

MY 12th
MISSION TRIP
TO
ZAMBIA



September 2021

Bishop Warwick Cole-Edwardes

Trip 66

INTRODUCTION



After nearly two years of Lockdown, the door has finally opened for me to go back into my beloved Africa, meet with all our Zambian past students in Ndola, speak at a Leadership Seminar and then preach in a local church. Friends I cannot wait!! During these months of Lockdown, I came across one of the greatest missionary finds in my life, **GARENGANZE**. This amazing book by **Fred Arnot** records his twenty-one years of doing pioneering missionary work in the heart of Africa. Listen to what he wrote on 18 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. Now is a golden opportunity, God has opened a door, and the time is short. It does not seem too much to say that scores of true servants of the Lord are needed in this part of Africa ... may He send them forth.”

So, I am heading north into Africa for my 66th mission trip. It was said of **David Livingstone**, the greatest of all the missionaries into Africa:

He was dedicated to Africa, its heat and fevers and their future. There could be no going back on AFRICA. He had married AFRICA on that day in 1841 when he first set foot on its soil and now thirty years later there could be no divorce.”



From my first visit up to Ondangwa and Oshakati in Namibia way back in 1980, these have been the most wonderful years imaginable, teaching the Bible across Africa ... Now forty years later ... ‘no divorce from AFRICA’, (David Livingstone) and ‘I love these Africans’, (F. Arnot) ... still trying to follow in the footsteps of all my heroes.

MY DIARY

FRIDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER

A beautiful new day dawns and I am off to Ndola. But before anything else let me spend time with the Lord in what Oswald Chambers calls - the **Missionary workshop**. I began reading through his book, “My Utmost for His Highest” way back in 1967 when I was converted, and over the years have read it over and over again each year. Also, I began reading through the Bible each year, following Robert Murray McCheyne, so this now marks my 54th time. How I long to know the Word better!!! The great Bishop J.C. Ryle wrote the following:

“He that desires to read his Bible with profit, must first ask the Lord to open the eyes of his understanding by the Holy Ghost. Human commentaries are useful in their way. The help of good and learned men is not to be despised. But there is no commentary to be compared with the teaching of Christ. A humble and prayerful spirit will find a thousand things in the Bible, which the proud, self-conceited student will utterly fail to discern.”



My Bible readings for today came from 2 Samuel, Ezekiel, Psalms and 2 Corinthians, after which **Oswald Chambers** wrote:

“The saint realizes that it is God who engineers circumstances, consequently there is no whine but a reckless abandon to Jesus ... you will only realize His voice more clearly by RECKLESSNESS.”



Then it was time to pray especially for the unreached, and today Joshua Project encouraged me to pray for the BEJA people in the Sudan. The need for missionaries is still so big. I long for the Lord to send out more students from KMBC. My heart is now full, my books are packed, together with my Malaria tablets, I have had my vaccines, had my Covid test, and so I am off to Zambia. I will catch a flight up to Johannesburg and then fly up into Ndola where my students will be waiting for me ... hopefully.

On the flight, I began to re-read **“Assurance” by J.C. Ryle**, a brilliant book. Here is a challenge for you just to get a taste:



“Let men call this legal doctrine if they please, but I will never shrink from declaring my belief that there are no ‘spiritual gains without pain’. I should as soon expect a farmer to prosper in business who contented himself with sowing his fields and never looking at them till harvest, as expect a believer to attain much holiness who was not diligent about his Bible reading, his prayers, and the use of his Sundays. Our God is a God who works by means, and He will never bless the soul of that man who pretends to be so high and spiritual that he can get on without them.”

What a joy it was to see Humphrey and Christopher waiting for me with their fantastic African smile and greeting. It was wonderful to see them again, I have missed them greatly.



Unfortunately, the Bank at the Airport was not operating so we had to go to a Bank in town which sadly would not change South African rand. No problem, I told them to take me to the old part of Ndola where I remembered how a money changer used to sit on his chair and was willing to change any currency.

Humphrey and Christopher could not believe it ... I knew more than they did about Ndola!!!

From there I was taken to my little room, to unpack and get ready for the meetings.





I was then taken to the local bus stop where we collected two of our mission students, Michael and Justine. I had given them a return ticket from Lusaka so that we could get together.

It was time for supper with my precious students and we so enjoyed some Bream fish and putu pap. It was wonderful to sit speaking outside well into the night, it was brilliant being together.

Now to end a perfect day of teaching the Bible in Africa and spending time with my students, let **William Borden** close of for us. What a man!!

William Borden, heir to the Borden family fortune, was another young man burdened for lost souls in Asia. A friend wrote to Bill that he was throwing his life away to be a missionary. But Borden wrote in his Bible, **"No reserves"**. Upon graduating from Yale in 1909, he turned down many lucrative job offers and wrote in his Bible, **"No retreats"**. When he finished his graduate work at Princeton, he sailed to Egypt to study Arabic in hopes of working with the Muslims. While there, he contracted spinal meningitis. Within a month twenty-five-year-old Borden was dead. Many speculated that his death was a waste. In time, it was discovered that Borden had written two more words in his Bible beneath his other entries: "No reserves. No retreats. **No regrets"**.



SATURDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

It felt so good to wake up in Central Africa doing what I love best. Today will be a very special day with my KMBC students coming together from right across Zambia (about 20). It promises to be special and, in the afternoon, we will go into a leadership seminar. But before I do anything, let me first go into the ***Missionary workshop*** and spend time with the Lord. Reading through the Bible for my 54th time is a milestone, but I love it.

My readings continued in 2 Samuel, Ezekiel, Psalms and 2 Corinthians, saturating my heart and mind with the Word of God. In my time of prayer, not only did I ask God for his blessings on the day's activities, but I was able to pray for another unreached people group, the GUHAYANA people living in the Sudan. As you know, from the day I was converted, after reading my Bible, I allow **Oswald Chambers** to mentor me and mold my life, he is the very best.

Jesus Christ demands of the man who trusts Him the same **RECKLESS** spirit that the natural man exhibits. If a man is going to do anything worthwhile, there are times when he has to **RISK** everything on his leap, and in the spiritual domain, Jesus Christ demands that you **RISK** everything you hold by common sense and leap into what He says.....



In that amazing book GARENGANZE where Fred Arnot remembers his early missionary pioneering days in central Africa, he quotes what **C T Studd** said soon after he arrived in the Congo.... speaking of the same thing.

“Last June at the mouth of the Congo there awaited a thousand prospectors, traders, merchants and gold seekers, waiting to rush into these regions as soon as the government opened the door to them, for rumor declared that there is an abundance of gold. If such men hear so loudly the call of gold and obey it, can it be that the ears of Christ’s soldiers are deaf to the call of God, and the cries of the dying souls of men? Are gamblers for gold so many, and **RISK TAKERS** so few for God?”



My heart is again stirred and rebuked, because I also want to be a risk taker (Studd) and reckless (Chambers). But to end off my devotions and as there is still some time before they come to fetch me, I dived into Ryle’s book on Assurance and again found him to be brilliant, especially on the mainspring of our work for Christ.



“**Love to Christ** is the mainspring of work for Christ. There is little done for His cause on earth from sense of duty, or from knowledge of what is right and proper. The heart must be interested before the hands will move and continue moving. Excitement may galvanize the Christian’s hands into a fitful and spasmodic activity. But there will be no patient continuance in well-doing, no unwearied labour in missionary work at home or abroad, without love.”

After a lovely wash and some breakfast, I was off to serve my students and preach my heart out up here on the Copperbelt. Breakfast always means two slices of bread and a cup of tea, just perfect. With a full heart and a full stomach, we went to the Church.



I spoke on ‘The Call’ of Joshua from 1:1-10 reminding them of:

1. **HIS TRAINING**
2. **HIS FAITHFUL PAST**
3. **THE PROMISES OF GOD**

It was blessed by God and at the close it was so moving to see all the pastors and students standing up in response to the message to rededicate themselves to the Lord and the ministry. After prayer and a short break, I spoke from **2 Timothy 2:15** on the **need for training** and spoke of the **different options available for study at KMBC**. Again, there was a fantastic response with ten applications for next year. Lunch followed with my precious students, and a rich time of fellowship was enjoyed by all.



After lunch we went to the hospital for another Covid test which I will need to have before I leave for home on Monday. In true African style it took ages, so afterwards we went home for some supper of beef and pap, a perfect end to a full day of teaching.

After another brilliant day in Africa, I want **Ryle** again close off the day from the brilliant book on **Assurance**, writing on “**Growing in Grace**”.

“When I speak of “growth in grace” I only mean increase in the degree, size, strength, vigour and power of the graces which the Holy Spirit plants in a believer’s heart. I hold that every one of those graces admits of growth, progress, and increase. I hold that repentance, faith, hope, love, humility, zeal, courage, and the like, may be little or great, strong or weak, vigorous or feeble, and may vary greatly in the same man at different periods of his life. When I speak of a man “growing in grace”, I mean simply this - that his sense of sin is becoming deeper, his faith stronger, his hope brighter, his love more extensive, his spiritual mindedness more marked. He manifests more of it in his life. He is going on from strength to strength, from faith to faith, and from grace to grace. I leave it to others to describe such a man’s condition by any words they please. For myself I think the truest and best account of his is this - he is “growing in grace.”

SUNDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

Today across the world, thousands of pastors and missionaries will be preaching the Word of God, and I will be doing the same up here in Ndola, preaching in the Church of one of our past students Christopher Mulapwa. But before I can go out and preach, I need to go into the *Missionary Workshop* and spend time with the Lord. As Al Martin used to say, this does 2 things:

- 1) **Maintains vitality in your walk with Jesus**
- 2) **Adds unction to your good work**

My Bible readings continued in 2 Samuel, Ezekiel, Psalms and then in 2 Corinthians. After saturating my mind and heart with the Word of God, it was time to pray especially for the unreached people of our world. This morning I prayed for the TUAREG people living in Niger. Then it was time for my mentor, **Oswald Chambers**, to teach me. Listen to the quote:



“We always have visions before a thing is made real. When we realize that although the vision is real, it is not real in us, then is the time that Satan comes in with his temptations, and we are apt to say it is **no use to go on**. Instead of the vision becoming real, there has to come the valley of humiliation. God gives us the vision, then he takes us down into the valley to batter us into the shape of the vision, and it is in the valley that so many of us faint and give way. Every vision, will be made real if we have the **patience**.”

Wow ... how true that has been in my life during the past 40 years after the Lord gave me the vision for KwaZulu Natal Missionary Bible College and then Footprints into Africa..... As I wait now for some breakfast and for the students to come and collect me, let me again dive into **Ryle** and his brilliant book on Assurance. Listen to what he wrote on HELL.



It is a question which lies at the very foundation of the whole Gospel. The moral attributes of God, His justice, His holiness, His purity, are all sanctification of the Spirit, are all at stake. Once let the old doctrine about Hell be overthrown, and the whole system of Christianity is unsettled, unscrewed, unpinned, and thrown into disorder.

In a similar vein, Hudson Taylor once wrote before heading off to China:

“Would that God may make hell so real to us that we cannot rest, heaven so real that we must have men there, Christ so real that our supreme motive and aim shall be to make the Man of Sorrows the man of joy by the conversion of many”.



Prayed so hard for the Lord to save souls during my preaching today, save them for going into hell for eternity. My heart is on fire, now it's time for a wash, some breakfast, then to preach my heart out, with a sense of urgency knowing there is **hell** awaiting for the unconverted.

Instead of breakfast we went back to the hospital for my results and then on to the church. Typical but they were not working so I will need to get the papers tomorrow.



At the service I preached on the **call of Jonah** and how he ran away from God's call. Wow ... by the grace of God there was another wonderful response to the message.



After lunch of two slices of bread and some tea we were off again, this time to see the land which Pastor Christopher has bought and on which he plans to build a Bible College, a school and run a piggery (to provide money). It is a huge vision and to help financially they make their own bricks and plant onions (see photos below).

It was very moving to kneel down and commit the project to God. I suggested the name ZMBC (similar to our KMBC).



Starving, we headed back home to a scrumptious supper.

I have loved re-reading **Ryle on “Assurance”**, so let him close off this perfect day with another wonderful reminder on the Bible, and what it should mean to us.

A general faith in the truth of God’s written Word is the foundation of the Christian soldier’s character. He is what he does, thinks as he thinks, acts as he acts, hopes he hopes, behaves as he behaves, for one simple reason - he believes certain prepositions revealed and laid down in **Holy Scripture**. “He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and He is a Rewarder of them that diligently seek him. (Hebrews xi 5.)

MONDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

As the sun already begins to rise over Zambia, how glorious it is to wake up early and begin the day in the **Missionary workshop**. My Bible readings continued in 2 Samuel, Ezekiel, Psalms and in 2 Corinthians. **Diedrich Bonhoeffer** was so right when he wrote:

“Time lost is time in which we have failed to live a full human life ... therefore every day in which I do not penetrate more deeply into the knowledge of God’s Word in the Bible is a LOST day for me. I can only move forward with certainty upon the firm ground of the Word of God.”



After the Word, it is time to pray especially for the unreached, so today I remembered the RAJPOT people living in India. Time now for **my mentor, Oswald Chambers** and he was fantastic on describing what his **books meant to him**.



I have been having a reveling few days. My box has at last arrived - MY BOOKS. I cannot tell you what they are to me - silent, wealthy, loyal lovers. To look at them, to handle them, and to re-read them. I do thank God for my books with every fibre of my being. Friends that are ever true and ever your own. Why ... I could have almost cried for excess of joy when I get hold of them again.



I had such a “chuckle” because when friends visit my study at my Footprints office, I introduce them to all my “Lovers”, my books, which I am surrounded by.

After such a lovely time in my devotions I could now have a wash and enjoy my breakfast and then head off with my students.

We went via the bus stop to send Michael

and Justine on their way and then I was first in the queue for my international Covid travel certificate. It has been hectic, extremely stressful getting all these Covid requirements, but how better to end a brilliant trip than to have breakfast at the Airport with my beloved Humphrey and Christopher and our driver.



I flew on to Johannesburg, then on another flight into Durban and drove up to Pietermaritzburg arriving home at 10, o'clock after a whirlwind trip.

Another brilliant trip draws to a close. I have preached my heart out, lived with my students and read my books. Now I want one of my heroes, **John Piper**, to close off by reminding us that **MINISTRY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN LIFE**, an incredible reminder to me.



O, how many examples could be multiplied from the glorious history of God's faithful saints! William Carey sailed to India from England in 1793 He lost his five-year-old son, his wife became mentally ill, he laboured seven years for his first convert, and he lost years' worth of precious translation work in a fire. But still he pressed on - for forty years without a furlough. Because **ministry is more important than life**. Adoniram Judson, America's first foreign missionary, went to Burma in 1814. He lost a six-month-old baby boy, spent a year and a half in a “death prison”, lost his wife from fever, suffered a mental breakdown, and waited five years for his first convert. But he kept on, **because ministry is more important than life**. Robert Morrison the first Protestant missionary to go to China (in 1807), lost his young wife and worked seven years for his first convert. But he kept on, **because ministry is more important than life.**”

Looking back...

I loved being back in Central Africa for my 12th visit to Zambia. Over the years more than 20 students have come from this area so it was wonderful to spend time with them, encouraging them in their great work. BUT I came home with two thoughts burning on my heart, which I want to share with you, my friends.

1. KWAZULU-NATAL MISSIONARY AND BIBLE COLLEGE



My mentor, **Oswald Chambers** also ran a missionary college before he went to Egypt as a missionary and this is what he wrote, which is so pertinent for me.



Here in this Bible College, God is at work, bending, breaking, molding, doing just as He chooses. Why is He doing it? He is doing it for one purpose only - that He may be able to say - this is My Man, My woman.

One student a year who hears God's call would be sufficient for God to have called this College into existence. This college as an organization is not worth anything, it is not academic; it is for nothing else but for God to help Himself to live."

While alone in my little room, with my books, I become overwhelmed with the thought that God has taken 350 of our students and is now using them all over the world. Many of you are enjoying the cameos of our past students at the end of my Newsletters each month. Then, in spite of all the Covid challenges another 11 will graduate this year; loved, trained, equipped and sent into Africa. Isn't that wonderful!!! My heart is overflowing with gratitude, to God be the glory, great things He has done. Surely nothing could be more important for the Kingdom than this work. It was fantastic to spend time with my students and see again the amazing working being accomplished by my College.



2. MISSIONARY METHODS

During this term I have managed to read 3 incredible missionary books which are old (written about 1940) but right up to date!! They challenged me deeply.



Born to Burn - the story of David Davies and his work in China

It Can be Done - the story of William Williams and his work in Venezuela

Two-fold Growth - the story of Herbert Kane and his work in China.

This chronicle, from the pen of Mr. Kane, shows the gospel at work in a section of China formerly known as "dark Anhwei." Today, thank God, the Fowyang district with its groups of growing churches and self-supporting witness is a pattern of fruitful work for God. The interesting account Mr. Kane presents is a flowing commentary on sound missionary methods. The reader is privileged to follow the work from its humble origin.

With many missionaries pumping millions of dollars into their work in Africa, building wonderful buildings, doing much of the work themselves, Kane has some massive lessons for me to learn from ... sound missionary methods. This is what he wrote:

- **TRAIN LEADERS**

This is the end and aim of our missionary work in Fowyang - **to train Chinese leaders** to the point where we shall find ourselves without a job. When this point is reached our work will be done; and we shall be able to withdraw, leaving behind a strong, spiritual, indigenous church.



- **MAKE IT AFRICAN**



Instead of being a mission project, the proposition was put up to the churches, and when they decided to resume the Bible school it automatically **became their project**; and thereafter the responsibility was theirs. It was interesting to see the way they ran it! Certain features disappeared immediately: no travel allowance, no food bonus, and no cook. The students cooked their own meals, or bought them on the street. And the strange thing about it was that the sit-down strikes ceased, and there was no more criticism. It takes the Chinese to handle the Chinese ... and for me, the Africans the Africans.

- **BUILD ON JESUS CHRIST**

Often the work has been built up **around the personality of the missionary; it will collapse when he retires**. If it has been built on the solid rock - Christ Jesus - it will continue to stand, even in the time of stress and strain. If the missionary, instead of putting ten men to work, has been content to do the work of ten men, the weakness of his work will become apparent the moment he leaves for furlough. The fact that he was a hard worker will be cold comfort to the untrained leaders left behind to cope with problems for which they were not prepared. Happy is the missionary whose labours do not cease when he bids farewell and sails for home.

With *Footprints into Africa*, our students are loved and I pour out my life for them, but I have tried over these years to:

- Give no money
- To build no buildings
- Allow them to run their Churches

It is not easy, but Herbert Kane was a huge encouragement to me and my work across Africa. Please pray for me as I seek to follow his example and his sound missionary methods. Train up pastors and missionaries who will build churches which are:

- Self-supporting
- Self-governing
- Self-propagating

My 66th mission trip is now over. Tomorrow morning at 6:00am, I will be back at my desk training pastors and missionaries for Africa. I cannot ever thank you enough for your incredible support with love, prayers and generous financial giving. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, you enable me to continue with this important work.

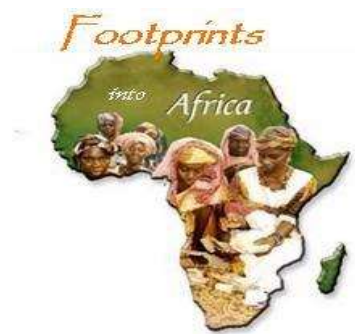


In 1834, Robert Kalley wrote:

“Lord send me where Thou pleassest, do with me what Thou seest fit, only let me feel Thou art with me.”

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.

Website: www.footprintsintoafrica.com

Contact details:

Cell: 082 920 1147

Office: (033) 346 0635

E-mail: footprintsmb@gmail.com

Bank Details

Footprints into Africa

Standard Bank

251661423

04 55 26 SWIFT SBZAJJ

Yours for Africa,

Warwick

