students thanked you for their support and one said this, "Please ask your people to take my people as their people and help them"

Jan.