TO GUARD AGAINST THE PLOTS OF SATAN

Written by En.Jeh Chang

The end day is near and Satan knows his days are passing. Therefore, he anoes away to where you are through the temptations of the world (1 Jn 2:15-17). Persecutions from men and confusion from false prophets make attacks toward belief and corrupt the believers (Rev 12, 13). But the Lord tells us that these things must happen: wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together (Mt 24:28-29).

Therefore, Lord Jesus tells us to beware of men (Mt 10:16-22; 16:12-12) because Satan’s work is hidden and executed within men. Just as it did on the snake in the ancient days so that men were not aware of it. It caused fire, who never experienced temptation, fell into his trap by steering toward evil. Judas betrayed the Lord through his greed; Peter, who loved the Lord was hindered the Lord to complete the work of Salvation, he thought he was strong, he denied the Lord three times. It also caused the selfish righteous Scribes and Pharisees to attack Lord Jesus and preached the wrong teachings.

Apostle Paul also warned the elders of Ephesian church that after his departure, savage wolves will come in among them, not sparing the flock. Also from among themselves, men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. (Act 20:28-30) For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. (2 Cor 11:13-15) Satan is full of deceit and seems through all things that are impossible to guard against.

Peter warns us earnestly on how to take precautions against the plot of Satan (1 Pet 5:7-10), this passage tells us:

1. Ask for Lord’s Protection: Do not think yourself as strong! (1 Cor 10:13) Seek for the mercy and protections of the Lord (Mt 6:12)
2. Carefully submit: Partly yourselves and submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from us. (Jas 4:7-10)
3. Watch and Pray: Let you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. (Mt 4:3)
4. Do not leave foothold: Like Judas was greedy for money (Jn 12:6), Soul was pride and jealous (Jas 18:10-12)
5. Firm Faith: The love of Christ is the center of our faith; therefore, those who obey the Lord’s love will gain victory (Rom 12:9)
6. Learn from Experience: Use the same as examples, such as the Israelites (Ex 10:1-12) or Job (Jas 5:7-11)
7. Living Hope: Strength, which helps us endure toils and troubles and overcome temptation (Heb 12:1-4)

But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. (1 Pet 5:10)
NEW ZEALAND CHURCH UPDATE

Written by Jan

New Zealand is divided into Southern Alps Christchurch and Northland Auckland. Christchurch church in Southern Island also pastors the worship place in Dunedin. Auckland church is in charge of pasturing those who are spread out in Wellington and Hastings. Both churches care for the believers in Tonga.

Both churches have annual joint programs. High school student spiritual convocation at the beginning of July and College youth spiritual convocation in November. In addition, youth are encouraged to attend Theological Training Seminars held in Australia, Singapore, or Taiwan. Both churches also hold Bible Seminars after each of their Spring and Fall spiritual convocations. Auckland church will hold adult theological training seminars every November and December.

Christchurch experienced two earthquakes in September of last year and February this year which caused great damage. Especially in the business district of downtown around one third buildings which have serious damages need to tear down and reconstruct. Through the protection of the Lord, the church building did not encounter any damages. The believers also encountered minimal harm. Due to the relocation of several families, the membership decreased to about 1/3; however, they were still able to maintain a high attendance rate. This is through the strong foundation of believers' faith which allows Christchurch church to grow steadily and shine for the Lord in the Southern Alps.

Auckland church has always been a church that is active in evangelism and has been greatly blessed by the Lord. They are currently undergoing the work of branching out. The new chapel has been purchased and is applying for permit through the government. If everything goes smoothly, East Auckland Church will be established as the third church in New Zealand. May God continue to guide the church so that the work to branch out will be smooth and the holy work will continue to grow.

CURRENT SITUATION OF THE HOLY WORK IN DUBAI

Written by the Assigned Workers

IA Western Hemisphere Department (WHWD) has initially reported the situation of the pioneering and regular holy works in Dubai in the IA Newsletter in July 2010. This is to update the works reported by all the assigned workers as of the end of February 2011.

I. The establishment and implementation of “Dubai Ministry Committee”

To correspond with the need, the assigned worker, Pr. Derren Liang, the director of WHWD, and the local workers had a Holy Work meeting on September 11, 2010, and established the Dubai Ministry Committee which has more macroscopic functions and greater flexibility. The work and coordinators are as follows:

- Pastoral & Youth Work: In charge by Dr Tse Koon Shee
- Evangelism & Finance Affairs: In charge by Brother Daniel Tan
- General Affairs: In charge by Brother Nosa
- Auditor: In charge by Sister Chimene

Term: To the end of December 2011

II. Current situation of the service in Dubai area

1. Number for active attendees: 21
2. Service times
   - Friday 16:00 - 20:00: Bible Study
   - Saturday 9:30 - 10:30: Family Religious Education
   - 11:00 - 12:15: Sabbath Service
   - 12:30 - 14:00: Services in different groups

   (Youth Class: Basic Beliefs; Adult Class: Book of John)

III. To inquire about the Procedure of Church Registration in the Government

1. For the need of congregation and evangelism of the True Jesus Church in Dubai area, the legal registration of the church in this area must be completed.
2. The General Affairs officer, Brother Nosa, will be in charge of this matter. He will inquire for the procedure. He also requests for the intercession for the members in every area. May God fulfill the first governmental registration of our church in the Arab area.

IV. Current Situation of Pastoral Work

1. Currently there are not many members, and they know each other well.
2. The Evangelism department and youth coordinator, Dr. Shee, invited members to have tea fellowship at his house. Fellowship meals after the Sabbath service also improve care and fellowship between members.
3. The Bible Study on Friday nights is beneficial to the daily life of members.
4. In Andy’s company, six employees are our church members. They live together and pray together at night. The elderly members, Etm and Nosa, led the Bible Study.
5. There are many Filipinos in this area. Some of them might be our church members. We can request Sahab GA, who is in charge of the holy work in the Philippines, to provide the name list to us for contact.

V. Current Situation and Expectation on Evangelism

1. Since the Dubai service started in 2007, truth seekers come regularly. After last year’s financial crisis, some returned to their homeland, and some became less fervent. But thank God, Su May, one of the truth seekers who returned home, continues to attend services in Singapore church.
2. Currently, no truth seeker comes on a regular basis.
3. Personal evangelism has begun. The members constantly spread the gospel to their friends, home servants, colleagues and workers in company.
4. There are two Christian Centers in Dubai. We are trying to contact them to attain the source of fishes.
5. Many residents of the third world and developing countries reside in Dubai. May God lead us to preach to these people. This may be also a small circle of world evangelism.
6. To reinforce the time of prayer together:
   - Except personal prayer, the entire church sets 3 fix times to pray together in the service location.
   - Before the Bible Study on Friday
   - Before the Sabbath service
   - Two classes pray together after their classes are finished.

VI. Rough Suggestion for Youth Special Training

1. In principle, the studying youth can attain the theological training held in Singapore or UK.
2. Holding a 3-day Bible Camp (almost for a week) would be beneficial to the needs of the local church. This is to train up the youths as a group living in Christ and to establish a life of prayer, fellowship, servitude and hide study.
3. Dr. Hsu will be in charge of planning this work. After the draft plan is completed, it will be sent to WHWD. Please send workers accordingly.

VII. Special Case of Africa Youth

1. The Africa youth who works in Bro. Andy’s company has the foundation of faith. However, when they enter into the advanced world, there is still a need to establish and strengthen their faith.
2. Dr. Hsu has already handled this matter. He is in charge of the Youth Class in the second service of the Sabbath. Currently the theme is the “Basic Beliefs” of our church. It is going smoothly.
3. May God guide us to achieve the goal: We wish that, one day, when the Nigeria youths go back to their homeland, they may become the pillar of the truth and army of the churches in Nigeria.
4. Bro. Andy specially suggested to hold a special seminar on January 2-3, 2011 for the African brothers who came out of their countries to work. This was not only to strengthen their faith when they are abroad, but also hope that they can be good assistants for Africa’s holy work after they return to their home countries. There are totally six attendees and are all Bro. Andy’s employees. They used their special 2-day vacation to attend the seminar. The instructors were Bro. Michael Hsu and Pr. HH Ko. The contents were the Inner Relationship of the TJC Doctrines, What to be Avere of during Servitude, the Parables of Heavenly Kingdom (Mt 13:1-52)

VIII. The Focus of the Future Work

1. Youth leadership and the participation of holy works
2. Establishment of team work
3. To establish a new Christ-centered culture by integrating members of various races and cultures as a spiritual family.