

A REPORT ON THE LORD'S MOVE IN GREECE

General situation in Greece

The economic crisis in Greece has greatly intensified lately. Investors have moved their money abroad due to the fear that Greece will default on its debts, business checks cannot be cashed, and we see people in long lines trying to withdraw their savings from the banks. The government has projected that by the end of June 65,000 businesses in Greece will have shut down due to the lack of cash. Although the EU has promised a bail-out, the Greek economy has already suffered beyond our imagination. With the Greek salaries slashed and taxes going up at the same time, the Greek people will inevitably face very difficult times in the coming years. Saints in the church life in Athens who are doing business are having a hard time, and it is very difficult for some who are looking for a job. We are praying that the Lord limits the enemy from doing more than what the Lord allows, and that He gains what He is after. We are also praying that the Lord would soften peoples' hearts at this difficult time and would prepare them for the Lord's Word.

Rhema distribution in Greek

Three weeks ago we sent out 250 set one booklets with five Rhema cards to pastors and denominations that were receiving the Greek Stream magazines in the past. May the Lord use these booklets and cards to reach His seekers, believers and non-believers, to save them and to lead them to the true meaning of life.

We started to receive requests from our readers to be distributors of the Rhema materials. This is a great step in spreading the ministry. We also have an encouraging testimony from a reader who has since been coming to our Thursday group meetings. He shared with us how he enjoyed reading *The Gospel of God* by brother Nee and became clear that the Lord has accomplished such a salvation for whoever is willing to simply receive Him. He then preached the gospel to his colleagues and contacts and two of them prayed with him to receive the Lord. He was so joyful that this ministry has made things so clear and simple and that he was able to bring people to the Lord with a little cooperation.

Registration of the church & meeting place

The final approval of the registration of the church at the local court has been obtained on April 1, and after some complicated bureaucracy at the tax office, we are now operational. Praise the Lord! Our experience was that we need the Lord and the saints' prayers in every small step.

The brothers are now seeking the Lord in the matter of finding and purchasing of a meeting place. On the one hand, mortgages are difficult to get and the saints' financial ability is low at the moment, on the other hand, house prices are going down and it seems to be a good opportunity now to get the meeting place. We seek the saints' prayer and fellowship as to how to manage this matter wisely.

Church Life in Athens

A brother whom the saints contacted during the February conference has been progressing in the growth in life. The Lord has touched him in various matters regarding baptism and clearing of the past. He enjoys each meeting, eating and drinking the Lord, and has also brought his two young daughters into the church life. Please pray that the Lord continues to strengthen him into his inner man that he will grow and be established in the church life for His building.

Two Greek sisters have been burdened for their friends in the denominations. They have been inviting some to meet the saints at their home where we fellowshiped and enjoyed the Lord together. Among them was a couple who had been stumbled in their congregation and had not been meeting for a few months. They came to the Lord's Table meeting the first time when 25 saints from Taiwan and a couple from Anaheim, CA visited us, and they thoroughly enjoyed it. They came again last week and enjoyed the fellowship and the oneness. May the Lord keep them for His testimony among the Greek people.

A family of four will be moving to Greece from the US in the summer. We thank the Lord for His strengthening by sending them to Greece. Please remember them in your prayer.

Please also pray for a couple and a sister who migrated to Greece two years ago. They are now seeking the Lord concerning the best way to stay and serve in Greece. They were all rejected the renewal of their residence permit as language students. The brother is applying for a teaching job whereas the single sister is applying for a graduate program. "Lord, open the way for the job and the studies. Release the necessary documents on time so that they can obtain their Greek VISA in the summer when they visit the US."

Please continue to remember the saints laboring in the Greek translation work. May the Lord grant them grace and wisdom each day, and burden more local Greek speaking ones to join in and serve. Amen.