

# Clifton News

No 245 - April - June 2009

Published since 1948



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# News



*Leslie McWatt (Photo taken at the Clifton Hall 110th Anniversary July 2007)*

## **Captain Leslie Cendrecourt McWatt**

17 August 1917 - 24 February 2009

We mourn the loss of our dear brother Leslie McWatt who was called home to be with the Lord whom he loved at the age of 91. Leslie was born in Georgetown, Guyana. He often told us of his conversion at the age of 14 when Marion the wife of missionary Harold Wildish led him to the Lord.

Leslie served in the merchant navy and had gained experience in the Canadian Navy on the merchant convoys in the North Atlantic during the War (1944-45). Often when reading from the Bible when a nautical theme was present such Acts 27, he was in his element telling of his experiences to expound the passage. He also would mention that he twice had the honour of

piloting the Royal Yacht Britannia when the Queen and Prince Philip were on a visit to Guyana.

Leslie came with his wife Margaret to this country in 1980 and he came into fellowship at Clifton Hall which was his spiritual home and where he also served as an elder.

From his early days he was active for the Lord and spoke at conferences. He was never silent on a Lord's Day morning and was the first to give God thanks for His beloved Son. He also would make sure the Scriptures were read and would stand up to teach the Word of God before the bread was broken insisting that the voice of God must be heard. All will remember him for the cheerful countenance and the joy of the Lord he had. He often would shout "Amen!" when a brother was ministering the Word of God.

Some four years ago when he started to suffer from blackouts and believing he had not long to go, he preached his "swan song" one Thursday evening. With great joy and enthusiasm he told the believers that, "His ticket is booked, his bags are packed, and he is in the waiting lounge - waiting for the Lord to take him away!" He was always ready to depart and to be with Christ which was far better. We shall greatly miss this humble man of God who was much loved by the assembly but we know that the separation is only till the Lord comes.

Leslie leaves behind his wife Margaret, his sons Glen and Wayne, his daughter Carolyn, four grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Leslie's funeral took place on Thursday 12th February at West Norwood Cemetery.

*There's a land that is fairer than day,  
And by faith we can see it afar;  
For the Father waits over the way  
To prepare us a dwelling place there.*

*In the sweet by and by,  
We shall meet on that beautiful shore;  
In the sweet by and by,  
We shall meet on that beautiful shore.*

*(Joseph Philbrick Webster, 1868)*

# Meetings

## The Week at Clifton

### Lord's Day

Breaking of Bread	11 a.m.
Sunday School	3 p.m.
Gospel Meeting	6:30 p.m.

### Tuesday

Bible Reading (First Tuesday of the month only)	8 p.m.
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Wednesday Seekers Club (Term time only for under 11s)	6 p.m.
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Thursday Prayer and Ministry	7:45 p.m.
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Friday C3 Club (Term time only for 11+)	7:30 p.m.
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Saturday Literature Distribution / Coffee morning	11 a.m.
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## Sunday Evening Gospel Meeting

### April

5	Graham Cole (Family Service)
12	Richard Catchpole
19	Ferranti Wong
26	Gareth Roderick

### May

3	Richard Catchpole (Family Service)
10	Nitish Patel
17	Roy Dawson
24	Alf Taylor
31	Phil Briercliff

**June**

7	Raymond Reid (Family Service)
14	Glyn Davies
21	Len Bass
28	Norman Gibbons

**Tuesday Bible Reading**

*Studying the book of Proverbs*

7th	April	Proverbs 10
5th	May	Proverbs 11
2nd	June	Proverbs 11

**Thursday Prayer & Ministry**

*Open ministry & missionary reports*

**April**

2	Nitish Patel	Report of his visit to Sri Lanka
9	Holiday club prize giving	
16	Raymond Reed	
23	Raymond Reed	
30	Tony Sheldrake	

**May**

7	Nitish Patel	Report of his visit to India
14	Martin Baker	Report on work in Eastern Europe
21	Graham Cole	
28	Tony Sheldrake	

**June**

4	Colin Roberts
11	Colin roberts
18	Peter Hamm
25	Michael Warner

**HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB - 6 TO 9 APRIL AT 10 AM**

# Questions

*Answered by Richard Catchpole*

*Question 1- Is the 'kingdom of heaven' referred to in Matthew's gospel synonymous with the 'kingdom of God' spoken of elsewhere?*

The title 'kingdom of Heaven' is used some 32 in the Gospel of Matthew and only there. Some commentators make a distinction between the 'kingdom of God' and 'the kingdom of heaven' and suggest that the former title describes the kingdom spiritually and the latter dispensationally, but that seems difficult to substantiate from the Scriptures. Many things that are described in connection with the 'kingdom of heaven' in Matthew are attributed to the 'kingdom of God' in the other gospels, e.g.:-

- (a) New birth is linked to entrance into both, Matt. 18. 3: and John 3. 5.
- (b) The principles linked to both are identical, 'righteousness', and 'peace' and 'joy' Matt. 5. 6, 9, 12; cf. Romans 14. 17.
- (c) Comparing the words of the Lord, in connection with the parable of the Sower, in Matt. 13. 11 He refers to 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven' but in Mark. 4. 11 and Luke 8. 10 to 'the mysteries of the kingdom of God', which certainly suggests the two kingdoms are essentially the same as do His words in connection with the parable of the Mustard Seed Matt. 13. 31, 'the kingdom of heaven is like' with Mark 4. 30, 'Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God'. Compare the Lord's words as He commenced His ministry, in Matt. 4. 17 He says 'Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand', but in Mark 1. 15, 'the kingdom of God is at hand'. Compare the beatitude in Matt. 5. 3 'Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven' and Luke. 6. 20 'Blessed be ye poor for yours is the kingdom of God': likewise His words concerning John the Baptist Matt. 11. 11 'he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he' with Luke 7. 28, 'he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he'.

But if they are essentially the same why does Matthew speak of the 'kingdom of heaven', and he alone, when the other Gospel writers refer to the 'kingdom of God'? The title 'kingdom of heaven' focuses attention upon the character of the rule, heavens rule in contrast to man's, it has its roots in

messianic prophecy, see Daniel 2. 44, and is used by Matthew in a gospel written for Jews, readers who will be familiar with Old Testament prophecy. The other gospel writers had Gentile readers in view, and in speaking of 'the kingdom of God' focus attention upon the Ruler. To have used the phrase 'kingdom of heaven' when writing to gentiles could have been misunderstood, in light of their ignorance of God, as the rule of the sun, moon and stars, (popular with those who follow astrology today!), and so to remove any possibility of being misunderstood the title 'kingdom of God' is employed.

*Question 2 – Were the three hours of darkness, when the Lord was upon the cross, limited to the land of Israel or was it over all the earth?*

There are three references to the three hours of darkness, Matt. 27. 45; Mk. 15.33 and Luke 23. 44-45. Matthew says, 'there was darkness over all the land': Mark 'there was darkness over the whole land' while Luke says 'there was a darkness over all the earth'. In the three verses the word for 'land' and 'earth' are identical in the Greek text thus there is no contradiction between the verses. The question thus really rests upon what we are to understand by the Greek word that is used. Amongst its uses in the New Testament we find that sometimes it embraces the earth as a whole, the world in contrast to the heavens as in Matt. 5. 18, 35: sometimes the inhabited earth as in Luke 21. 35: sometimes arable land or soil as in Matt. 13. 5: and sometimes a country as in Matt. 2. 20. In view of its wide use commentators are divided as to whether the darkness was limited to Israel or was wider in scope, both being a legitimate interpretation of the Greek text. Many favour the view that it was wider than the land of Israel though we must remember that due to the rotation of the planet half of the world would naturally have been in darkness anyway, limiting the supernatural darkness to those areas that would normally have received light from the sun at that time.

Though none could be dogmatic on the point there are some things we can say in respect of this darkness:-

(a) In some manuscripts the Greek word for 'darkened' in Luke. 23. 45 is *ekleipo* from whence we get the English word 'eclipse', but the darkness at Calvary was not the product of an eclipse but a supernatural act, since the Passover took place at a period of the full moon an eclipse would be astronomically impossible then. This Greek word is used again only in Luke 16. 9; 22. 32 and Hebrews 1. 12 and translated 'fail' in all of those verses. So

far from being an eclipse is the sovereignty of God something happened with the sun that resulted in it 'failing' to give its light.

(b) At His birth the darkness of the night was brightened with light Luke 2. 9 at His death the brightness of noon-day was reduced to darkness, God withdrawing light from that awesome scene, 'the darkness serving to emphasise the uniqueness and unexampled intensity<sup>(1)</sup>' of the sufferings of Christ.

(c) This had been anticipated in Psalm 22. 2 'Oh my God I cry in the daytime (the time) but thou hearest not: and in the night season (the character of the time), and am not silent'. Psalm 22 is the psalm of the sin offering.

(d) During the three hours Scripture records nothing being said or done by those who stood by the cross, suggesting that with the darkness there 'fell an awed hush over the scene <sup>(2)</sup>'. This was a darkness that could be felt, cf. Ex. 10. 21.

(e) Darkness and judgment are often associated in Scripture, cf. Isa, 5. 30; 9. 19; Joel 2. 31; 3. 14-15; Amos 8. 9-10'.

(f) While there might be uncertainty regarding the extent of the darkness there can be no doubt about its significance. It concluded with the cry of the Saviour 'My God My God why hast thou forsaken me', indicating 'the unfathomable depths of His sufferings<sup>(3)</sup>', forsaken of God when he 'who knew no sin' was made sin, 2 Cor. 5. 21.

(g) 'It was then He put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself, Heb. 9. 26, and became the propitiation for the whole world 1 Jn. 2. 2 <sup>(4)</sup>

These are truths that should surely cause us to bow our hearts in worship and adoration. Edward Denny wrote:-

*There through Thine hour of deepest woe  
Thy suffering Spirit passed  
Grace there its wondrous victory gained  
And love endured its last*

(1) (2) (3) 'A portrait of the Servant' by D. Edmond Hiebert.

(4) 'Mark' by H. Paisley in 'What the Bible teaches'.

# *Bible Teaching*

## *Thoughts about the book of Esther (part 1)*

*Charles E. Wigg*

This is a remarkable book, and is set in one of the darkest days of the Nation of Israel's history up to that particular time. It is unique in that Jehovah's name is not mentioned in it even once. However His mighty hand is to be seen in all that took place in that book. It shows us that though Israel had forgotten about their God, and had settled down comfortably in the different places to which they had been scattered; yet Jehovah had not forgotten His people. Thus we see the fulfillment of Jehovah's promise made through the Prophet Isaiah in chapter. 49:15



It is probable that many of God's people had just settled down, and were carrying on business, (and probably prospering), in the different places to which they had been scattered. They were no longer troubled by that which was meant to break their hearts, (being exiled from their own land), so God allowed this great threatened tragedy to arise, so that they might be awakened out of their lethargy and materialism.

The Books of Ezra and Nehemiah, and the prophecies of Daniel, Zechariah, Haggai, & Malachi show very clearly that this was not true of all Israel. But when the exiles returned, there was only 40,000 of them, though there were millions scattered throughout the 127 Provinces of the dominion of Ahasuerus (This was in spite of Cyrus' plea that every one whose heart moved them should return to their land).

Over the Millenniums of their dispersion, the Jews have proved to be very adaptable. There are more Jews in the U.K today than there are in Israel. There are millions of them in the U.S.A. and much of the wealth of that country is in their hands. In fact at the last Presidential Election in that country, they almost had a Jew as their Vice President. In a recent government in the U.S.A, Henry Kissinger, their foreign secretary was a Jew.

Though the majority were prosperous and content in their material affluence, yet things were not good at the very heart of power. Satan had a definite plan to attempt to destroy that nation. He knew that the Savior of lost men was to be a Jew, and he determined to destroy that nation if he could. If his dastardly plan was to succeed then you and I would be left to go to Hell. There were several times that he tried to do this.

### *Satan's plan*

Satan knew that it would be the “Seed of the woman”, that would crush his head, so he tried to bring about the total annihilation of the human race, at the time of the flood. But God found Noah a righteous man, and thus Satan's plan was foiled.

Then he knew that Abraham had a special place in the plan of God, also Sarah his wife. So he tried to have Sarah defiled by the Pharaoh so that she could not be the mother of the chosen seed, but again his plan was foiled. Later he tried to do the same thing with Rebecca, but once more God intervened, and Rebecca was given back to Isaac. Once again through another Pharaoh, he tried to exterminate the males amongst the people of Israel. To assimilate the nation of Israel into the Egyptian nation, and thus extinguish the hope of a Redeemer, and salvation for every member of the human family that would receive it. Then he made one last attempt to destroy the Lord Jesus when He was an infant. He used the wicked Herod the Great in this last bid, but God protected His Son by sending Him with His parents down to Egypt.

### *The faithfulness of God*

We also see the faithfulness of God in His intervention in the affairs of nations, so as to protect His chosen people. The way that He took to do this was amazing, and a demonstration of the working out of the doxology of Rom. 11:33-36. Truly God's ways are past finding out. Whoever would have

thought that so much would be involved in the obstinate refusal of a Medo-Persian Queen to obey the command of her drunken husband? This would show us what huge issues can lie behind seemingly trivial incidents. Men and their actions are just like pawns in a chess game. There are mighty hands behind many of the public moves.

At the present time that favoured nation of Israel is under great pressure. It seems that their closest ally is the U.S.A., perhaps in part because of what is stated above? Satan cannot now deny to mankind the salvation that the Son of God has purchased for us but he still seeks to plunge lost men into death and destruction. Because he knows that once men die in their sins, they are forever beyond the reach of God's grace. He that destroyed the beauty of God's creation, and through his temptation and the fall, plunged the human family into eternal loss and ruin; would seek to rob God of the pleasure that He will find in the Millennial Age. Then this creation will be restored to its former glory. There will indeed be "Peace upon earth", and God will yet find "Good pleasure in men". In that day Israel will be the head of the nations. The Son of David, will sit on Israel's throne. The knowledge of His glory will cover the earth, as the waters cover the sea.

### *God will prevail.*

Let us rejoice in the fact that all this will happen, regardless of what Satan may plan or do. The events detailed in this lovely book of Esther, show how that, God is quietly working out His own plans. Job admitted at last, "I know that Thou canst do everything, and Thou canst be hindered in no thought of Thine". Job. 42:1 (J.N.D trans.) Let us rest in the fact that God will have His way, though He may allow matters to reach a seemingly impossible pitch, as He did in this book.

How this magnifies the Majesty and power of our Almighty God! It would give to you and I His children a great sense of security in the present difficult times. All glory be to His great and holy name!

Chapter one shows us the Medo-Persian Empire at its peak of prosperity and power. Its ruler gathers all those that served him at different levels in the administration of that Empire. He wanted to show off his fabulous wealth, to boast in his achievements. However God had humbled a greater Emperor than Ahasuerus. He had removed Nebuchadnezzar's reason, and gave him the

mind of an ass. He was driven from men, and for seven years lived like an animal. Until he knew that “The Most High, ruleth in the kingdoms of men”

The opulence that was shown off by this Emperor was indeed amazing. The opulence of the Rulers in the Middle Eastern countries today is tremendous. I have seen some of their palaces, and they are truly daunting. But after all, what is man? God could remove it all with a stroke, if He chose.

### *Vashti's refusal*

All went well until towards the end of the six months of feasting. The Emperor decided to have a fashion parade, to show off his beautiful Queen before the lustful eyes of his drunken politicians. But Vashti refused, she was not going to be a showpiece to gratify the pride of her sensual husband. Here we are compelled to acknowledge the rightness of her clinging to her dignity, but on the other hand to resent the in-subjection that she displayed.

She would be very popular with many today, in this day of so-called ‘women’s liberation’ It is said that ‘two wrongs do not make a right’, and this was so in this case. It was wrong of the Emperor to wish to use his wife as a spectacle, to parade her beauty before the sensual gaze of drunken men. It is still wrong today, for men to organize beauty pageants etc. God did make women beautiful, but that beauty was intended only for the pleasure of their husband, and it was never His intention that the most beautiful of His creatures should be used as a show-piece, just to gratify the sensual desires of fallen men.

On the other hand it was God’s intention that the wife should be subject to the husband. The universal multiplication of the spirit of in-subjection, has brought with it great social, moral and spiritual problems. The Emperor’s advisers were quick to see the problems that would arise throughout the Empire, if Queen Vashti’s refusal went unpunished, and was noticed by every other wife. Thus it was that the first recorded divorce in the Bible took place. This practice God says He hates, Mal. 2:16. Yet it is corrupting our society, and even destroying some Assemblies.

to be continued ...

# Good News

## The Gypsy mother refused to be saved

At Hadlow churchyard in Tonbridge, Kent there is a monument erected to the memory of a group of 30 gypsies who lost their lives at the Hartlake Bridge disaster.

In the mid 19th and early 20th centuries for many generations of Hop Pickers, from all walks of life the Heart of Kent, the garden of England, had been for two months every year another source of income.

There had been heavy rain downpours and the riverbanks were swollen and the surrounding areas were flooded. In the evening of Thursday October 20th 1853 the hop pickers had been picking all day on the Golden Green side of the river, so the pickers had to cross Hartlake bridge on there journey home. Because of the number of pickers this was made in two journeys the first journey was made although a struggle through the flooded waters it was without incident. When the wagon returned for the second journey 30- 40 people climbed aboard to make the ill fated journey.

As the wagons reached the crown of the bridge the horses swerved towards the near side of the bridge and the large wheels touched the low board skirting on the bridge. The boarding was very old and rotten and gave way. The driver tried desperately to correct the wagon and drive to safety, but it was too late. More of the boarding gave way and the wagon horses and 40 pickers were overturned into freezing waters of the swollen river. For a few



moments the scene was horrific with people shouting screaming as people were being swept below the water. Some pickers managed to climb to safety and tried to help the many cries for help, from there loved ones that they were with only moments ago. The first silence after the frightful struggle must have been really awful. Apart from the waggoner, most of the eleven that survived had lost father, mother, child, brother or sister in this truly horrid tragedy.

Gipsy Smith, the noted evangelist, told the story of that tragic day and applied to the truth of it to the unbeliever. He told of how one young gypsy seized a horse drifting downstream, and mounting him watched earnestly and anxiously for his mother. At length he saw her and laid hold upon her; but she struggled in such a way that he was not able to save her. When the gypsies were being buried in the churchyard, the boy who had tried in vain to save his mother knelt down in the trench containing the coffins of those who had perished and cried out: "Mother! Mother! I tried to save you; I did all a man could do but, you would not let me!"

So Jesus said on one occasion: "Ye will not come to me that ye might have life." (John 5:4). He also wept on the Mount Olives, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" (Matthew 23:37)

How tragic it will be for those who refuse to believe the gospel to hear the Lord say to them at the Great White Throne judgment (Revelation 20), "I tried to save you but you would not let me."



# Church History

by Mark Beardall

## Desiderius Erasmus

(1465-1536)

Erasmus was not a reformer as such, but his Greek edition of the New Testament aided the reformation greatly. The Western Church had lost the original languages of the Bible. The only Bible widely published in Roman Catholic lands was the Latin Vulgate of St Jerome. John Wycliffe had produced an English Bible but it was based on the Latin Vulgate. In publishing his Greek edition of the New Testament, Erasmus laid the foundation for the translation of the Bible into many languages.



Erasmus was born in 1465 at Rotterdam, in The Netherlands. He was the son of a priest and was orphaned at thirteen years of age. His guardians robbed him of his inheritance and persuaded him to join a monastery. He received his education from the “Brethren of the Common Life,” at Deventer and The Hague. Erasmus was ordained a priest in 1492, and he lived in an Augustinian Convent at Stein. Although he was ordained, he never functioned in that office. He refused to do vigils and always ate meat on Fridays. Monastic life was clearly not for him and he was later released from his vows to pursue an academic career at the University of Paris.

Erasmus was a very talented scholar, who built up a great reputation in the universities. It has been said that he was the greatest literary scholar at the time in Europe. In 1497 he went to Oxford to study Greek. John Colet, a scholar at Oxford persuaded Erasmus to study theology. Much of the theology of the day was concerned with questions about things, which God had not revealed and was a complete waste of time.

In 1511 he went to Cambridge to lecture in Greek. Erasmus began his greatest work the critical edition of the Greek New Testament. He faced much criticism for producing a Greek text because Greek was the language of the Orthodox Church. People thought that Latin was a holy language and that there could be no improvement to the Latin. Erasmus actually produced a Greek New Testament alongside a Latin translation. In his Latin translation he corrected many of the errors of the Latin Vulgate. In 1516 his work was published. This was the first printed edition of the Greek New Testament to be published. Erasmus dedicated his work to Pope Leo and was therefore protected by him. He also had the support of some of the most powerful men in Europe; therefore he was able to work without fear of persecution.

Erasmus had completed a truly great work. He had compared many Greek manuscripts and produced a text in the original language. This was vastly superior to the Latin Vulgate and it enabled the educated to read the New Testament in its original language and even to translate it into their own languages. Without Erasmus there would be no Tyndale New Testament and no Luther Bible. Thomas Bilney the great English reformer and martyr was converted whilst reading the Greek New Testament produced by Erasmus. We could never overestimate the importance of this great work. Many were converted through reading his work and many more through the many translations of the New Testament.

Erasmus unlike the reformers never left the Roman Catholic Church. However, he was critical of the abuses of the clergy. He hated the fact that the clergy were forced into vows of celibacy but were given license to go with harlots. He was against the use of religious relics for money. He lamented, "What would Jerome say could he see the virgin's milk exhibited for money, with as much honour paid to it as the consecrated body of Christ: the miraculous oil: the portions of the true cross, enough if they were collected to freight a large ship? Here we have the hood of St Francis, there Our Lady's

petticoat or St Anne's comb, or St Thomas of Canterbury's shoes: not presented as innocent aids to religion but the substance of religion itself." He even wrote a play called "Julius Exclusus" in which the former Pope went to hell. This was very popular in Paris. Erasmus was a prolific author and was one of the most popular authors of his time. William Tyndale translated his "Manual of the Christian Soldier" into English. He presented it to some English nobles and saw a great change in their lives. Another famous work was called "In Praise of Folly", in which he said that men "rested their hopes for salvation on a strict conformity to religious ceremonies, little thinking that the Judge of all the earth at the last day would say, Who hath required these things at your hands?"

The Dominicans hated him and in 1527, "monks of the Inquisition" began to examine his works for heresy, hoping to bring him to trial.

Erasmus died at Basel in 1536. A Protestant pastor preached at his funeral and he left all his money to help Protestant refugees. In 1559 Pope Paul IV placed all of the works of Erasmus on the Index of Forbidden Books, so that no Roman Catholic would be allowed to read them.

He disagreed with Luther over "The Bondage of the Will". He was considered a heretic by Luther and also by Rome.

"The Lord gave the word: great *was* the company of those that published it." Psalm 68:11



Desiderius Erasmus, translator, New Testament, Basel: Johann Froben, 1516.

# Report of Visit to Sri Lanka

*Nitish Patel*

The believers in Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon) had arranged a very hectic program of 22 meetings in 8 days beginning at Bethesda Hall Colombo and moving across the country to the East coast where the Bethesda assembly has been very active in helping new assemblies which have been planted. The assembly is also helping practically in many different ways in the war zone where there is great suffering and poverty. They have organised food distribution to the poor, job training programs, set up several free nursery schools and built new homes for those who suffered in the Boxing Day Tsunami disaster of 2004. The assembly also runs an Emmaus Bible correspondence school and some 7000 people around the country are studying the Scriptures. Four of the brethren took me in their vehicle and every few miles there was a group of believers patiently waiting for the Word of God.

It was the first time that I have visited a war zone and seen signs of recent battles. The Tamil Tigers withdrew from the East and now with the army in control it has been possible to visit it and preach the gospel. Army checkpoints were every where with constant stopping and searching. Blood stained bullet ridden vehicles and houses could be seen where the Tamil Tiger rebels have been fighting government forces in a bloody 25 year civil war. They seek an independent state for the mainly Hindu Tamils from the Singahelse Buddhist majority

Hatton in central Ceylon was the most beautiful part of the island surrounded by mountains and tea plantations. A gospel meeting was held in nearby Ragala where many of the tea pickers came to hear the gospel.

There have been many trophies of grace and I was able to meet a brother named Karuna who was the greatest sinner I have ever met in my life whom the Lord has wonderfully saved. Many years ago he was a Tamil Tiger commando and had personally murdered, maimed and done things too horrible to put into print. There was also a brother named Raja who was a Moslem suicide bomber who was saved in prison when the police arrested him on his mission. We also visited evangelist Shivkumar who had been attacked by a mob in a village because he had seen a young man saved there. Do pray for these many new believers and that the Lord will add many more.



Bethesda Gospel Hall



Bethesda Sunday school children



Shivkumar recovering from his injuries



Brother Karuna

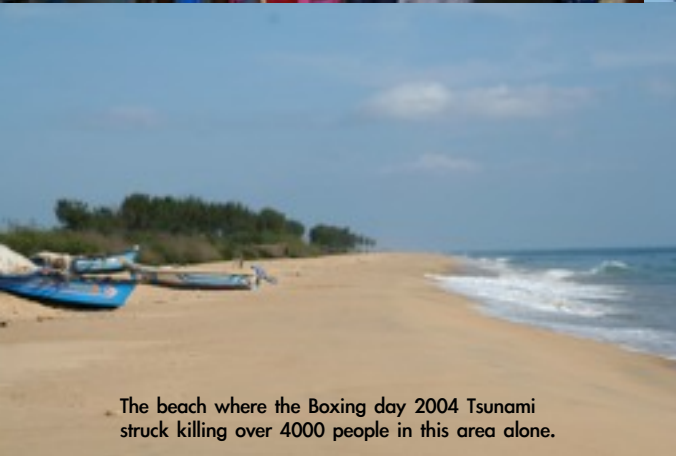


This needs no explanation!



Bullet ridden house

Scenes like this were common everywhere we went. Many gathered to hear the gospel



The beach where the Boxing day 2004 Tsunami struck killing over 4000 people in this area alone.



Brother Kando and 22 members of his extended family survived because they were at the Sunday morning meeting.



Scenery in Hatton and tea pickers coming in with their tea leaves.

