

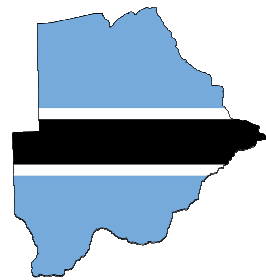
MY MISSION TRIPS TO



TANZANIA



AND



BOTSWANA

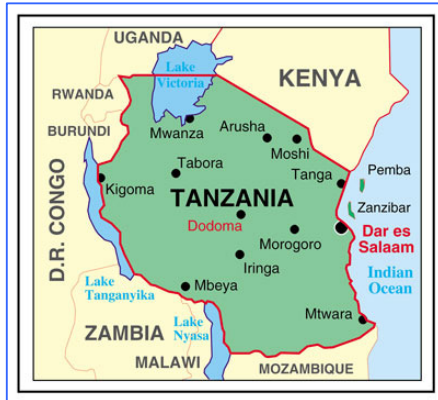


February and March 2019

By: Bishop Warwick Cole-Edwardes

Trips 58 & 59

UPDATE ON TANZANIA AND BOTSWANA



Continent: Africa
Capital City: Dar es Salaam
Government: Republic
Population: 53,950,935
Major People Groups: Bantu peoples 86.3%, Swahili 7.8%, Nilotic 2.2%, Cushitic 1.7%, Khoisan 0.3%, other 1.7%
Religion: Christian 54.07%, Muslim 31.20%, Ethno 12.97%, Hindu 0.90%, Baha'i 0.43%, Non 0.40%
Language: Swahili, English
Literacy Rate: 77.9%



Religious freedom is thought to be one of the motivating factors in Tanzania's peaceful history. This is changing with increased internal Muslim conflicts, which have also prompted conflicts with Christians. Witchcraft, the occult, and superstitious spiritual practices are becoming part of even the mainline religions. Many churches lack the trained mature leaders needed to shepherd and teach sound Biblical truths - exposing syncretism and heresy - to both established and newly planted Christian communities.

- **Pray for emphatic Biblical teaching in the churches that will, in turn, impact other spheres of society (i.e. poverty, witchcraft, radical Islam).**
- **Pray for trained, mature Christian leaders who will be able to evangelize the unreached in a predominantly rural nation.**
- **Pray for more effective Bible translation teams and initiatives.**



Continent: Africa
Capital City: Gaborone
Population: 2,214,858
Major People Groups: Tswana 79%, Kalanga 11%, Basarwa 3%, other 7%
Religion: Christian 79.1%, Badimo 4.1%, other 1.4%, none 15.2%, unspecified 0.3%
Language: Setswana, Sekalanga, Shekgalagadi, English, Zezuru/Shona, Sesarwa, Sembukushu, Ndebele, Other
Literacy Rate: 88.50%



Botswana is the world's largest producer of diamonds. Through this luxury product, it has transformed itself into a middle-income nation and a model for stability within a war-torn continent. However, with diamond reserves dwindling, the government and private industry are searching for ways to diversify the economy. Despite having a high literacy rate, unemployment has risen to nearly 20% and the scourge of AIDS still haunts them. Twenty-two percent of the population is infected with HIV/AIDS, and 100,000 children are AIDS orphans. But comprehensive and effective treatment programs have saved many lives. Relative stability and religious freedom have led to an open door for the Gospel in Botswana.

- **Pray for mature beliefs free from tribal or animistic thinking.**
- **Pray for more Biblical training for indigenous Church leaders to protect from syncretism.**
- **Pray for young people to choose abstinence to cleanse their nation of HIV/AIDS.**

BACKGROUND

A new year now lies ahead of me full of wonderful opportunities to serve my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. At my Bible College, KMBC, we now go into our 33rd year and by the grace of God, we are full of men and women who have come from all over Africa to be trained and equipped as Pastors and Missionaries - it is all so very exciting. What is of special interest to note, is that for the very first time in our history our intake of Missions students is double that of our full-time first year students; and this is the fruit of all my trips into Africa. At the end of last year, we had our 32nd graduation ceremony where we were able to send out more trained and equipped workers into the Harvest Field. [All our Graduates and the Missions students who graduated with us in S.A.](#)



What thrills my heart is to look back over these years and see that over 320 have now been sent out. In addition to my lectures at KMBC, I have continued preaching at St. Olav's in Durban, where I am slowly working through the Epistle of James, the Brethren Assembly where we are going through Matthew, at my Thursday evening Bible Study we are studying Ecclesiastes. We now have 28 members attending this group, which is really amazing. I also regularly preach at Holy Trinity Church in Imbali, so life is very full.

Now I go up to Tanzania for what will be my 58th missionary trip into Africa and my 4th into Tanzania.

Tanzania remains an Island of peace in the middle of many troubled Nations. Tanganyika gained their independence from Britain in 1961 and Zanzibar in 1963. These two countries then united as a one-party federal socialist Republic in 1964. This one-party system ended in 1992 and a multi-party democracy was instituted. Tanzania's Christian population is numerous, but it needs discipleship. Sadly, there is a critical lack of trained, mature leaders, hence my visit and the privilege of speaking at churches in and around Dar es Salaam, but mainly to a group of students who are studying for our C.Th through our Distance Learning program. My lecture load this term has been a heavy one with 27 lectures a week, plus a Missions' tutorial every Monday, but this is what I love more than anything else. I go on this trip while the students at KMBC are preparing for their exams.

So now, to set the tone for this New Year, **Oswald Chambers** wrote the following on 1 January in his book "My Utmost for His Highest":

"My determined purpose is to be my Utmost for His Highest, my best for His glory. To reach that level of determination is a matter of the will, not of debate or of reasoning. It is absolute and irrevocable surrender of the will at that point. Shut out every other thought and keep yourself before God for this one thing only - my Utmost for His Highest."

That is the life I want to try to aim at, but now I am off to Tanzania. Enjoy the journey with me.

MY DIARY

SATURDAY, 16 FEBRUARY

Before I fly out to Dar es Salaam today, I want to spend time with the Lord reading His Word and in prayer. Following Robert Murray McCheyne's calendar, my Bible readings continued in Genesis, Job, Luke and 1 Corinthians, after which time I could pray. I remembered especially this trip but also the KAZAK people, another unreached people group in China. After my Bible reading and prayer it is now time for **Oswald Chambers** to disciple me, and this what he wrote:

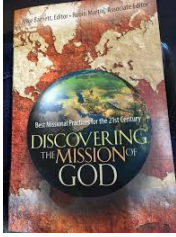


"How many of us are willing to spend every ounce of nervous energy of mental, moral and spiritual energy we have for Jesus Christ. My life as a worker is the way I say thank you to God for His unspeakable salvation."

From Pietermaritzburg I flew up to Johannesburg and from there onto the Julius Nyerere Airport in Dar es Salaam where my two dear brothers, Powell and Daniel were waiting for me with their African greeting. It felt fantastic to be back in Dar es Salaam, I have so many amazing memories of my previous visits there. Dar es Salaam is a boiling pot of the cultures of those who have settled there over the centuries. These settlers include Arabs, Indians and those from all other African nations, all of whom brought their religion and culture with them. Dar es Salaam means "place of peace" in Arabic, which does not seem fitting when you first arrive there. The streets are busy, the traffic is manic, the skyscrapers are towering and the vendors line the sidewalks selling their goods. BUT the warm smiles and greetings of *Karibu*, which means *welcome*, soon makes you feel at ease.



From the airport, we very slowly made our way through the city centre onto Kunduchi where I will be staying for the week. It is always so humbling to live amongst these dear people and so again, as last time, the pastor and his wife gave up their bedroom for me. On arriving at the church, the people seemed happy to see "Babu", and it felt like I was coming home. We sat outside in the cool breeze from the Indian Ocean, and enjoyed some fish and chips, a perfect end to a long day. After a good wash, and plenty of mosquito repellent, I was ready for bed. As I was about to fall asleep their young son, Junior just popped his head through the door to say goodnight to "Babu".



On this trip I would like to summarize for you one of the greatest books on Missions I have ever read. 📖 **"Discovering the Mission of God" by Mike Barnett**, a Missions Visionary. I am sure this will become the textbook on Missions for many years to come. This is what he wrote in the first Chapter on "Missions and the Bible" -



"The writing which now comprises our Bible is themselves the product of, and witness to, the ultimate mission of God. The very existence of the Bible is irrevocable evidence of the God who refused to forsake His rebellious creation, who refused to give up, who was and is determined to redeem and restore fallen creation to His original design. The very existence of the Bible testifies to a God who breaks through to human beings, who disclosed Himself to them and who will not leave them in their darkness."

Now to drift off to sleep so very privileged to be teaching the Bible in Tanzania.

SUNDAY, 17 FEBRUARY

What a thrill it was to wake up early this morning in Dar es Salaam with the sun rising over the Indian Ocean, it was a spectacular sight. It was then so perfect to go into the "Missionary Workshop" and there spend time with the Lord. My Bible readings continued in Genesis, Job, Luke and 1 Corinthians, after which time I could then pray. This morning I prayed especially for the church services where I will be preaching and for the HAMBURI people who live in Burkina Faso. Then **Oswald Chambers** then remind me:



"The process of being made broken bread and poured out wine means that you have to be the nourishment for other souls until they learn to feed on God. At times, they will drain you to the dregs. Be careful that you get your supply for before long you will be utterly exhausted."

Desiring "to be drained to the dregs" for these dear people, I was now ready for the day. My hot water arrived so I could enjoy a wash, a shave and get ready for a busy morning. After breakfast, which consisted of a chapatti and a boiled egg with some African tea, we went to Pastor Powell's church. Afterwards I was taken to Pastor Richard's church where I preached from Mark, Chapter 1 verses 35-41 on "The Priorities of Jesus", and they seemed to love the teaching.

In true African hospitality, lunch was provided consisting of chicken, chips and salads, but of course without a knife and fork. I am getting quite good at eating with my fingers!

It is unbelievably hot up here near the Equator, so when I eventually got back to my little room at 3:00 I enjoyed a little zzzzzzz.



Pastor Richard and his church

...

a unique "filling cabinet" – an old fridge

After some African tea and some soup, which they call Mtori, it was time to enjoy a good nights rest because there is a busy week ahead. I was able to read **Stephen Neill's "History of Missions"**, which I am finding unbelievable. He quoted from the life Johan Krapf, who in 1844 went as a missionary to Kenya, and tragically, soon after arriving, his wife and little child died, this is what he wrote in his diary.



"Tell all my friends that in a lonely grave on the African coast there rests two members of the mission. This is a sign that they have begun the struggle in this part of the world."

As I was falling asleep, again Junior popped his head around the corner to say goodnight to "Babu".

Mike Barnett will now close off the day by reminding us of what the two essential components of Biblical preaching are - Teaching the Counsel of God and Character formation.



"The teaching component of Discipleship must include the whole Counsel of God. Believers need to know the Bible from back to front. They need to understand the great themes of the Bible and the flow of Biblical revelation. Their minds need to be saturated with the Bible and their worldview needs to be shaped by the Bible. They also need to know how to interpret the Bible accurately in context, but head knowledge without obedience is not enough. Discipleship changes your life. A real disciple of Jesus will become like Jesus in character."

How I long to preach with those two components. Now covered in mosquito repellent, having taken my anti-malaria tablets, and a mosquito net covering the bed, I am reminded that ministry in Africa is still a challenge, and that Malaria is still a big killer. Even **Stephen Neill** comments on this:

"But that great ally of African Independence, the mosquito, still held the white man at bay and even caravans of explorers found no more than an early death in Africa."

MONDAY, 18 FEBRUARY

Pastor Powell's home and church are very close to the beach, which creates such a lovely setting. This morning I again went into the "Missionary Workshop" in order to spend time with the Lord before anything else. My Bible readings continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and 1 Corinthians. Listening to the heart of God in the Word of God, as Bishop Moule used to say. In my time of prayer, I remembered especially the YEMENI people, an unreached people living in Israel, and then it was time for **Oswald Chambers**:



"The altar means fire Burning, purification, and insulation for one purpose only. Tell God you are ready to be offered and God will prove Himself to be all you ever dreamed He could be."

After my shave, wash, and breakfast I was now ready for my lectures to the students, and I lectured from **Introduction to the Bible**, covering the following:

- **The Inspiration, Inerrancy, Infallibility and Sufficiency of the Bible**
- **The overview of the Old Testament and its structure**
- **The over of the New Testament and its structure**
- **How to interpret the Bible in context**

As you can well imagine there were many questions. At the end, I was able to explain the different options that are available for them at KMBC and I so long for one or two to come. In this oppressive heat, I was exhausted after four hours of lectures; I downed a Fanta and fell asleep under the tree while we waited for lunch to arrive.



After lunch, there was time for me to read my book, and as **Stephen Neill** often says:

"As always happens, new life in the church found its outlet in renewed missionary activity ... missionary activity is always the sign of vitality in a church."

For supper they again made me some Mtori and always a lovely plate of fruit. After washing my clothes, the sun was beginning to set marking another perfect busy day.

To end off this day of ministry in Africa, listen again to Mike Barnett who quotes from **John Piper**:

"Missions is not the ultimate task of the church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship does not. Worship is ultimate, not missions, because God is ultimate, not man. Therefore, worship is the fuel and goal in missions. When the flame of worship burns with the heat of God's true worth, the light of Missions will shine to the most remote people on earth."



TUESDAY, 19 FEBRUARY

It is another magnificent morning up here in Tanzania, so let me go immediately into the "Missionary Workshop". Today my Bible readings continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and 1 Corinthians, after which I could pray. I remembered all my preaching today but especially the GIAY people, an unreached people living in Vietnam. And then, as you know, it was time for Oswald Chambers to teach me and his reading brought back so many memories for me.



In my early Christian days, one of the greatest influences on my life was a man called Uncle Jimmy Ferguson, the first Youth for Christ Missionary to South America. I spent hours with him and he always used to say, "arise and shine" from Isaiah 60:1. Strangely, this is what **Oswald Chambers** said this morning:

"We must do the thing and not lie like a log. If we arise and shine, drudgery becomes divinely transfigured".

By God's grace, I can truly say there is no drudgery in my life. I love what I am doing and always remember this quote:

"If you love what you do it becomes your life, and can't be divided into week-end and work time, it is all consuming."

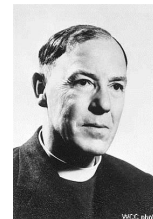
After a lovely shave, wash and some breakfast, I again went to the church to lecture for the next four hours. The subjects I covered were:

- **Doctrine of God**
- **Doctrine of the Person of Christ**
- **Doctrine of the Holy Spirit**
- **Doctrine of the Cross.**

I tried to pour out my heart and by lunchtime, I was finished. I went to my room to change my shirt, which was soaked through, and then enjoyed some Mtori with all the church leaders under the tree. There was no time for rest, I was taken to another church where I preached from Matthew 7 on the "Nominal Christian", by the grace of God there was a huge response to the preaching, with many indicating their desire to follow Jesus. We eventually arrived back home at seven.



While I was away, these amazing ladies had lovingly prepared my supper on the fire and we all enjoyed it together.



Stephen Neill was so right when he said:

"The Missionary enterprise of the church is always in a measure, a reflection of their vigor, of their wealth, and of that power of conviction which finds its expression in self sacrifice and willingness for adventurous service."

It is now time for **Mike Barnett** to close off a perfect day, by reminding me of my top priority.

"Educators spend their lives organizing solutions, expanding programs, building teams and training leaders to coordinate a variety of ministries. I assumed all ministers, and especially missionaries, understood Paul's philosophy of growth through equipping leaders. The unspoken assumption today is that ministry revolves around me, even worse, ministry usually means preaching. But we need missionaries who will equip leaders; this requires a lot more than just preaching a sermon."

Now to fall asleep so privileged to spend my life in preparing leaders.

WEDNESDAY, 20 February

At the first sight of light at about five in the morning, the Muslims are called to prayer. From a huge Mosque close by, which Colonel Kadafee paid for, I need to get into the "Missionary Workshop" before they get to prayer. My Bible readings continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and 1 Corinthians, allowing the Bible to saturate my mind and my heart as Mike Barnett said we must, and then it was time to pray. Today I prayed especially for the UZBEK people living in Afghanistan, and then as you know **Oswald Chambers** is ready, and this is what he said:

"God's initiative is always in the nature of a stab, against this kind of dreaming, the stab that bids us, neither sit nor stand, but go. Leave Him to be the source of all your dreams of joys and delights, and go out and obey what He has said."

After another lovely breakfast, following the example of Pastor Powell, I ironed my jeans and shirt (just like the Army days), so now I was ready for my lectures. This morning I covered:

- Doctrine of the Church
- Doctrine of the End Times
- How to lead a soul to Christ
- How to make a Disciple for Christ

I had poured out my heart to the students, it was now time for lunch and to change my drenched shirt ... and then there was a lovely surprise - no more meetings! So immediately, I found out where I could find a Bajaj that would take me to Bagamoyo. This old town is about 100 kms from Dar es Salaam and is famous in Mission's history. I found my way down to the beach where the first missionaries arrived in the year 1878, and to commemorate that historic event, a beautiful Cross has been erected.



From there it is a short walk up to the Anglican Church where David Livingstone worshiped before heading out on his missionaries journeys. Over the door into the church is a sign, which read, "David Livingstone passed through this door."



From there I went to the Roman Catholic Mission and spent some wonderful time in the **David Livingstone Tower** (see photos below) This Tower is part of the church where David Livingstone's two servants Chuma and Susi kept his body for the night after walking over 2000 km from Chitambo's Village in Zambia, where Livingstone died. From here they took his body to Zanzibar and then on to England, where Livingstone was buried in Westminster Abbey. When he died on 4 May 1873, while on his knees in Chitambo's Village, he had rendered unequalled service to Africa. He had laid open its very heart, preached the Gospel and revealed the atrocities of the slave trade, directing the attention of the world to Africa, and forever opening Africa for the Gospel. I was lost in my little world and just loved being there, but sadly, I had to slowly make my way back to Kondushi.



While I was away, the ladies had prepared a lovely supper for me and together with the pastors, we enjoyed our meal. To end off what has been a perfect day, **Mike Barnett** now reminds us to stop worrying about methods and techniques and rather to put our trust in the power of the Gospel.

"Faithful missionaries hunger to see the power of God. They want spiritual renewal in their own lives and as God's servants they desire to see the people around them repent of their sins, believe in Christ, serve God in the power of the Spirit, see new churches planted and entire people groups transformed into obedient disciples of Christ."

I have enjoyed such a brilliant day!

THURSDAY, 21 FEBRUARY



Another busy day of teaching the Bible lies ahead, so let me begin in the "Missionary Workshop". My Bible readings continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and 1 Corinthians, allowing the Word of God to saturate my mind and my heart. In my time of prayer, I was able to pray especially for the FUR people who live in the Sudan. This is so very important to keep on praying for the millions of unreached people living in our World. Then as you know, **Oswald Chambers** ends off my devotions and this is what he wrote this morning:

"Have I ever been carried away to do something for God, neither because it was my duty, nor because it was useful, nor because there was anything in it at all, beyond the fact that I love Him. There are times when it seems as if God watches to see if we will give Him the abandoned tokens of how genuinely we do love Him."

How I trust that in some small way, my founding of KMBC and Footprints into Africa are tokens of my abandonment to God, tokens of my love for Him and for Africa. After my wash and breakfast, I headed off to lecture to the students. Today I gave four lectures from 2 Timothy.

- Preparation of a Leader - Chapter 1.
- The characteristics of a Leader - Chapter 2
- The Leader as a Bible Man - Chapter 3
- A picture of a Preacher - Chapter 4.

They all seemed to love the teaching and afterwards we all enjoyed our lunch under the tree. But I then wanted to go back quickly to Bogomoyo in order to visit the Old Slave Market and the world famous Fish Market, which is an amazing experience, but at the same time it was such a horrible reminder of the evils and the cruelties of the Slave Trade. It was so incredibly hot walking around that I enjoyed some fresh coconut milk.



However, there was no time to rest because I had another meeting to go to this evening. I preached from Jude verses 17-25 on "How to prepare for the coming of Jesus" and again there was an amazing response, with almost half the congregation wanting to walk with Jesus.

Eventually we got back home just as the sun was setting, enjoyed some Mtori and then I was ready for bed. It was an incredibly busy day where we could not have fitted in another meeting.

In closing another day of ministry in Africa, **Mike Barnett** reminds us of something that is so critically important, with both my work at KMBC and Footprints into Africa:



"Theologies and church agendas developed in the West for Western Christians may not only distort Christianity in our circumstances, but they may also make in peripheral to the needs of the African people. Therefore, I appeal to African theologians and pastors to make Christianity at once truly biblical and truly African - truly African in expression and relevance. For example, worship services, and especially the music, needs to become genuinely African, not mere copies or adaptations of Western forms."

With a sincere longing to be biblical and African, I can now fall asleep so very privileged to be living among these African people, in an African township, enjoying their hospitality and learning to love their traditional food of Mtori and Dandazi for breakfast.

FRIDAY, 22 FEBRUARY

"Uncle Jimmy Ferguson always urged us to arise and shine" so let me get up early and watch another beautiful sunrise and then enjoy my Devotions with the Lord. This morning my Bible readings continued to Exodus, Job, Luke and 1 Corinthians, after which time I could then pray. Today I remembered the SARKI people who live in Nepal. Then as you know, it was time for **Oswald Chambers** and this is what he said:



"One of the greatest strains in life is the strain of waiting for God."

That is so true and I have lots to learn. After a refreshing wash and shave, then ironing my clothes, and enjoying a great breakfast of African tea and Dandazi's, I set off again to lecture to the students for the next four hours. Today I spoke on:

- **How to Prepare a Sermon**
- **Hebrews - Chapter 1 - 4 ... "Go in"**
- **Hebrews - Chapter 4 -5 ... "Go On"**

After changing my drenched shirt, I enjoyed another traditional lunch of fruit and Mtori and then spent some time with a lovely, godly middle-aged pastor who has agreed to translate our Distance Learning Manual into Swahili (at a fair price of course). My friends this is HUGE, and he is hoping to have it finalized by September. This will enable us to further promote our Distance Learning into Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda and even the D.R.C. where Swahili is spoken. I cannot tell you how excited I was.



Then it was time to finish this phenomenal book by **Stephen Neill** on the "**History of Christian Missions**". I cannot stress enough how much I have benefited from re-reading this incredible book.

We then went to another church in the Salakala District, where I preached from Luke Chapter 16, on "Lazarus and the Rich man", describing how they lived, how they died and where they went. By the grace of God, there was another wonderful response to the Gospel. While we were travelling to this church, we had stopped at an intersection, when suddenly out of the blue, a huge truck loaded with stone plowed into the car right in front of us. He said his brakes failed. It was quite a frightening experience and left one a bit shell-shocked, and on my way home I thought how very blessed I am, with these people responding to the Gospel.

Adoniram Judson, the pioneer missionary to Burma waited for five years for the first convert, and he said it was:

"Drawing the eye-tooth of a live tiger".



There was just some time for a cup of African tea and then to enjoy my last night in Kundushi.

It is now dark, so let **Mike Barnett** again close off a wonderful day in Africa. He reminds us of another critical lesson for today, although it is not popular. This is what he said:

"The church cannot sacrifice what is best on the altar of what is good. Of course, it is good to teach people how to read and write; to feed the hungry; to provide water for the thirsty and to care for God's green earth. But the fact is that the world can do all of these good things, and actually is doing them. Yet only the church has been commissioned by God to do what is best for the world, to proclaim the Gospel! Too much is at stake, the very eternal destiny of the lost."

That is one of the most relevant and challenging words for today, so please pray for me that at both KMBC and Footprints into Africa, we will always keep the main thing, the main thing - to keep preaching the Gospel.

SATURDAY, 23 FEBRUARY

After another good nights rest it felt wonderful to wake up early, go straight into the "Missionary Workshop", and there begin my day with the Lord. My Bible readings continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and 1 Corinthians, after which time I could again pray. Today I remembered especially the KIM MUN who live in Vietnam, and thought would it not be amazing if God was to send one of our students and reach them with the Gospel. **Oswald Chambers** was at his best this morning.



"According to Jesus Christ, the minister is called to be the "door mat" of other people, their spiritual leader, but never their superior. If we are devoted to the cause of humanity, we will soon be crushed and broken-hearted, for we will often meet with more ingratitude from men than we would from a dog. But if our motive is love to God, no ingratitude can hinder us from serving our fellow men."

Desiring to be "door mat" to these dear people, I then set out for another busy morning where I continued with my studies in Hebrews.

- Hebrews - Chapter 7 - 10 ... "Go Up"
- Hebrews - Chapter 11 - 13 ... "Go Out"

They really loved these studies in Hebrews and over the week I have managed to cover Introduction to the Bible, Doctrine, Personal Evangelism, Sermon Preparation, 2 Timothy and Hebrews. After I had finished there were some very moving speeches to say, "thank you" and then I was presented with two shirts and a beautiful table cloth. We enjoyed a lovely lunch together, a great end to a wonderful week of teaching.

The photo below is evidence of the beautiful sunrises I enjoyed each morning from Powell's home; me together with the Pastors, and a picture of the students who attended my lectures.



There was however one more church that I needed to go and preach in this evening. I preached from Mark, Chapter 10 on "the Rich Young Ruler" and focused on those searching words "One thing you lack". There are many lovely people in our world who have everything the world has to offer, and yet one thing they lack. As I closed off the service, there was a lovely response to the message and with joy in our hearts; we slowly made our way back for the last evening.

Now **Mike Barnett** will again close off the day for us with a reminder of the call, which came to **Barbara Singernian**. Her story is a reminder that resistance brings emptiness, but surrender brings immeasurable depths of fulfillment.

"That Thursday night, alone on a Pine scented balcony I fell down on my knees before the Lord. I sensed there was a great wall between me and a call to Missions, a thick impenetrable wall that consisted of all the plans that I had made, and there weeping, I died to the ministry ambitions I had fashioned and placed at the feet of Jesus my life - the Call came."


In a very small way, I am so grateful to that clear call from God, which came to me in Lubumbashi eight years ago, to die to everything I had planned, and to be a Missionary to Africa. These eight years have been filled with immeasurable depths of fulfillment.

SUNDAY, 24 FEBRUARY

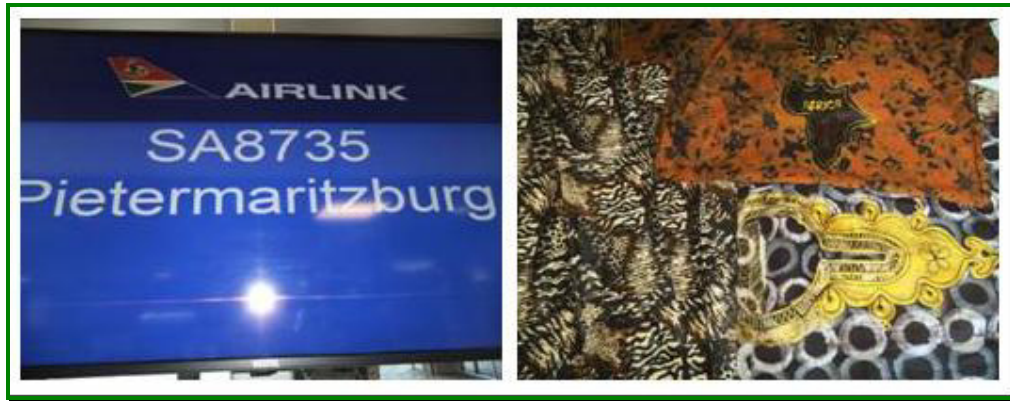
As always, it is critical for me to first meet with the Lord at the beginning of every day to read from the Bible and then to spend time in prayer, in this way I will "arise and shine". My Bible readings continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and 1 Corinthians after which time I could pray. I remembered especially the IZAR GVIEN who live in Western Sahara, and then as you know it was time for **Oswald Chambers** to disciple me:



"Once the love of God has been poured out into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, we deliberately begin to identify ourselves with Jesus Christ's interest and purposes. We have no right in Christian service to be guided by our own interests and desires. Too many of us are only interested in our own goals and Jesus Christ cannot help Himself to our lives. Paul said that he knew how to be a door mat without resenting it, because the motivation of his life was devotion to Jesus."

While I was at O.R. Tambo Airport, I noticed that **Robin Shaarma**, the famous author of "The Monk Who Sold His Ferrari" has just put out  a new book entitled "**The Five A.M. Club**". I thought to myself, I would love to write a book encouraging Christians to join the Five A.M. Club, and to start everyday with Jesus. Then, just as with my previous visit to Tanzania, the Airline notified me that my scheduled flight has been cancelled, which means that I now have to leave today. All my planned preaching had to be cancelled, which was a great disappointment. But I have learnt over all these years never to be surprised by what Africa throws you, something is bound to go wrong, so do not ever get rattled, just stay calm and make sure that you have a spare \$100 in your pocket!

We got up at 02:30 in the morning in order to be at the Julius Nyere Airport by 04:00 so that I could catch my flight home at 05:00. Then can you believe this ... these amazing ladies had got up even before me, started their fire and cooked me an egg and a Tandazi, together with my favourite African tea. This really touched my heart very deeply, I love them and appreciate their unbelievable kindness, and can only pray that my being here would have been a huge encouragement to their work. Then as if that was not enough, they made a special shirt for "Babu" to wear home. We drove through Dar es Salaam quite quickly, I boarded the plane and flew home, truly the most fortunate and blessed man on the planet.



On this trip, I have finished re-reading two phenomenal books - "The History of Christian Mission" by Stephen Neill and the biography of J.C. Ryle (if you do not have this book, you ought to try to get it). Listen to what Ryle wrote:



"A zealous man in religion is pre-eminently a man of one thing. It is not enough to say he is sincere, hearty, uncompromising, wholehearted and fervent in spirit. He only sees one thing, he cares for only one thing, he lives for only one thing, he is swallowed up in one thing and that one thing is to please God. Whether we get honour or whether we get shame, for all this the zealous man cares nothing at all. He burns for one thing and that one thing is to please God and advance God's glory."

How I long to follow in Ryle's footsteps. Listen to another quote from that biography:

"My love for Christ is so consuming that on a relative scale it is as if I hated my family".

My books are now read; I have had the privilege of giving twenty-five lectures to the students and preached in five different churches, seeing many receive Christ as their Lord and Saviour. As William Perkins used to say "I have preached my lungs out", but now I go back to my students at KMBC and wrap up the term, before going up to Botswana. By God's grace, it has been another brilliant mission into Africa and I cannot think of anyone better to close off this Journal than Karen Watson. She was an amazing missionary, sadly martyred on 15 March 2004. She was killed in a hail of gunshots while distributing food parcels to destitute children in Iraq. This is how she described - **A MISSIONARY'S HEART:**

"Care more than some think wise, risk more than some think is safe, dream more than some think is practical and expect more than some think it possible. I was called not to comfort or success, but to obedience. There is no joy outside of knowing Jesus and serving Him."

Please pray that I will always have a missionary heart like the one she has described, and to now to prepare for **Botswana....**

MY DIARY

FRIDAY, 8 MARCH 9, 2019

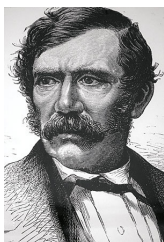
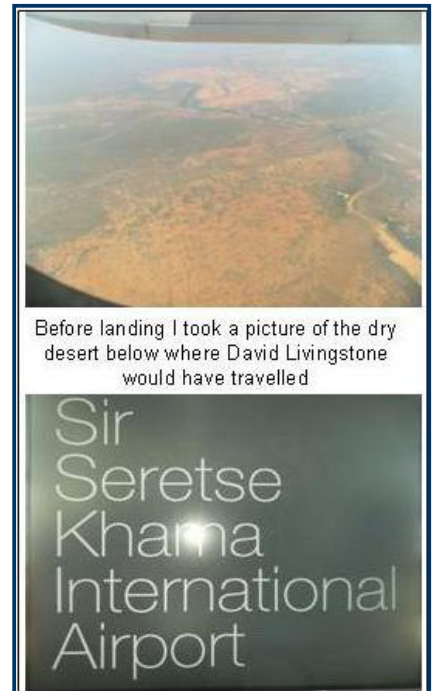
Today I fly out to Gaborone, in Botswana where I will be preaching at a Conference arranged by Pastor Mooke, one of our past students. This is always such a joy and a privilege for me to visit and see the work that our past students are doing across Africa. But before I do anything else, I must begin in the "Missionary Workshop". My Bible readings continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and 2 Corinthians, after which time I could then pray. This morning, not only did I pray for this missionary trip, but also for the SONGHAI people who live in Burkina Faso. Then as always, **Oswald Chambers** reminded me of something so critical, and that is to set alight my preaching:



"A preacher is one who has realized the call of God and is determined to use his every power to proclaim God's truth. Gather your material and then set it alight when you speak."

That is exactly what I would love to do on this my 59th mission trip into Africa and my second to Botswana, one of the areas where David Livingstone began his amazing ministry.

I flew out of Pietermaritzburg up to Johannesburg and from there onto Gaborone, landing at the Sir Seretse Khama Airport where Pastor Mooke, Joel and Mpho were waiting. While coming in to land I took a picture of the desert areas around Gaborone and again realized what amazing people the early missionaries were.



Then I received one of the most wonderful surprises of my life! Pastor Mooke said we were off to Kolobeng. This is one of the few David Livingstone memorials, which I have not yet visited in all my travels around Africa.

It truly was a dream come true. After spending some time with his father-in-law in Kuruman, Livingstone left in order to make his way up North to reach the thousands of tribes who had never heard the Gospel and he settled here in Kolobeng. While he was here, he built a Mission Station consisting of a church and a school (see photos below).

It also was the place where he built his first home (see photos), where he and his wife Mary were to live for the next five years, with two of their children, Thomas and Agnes.



The site and remains of the "Mission House" – the Church Livingstone built at Kolobeng

While he was here, Livingstone not only built the Mission, but he also showed the people how to use irrigation methods utilizing the nearby Kolobeng River, which was known as "*the river that never dries up*".

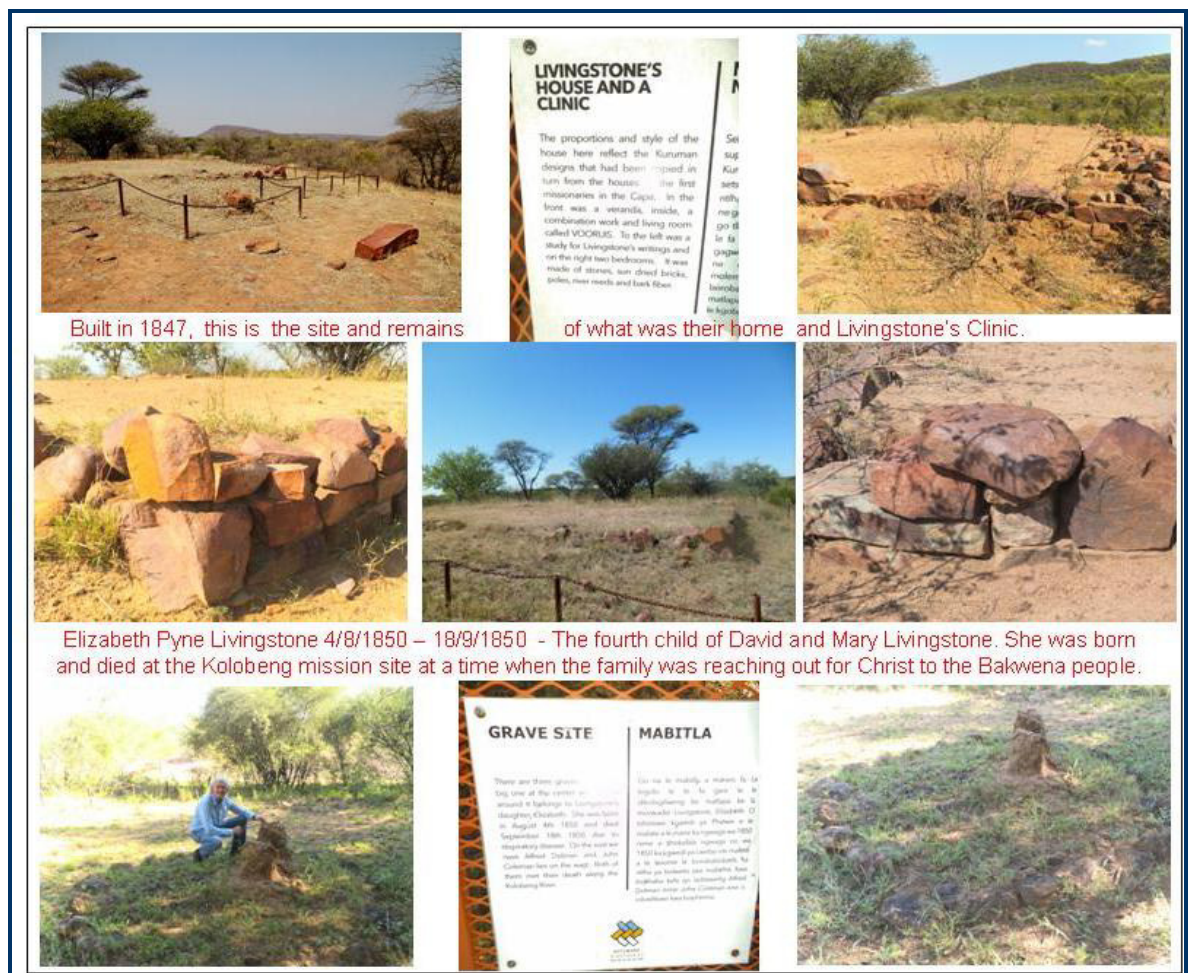
However, sadly in 1848 the area was hit by the worst drought in history, and they blamed this on Livingstone's presence, so they had to leave, but not before having the opportunity to lead Chief Kgosi Sechele I of Bakwena to the Lord.



In the providence of God, this then opened the door for Livingstone to carry out his incredible missionary career across Africa.

The one great tragedy was to visit the grave where David and Mary Livingstone buried their daughter Elizabeth. (see photos below).


What a dream it was for me to wander around the ruins of this mission station, I loved being there and was lost in my little world. I so admire the work that Livingstone did to open up Africa for the Gospel, but I understood just something of what he must have felt when he buried his daughter.



Built in 1847, this is the site and remains

of what was their home and Livingstone's Clinic.

Elizabeth Pyne Livingstone 4/8/1850 – 18/9/1850 - The fourth child of David and Mary Livingstone. She was born and died at the Kolobeng mission site at a time when the family was reaching out for Christ to the Bakwena people.

After an amazing visit, it was time to head back to Gaborone, with these memories etched onto my heart. On this trip, I will be summarizing for you one of the greatest missionary autobiographies ever written,  the story of **John Paton** and his ministry to the South Pacific Islands. This is how he described his first impression soon after arriving with his young wife and recently born child.



"My first impressions drove me, I must confess, to the verge of utter dismay. On beholding these people in their paint and nakedness and misery, my heart was full of horror and pity. Had I given up my much beloved work and my dear people in Glasgow, to consecrate my life to these degraded creatures? Was it even possible to Christianize them, but that was only a passing feeling? I soon became deeply interested in them and longed to lead them to the knowledge of Jesus."

Paton and Livingstone went out to reach people and brought them the Gospel, but for both, this came at a great personal cost.

So after a perfect day, let me fall asleep in Botswana, so incredibly privileged to be in the very place where Livingstone started his remarkable career.

SATURDAY, 9 MARCH

Today I will be speaking at the Conference all day from 9:00 until 4:00, so again let me go into the "Missionary Workshop" and prepare for the day. My Bible readings continued in

Exodus, Job, Luke and 2 Corinthians. I so enjoy 2 Corinthians because I am busy reading Michael Eton's Commentary on 2 Corinthians, so the two tied in perfectly.



Then I could pray especially for the KAGORO people who live in Mali, another of the 6000 unreached people groups.

Oswald Chambers will never allow you to become comfortable, so this is what he wrote today."

"Am I willing to relinquish my hold on all I possess, my hold on all my affections and on everything to be identified with the death of Jesus Christ."

Willing to lay down my life for Jesus, I now gathered all my material for today and as Chambers said, "set it alight". Pastor Mooke, Mpho and their team had gone to such a huge amount of trouble in organizing this Conference. The venue, at the StayWell Conference Centre was the perfect place, providing full conference facilities for the both my teaching and the video material we had prepared. The refreshments and food were outstanding. The program covered lectures on:

1. The Claims of the Bible
2. The Structure of the Bible
3. The Overview of the Old Testament
4. The Overview of the New Testament
5. How to lead a Soul to Christ
6. How to Grow as a Christian
7. A picture of a Model Church, from Acts Chapter 13.

It was then time for Charmaine, the Registrar of our Bible College to explain all the different options of study; the process and requirements needed to come to KMBC. I was grateful that she could come on this trip, and there was such a positive response, with two already confirmed for September. Many were also interested in our Distance Study Course, which is the Certificate in Theology. The flexibility of KMBC's core Curriculum, is one of the College's greatest assets, and allows us to cater for a variety of study options.

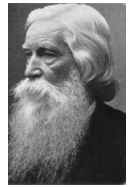


After some touching and sincere feedback from those attending the Conference, on how much they appreciated the teaching sessions, which had taught them so much about the Bible, we were presented with some gifts of memorabilia of Botswana. As always, many photos were taken and everyone went on their way, enriched and encouraged by the teaching.

After preaching all day, I find it quite tiring so it was good to just have a short time to relax, enjoy my reading, have a little zzzzz and then write up my Journal.

After feeling refreshed I was able to go for a short walk around the town and I struck by how clean everything was, compared to Pietermaritzburg. It was quite mind blowing to see an African city so immaculately clean.

After such an exhilarating day, doing what I love more than anything else in the world, **John Paton** will again close off the day for us, with some of the most emotional and moving words ever written by a Missionary. After arriving on the Islands with his wife and child, very soon they both died and this is what **Paton** wrote:



"The ever merciful Lord sustained me to lay the precious dust of my beloved Ones in the same quiet grave, dug for them close by at the end of the house; in all of which, despite a breaking heart, I had to take the principle share. I built the grave, round and round with coral block, and covered the top with beautiful white coral and that spot became my sacred and much frequented shrine during all the following months and years when I laboured on for the salvation of these people, but for Jesus and the fellowship He promised me there, I would have gone mad and died beside that lonely grave."

Truly, the most difficult thing ever in life must surely be to bury your own child! Looking back over the day today, with all its busyness, perhaps the one moment, which will live with me for a long time, was after I had finished my lecture on **'How to Lead a Soul to Christ'**, I felt led to make an appeal in case there was somebody not yet saved. It really moved me deeply to see more than half responding to the Gospel. What beautiful memories.

SUNDAY, 10 MARCH

As a new dawn breaks across Botswana I thought to myself how unbelievably privileged I am to be in the very place where David Livingstone lived, preached, and sought to bring the Gospel to this country. But now to prepare my heart for my preaching I must go into the "Missionary Workshop". My Bible readings continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and 2 Corinthians, after which time I could then pray. I remembered especially the REGEIBAT people who live in the Western Sahara.

One is reminded of what **John Piper** said, **"The Task is not Over!"**

It was then time for **Oswald Chambers**, and this morning he reminded me of something, which is critically important:



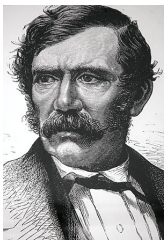
"If we lose the vision we alone are responsible and the way we lose the vision is by spiritual leakage. It is so easy to become undisciplined and to neglect spending time reading the Bible and in prayer, and this always results in leakage until we find ourselves cold, ineffective and useless for the Kingdom".



Leonard Ravenhill always used to say, **"There is nothing worse than a half filled Christian trying to overflow".**



After another lovely breakfast, we went to Pastor Mooke's church for the last service and I preached from Luke, Chapter 16 "The Rich man and Lazarus" - how they lived; how they died and where they are now. By God's grace, the people were extremely attentive. It was then time for me to say "thank you" and to give the leaders a copy of one of my previous Journals, then Pastor Mooke very kindly took us back to the Airport. He will be coming back to KMBC in September, together with one of his leaders. I was able to tell the church that I would love to cover all his travel costs as a small token of my appreciation of all he has done this weekend.



Who better than [David Livingstone](#), to now only close off the day, but also my 59th missionary trip into Africa. His Journal abounds in passages of almost mystical exaltation and devotion. Shortly before setting out on his greatest journey, where he crossed the whole of the African continent from Quellamane in Mozambique to Luanda in Angola, this is what he wrote in his diary:

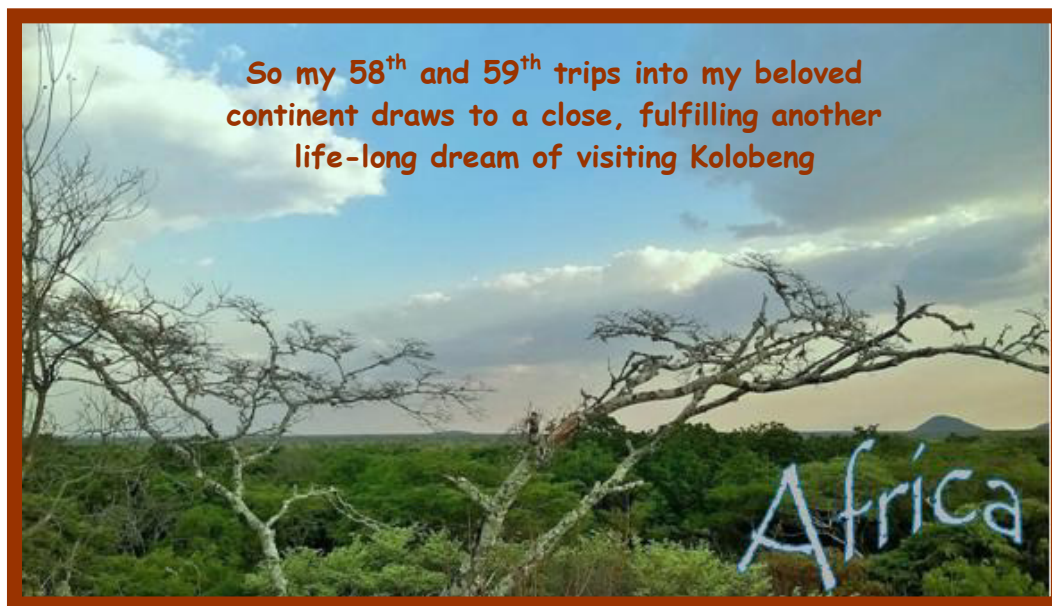
"I place no value on anything that I have or may possess except in relation to the Kingdom of Christ. If anything will advance the interest of the Kingdom, it will be given away or kept, only as by giving or keeping it I shall most promote the glory of Him to whom I owe all my hopes in time and eternity."

Tomorrow I will be back at my College marking the exams, which the students have written while I have been away, and then next Saturday I will fly up to Rwanda, and assist in the training of the rural pastors.

ASANTE SANA

"Thank you" my dear friends for allowing me to carry out my work in Africa.
With your amazing love, prayers and faithful support, I continue
"to be drained to the dregs" for the salvation of Africa's people
and for the glory of Almighty God.





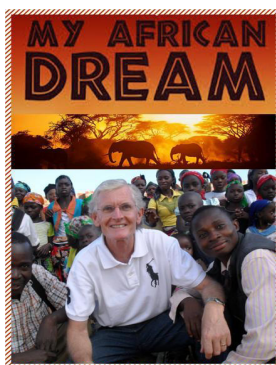
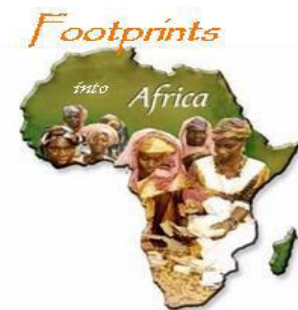
If you would like to share in, or support my work into Africa, I would value your partnership. Perhaps you may like to consider one the followings avenues:

- ☑ Pray for one of the countries and the past students who are working there
- ☑ Sponsor one of these men to come and train
- ☑ Contribute to supply the pastors with resources for their work
- ☑ Contribute towards my missionary trips into Africa
- ☑ General support

I always so enjoy and look forward to your comments and feedback on my Journals.

Yours for Africa,

Warwick



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