

MY MISSION TRIPS TO



MALAWI



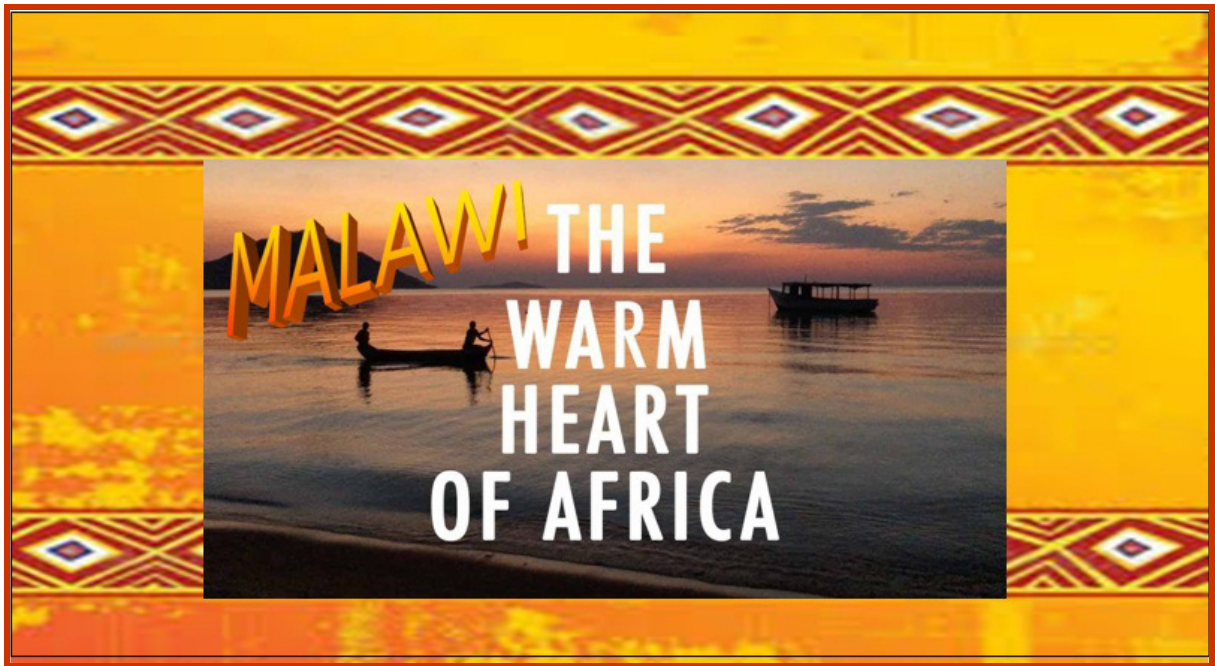
RWANDA



November 2019 / January 2020

By Bishop Warwick Cole-Edwardes

Trip No. 63 & 64



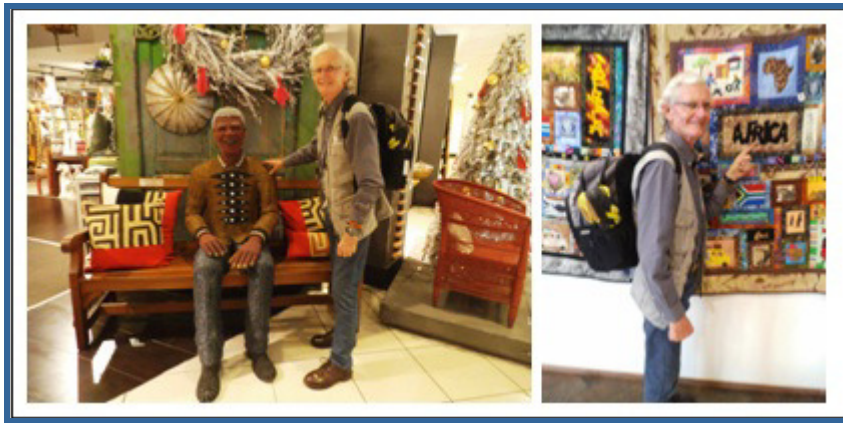
Challenges for Prayer

Malawi faces serious challenges in the future, such as the combination of poverty, high population growth and increasing pressure on agricultural land. High levels of national debt, AIDS and unemployment, when added to the aforementioned economic factors, produce challenges that will require wisdom, long-term planning and proactive policies by the government. The grip of poverty hampers development not only in the financial sense but also in terms of education, AIDS prevention, family life and even effective ministry and discipleship. Pray for leaders in Malawi, most of whom are church members, to act with wisdom, humility and long-term planning on biblical principles.




INTRODUCTION

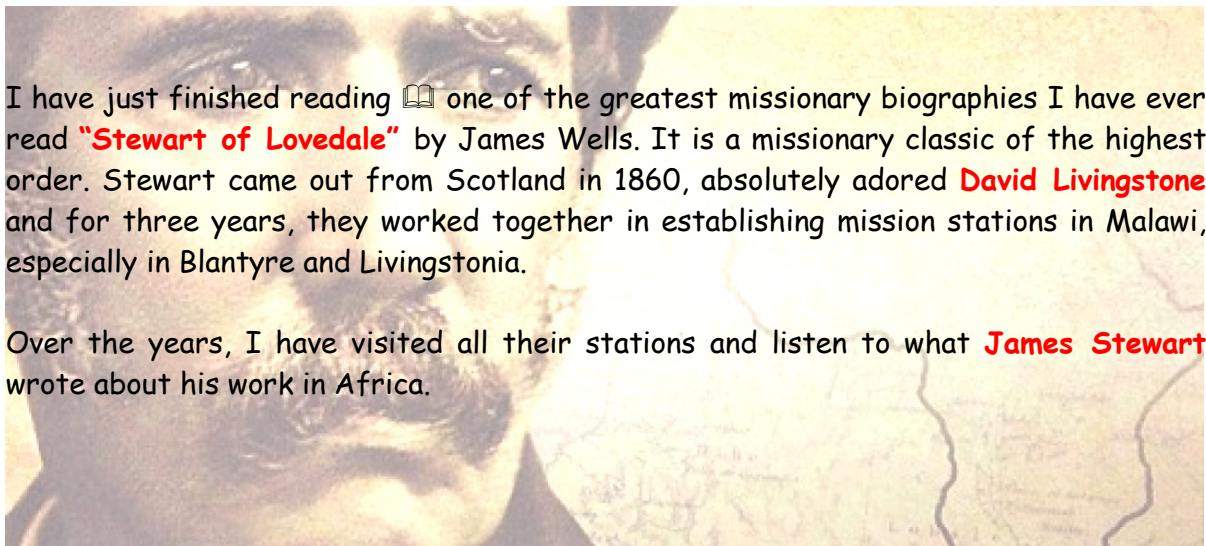
By the grace of God all my lectures for 2019 have now been completed, and with the students about to begin their final exams I can go back into my beloved Africa, preach my heart out and spend time in Malawi where Jon has left such a wonderful legacy. On my return, I will need to mark up all the exams and then we will be able to celebrate at our Graduation service. This will be my sixth mission trip into Africa this year and I am so grateful that the Lord continues to open these doors for me. Back at home, I have just started a new series on the book of Philippians at St. Olav's in Durban, I have three more sermons to preach on Matthew at the Brethren Assembly, and then I have been asked to preach all the sermons in December at Christ Church Waterfall. To end off an amazing year I will celebrate with my dear friends at Holy Trinity Church Imabli. Slowly I am trying to follow in the footsteps of **John Calvin** of whom Piper said, "He was like a bow always strung."



Malawi as you all know holds a very special place in my heart. It is there where Jon with his missionary heart put in a borehole for the village in Nsangwe, perhaps you may not realize what this has meant for the community - to have clean, fresh, beautiful cold water available twenty-four hours a day is massive. So I will be able to go and keep his vision alive as well as checking on the hall, which was erected for the primary school children.

I have just finished reading  one of the greatest missionary biographies I have ever read "**Stewart of Lovedale**" by James Wells. It is a missionary classic of the highest order. Stewart came out from Scotland in 1860, absolutely adored **David Livingstone** and for three years, they worked together in establishing mission stations in Malawi, especially in Blantyre and Livingstonia.

Over the years, I have visited all their stations and listen to what **James Stewart** wrote about his work in Africa.



"Stanley, Livingstone, and other African travelers have noted that African travel reveals a European's character more than any other mode of life does. African travel tries to the utmost every power and quality a man possesses; his temper, his teeth and his tact, his patience, his purse and his perseverance"



All these tests helped mold Stewart into the strong and self-reliant man he became. Now I know that I will never come near to Stewart, but these sixty-three trips into Africa have continued to shape and mold my life. One day while walking in the Scottish Highlands, Stewart suddenly stopped, lifted up his head and with an energetic gesture said to his cousin,

"Jim, I shall never be satisfied until I am in Africa with a Bible in my pocket".

My friends that is me ... So enjoy this Journal of my trips into Malawi and Rwanda and *embrace the moments!*

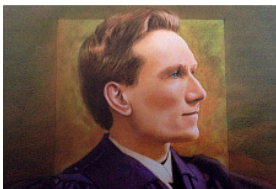


WEDNESDAY, 20 NOVEMBER

One of the last messages I ever received from Jon said,

"I'm going after the lost Dad. I want to be like you a missionary to Africa. In Standard five, I told my teacher I wanted to be a missionary to the Congo, it is close now."

So now, I head up to Malawi for the twelfth time, but as always, it is so very important for me to begin the day with my devotions. My Bible readings continued with 1 Chronicles, Amos, Psalms, and James after which time I could then pray. Not only did I remember this trip but also the FULANI people who live in Senegal, another of the unreached people groups in our world. Then it was time for **Oswald Chambers** to disciple me and this is what he wrote:



"Forgiveness which is so easy for us to accept, cost the agony of Calvary. It is possible to take the forgiveness of sin, the gift of the Holy Spirit and our sanctification with the simplicity of faith, but to forget at what enormous cost it was to God, and it was all made ours."



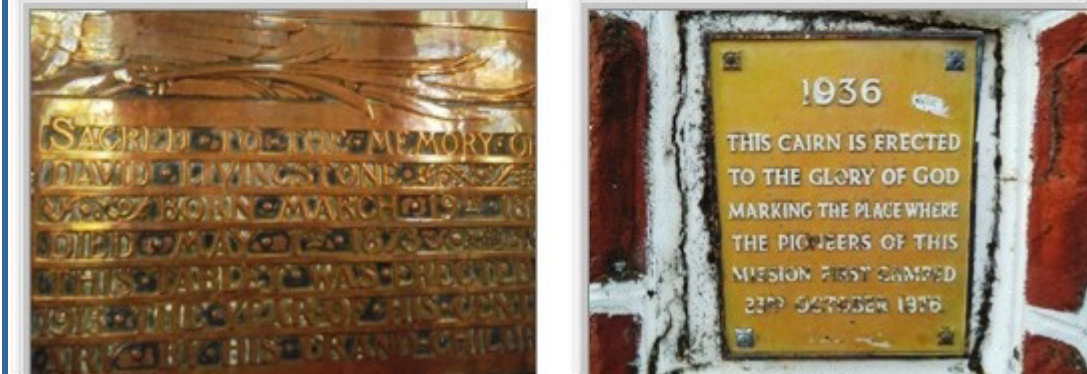
So conscious that I have been bought with the precious blood of Christ, I headed up into Central Africa. From Pietermaritzburg I flew up to Johannesburg and from there up to Blantyre. As I mentioned, this is where **Stewart** started Missions in Malawi, and this is what he wrote:

"He pushed on beyond the Murchison Cataracts and he explored parts of the Hill country to the east of the Shire River, in the district where the Blantyre Mission now stands. He recognized the comparative healthiness and the rich resources of what is now a prosperous settlement of coffee planters, traders, and missionaries."

After exchanging some money, Alaston very kindly took me to my accommodation. After a quick sorting out of myself, I was off to go and visit the **St Michael and All Angels Mission**, built in honour of **David Livingstone in 1889**. These early missionaries were unbelievable people, men like Stewart, Livingstone, Scott, Henderson, and Cleland, their plaques line the church and remind us of the magnificent work that they did in bringing the Gospel to Malawi.



St. Michael's & All Angels Church Blantyre



Then outside the church, there is another memorial with all the names of the early missionaries who had shed their blood here in Malawi in the cause of Missions. They are the unsung heroes, seen by many to be reckless, no biographies written about them, just sold out for Christ.

| TO THE SACRED MEMORY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE NYASALAND MISSION STAFF WHO HAVE DIED IN THE SERVICE OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND'S AFRICAN MISSIONS. | |
|---|------|
| ROBERT CLELAND | 1890 |
| JOHN BOWIE | 1891 |
| HENRY HENDERSON | 1891 |
| WILLIAM AFFLECK SCOTT | 1895 |
| JAMES SLATER | 1896 |
| CHARLES SCOTT | 1900 |
| DAVID CLEMENT SCOTT | 1907 |
| HENRY EDWIN SCOTT | 1911 |
| BESSIE MACVIGAR | 1913 |
| JANET STAGG BECK | 1917 |
| AMY WHITING | 1918 |
| ROBERT HELLIER NAPIER | 1918 |
| JESSIE MC MANUS | 1918 |
| ALICE MAUD BENTLEY | 1918 |

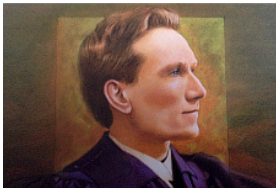
Slowly I made my way back to my little room my heart again stirred and I was able to read and write up this Journal. After all the traveling and after those precious hours in the Missions Church it is now time to fall asleep in Central Africa, the place of Livingstone, Stewart and McKenzie. Sir Hector Cameron once wrote this about Stewart:

"To me James Stewart seemed to be like a second Apostle John whom Jesus loved. His love for Christ seemed to permeate his entire being, and his tender graciousness to all made him my hearts ideal of a Christian."

What an amazing man he must have been, all that we can do is long to be like him.

THURSDAY, 21 NOVEMBER

Malawi is a fantastic country, I love being here, and I woke up to the most beautiful morning imaginable, so with the birds beginning to sing in a new day I was able to go into the "Missionary Workshop" with my devotions. Today my Bible readings continued in 1 Chronicles, Obadiah, Psalms, and James, seeking to saturate my mind and heart with God's Word. Then I could pray, not only for this Mission trip but also for the MOOR people who live in Mauritania. As he has done since 1967, Oswald Chambers closed my devotions.



"The love of God means Calvary and nothing less; the love of God is spelt on the Cross and nowhere else. The only ground on which God can forgive me is through the Cross of Christ."

📖 A brilliant book, which I am busy reading, entitled "Authentic Spirituality" by Barry Cullen, is a clear call to the church to move beyond a dead orthodoxy towards a dynamic orthodoxy Word united with the Spirit. In this book, he quotes from Alistair McGrath who wrote the following on the goal of spiritual formation.



"In its specifically Christian sense, the word spirituality focuses on the spiritual person, that is the person who has faith in the risen Christ and is in the process of being renewed through the work of the Holy Spirit. In its Christian sense, spirituality is about the process of renewal and rebirth that comes about through the action of the Holy Spirit, which makes us more like Jesus. It includes the development of just about every aspect of our life of Christian faith."

Alaston very kindly took me to down to the Roman Catholic Institute where I boarded a minibus taxi bound for Nsange. This is a unique experience, when literally you could not

have fitted another shoe into the taxi; it was packed with over twenty people and overloaded with all their groceries, chickens and many other things. Three hours later the taxi arrived at the Nsangwe Trading Store and there waiting on the side of the road was Daniel Gowa. After some negotiations, we were on a bicycle taxi to be taken into the village itself. It felt fantastic to be back. In true African style a lovely lunch was provided and Daniel together with his mother and father and Charmaine we all enjoyed some wonderful fellowship together. I could not wait another moment and I was off to go and see Jon's borehole and the school hall. It was such a wonderful encouragement to see both working well and serving the community. Jon has done an amazing work for them. Enjoy this cameo of photos.



A hard working borehole always providing lovely cool, clean water



After some supper of bread and tea, it was then time to rest and I want you to listen to what William Waters wrote about one of the earliest missionaries to Southern Africa, **Johannes van der Kemp**.

"He was a man of exalted genius and learning; he had attended the Universities of Leyden and Edinburgh and obtained remarkable plaudits for his progress in literature, philosophy, physics, and divinity. YET this man driven by the love of Christ, cheerfully laid aside all his honours to come and mingle with the people of Africa and condescend to serve the meanest and troublesome of the people, take up an axe, a pick and a spade, lie down in places where only dogs sleep, spend nights drenched with rain, he came from a University to teach the alphabet to the poor people of Southern Africa, from a stately mansion to the hovel of an African hut."

He was a man of heroic self-sacrifice. What an example to follow. Now I can fall asleep, if that is possible, on this rock hard floor.

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER

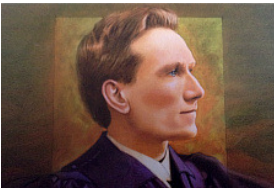
I love being in the village. As soon as the sun begins to rise, the village comes alive with the cattle all being taken out to graze, the fires being lit to cook for the day and all the ladies going to Jon's borehole to draw fresh, cold, pure water.



The village comes to life



So now, let me go into the "Missionary Workshop" and spend time with the Lord. My Bible readings continued in 1 Chronicles, Jonah, Psalms, and James, after which time I was able to pray. Today I remember especially the NALU people who live in Guinea Bissau, as well as all the students back home writing their exams. This morning **Oswald Chambers** was such a challenge and this is what he wrote:



"Beware of posing as a profound person, remember God became a baby. Determinedly take no one seriously but God, and the first person you find that you have to leave severely alone as being the great fraud you have ever known is yourself."

It has been unbelievably hot up here in Malawi on this visit with the temperatures reaching 48°C. During the night, it was impossible to sleep in the hut, so Daniel together with his parents and Charmaine moved all our mats outside on the ground and we fell asleep under the magnificent African sky.

It was fantastic ... but as I was falling asleep, I felt this huge spider crawling all over me and I called to Daniel to come and rescue me. In a very calm way, all that he said was *"don't worry Bishop that is what we call a 'night-mover'"* and he hit it with his shoe!



Feeling refreshed after a good nights rest, I had an early wash, shave and a bit of breakfast, because we were going to set off for Tekwani. But before leaving the village, we stopped off for a quick visit the *JCE Community Hall* and it was wonderful to see how the little children were being taught. They were able to each give their names and introduce themselves us, they are making such good progress, which was a great encouragement.

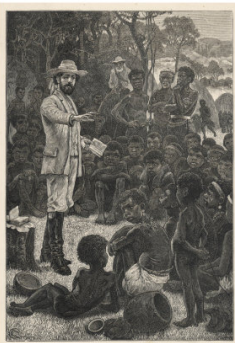


After a 2-hour minibus taxi ride, then two bicycle taxis we arrived in Tekwani. Daniel knows my heart perfectly so we went immediately to the banks of the Shire River, the very place where Livingstone and earlier missionaries had sailed and it was here where we crossed over into Mozambique last year. In the scorching heat, we finally arrived at Daniel's church. He led the service, Charmaine spoke to the women, and then I preached on the "Six Marks of a real Christian". Afterwards, by God's grace, there was a wonderful response to the Gospel.



We slowly made our way to Daniel's home where I was privileged to provide lunch for everybody. Again, it was unbelievably hot; almost unbearable at times the only way to get some relief was to put a damp facecloth on the back of our necks! But then we still

had the long trip back to the village. It is an uncomfortable taxi ride because the vehicle is so packed full of huge bags of maize, pots and pans, local produce, chickens, and people that you have to sit with virtually no legroom at all. But, after arriving at the village there was some lovely cool water waiting to refresh us from Jon's borehole. After my legs returned to normal, I took a walk and had a lovely talk with the Tailor who is Lenard's neighbour, the Carpenter over the road who makes the coffins and I also watched a pig being slaughtered and prepared for the Market. Not one part goes to waste, everything is sold.

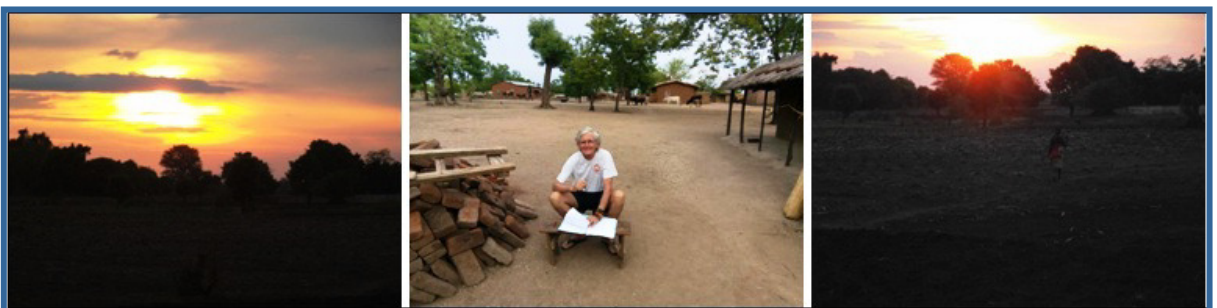


After a light supper and a cold wash, we were all ready to fall asleep again under the African sky - just perfect. But tonight I want you to read what was written about **Charles Frederick McKenzie**, the young man from Pietermaritzburg who consecrated as Bishop and sent up to Malawi. Sadly, he did not last long, dying from the Fever and Malaria. I always love to go and spend some time at his grave, and this is what was said of him.

"There labouring among the people at that time was an earnest devoted man, Charles Frederick McKenzie who studied at Cambridge University but gave up everything to come out to Africa. The energy and zeal of McKenzie were apostolic, but sadly his strength was sapped from him and he died after attacks of Fever and Malaria, one of the greatest."

SATURDAY, 23 NOVEMBER

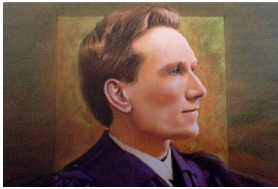
After another brilliant sleep under the stars, the morning light was welcomed in with this beautiful sunrise and while it was still early, I was able to catch up with my Journal.



I love watching the village getting ready for the day and to see a steady stream of people getting their water from the borehole. Jon would have loved to see this.



So let me begin the day in the "Missionary Workshop" again. My Bible readings continued in Chronicles, Jonah, Psalms and I finished James. I loved reading through James and as I have just finished a 12-week series on James at St Olav's. I was then able to pray especially for the TIGRE people who live in Eritrea.



Afterwards Oswald Chambers again warned us of the danger of getting distracted.

"Beware of the cares of this world because they are the things that produce a wrong temper of soul. It is extraordinary what an enormous power there is in simple things to distract our attention from God. Refuse to be swamped with the cares of this life"

While I was waiting for "Mama", Daniel's mother, to bring me my bucket of warm water to wash, I caught up with some reading and journaling. Feeling refreshed I was able to enjoy a lovely breakfast of some mangoes and tea, which is just perfect. These dear people in the village pour out their love to us and are very appreciative of all that I do for them.



Charmaine was able to spend time with the children, as I prepared myself to meet with the new village Chiefs.



I knew something was brewing when Daniel said to me that the chiefs wanted a meeting. After the customary greetings, I explained to them of my deep love for the village, of the twelve visits I have now made, and especially of Jon's amazing legacy of providing the village with clean, cold water as well as a very basic hall, which could be used for the school and the church.



I reminded them of how the old chief had given me this piece of land and I showed them a copy of a signed Agreement between the chief and myself.

Then it was time for the chiefs to speak. The two new chiefs are a lot younger and have recently taken over the leadership of the village. They expressed their desire to now take back a large portion of my land for additional housing, and unless I was willing to pay them for the land, this was their intention. This of course I would not do and a lot of discussion then flowed. Eventually I felt that it would be better to be gracious and loving and to seek a compromise, so I agreed to give them back half the land that was given to me, but the other half I would keep for the *JCE Community Centre*.



Unfortunately, this touched a very raw chord in my life and I broke down and wept. Looking back I felt very emotional because of all that Jon had done for the village, but when I came back to my senses I gave the two new chiefs each a gift of 25,000 kwacha and we parted friends.



Daniel was in tears and Lenard was greatly shaken by the proceedings and furious with me for giving in, but I tried to make it clear that if I did not demonstrate a humble loving spirit, I would not be welcomed back to the village in the future. Eventually we all

embraced and with heavy hearts went about our work, but it was not easy. The one positive note is that the following morning at the church service one of those chiefs was present and I preached the Gospel as simply as I could, longing for him to be saved.

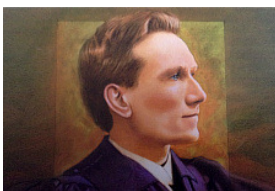
After such a very emotional day for me up here in Malawi there was only time left to enjoy some bread and tea and then to drift off to sleep so incredibly fortunate to be living in this village, sleeping under the African sky and longing to show that same gentle spirit that Livingstone portrayed.



Over all these years of travelling across Africa, learning how to love these dear people, **David Livingstone** has always been my model. Listen to how he was described in the way he dealt with the African people.

"His gentleness never forsakes him, his hopefulness never deserts him, no harassing anxieties, distractions of mind, separation of home and family could ever make him complain. Livingstone saluted the poorest with a very pleasant smile, raised his gold-laced cap a little above his head. Before the poorest African, he maintained self-restraint, self-respect as carefully as he did in the best society at home. The polite respectful way of speaking and behaviour of what we call a thorough gentleman, always secured for him the friendship and goodwill of the Africans. It ought never to be forgotten that influence among the Africans can only be acquired by patient continuance in well doing. In many ways he was not a man, but a god."

SUNDAY, 24 NOVEMBER

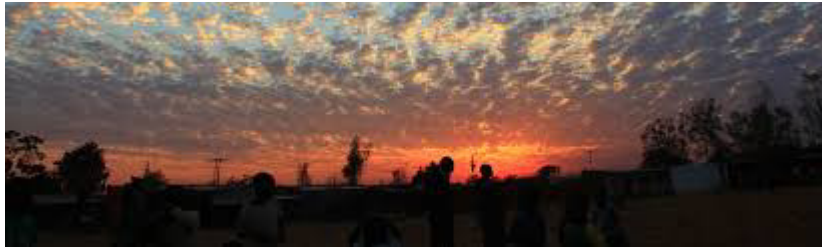


Never wanting, in the words of Oswald Chambers, to blunt the sense of being my "Utmost for His Highest" and with the sun beginning to rise over the village I was able to go into the "Missionary Workshop" for my devotions. Today my Bible readings continued in 1 Chronicles, Jonah, Psalms and we began with 1 Peter. After listening to the voice of God in the Word of God, I was able to pray and this morning I prayed especially for BEDERIA people, and unreached people living in the Sudan. Then **Oswald Chambers** wrote the following:

"Spiritual leakage begins when we cease to lift up our eyes unto Jesus. Whenever there is a leakage remedy it immediately. Recognize that something has been coming between you and God and get it readjusted at once."

Leonard Ravenhill in his famous 📖 book "Why Revival Tarries" spoke on the same issue when he said,

"There is nothing worse than a half filled Christian trying to overflow."



It was such a magnificent sunrise this morning, and I could not help but be overwhelmed as to how privileged I am to be living in this village. Sleeping under the African sky, travelling in these overloaded mini bus taxis, washing from a bucket, but enjoying such a beautiful way of life with my Malawian family in the very village where Jon's heart lies.

Then something quite amazing happened, I had a visit from one of the old chiefs from the past, who obviously had heard what had happened yesterday and he wanted to come and apologize to me, and as a gift wanted to give me a dove. All I could do was to embrace him and tell how much I respected him and loved his village. After some discussion, I gave him a gift of 5,000 kwacha, which he was so grateful for, and I promised to have supper with him in his home when I returned on my next visit.



Reading so much on **David Livingstone** has taught me how to love these dear people and never to be revengeful.

A book written by J. Franklin said, "*Love like you have never been hurt,*" describes how we should treat these new young chiefs. We parted as dear friends.

After Mum Gowa had brought my hot water, we all had breakfast together.



With a very kind gift, which I have been given, and after consultation with Lenard and Daniel, the money will be used to erect a small Footprints into Africa Mission House in the village, which we will call "Ilala" (after Livingstone's home). This will mean that there will always be a little home in this village that I can return to, and in the years to come that we can bring visitors to enjoy a mission experience here. The five of us had a simple service to "break ground" to mark the site, ending with a prayer of dedication.





That marvelous book on **James Stewart** was such a blessing to me and this is what he wrote all those years ago on his work here in Malawi.

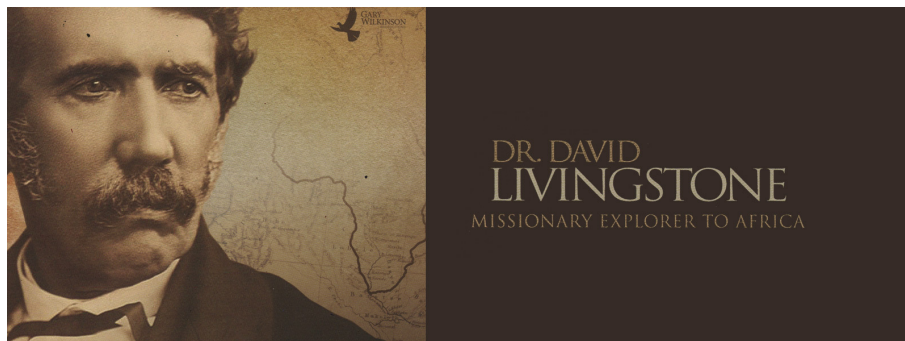
"Central Africa was to him what Arabia was to Paul, a retreat in which he examined his own heart, revised his life, developed the self reliance which is based upon the reliance of faith and sought complete consecration to Christ and His service."

We all then made our way to the **JCE Community Hall** for our last church service. After preaching the Gospel, there was a lovely response from the people and I trust that eternity would reveal that souls had been saved.



But sadly, it was then time to say goodbye to the village, to Daniel and his parents, which is always a very difficult time. I got onto my bicycle taxi and headed back to the main road with a heavy heart. It will sound very strange to you I am sure, but I always feel that I am leaving Jon behind when I go. We boarded a mini bus taxi bound for Blantyre, and a long 3-hour journey lay ahead of us.

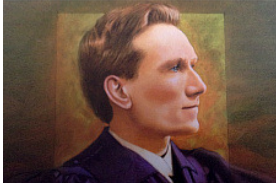
Another wonderful day of ministry in Africa draws to a close, and I thought it would be good to quote from Bishop Stephen Neil's book on the talk which he gave at the **David Livingstone Memorial lecture**.



"We come finally to Livingstone the missionary. It is this aspect of his career, which the modern historian finds difficult to understand. Yet I would affirm that unless this is grasped, that Livingstone was first and foremost a missionary, it is not possible to understand his career at all. Livingstone believed that Africa needed Christ, and so the voice of Livingstone calls to us from that lonely hut at Ilala where he died, 'come now and finish what I have started'."

MONDAY, 25 NOVEMBER

There is always a great sadness when I leave Malawi. It was wonderful being here again and spending time in the village and especially seeing the work that our past students, Lenard and Daniel are doing. So let me go into the "Missionary Workshop", read the



Bible, and spend time in prayer. My Bible readings continued in 1 Chronicles, Jonah, Psalms, and in 1 Peter after which time I was able to pray. Today I remembered especially the KANEMBU people in Chad. Oswald Chambers then closed off my devotions by emphasizing again the need to keep preaching the Cross.

"In external history the Cross is an infinitesimal thing, from the Bible point of view it is of more importance than all the Empires of the World, so preach the Cross and the energy of God is let loose. After breakfast Alaston very kindly took us back to the Airport from where we flew down to Johannesburg and then on to Pietermaritzburg with my 63rd missionary trip into Africa over.

Fred Arnot, a missionary to Central Africa was so right when he wrote on the 18th September 1881:

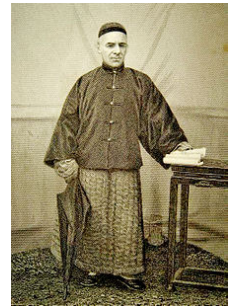
"I do not feel as if I were in a strange country or among a strange people, and I can say with my whole heart that I love these Africans and long for their conversion. It does not seem too much to say that scores of true servants of the Lord are needed in this part of Africa."

My mission trips into Africa are now over for the year and 2019 has been a most fulfilling year for me:

- ⊙ 6 missionary trips into Africa have now been completed
- ⊙ 720 hours of lectures at KMBC have now been completed, all geared to training pastors and missionaries to Africa.
- ⊙ 30 Bible studies every Thursday evening have now been completed
- ⊙ 45 sermons have been preached over the year across KZN
- ⊙ My 61 Journals have now been bound into 2 beautiful volumes
- ⊙ Our Distance Learning Certificate in Theology has now been translated into Swahili and also in the process of being translated into Chichewa
- ⊙ Early next year I will go up to Rwanda and then up to Tanzania
- ⊙ Our Suitcase Seminary is almost completed and when it is done it will be a massive help to all our students

Surely no one better than **William Burns** can close off this year:

"I am ready to burn out for God. I am ready to endure any hardship if by any means I might save some. The longing of my heart is to make known my glorious Redeemer to those that have never heard



BUT my dear friends

Everything that has been done is only made possible through your amazing love, prayers, and generous financial support. I cannot thank you enough, and can only pray that the work of **Footprints into Africa** and **KMBC** is an encouragement to you.





Tragically, this nation that predominantly claims Christianity (89%) allowed and even perpetrated the massacre of 1994. The atrocities of genocide and war have caused some to turn from their faith. Some have turned to Islam, while others have been ensnared by false gospels (prosperity theology, legalism, and syncretism).

Yet suffering has also opened the door for the global Church to express God's love. Since the war, Evangelicals have seen dramatic growth within the Church. Some of the victims of gruesome violence have chosen to forgive. Yet deep healing is still needed as an entire generation suffers the mental trauma that comes from experiencing such devastating loss.

Answer to Prayer


Rwanda has made great progress in many areas since the tragic events of 1994-95.

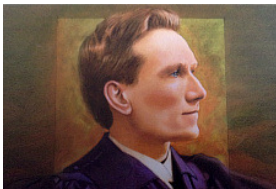
a) *The nation's infrastructure* was brutalized during the conflicts. Political stability since 2000 allows for rebuilding and developing roads, buildings, government services, water and sanitation, education and communications systems.

b) *Financial recovery* is encouraging, with Rwanda being one of the fastest-growing economies in Africa.



INTRODUCTION

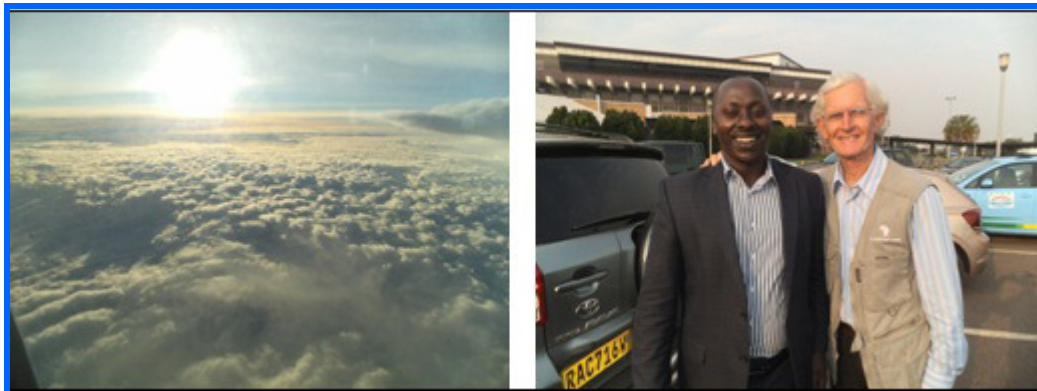
During the December holidays, I was able to finish one of the finest biographies I have ever read in my life,  **Stewart of Lovedale**. But now it was time to open my Bible College for the New Year, lecture for 2 weeks, and then fly up to Rwanda to assist in the work of training the rural pastors. I have been asked to lecture for the week on Preaching. It will be my 10th visit to Rwanda and amazingly it will also be 64th mission trip into Africa. James Stewart closely resembled his hero David Livingstone in his unfailing reliance upon God and prayer and the Bible. So let me follow his wonderful example and go into the "Missionary Workshop" in order to begin this new day in prayer and in the reading of the Bible, continuing to follow Robert Murray McCheyne's calendar. My reading continued in Genesis, Esther, Matthew and in Acts always seeking to saturate



my mind and my heart with the Word and so to become more like John Bunyan that when you pricked him bible came gushing out. In my time of prayer, I remembered especially the DARHAMID people who live in the Sudan. As you know **Oswald Chambers** always closes off my devotions and this is what he said"

"Always be in a state of expectancy and see that you leave room for God to come in as He likes."

So in this state of expectancy I again headed up into Africa. I caught the afternoon flight out of Pietermaritzburg and then had a horribly long wait in Johannesburg before flying up to Kigali at 03:00 am. On arriving at Kigali International Airport there was my brother Fred Kiiza waiting for me with his warm African smile of welcome.



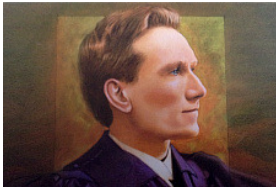
You will now enjoy a laugh with me ... the Airline make a mistake and booked me into Business Class. When I found my seat, I explained to the airhostess that this was a mistake but she insisted that I stay and enjoy it! It was unbelievable and probably will never happen again. The moment you sit down, they bring you some fresh, cold orange juice, and warm face cloth to wipe your hands and face, together with a menu for the meal. The seats were incredible, so comfortable and would fold down into a bed so I

slept like a log all the way to Kigali. When we landed there was no waiting in queues so I was the very first one in Customs and went straight through. What a fantastic mistake. **William Temple** will now close with a thought provoking idea.

"If you have a false idea of God, the more religious you are the worse it is for you, it would be better to be an atheist."



SUNDAY, 26 JANUARY



It felt fantastic to be up in Kigali and I was able to spend a short time in my devotions reading through Genesis, Esther, Matthew, and Acts. Not only did I pray for the week of lectures, but also for the KOIRI people who live in India, and then this is what **Oswald Chambers** said this morning.

"Shut out every other consideration and keep yourself before God for this one thing only - "My Utmost for His Highest". I am determined to be absolutely and entirely for Him and for Him alone."



I am often asked by those who read these journals why I have continued to read Oswald Chambers every day for the past 52 years. **Robert Murray McChesney** gives the perfect answer.

"Men return again and again to the few who have mastered the spiritual secret, whose life has been hid with Christ in God. These are of the old time religion, hung to the nails of the Cross."

Fred very kindly took us to breakfast and then I was taken to a church in Bugesera where Gideon is planting a new church. At this very exciting period in the church's life, I thought it would be helpful to preach on "The Three Priorities of Jesus", of Prayer, Preaching, and People and urged this new church plant to follow Jesus' example.



Emmanuel & Fred



Outside Gideon's new Church



Nyamata Genocide Memorial

After the church service, I requested the driver to please take me to the Nyamata Genocide Memorial, which I had visited many years previously. It was a very moving, emotional visit of what tragically happened in 1994. From there we enjoyed a lovely lunch together and started on our long drive through the beautiful Rwandan countryside to the Conference Center in Gatsibo. We arrived there just as the sun was setting and the people seemed to be very happy to see me again and I was ushered to the same room that I have enjoyed in my previous visits - it was a case of home from home.

Not having had much sleep, it was good to just read for a short time from that book by [Barry Callem](#) entitled "Authentic Spirituality" and this is what he said:

"An authentic Christian spirituality is one that binds us to Christ and leads us through the power of the Holy Spirit to god the Father. It must therefore be both Christological and Trinitarian."

How very privileged I am to be here in Kabarore teaching these very dear rural pastors how to preach ... but at the same time being very conscious I still have a lot to learn about preaching myself.

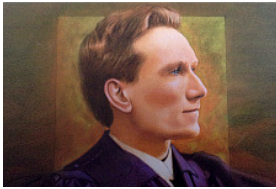
MONDAY, 27 JANUARY

Having been into this area on a number of times previously it felt good to be back and this morning as I went into the "Missionary Workshop" I remembered so clearly what [Henry Martyn](#) once wrote:



"Tell them to live more with Christ, to preach Christ, to catch his spirit, for the spirit of Christ is the spirit of Missions. The nearer we get to Him the more intensely missionary we become."

So longing to "Catch His spirit", I went into the "Missionary Workshop" to begin the day with the Lord. It is amazing how quickly time has gone by but I now begin to read my Bible for the 53rd time. I continued to read in Genesis, Esther, Matthew, and Acts and after that, I was able to pray. Not only did I remember my lectures for today, but I also remembered the BALDAR people another unreached people group in India. It was then time for **Oswald Chambers** to again disciple me and he was magnificent.



"A warning which needs to be reiterated is that the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches and the lust for other things will enter in and choke all that God has put in. Common sense shouts loud and says "But that is absurd, I need to consider how I am going to live, I need to consider what I am going to eat and drink. But Jesus says you must not. Whenever there is competition, be sure that you put your relationship to God first."

That brought back so many conflicting thoughts for me. When I felt called to leave everything, cash in my Pension and become a missionary, common sense said that is absurd, many said it was being reckless, some even said it was because of Jon, but it has become so clear that it was the will of God and it taught me to put God first. With that ringing in my ears, I enjoyed a lovely breakfast with the brothers and then we went down to the church to begin my lectures on preaching.



From 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, I had the sheer joy and privileged to lecture on preaching and covered the following four areas:

- ⊙ **The Pastor's responsibility to preach and teach**
- ⊙ **The Pastor's responsibility to equip the saints**
- ⊙ **The Pastor's responsibility to set a good example**
- ⊙ **The nature of expository preaching**

After enjoying lunch with all the pastors, I went back to my room to read my books and no one better than **James Stewart** can close off this day by describing his deep love for Africa and this is what he wrote.

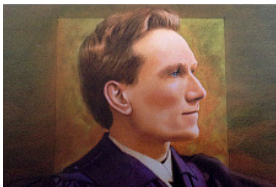


"Again and again the longing comes over me to get back to Africa. We at least have nothing to say against Africa, it has not treated us badly. Africa and its children are now my life's work and I am not sorry that God's providence has led me there. We have nailed the flag to Africa and there I will remain until God takes it down."

In a small way, that is me, Africa has become my life's work, and I fell asleep so very conscious that I have been given the greatest honour on the planet to be a missionary to Africa.

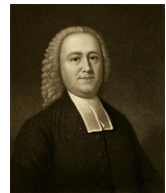
TUESDAY, 28 JANUARY

It is another magnificent morning up here in Rwanda with a soft gentle rain falling from heaven so let me go immediately into the "Missionary Workshop". My Bible readings continued in Genesis, Esther, Acts and we finished Matthew. In my time of prayer, I was able to pray for another unreached people group, the BAKHTIARI who live in Iran. It was then time again for **Oswald Chambers** to teach me and this is what he wrote.



"Whenever we are obstinate and self-willed and set upon our own ambitions we are hurting Jesus. Every time we stand on our rights and insist that this is what we intend to do, we are persecuting Jesus."

After a lovely shower and breakfast, we all went back to the Conference for the second day to continue with my lectures on preaching. I remembered what **William Tennant** wrote about his Bible College, which he called the Log College.



"He instructed his students not only in the languages, logic and philosophy, but he fired them all with an evangelical zeal and a missionary spirit that made itself felt throughout the colonies."



How I long to do that at KMBC and here with these pastors in Kabarore. **John Piper**, another of my favorite authors wrote the following on preaching.

"The goal of preaching - is the glory of God
The ground of preaching - is the Cross of Christ
The gift of preaching - the power of the Holy Spirit"

This morning from 09:00 to 1:00, I covered the following subjects:

- ⊙ Preparation of the Preacher
- ⊙ Preparation of the Message
- ⊙ Determining the main idea
- ⊙ How to divide up a book to preach through



After having lunch with all the pastors consisting mainly of matoka and cassava, with an ice cold coke to wash it down it was then time for QUESTIONS & ANSWERS taking the whole afternoon, after which time I was taken back to my room to read and to write.

Here I am in Kabarore lecturing on preaching but I want you to listen to what **David Livingstone** wrote in his diary about his preaching. It makes fascinating reading because we very seldom hear of Livingstone the preacher, all the emphasis is on his missionary travels and on his explorations and discoveries. On the 15 May 1853, he wrote the following.

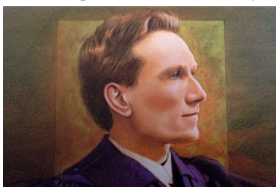


"I preached to about 60 people. It is only divine power, which can enlighten these dark minds. Later on 14 August he wrote, I preached to a very large congregation, most of whom had never ever had heard anything about the Word of God before. They were remarkably attentive as usually is the case on the first occasion."

Now I can fall asleep in Rwanda so very privileged.

WEDNESDAY, 29 JANUARY

After all the rains the countryside is beautifully green and luscious and the birds all joined in together to welcome in a new day. So I went into the "Missionary Workshop" to begin a new day with the Lord. My Bible readings continued in Genesis, Esther, and we began with mark and Romans. In my time of prayer, I remembered especially the TATAR people, another unreached people living in India (how grateful we are to Joshua Project for all this information on the unreached people). Afterwards **Oswald Chambers** wrote.



"Narrow all your interest until the attitude of mind and heart and body is concentrated on Jesus Christ."

With that challenge ringing in my heart and after another lovely breakfast with the brothers, we headed back to the church for another morning of teaching. In that book of **James Stewart**, which I found so stimulating, he wrote the following about preaching.

"The aims of all genuine preaching are -
To quicken the conscience by the holiness of God
To feed the mind with the truth of God
To purge the imagination by the beauty of God
To open the heart to the love of God
To devote the will to the purpose of God"



Today I covered different areas on the construction of a sermon:

- ⊙ **Doing the introduction**
- ⊙ **Underlining the main idea**
- ⊙ **Expanding the body of the message**
- ⊙ **The conclusion**

After many years of experience I was able to illustrate all the above from sermons I had preached. We then enjoyed lunch with the brothers.



Lunch



The Bishop and I



Conference Centre



Then I went back to my room to soak in John Wesley's Journal, which I am so enjoying. After another lovely supper, listen one more time to **Livingstone the preacher**.

"When I stand up and preach all the women and children draw near. I explain the way of Salvation, the goodness of God in sending His son to die for our sins, the confirmation of his mission by miracles, the last day of judgement and the future state in eternity. I always try to make my sermons short, plain and with much application."



Those pointers are magnificent, far too many preachers today preach sermons that are too long and that are too involved. We need to keep them short, plain and applicable just like J.C. Ryle and Charles Simeon also used to do. I want you to now listen to **John Wesley** who wrote on the 11 August 1765 about his preaching.

"At 8 o'clock after preaching all day I was so tired I could hardly stand, but after preaching for another hour all my weariness was gone and I was a lively and strong as I was at 8 o'clock in the morning."

These are my heroes, the most incredible men imaginable.

THURSDAY, 30 JANUARY

Reading through **John Wesley's** journal has been a wonderful experience for me; he had a passion for the Gospel like no other man. On Monday, 23 June 1760, he wrote the following in his journal.

"I was exceedingly weary having ridden an extremely dull horse, but I soon forgot my weariness seeing so many people, young and old, rich and poor receiving the Word of God with gladness."

These men are a goad to my life and I long to follow in their footsteps. So I made my way into the "Missionary Workshop" and there began a new day with the Lord. My Bible



readings continued in Genesis, Esther, Mark and Romans, after which time I could then pray. Today I remembered especially the RIF people, another unreached people in India. And then it was time for **Oswald Chambers** who wrote the following in his own direct, challenging and sometimes controversial style.

"Never ask the advice of another about anything that God makes you decide before Him. If you ask advice you will nearly always side with Satan."

After another lovely breakfast with the brothers, we headed back to the church for the 4th day of teaching. On Monday I dealt with Expository Preaching, on Tuesday with the Preparation of the Sermon, yesterday with the Construction of the Sermon, now today I will focus on the Delivery of the Sermon, and I covered the following areas.

- ⊙ **Introducing your Sermon**
- ⊙ **Emphasizing the main points of your Sermon**
- ⊙ **How to conclude your sermon**
- ⊙ **How to apply your sermon**

After sharing in lunch together there was another 2-hour QUESTION AND ANSWER session, after which I was able to go back to my room, enjoy a walk around Kabarore and enjoy more of John Wesley's' journal.

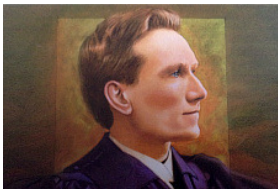


After supper, it was then time to read my books and write up this journal. There is no one better to close off the day than to quote again from **David Livingstone**, not with regards to his preaching, but how he felt about being a missionary in Africa, it makes stirring reading.

"I am a missionary heart and soul. God has only one son and he was a missionary. A poor imitation of him I am or wish to be. In this service, I hope to live and in it, I hope to die. It is something to be a follower, however feeble in the wake of our great teacher and model missionary that has ever appeared to our world. We will always magnify the office."

FRIDAY, 31 JANUARY

The Conference will conclude today. It has been a wonderful privilege and joy teaching these dear rural pastors on how to preach. But first, I always need to go to the "Missionary Workshop" and begin the day with my devotions. My Bible readings continued in Genesis, Esther, Mark and Romans, and having listened to the voice of God in the Word of God I could then pray. I prayed for another unreached people group in India, the Rabiri people, after which **Oswald Chambers** wrote the following from Romans 1:1.



"Paul is unconscious of himself; he is recklessly abandoned and separate by God for only one purpose, to proclaim the Gospel of God."

After another breakfast with the brothers, we then headed back to the church for the last time. I must admit that I was feeling normal today, because during the week I have been very nauseous because something in the meals did not agree with me. After all the lectures on preaching, I was asked on this last day to preach a sermon, which I did on "**THE NOMINAL CHRISTIAN**", Matthew Chapter 7. It was one of those rare moments in life when one just senses that God was speaking to the hearts of the Pastors. When I made the appeal it was very emotional to see many of the pastors kneeling before God in absolute brokenness and at the same time, the women began to sing quietly their beautiful hymns. It was moving to hear the sound of sobbing all around the church; I then called for the pastors and for those who wanted to, to rededicate themselves to the task of preaching the Bible. Everyone was on his or her feet and together we asked God to use us in the years to come. After the service

there was just time to pack up and slowly drive all the way back to Kigali. It was an experience of a lifetime for me.

After supper, I was then able to write up my journal and get ready to fly home in the morning. When he was a Principal of a Missionary Bible College, **Oswald Chambers** used to say this to his students.

"Never water down the Word of God, preach it in its undiluted sternness, there must be unflinching loyalty to the Word of God. BUT ... when you come to personal dealings with your people remember who you are - not a special person made up in Heaven, but a sinner saved by grace."



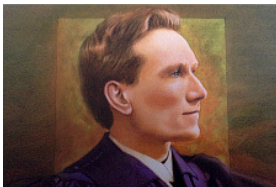
I drifted off to sleep truly the most blessed man on the planet.

SATURDAY, 1 FEBRUARY

Ernest Hemmingway was absolutely correct when he wrote:

"I never knew of a morning in Africa when I woke up and I was not happy."

I was so happy as I went into the "Missionary Workshop" to begin the day with my devotions. Today my Bible readings continued in Genesis, Esther, Mark and Romans, and after all that I had learnt, I was able to pray. I remembered especially the MADERA who live in Indonesia and I prayed for one of our past students, who is ministering in Indonesia. It was then time for **Oswald Chambers** and this is what he wrote this morning.



"The one passion of Paul's life was to preach the Gospel of God. He welcomed heartbreaks, disillusionments, tribulation for only one reason, because these things kept him in unmoved devotion to God."

Doctor James Stewart wrote something very similar when he said

"Jim I shall never be satisfied until I am back in Africa with a Bible in my pocket."



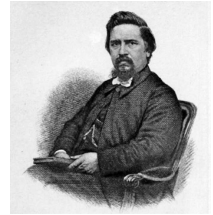
I am so grateful to A.B.C. for their kindness to me and for giving me the privilege of lecturing on preaching. With everything now over, my lectures are completed, my preaching is done, my books are read.

Listen to what Southey said about **John Wesley** in 1773.



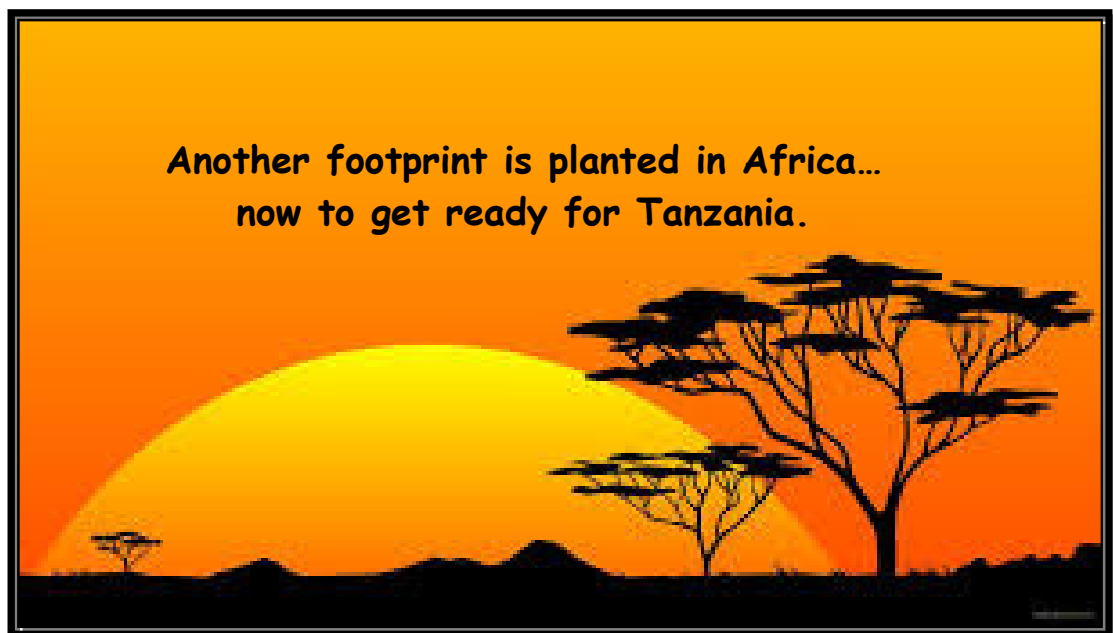
"As he became notorious to the world, and known among all his own people, it was considered a blessing and an honour to receive so distinguished a guest and so delightful a companion, a man who in rank and acquirements from far superior to those by whom he was entertained, whose manners were almost irresistibly winning and who cheerfulness was like a perpetual sunshine."

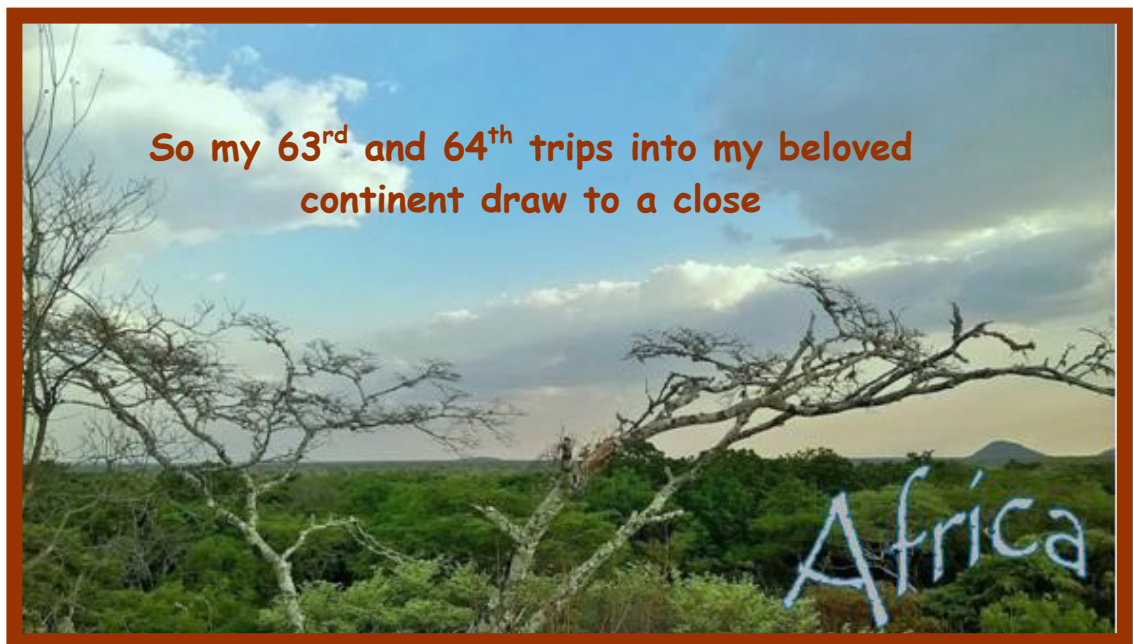
I was taken back to the airport from where I flew down to Pietermaritzburg, arriving back more passionate than ever to prepare pastors and missionaries for Africa. I will lecture for the next month and when the students write their exams, I will fly up to Tanzania. **Griffith John** was so right when he wrote:



"I look upon the missionary work as the noblest work under Heaven and I look upon the missionary, though he be the humblest, as the highest and noblest work in the world."

ARIKO (but),
all this work could never be done without your amazing love, prayers
and generous financial support. Please remember my dear friends
that I am very, very grateful to you all.





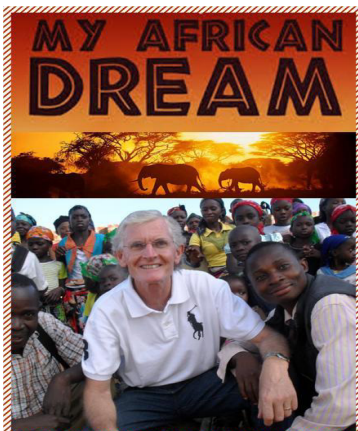
So my 63rd and 64th trips into my beloved continent draw to a close

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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