The Song of the Redeemed

Jesus spoke of his mission in Mark 10:45, saying, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many" (NKJV). Jesus bought our freedom from the clutches of the enemy and from death itself. He served out of selfless motives and laid down His own life in a spectacular act of love. Our savior paid the ultimate price to ransom all of us. Jesus paid it all! It makes me want to sing with Barney E. Warren's century-old hymn, "What a wondrous blessing, I am saved from the awful gulf of sin. It is joy unspeakable and full of glory...."

Likewise, in Global Missions, the song of the redeemed arises from 195 nations and counting.

Patrick and Jeane Groves reported from Sudan and Kenya, "Over the last several months we have traveled to several areas and seen many new souls filled with the Holy Ghost, baptized in Jesus name and healed. In our minster's conference we heard several firsthand accounts of some of these miracles. One of our lady pastors in one of our village Churches testified, how after prayer, the Lord raised a man from the dead and brought great revival to that area, as the people saw the power of God demonstrated and became convinced of the truth of this apostolic message. We also recently baptized several Trinitarian pastors in Jesus name, some of whom have recently graduated from our Bible School and are now preaching this Apostolic message in their local Churches and areas with great success."

Robert and Gayle Frizzell reported from Thailand, "Pastor GT Robert, Bro J Ral Buai, Mike & Michelle LaBrie, Gayle and I went into the villages to preach/teach the gospel to the non-Christians. More than 200 attended daily with 158 turning from their idols to the True and Living God, the Lord Jesus. 128 received the gift of the Holy Ghost 45 were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sin. Gayle and I went to Pokhara, Nepal, to teach in the Bible School for 2 weeks. 13 students attended, 7 were filled with the Holy Ghost and 4 were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. As the Spirit of God moved upon all at the end of the daily sessions, people from outside the building came to the door to see what was transpiring inside. These people are Tibetan refugees! They were somewhat nervous however, they returned. I spoke to them and I explained to them what was happening and how they needed to return to learn of the Lord Jesus and His message of salvation. My personal beliefs is that the Lord sent them to us so they may be converted, discipled, and then return to Tibet to spread the gospel."

Paul and Stephanie Rivero reported a flurry of highlights from two months in Costa Rica, "We had a board meeting and we licensed a new Minister. We have a total of 55 licensed ministers now. We had our Southern Regional Convention with about 300 people in attendance and 13 received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. We had a tremendous Pentecost Sunday celebration nationwide with 93 receiving the Holy Ghost and 74 baptized in Jesus' wonderful Name! I was able to organize the Children's service for our Region for Pentecost Sunday and we had 4 kids that received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The church we pastor was also the host church for the Pentecost Sunday celebration for our Region. We had over 300 in attendance with 34 receiving the Holy Ghost and 11 baptized. We broke the National record again this year with the numbers of people that received the Holy Ghost and were baptized in Jesus Name on Pentecost Sunday. On a local church level, I have continued to teach Bible Studies. We baptized 8 people in the Wonderful Name of Jesus and have had 4 receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost."

Sam and Pat Balca and John and Anne Nowacki reported, "Michel & Marianne Urban from the headquarters church were sent to Paris on a mission, and the result is the founding of a new church in the very heart of the capital. Present attendance of the UPC Paris Centre is 60 people. In the opening ceremony, Superintendent John Nowacki encouraged and exhorted the new congregation to be witnesses for the Lord Jesus Christ in one of the most famous cities of the world. For the opening service 160 people were present. Paris will never be the same again!" Also from France, Paul and Darla Brochu reported, "The French National Convention was held over Pentecost weekend. With upward of 600 people in attendance, at least 30 received the baptism of the Holy Ghost for the first time – 2 of these people from Chatellerault. Many, many others were refilled. Some were healed. Brother Monty Showalter was the evangelist for the meetings. He was both anointed and very effective in the pulpit. Each service concluded with a mass exodus to the altar and joy and victory erupted spontaneously as people began receiving the Holy Ghost. It was very refreshing."

Mike and Lisa Long reported from Vanuatu, "Some folks from South Santo came up to Luganville the last time I preached there and a young man asked to be baptized. He is married to the chief's daughter from his village, and was the first one baptized in the baptismal tank at the Banban church. Usually they get baptized in the ocean." They also reported from deputation, in their preparation to work in Zimbabwe, "We are thankfull for the 149 that have received the Holy Ghost since our deputation started."

Joseph and Loretta Bir reported from Peru, "On Monday May 28, I was able to minister in an annex of the church in Chiclayo in the barrio of Santa Ana. There were over 200 in attendance. An outstanding miracle took place that night. Earlier in the morning a university student and member of the church had a stroke while attending her classes. Her classmates rushed her to the hospital where after hours of trying to revive her, she was pronounced completely brain dead. Two of her male classmates brought her to church that night from the hospital. After the preaching, she was brought up to the front to the altar where she was slumped over in a chair and in a comatose state. Pastor Nelson Cervera and I began to pray for this girl. After several minutes of praying, she began to respond. She violently vomited, began to worship God and to the amazement of all there, God completely restored her to her right mind! To God is the glory!"

As the song of the ransomed rises to the One who paid the price, there are still nations full of people bound and sitting in darkness. **Robert and Jerolyn Kelley**, Area Coordinator for ten nations of Northern Europe, lift our eyes to fields that have not heard the good news. "We want to focus on the three nations in Northern Europe that, to our knowledge, have no apostolic witness: Greenland, Iceland and the Channel Islands. Please join us in believing these nations will be reached with the gospel. 'A burden shared is half a burden.' Thank you for sharing our burden by giving and praying for these nations." Thank you for helping to spread the song of the ransomed!