

***Operation Nehemiah - Rebuilding the South Sudan***  
***Newsletter – First Quarter 2010: [www.operationsnehemiah.org](http://www.operationsnehemiah.org)***



***P.O. Box 563, Lanesborough, MA 01237 – Phone: 888-778-1431; March 2010***



*Dear Co-laborer in the Great Commission*

*Shalom! On behalf of Operation Nehemiah and the Sudanese Christians, Hannah and I want to thank you for standing with us in 2009. God has raised you up for a time such as this to bring hope and relief to the persecuted church in the Sudan. During the month of March, our family sets aside time to celebrate the festival of Purim and reflect on the calling of Queen Esther (Hadassah), who rescued the Jews from annihilation at the hands of Haman, the villain.*

*The account of Esther's courage, faithfulness, and obedience to God in the midst of adversity and uncertainty teaches a precious lesson to all of us who are in Christ Jesus. All true Christians around the world are Esther; we are the bride, the church of Jesus Christ. We have open access to Him, as Queen Esther had with King Ahasuerus. The Lord's redemptive work in our lives means that we can boldly approach his throne of grace and lay our petitions before him, and he hears us. Throughout the history of Christianity, the church has suffered persecution in the hands of pagan and heathen rulers. It is during these periods of persecution that the church grows and is strengthened. In each generation of the Church, God has been faithful to raise up spiritual Esthers who defend and deliver God's people from destruction. They are not afraid of endangering their lives, or losing their possessions for the sake of the Gospel.*

*Among the most recent historical accounts of the persecution of the church is the plight of the Christians in the Sudan. In 1983, the Islamic regime pledged to annihilate all the Christians in the South. For 25 years, they waged a brutal war against the Church, killing two million and driving four million into exile. While the rest of the world has remained indifferent to the anguish of the Sudanese Church, you have boldly joined with us in the spirit of Esther to stand in the gap and intercede on their behalf. Since 1993, together we have witnessed the intervention of God in rescuing His people. The Sudanese Church has not only survived, but has also grown exponentially. After 25 years of adversity she has returned to the land in triumph to proclaim the Gospel and lift up the name of Christ the King!*



Hannah and I were greatly blessed to travel with our five children to the field in November, spending three weeks on the ground visiting family, encouraging the Church, and assisting with projects.

**Highlights of 2009**

*I rejoice to share with you the highlights of ministry in 2009, which the Lord has done through your support.*

**The Completion of the Nile Beth Israel Messianic Congregation**

- ✓ *The Beth Israel on the Nile completed renovations to it's building with the generous partnership of Samaritan's Purse and Grace Fellowship. It has three services each week now minister to over 1,000 believers. 57 people were baptized, four weddings were conducted, and 27 new babies were dedicated to the Lord!*





### **Relief container arrived saved and secured to the South Sudan**

- ✓ *Relief container shipped: On Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, we witnessed the departure of the \$250,000 of relief container from the Port of Boston en route to the South Sudan. Upon it's arrival on location, the community rejoiced as bibles, building supplies, clothing, tools food, text books, and church pews were unloaded and sorted for distribution.*



## **The Beth Israel Farm Project - 2009**

- ✓ *The Beth Israel Farm team cultivated another 50 acres and enjoyed a productive harvest, blessing widows and orphans with fresh, organic produce through the Church community outreach.*



**The Nehemiah Field Clinic- report highlights - 2009**

- ✓ *The Nehemiah Field clinic received a shipment of an amazing \$21 million dollars worth of donated medicine and supplies, enabling staff to treat outbreaks of cholera among local military personnel and a wide variety of chronic disease.*



## ***The Nehemiah Trumpet Call 97.3 FM- Highlight- 2009***

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- ✓ Nehemiah Trumpet Call 97.3 FM: A long held dream was fulfilled in July of 2009, when the first ever 300ft tower was completed atop the highest peak in South Sudan, Mt.Gordon. The Lord provided over \$167, 000 dollars through VCY AMERICA radio and generous listeners all across the Nation to fund this crucial project. We worked continuously to ensure that every one has access to hearing the Gospel in their own tongue through the distribution of free fixed- tune solar radios donated by Galcom International.



## ***Focus for 2010: Biblical Manhood and farming expansion***

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*Our main focus for the upcoming year will be Biblical manhood and discipleship training. This is the top priority of the Elders at the Beth Israel on the Nile. The impact of the war on the nation's young men is staggering. The last two generations have grown up largely fatherless and dependant on the United Nations and other government programs. Although many profess Christ, there is a lack of effective male leadership in the home and in the church. Rampant alcoholism, polygamy, and lack of work ethic undermine the very foundations of this emerging society. The leadership of Operation Nehemiah is committed to bringing the truth of 2 Tim. 3:16 to bear in the lives of Sudan's young men. We understand that in order for the church to be stable and continue to grow, it must have men who know how to guide their own homes and work with their own hands. We plan to disciple the nation through expository preaching, personal instruction, and radio broadcasts. We are also preparing to open another 50 acres of land for agricultural development. April thru November is the rainy season and our major work takes place during this period. An anonymous donor has graciously provided \$17, 000.00 recently to begin this next phase.*



### ***Upcoming Mission Trip:***

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Our next trip to the Field is scheduled for April 27<sup>th</sup> thru May 11<sup>th</sup>. I will be accompanied by my son, Nechemyah, along with well drilling engineer Mr. Jamie Wackerbarth and his wife Tracy, and Mrs. Lynn Wackerbarth. Jamie and Lynn joined our family on our last mission in November.

Our goal is to drill two complete wells that will serve the Nehemiah Field Clinic and the growing community around Borongole, and also irrigate the Beth Israel farmland.

As an Elder of the Beth Israel on the Nile, I plan to conduct a 10 day discipleship intensive with a small group of emerging leaders in the congregation. Given the scope of the materials I will be using, the intensive will require a daily four hour time commitment from those attending. We will be studying the great doctrines of the faith, the Messianic Jewish perspective, church structure, and the call to holy living. Lord willing, this will be the first in a series of intensives that will lay the groundwork needed for a revival of Biblical manhood in the Sudan.

## **Spring 2010 Budget Update:**

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We are am blessed to report that since sharing our goal of **\$50,000.00** needed to operate in the first quarter of 2010, your generosity has raised over **\$25,000** since January. This amount has enabled us to accomplish crucial development projects in the areas of agriculture, church planting, and healthcare.

The remaining **\$25,000** needed to close the gap will be used for discipleship materials, well drilling, and mechanical repairs during our upcoming mission trip.

Prayer requests:

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We are now counting down the days to our departure on April 27<sup>th</sup> to spend 2 weeks in the field.

- ✓ **Pray** for us as the date draws closer, that we will have wisdom, discernment, and above all, peace.
- ✓ **Pray** for Hannah and our four other children who will be staying behind in the States.
- ✓ **Pray** for our team, that God will use us to minister his word to the brethren in the South Sudan.
- ✓ **Pray** that we will be able to tap into underground water for the clinic and the farm.
- ✓ **Pray** that Nechemyah and I will be able to raise **\$4,500** needed to cover our trip to the South Sudan.
- ✓ **Pray** for Operation Nehemiah's general financial support for 2010.
- ✓ **Pray** for the upcoming election in the Sudan, that political and civil unrest will be averted as the first democratic election takes place throughout the country.
- ✓ **Pray** that the church of Christ in the South Sudan will stay faithful to the word of God, and that the men will rise up to the calling God has in their lives.
- ✓ **Pray** for the upcoming opportunity for Sudanese Pastors and their families to travel to the U.S. for pastoral conferences and a speaking tour.



**Operation Nehemiah website undergoing reconstruction:**

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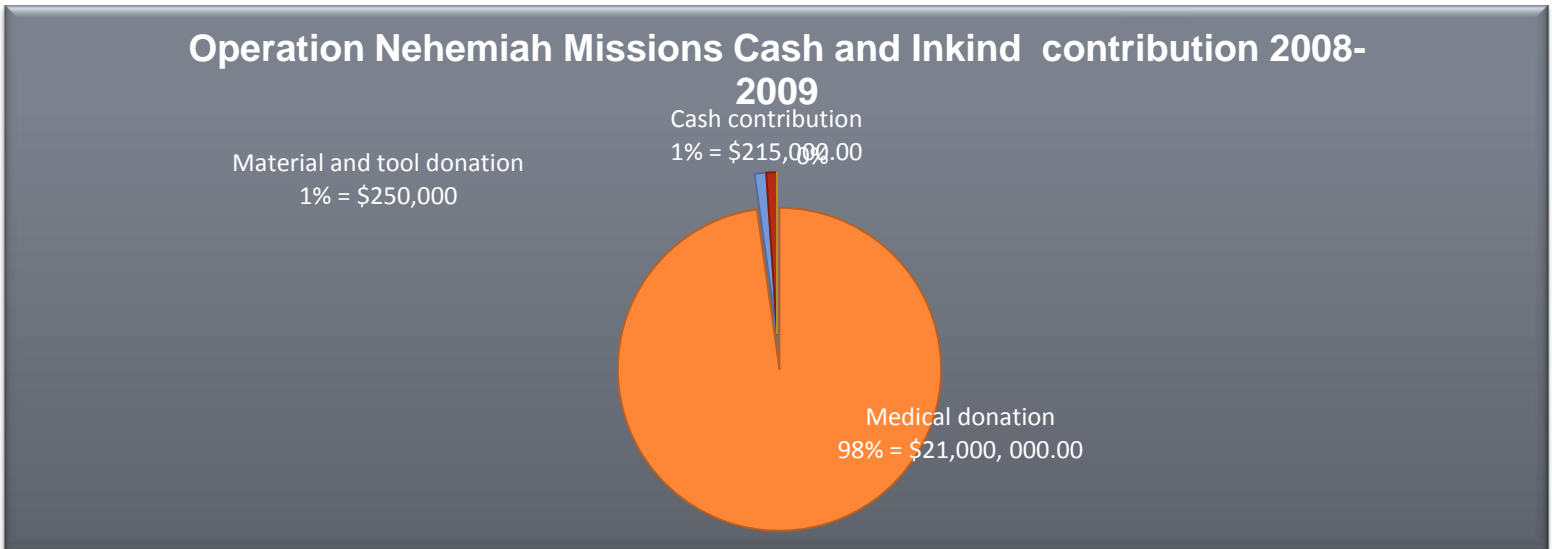
Operation Nehemiah is in the process of redesigning its website [www.operationsnehemiah.org](http://www.operationsnehemiah.org) . The URL will stay the same but features will slightly change. For now, the current website is functioning as is. You can still visit it to donate online.

As we see the restoration of the Christian South Sudan, the door is wide open for the spread of the Gospel like never before. Thank you for continuing to stand with me in a time such as this.

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## **Financial Accountability -2008-2009 fiscal year**



Despite of economic meltdown across America, last year Operation Nehemiah raised a combined total of **\$21,455,000** in cash and in-kind donations. We have received **\$21 million** in medical donation, **\$250,000** in materials and tools and **\$215,000** in cash contribution. Of the total \$21,455,000 contributions:

- ✓ Missions - \$21,400,000
- ✓ Staff Support - \$20,000
- ✓ Operational overhead - \$35,000

## **What your partnership means:**

When the Lord called me to Found Operation Nehemiah back in 1993, He was faithful to raise up supporters with the heart of Esther who have sustained this ministry since the very beginning. Through your prayers you have traveled with me through war zones and rebel laden back country; you have testified with me before Congress and loaded relief supplies onto containers bound for my homeland. Your generous giving through economic prosperity and disaster has brought hope to thousands of Sudanese Christians trapped in desperate circumstances.

As we see the restoration of the Christian South Sudan, the door is wide open for the spread of the Gospel like never before. Thank you for continuing to stand with me in a time such as this.\

## **Ways to contribute into Operation Nehemiah:**

- ✓ Online donation at : [www.operationsnehemiah.org](http://www.operationsnehemiah.org)
- ✓ Mail check to Operation Nehemiah, Po Box 563, Lanesborough MA 01237
- ✓ Call the main office at 888-774-1431 or William Levi at 413-841-1116

**God bless- In His grace, William Levi,**

**Founder and President, Operation Nehemiah Missions**