

Operation Nehemiah - Rebuilding the South Sudan

Newsletter – Second Quarter 2011 : www.operationsnehemiah.org



P.O. Box 563, Lanesborough, MA 01237 – Phone: 888-778-1431; March 2011

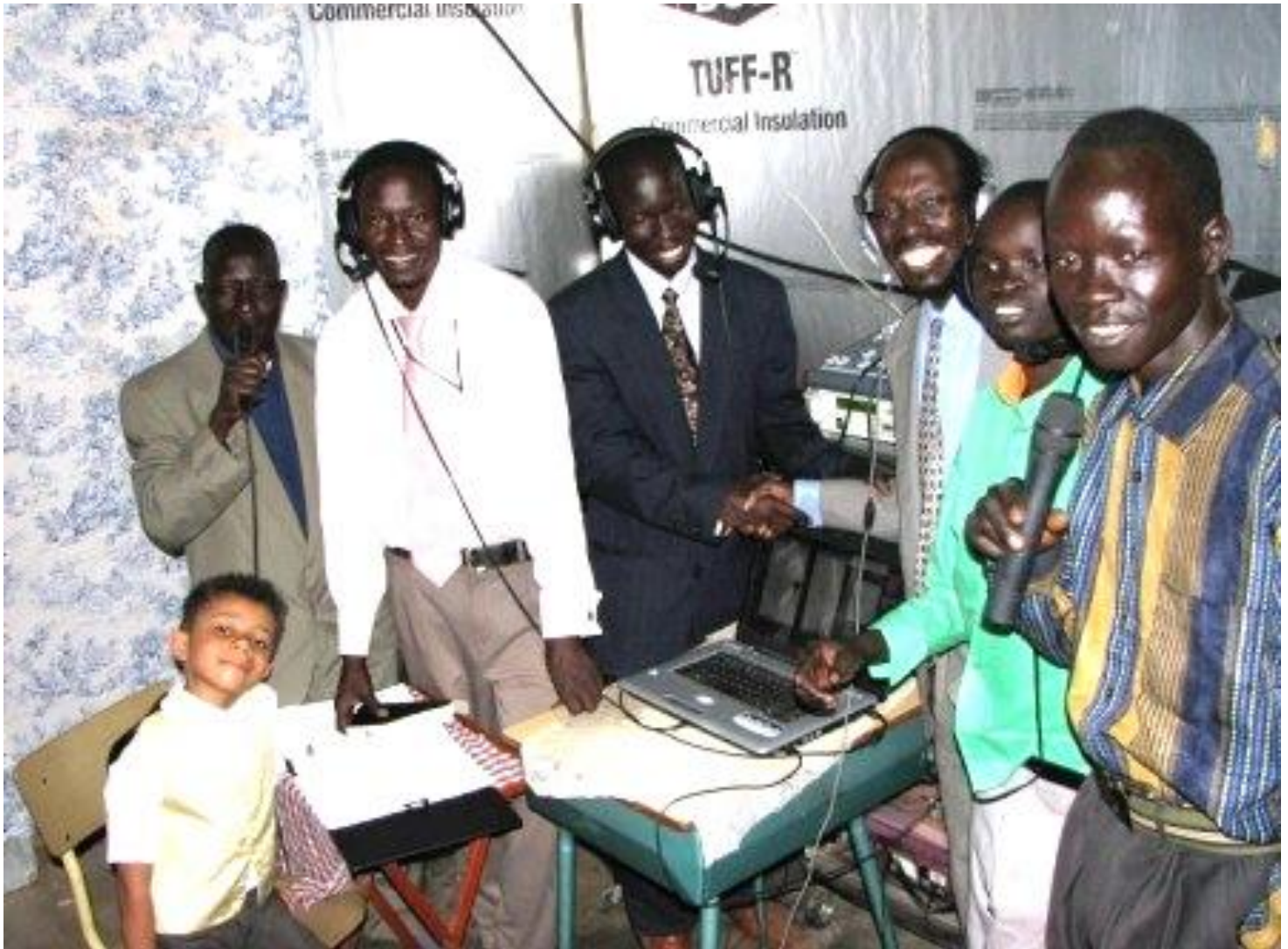


Figure 1 Nechemyah and I joined our ground team to dedicate Nehemiah Trumpet Call to the Lord.

Dear Beloved in Yeshua Hamashiach, Jesus the Messiah

Shalom! On behalf of my family and Operation Nehemiah, I want to thank God for your co-laboring with us in the Great Commission.

Did you have a blessed Resurrection weekend? Where would the world be had Jesus not Risen from the dead? The month of April in the Biblical Calendar represents three distinct time frames that bring the significance of the Atonement and the Resurrection into focus:

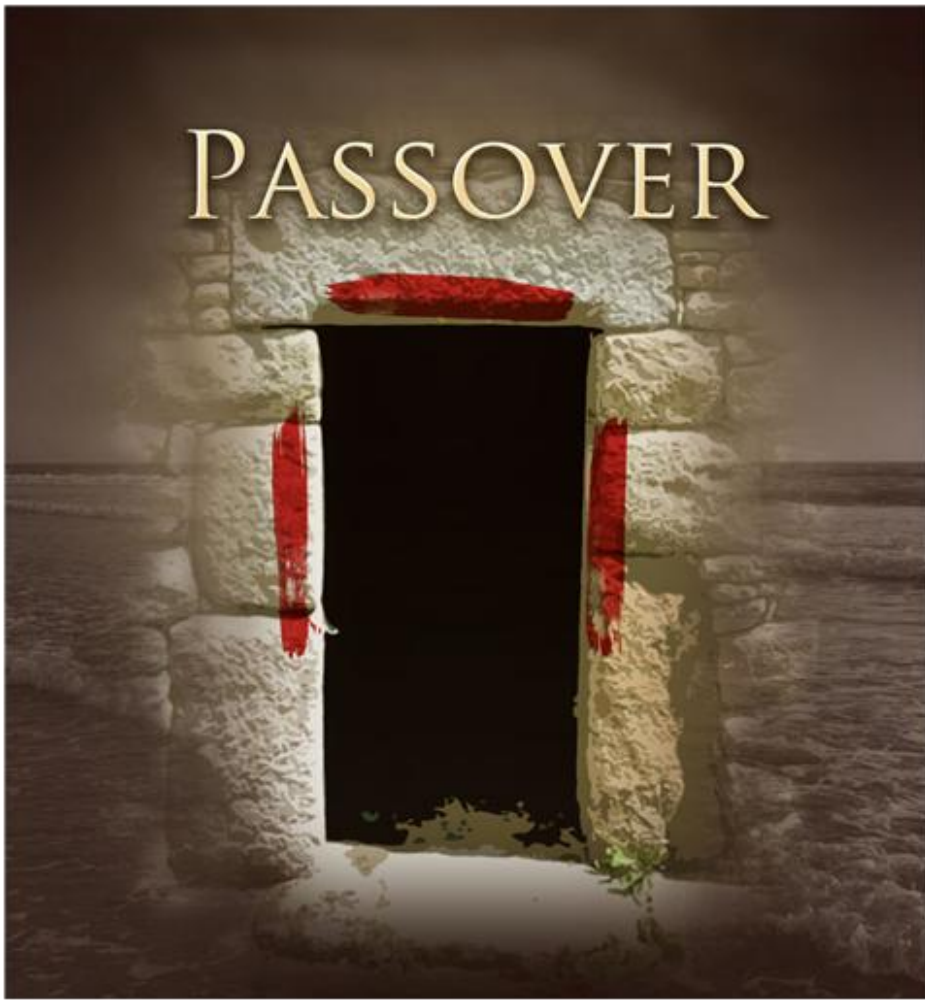


Figure 2 the Passover Door post

1. Passover is the foreshadowing of the better covenant which is Salvation **in Jesus.** We are saved from the wrath of God by Grace through faith in the blood of the Passover Lamb, Yeshua. "And when I see the blood I will pass over you." (Ex. 12:12) Yeshua was slain on Passover as the perfect fulfillment of the Lamb: "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." (John 1:29)

2. The week of unleavened bread represents sanctification. It is a time of affliction, trials and testing, to purge us of our pride; to teach us humility and obedience by the things we suffer.



Figure 3 L-r : Israel & John Dashwood, Pastor Peter & Beatrice Taban, Pastor Michael & Katharine Levi, Nechemyah & William Levi

"And you shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not." (Deut. 8:2)3. First Fruits, also called Bikkurim, represents the Resurrection. Just as the barley is offered up to the Lord as the first crop from the death of winter, so Yeshua was also raised from the dead on the Feast of First fruits, on the First day (Sunday) (2000 years ago), which begins Saturday night.

"But now the Messiah is risen from the dead, and has become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep." (1 Cor. 15:20) Each year as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, it is easy to forget the real meaning of this most

pivotal dimension of Christ coming into the world.

The Resurrection is the fulcrum of our faith. It is the climax of both the Old and New Testament. Without it, we are among all men most to be pitied.

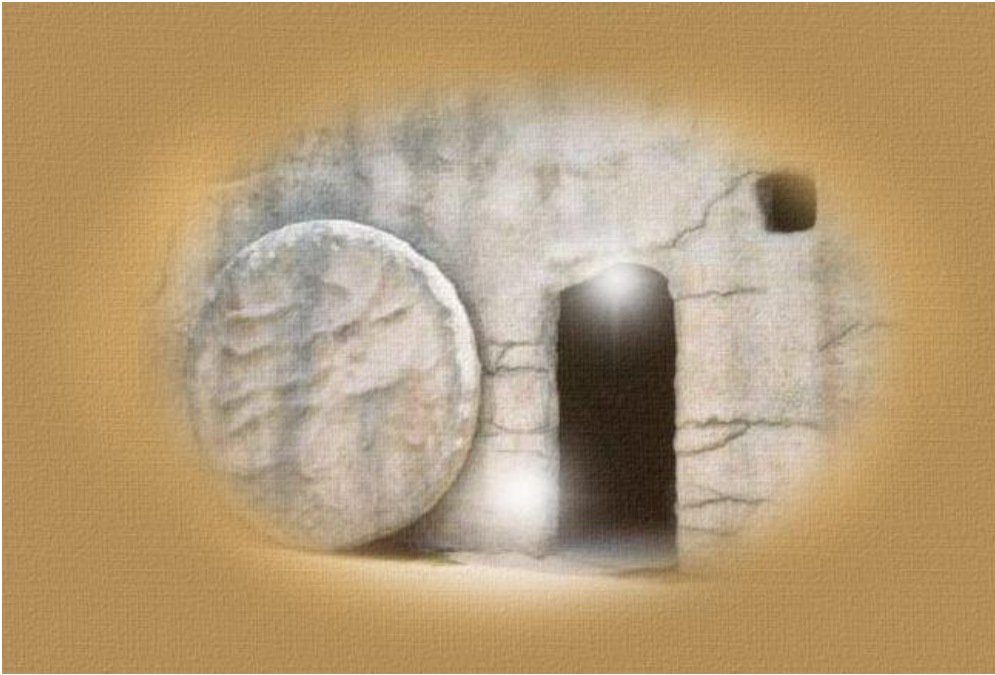


Figure 4 The empty Tomb

"Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ

raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive? But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming" 1

Corinthians 15:12-2



Figure 5 The Levite's Children

Home Update: On March 10th, 2011 we welcomed our sixth baby, Yerushah Anna Katharine into our family. We are greatly enjoying the gift of a new life, and Yerushah is enjoying constant hugs and kisses from her big brothers and sisters. The only difficulty being, they can't all hold her at once.

Homeschooling is going well, and we are looking forward to planting our garden within the month of May. The children always look forward to this school project, as it means spending alot more time outside! What a blessing it is to educate our own children. It is our hope and prayer that the liberty to do so will remain intact here in America.



Figure 6 l-r: Paul, Samson, John, Nechemyah, William, Timothy & Anthony

also Muslims. When we were in his vehicle, he wanted us to listen to an Islamic radio station. We told him we are Christians, and have our own Christian radio station that he can listen to. To our surprise, he tuned right then to 97.3 FM and heard the Gospel message being aired by our ground team from the studio loud and clear! God turned an uncertain and potentially dangerous situation into an opportunity to manifest His glory. We serve a living Savior.

Field Update: We are seeing God's answers to our prayers and His hand on Operation Nehemiah's mission in the South Sudan. The Lord has blessed us with a Gospel radio Station strategically built inside the South Sudan, and has now brought our vision to another level. With the help of some wonderful technology and our team on the ground, I am now able to get on the air directly from my U.S. office by simply calling the studio! This has enabled me to share the Word of God and encourage the People in ways I could not have imagined 18 years ago when this Ministry began. Over Resurrection weekend, my family and I were able to celebrate with our brothers and sisters in the South Sudan by sharing messages with them live on the airwaves

Radio testimony: As you may recall, our son Nechemyah accompanied me on my last mission trip to the South Sudan in January. I asked him recently during our family devotion time if he could think of a situation during our trip where he knew God was working all things for good in spite of difficulties. He recalled when we were traveling on the Juba -Kampala highway after dropping off our Canadian Missionaries at the airport. As we were driving back to the mission compound, the front left wheel of our vehicle came off and rolled 50 meters away from us! Although there were no injuries to our team, we were literally stranded on a lonely wilderness highway with nightfall fast approaching. In the midst of discussing what

should be done, a Muslim truck driver kindly stopped to give us a ride, thinking that we were



Figure 7 In the Radio Room: l-r: Nechemyah, Timothy, William and Pastor Michael



Figure 8 Community of believers welcomes the arrival of the dump truck

We are praising God for a recent gift of \$40,000 for both agricultural development and the purchase of a dump truck! Here in America it is easy to take heavy equipment like this for granted, but for a country like South Sudan that is rebuilding from the ruins of war, just one dump truck is cause for celebration! Our team on the ground is putting the truck to good use already, sub contracting for a myriad of construction jobs and generating funding from within. This is a tremendous step toward self reliance and a wonderful opportunity to serve the wider community. The visible infrastructure of New Sudan is beginning to emerge, with international interest now focused on development and investments. We are grateful to the Lord for giving us the privilege of

serving this newborn nation at such a time as this. As a testimony to the power and providence of God, our team had the following verse placed on the windshield of the truck: **"Our God is able"** Daniel 3:17.



Figure 9 In red will be the New Republic of South Sudan

- Upcoming Independence Day:** On July 9, 2011, the South Sudan will rise out of the ashes of war and officially declare independence from from the Arab Islamic world. As the people of the South Sudan emerge out of the grip of Khartoum's Islamic regime and its Jihadist allies, we are simultaneously witnessing epic historic events that have thrown the entire Islamic world into disarray. The West can learn a lot from the example of the South Sudanese. Let us pray for our leaders, that they will not succumb to Islamic tyranny and betray our freedom in the name of tolerance.



Figure 10 Nechemyah and Francis in the studio room

Budget Update: Our annual budget for fiscal year 2010/2011 is \$340, 00.00. Thus far, the Lord has provided \$101,000.00 in cash through your generosity, and \$190,000.00 in the form of in kind donations. The remaining \$239,000.00 cash needed will be used to support Church planting and elder discipleship, medical outreach, water filtration equipment, brick and tile making machines, adult education initiatives, and general operations. As the Lord wills, we hope within the next three months to raise \$ 119,500. We are grateful that our organizational overhead remains at a minimum, comprising only 12% of our total budget. Online

donations can be made at

http://www.operationsnehemiah.org/Donate_to_general_support.html

"Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

Psalms 46:10

Thank you for the priceless gift of your prayers and faithful generosity. May the Lord bless you and keep you.

In His grace,

William Levi, Founder and President

Operation Nehemiah Missions

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