

God Prepares a Banquet in our Desert

By

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The worried wilderness wanderers asked, "Can God prepare a banquet in the desert?" (Psalms 78:19). Can God turn hopelessness into hope? Can God turn a spiritually dry desert into a powerful revival? God can. God will. God is!

God has worked the impossible in Cuba. Through the efforts of Regional Director, John Hopkins, and others the Lord has prepared a banquet in the desert. We now have been able to register the UPCI in Cuba through the uniting of three oneness organizations. We have a charter and there is a great opportunity for us to work there now. Plans are moving forward for a Bible school to be built there, in honor of G. A. Mangun. We appreciate the sacrifices of the Pentecostals of Alexandria.

Arlie Enis, Furlough Replacement, Europe/Middle East: He and his wife are now serving in their thirty-fifth year of missionary ministry with the UPCI. Through their efforts, and those that joined them in the Military Ministries of Europe/Middle East there were over 6,000 that found their personal Holy Ghost experience for the first time, and were baptized in Jesus name. Additionally, over 17,000 Pentecostals found a place of apostolic worship under their 550 leaders. There were fifteen couples that received their missionary appointments after serving in Military Ministries and three men who ministered in this work are now UPC district superintendents. Over 150 men were licensed through Military Ministries and are now serving around the globe.

Randall Richardson, La Reunion, Africa reported that the church there has wanted to start a second church for some time. The biggest problem has been high rents and property purchase prices. Brother Richardson told the brethren, "We are just going to pray and ask God to open the door. There is no other way we can do it." Recently, a contact was made in Reunion from a Trinitarian preacher in Mauritius, who was converted last June. He told of a Trinitarian church group with a building that was looking for a pastor. They immediately followed it up. God did the rest. A pastor was provided, the people accepted the truth, and (at the time of the report) six had been

baptized in Jesus name. More were expected to be baptized immediately after that. What about the building? An agreement was signed for three years automatic renewal and the owner said he wants the church to use it permanently. No rent. No purchase. They only pay a small government tax on the property annually. It is a beautiful cement block building, with tile floors, modern windows, great security, kitchen, classrooms, three restrooms, and lots of land for parking. It has paved street side parking. Rent on such a building would be a minimum of \$6,000 USD monthly. It is just outside the second largest city in La Reunion. This is exactly where they wanted to start a church. Is this a miracle and answer to prayer? Absolutely! To God be the glory. The owner is a well known building contractor. He and his wife worshipped the Lord recently in our services. They testified that they have received more truth in just one month than they received at their former church in the past twenty years and they are telling everyone about it.

This article is being written while I am in Lisbon, Portugal. God moved in an amazing way here yesterday and fourteen received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. This is a great victory for the church in Portugal. It is a direct result of missionaries who have—and are—giving their all to reach this nation. I wish you all could have seen Missionary William Markham as he wept as God moved. Bill Markham and his wife, Bonnie; have paid a tremendous price to be here. Bonnie has been sick and bedridden in California for over eighteen years. He husband makes extended trips to Portugal and Spain without her. She remains behind in excruciating pain but insists that her husband continue what God called them to do. They have taken their desert experience and allowed God to prepare a banquet for others to feast.

Mark it down. God is at work in your desolate condition. He prepares so many good things for us in the midst of our trials, adversities, and circumstances. There is no such thing as a place that cannot have revival. Remember the next time you feel you are in a dry, desolate desert, that God is sending the feast. After that, find an umbrella, revival rains are coming.