MY 15TH MISSION TRIP TO MALAWI



MARCH 2024



By: Bishop Warwick Cole-Edwardes Trip 73

INTRODUCTION

2024 has arrived full of opportunities to serve our Lord Jesus Christ and I am very excited to be involved in the work of my college, KwaZulu-Natal Missionary and Bible College and Footprints into Africa. This will be the 38th year of the college where by the grace of God, nearly 400 pastors and missionaries have been trained and equipped for Africa and beyond – it's been the most wonderful experience for me, an absolute dream. Looking back over 2023, perhaps the one highlight for me was to baptize one of our students – **Phetso Sekwati** He came from Botswana, a lovely young man, but a nominal Christian. As he soaked in the lectures, he came to understand the Gospel and was beautifully converted. His baptism was merely an outward testimony to the grace of God in his life.







Look carefully at the photos ... Petso's fists are firmly clenched with emotion at the start, then they release and open to receive God's rich blessing of grace.

He has now returned to Botswana, converted and fully equipped to be a pastor in Gaborone.

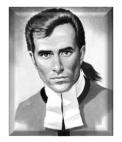
Hallelujah ... that is what KMBC is here for!!!





Then in the holidays I re-read that magnificent book on FIVE PIONEER MISSIONARIES. What really struck home to my heart was to read of their passion to save souls, evangelism was uppermost. Listen to what they said – they really challenged me very deeply.

David Brainerd



"I had no notion of joy for this world. I care not where or how I lived, or what hardships I must go through, so long as I could gain souls for Christ.

William Burns

"When I was walking along Argyle Street just now, I was so overcome with the sight of the countless crowds of immortal beings eagerly hastening hither and thither, but all heading towards the eternal world, that I could bear it no longer."



Henry Martyn





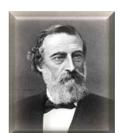
"It has never yet, to my knowledge, pleased God to awaken one soul by my means; shame be to myself (later of course he saw many turning to Christ).

Jim Elliot

"May we who know Christ, hear the cry of the dammed as they hurtle headlong into the Christless night without ever a chance. May we shed tears of repentance for those we have failed to bring out of darkness."



Sadly, today this passion for reaching the lost is gone and many Christians have lost their zeal for evangelism. Please pray that on my trips this year into Africa many will be saved. I must never lose that passion of bringing people to Christ, just like Petso.



But now, as our 1^{st} term comes into exam week, I am off into Africa. I love what **James Stewart** once wrote:

"I shall never be satisfied till I am in Africa with a Bible in my pocket."

As you all know, the one country that is so much on my heart is MALAWI, sometimes called "Africa's Warm Heart".

Time slows down when I move around Malawi and I passed women in colourful wraparound cloth hoeing the fields and men on bicycles transporting bundles of thatch. At communal wells, little girls pumped water into large buckets, and children everywhere paused to wave at us like their lives depended on it. Some of them came running after us, shouts of "Zikomo' echoed in their wake. It's a happy memory, of being among people who live close to the land with few resources, yet are truly warm and



welcoming. People who offer kind smiles, even if they have little besides kindness to offer.

You find such salt-of-the-earth people all over Malawi, a nation that humbles you in many ways, not least because it is a beauty of a country. It is the endless humanity of its people, though, that kicks you in the guts and breaks your heart.

It broke David Livingstone's heart too. When the missionary explorer arrived in Lake Malawi in 1859, he was struck by its beauty but horrified by the scourge of slavery playing out on its shores. Women and children were captured during raids by local chiefs and then transported across the water and shipped to Zanzibar's slave markets. Livingstone's report to the British government prompted action; the Sultan of Zanzibar was eventually convinced to ban the trade in humans.



I am so excited to take the first consignment of Bibles to the Leaders in Malawi. This suitcase carries a precious consignment of Bibles, weighing in at 18kgs!



Here in Malawi, I will spend time in my little home *ILALA* which was built for me in the Village of Nambiro. Then I will be preaching at the four churches which our student, DANIEL CHISAKENI GOWA has planted in NSANGWE, TENGANI and NAMBIRO. This is where Jon put in the Borehole and a Hall for the people, so it has my heart.







Daniel's church, which has enjoyed wonderful growth under his leadership





UPDATF

Although Malawi remains a stable and peaceful land. The people have a peaceful and rural nature, the democracy is healthy. However, the country still faces complex challenges of poverty combined with high population growth, HIV/AIDS, unemployment, and migration of many people into and through Malawi. After Cyclone Freddy, Malawi's farmers face a precarious future, and the food system is still reeling.



The Church in Africa

Many pastors serve multiple churches. Over 208 million believers don't own a Bible. 80% of pastors have no formal training

MALAWI

Most leaders in Malawi are church members, however there are great demands for Scripture for local use, and for the refugee community.

- Only 10% of rural pastors possess their own Bible, they share among one another.
- Many rural Christians have NO Bibles.
- The lack of Biblical training and teaching has taken a toll upon the villages of Malawi. The Jehovah Witnesses and the Mormons are flooding the areas. The Muslims are also pouring into Malawi, with lots of money to influence the children and youth of the poor.
- The Bible in audio format is a fast-developing ministry, covering Scriptures & teaching in 26 languages (Bible Society, GRN,TWR).

How I give thanks to God that my college KMBC, and Footprints into Africa is making inroads into these challenges by providing training and Bibles

Literacy is a problem

World Vision

is improving the literacy rate, as well as knowledge of essential life skills, for boys and girls. Across Malawi, most learners in early grades in primary school cannot read and write by the time they reach Secondary Level. Without basic literacy skills, these children are unable to learn, and this gives them little chance of succeeding in school and beyond.

Labour Force

Women make up 50 - 70 % of the agricultural labour force and are often additionally tasked with caring for children and the elderly. It is the women in the regions most affected by "Freddy", who now eat less and work even harder to provide for their families. They are surviving off scattered patches of fertile land.



Information sources : Operation World



God's Word for Africa



WEDNESDAY, 13 MARCH

My first term lectures are now completed (I had a heavy schedule of 26 lectures per week), the first exam week has started, so I am off into my Africa. The words of **Floyd McClung** are written on my heart forever.

"We need to build our work among the people we want to reach and mobilize. There are 1000's of teachable. Dedicated, emerging leaders in the nations of AFRICA who are crying out for training and mentoring"

I am heading back to Malawi for the 15th time, marking my 73rd trip into Africa. But before anything else let me go into the "**Missionary Workshop**" and there spend time with the Lord. As you know I follow the calendar of **Robert Murray McCheyne**, who said to his congregation of St. Peters in Dundee, Scotland where I once took Mary to visit.

"It has long been on my mind to prepare a scheme of Scripture reading, so that the whole Bible might be read once by you in the year."

I began McCheyne's programme when I was converted way back in 1967, and now I am reading the precious Word of God for the 58th time. My readings were from Exodus, John, Proverbs and Galatians. Having listened to the Word of God in the Bible, it was then time to pray and this morning, following Joshua Project, I prayed for MARATHI people, an unreached people group living in Zimbabwe. My mentor, **Oswald Chambers**, in his book *My Utmost for His Highest* issued this challenge for me for 2024:



"<u>Shut out</u> 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."

This is very similar to what **Francois Coillard**, missionary of the Zambezi, wrote way back in 1813:

"The evangelization of the world is a desperate struggle with the Prince of Darkness and with everything his rage can stir up in the shape of obstacles, vexations, oppositions, and hatred, whether by circumstances or by the hand of man. It is a serious task. Oh, it should mean a life of consecration."

In her magnificent biography on Amy Carmichael, entitled *Chance to Die*, Elizabeth Elliot, related the following along similar lines:



"It was he who told her of the three inscriptions over the doors of Milan Cathedral. One, with a carving of roses, says, "All that pleases is but for a moment"; another, with a carving of a cross, says, "All that grieves is but for a moment"; and over the great central door are only the words, "Nothing is important but that which is eternal."

What a reminder ... NOTHING IS IMPORTANT but that which is ETERNAL.

My heart has been stirred so now I can fly out from Pietermaritzburg up to Johannesburg and from there up the Chileka Airport in Blantyre, Malawi, there to enjoy my 73rd trip into MAMA AFRICA.

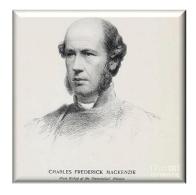


So, hold onto your seat belts and enjoy the ride! On arriving in Blantyre, my friend, Fraction kindly took me to my little room where I will spend the evening before heading down to the village. Driving to my accommodation I spent time at the Anglican Cathedral built in honour of their first bishop, Charles Fredrich McKenzie. You may remember he came out from England to Natal with Bishop Colenso, was then consecrated by Bishop Gray in Cape Town and in response to David Livingstone's challenge was sent up to Malawi, a lovely unmarried Bishop. Tragically, he died soon afterwards from Malaria and now to kneel at the altar where he is buried is moving for me.

I want to follow him in his passion for









After supper, who better than Amy Carmichael to close off as she speaks of the missionaries she did NOT want to come and help her in India:



"Oh, to be delivered from half-hearted missionaries! Don't come if you mean to turn aside for anything – for the 'claims of society' in the treaty ports and stations. Don't come if you haven't made up your mind to love for one thing – the winning of souls"

Now I can fall asleep in my MAMA AFRICA, so very privileged to be here.

THURSDAY, 14 MARCH

What a beautiful morning up here in Malawi, so before anything else let me go into the "Missionary Workshop". My Bible readings continued in Exodus, John, Proverbs and Galatians and then I was able to pray. I was reminded what **John Mott**, who was so wonderfully used by God to promote missions, wrote concerning <u>prayer</u>"



"For many years it has been my practice in travelling among the nations to make a study of the sources of the spiritual movements which are doing most to vitalize and transform individuals and communities. At times it has been difficult to discover the hidden spring, but invariably where I have had the time and patience to do so, I have found it in an intercessory prayer-life of great reality."

Today I prayed for the KENYAN ARAB people in Kenya and afterwards Oswald Chambers closed off my devotions by reminding me:

"A life of faith is not a life of one glorious mountain top experience after another, like soaring on eagles' wings, but is a life of day in and day out CONSISTENCY, a life of walking without fainting."

Professor Warnock wrote this about **Hudson Taylor** and his life of consistency, which Chambers talks about:



"The founder of the China Inland Mission was a physician J. Hudson Taylor, a man full of the Holy Ghost and of faith, of entire surrender to God and His call, of great self-denial, heartfelt compassion, rare power in prayer, marvellous organizing faculty, energetic initiative, indefatigable, perseverance, and of astonishing influence with men, and withal of childlike humility."

Professor Warneck

After a small breakfast I hitched a Boda Boda to the taxi rank from where I travelled all the way down to NSANGWE, passing through Majeti, Njalo and Ngabu. Along the route we passed by the David Livingstone tree, a place which the great man used to rest on his way up from the Shire Valley.







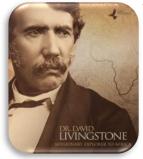
A highlight is always to cross over the mighty Shire River on which David Livingstone spent many hours while exploring the areas. Along her banks are the graves of the early missionaries who gave their lives to bring the Gospel to Malawi – men and women of whom the world is not worthy. Here I am at the graves of Thornton, Scuddermore and Dickensen...my heroes.







These men followed Livingstone, who wrote:



"I place no value on anything I have or may possess, except in relation to the kingdom of God. If anything will advance the interests of the kingdom, it shall 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 or eternity."

Finally, the mini bus arrived at Nsangwe Trading Store. Along the trip down from Blantyre we picked up 22 passengers / maize/ chickens/ goats, we were soooo loaded!



From there a short bicycle taxi took me to the village of Nambiro and to my home, *Ilala*.



What a welcome!!! They were so happy to welcome me home, especially Daniel who calls me "Dad". In true African style we gathered together to talk on my veranda and caught up on all that has happened since my last visit and soon tea arrived and a bucket of warm water to have a wash after the trip in that taxi. Life could not be better!!



How very privileged and blessed I am to be here in *ILALA*, thank you Jesus.



Then I was off to **Jon's borehole** and shed more tears for my son who I miss so much.

Slowly the sun began to set so I needed to get ready with some candles and prepare to spend the night on the hard floor. In my home there is no electricity, no water, no toilet, just a beautiful shell, but for me sheer bliss.



I was reminded of what **James O. Fraser**, that magnificent missionary to the LISU people in China, who wrote regarding his accommodation of a little room with some straw on the floor as his bed.



"Afterwards, we all sat around the log-fire. Talk about your grand hotels!! I had would rather sleep in a simple homely place like this, among such people, than in the grandest of hotels back home."

And now Bishop Handley Moule will close off my day for me, such a perfect day in Africa.

"To be like Christ! To displace self from the inner throne, and to enthrone Him; to make not the slightest compromise with the smallest sin. We aim at nothing less than to walk with God all day long, to abide every hour in Christ and He and His words in us, to love e with all the heart and our neighbour as ourselves ... It is possible to cast every care on Him daily and to be at peace amidst, pressure, to see the will of God in everything, to put away all bitterness and clamour and evil speaking, daily and hourly. It is possible by unreserved resort to divine power under divine conditions to become strongest through and through at our weakest point.



It's strange because when I am here in my little home, Daniel always comes to sleep in the lounge, I think he feels he must look after me!! So, I fell asleep with Daniel snoring his head off ... so very blessed and privileged to be here in the village.

FRIDAY, 15 MARCH

Wow ... I love being here in the village, even sleeping on this rock-hard floor, living among these precious people. It is amazing to watch, as soon as the first ray of dawn arrives the village comes alive. You hear the cattle bellowing as they are taken out to pasture, the fires are lit for the day, the chickens and goats are running all round and the women all go to Jon's borehole to get their water for the day. All wonderful to be part of, and this morning sunrise was spectacular. But now, before



anything else let me go into the "Missionary Workshop" and there spend time with the Lord. Today I will be busy travelling and lecturing to all the leaders from Malawi and Mozambique so I will need to spend extra time in prayer, knowing that without God's blessing it is all in vain.









This morning my Bible readings continued in Exodus, John, Proverbs and we finished Galatians. Afterwards in my time of prayer I remembered especially the BERNDE people who live in Chad, another of the +- 6000 unreached people groups in our world.

As always Oswald Chambers closes off my devotions and this is what he wrote from Genesis 18:17:

"Genesis 18 brings out the delight of true friendship with God, as compared with simply feeling His presence occasionally in prayer. This friendship means being so intimately in touch with God that you never even need to ask Him to show you, His will."

My bucket of warm water then arrived so I could enjoy a good wash and shave and get ready for the day. Breakfast consists of 2 slices of bread and tea, so in every way I am ready to go and preach my heart out.

As I go, I remembered what **Johannes Kraph** wrote soon after arriving in Mombasa to begin the work up in Kenya in 1813. What an incredible foundation he laid for future missionaries in East Africa.



"Two months later ne was bereaved by the death of his wife and only child. In famous words, he wrote to the Church Missionary Society; 'Tell our friends that in a lonely grave on the African coast there rests a member of the Mission. This is a sign that they have begun the struggle with this part of the world; and since the victories of the Church lead over the graves of many of her members, they may be the more convinced that the hour is approaching when you will be called to convert Africa, beginning from the East Coast."

I then took a bicycle taxi up to the main road from where I got into a mini bus to Tengani for a long day on ministry. (I had to hire a second bicycle taxi because I brought a suitcase full of Bibles which is very heavy). My back will not recover from carrying these cases all around! When I got into the taxi the people all laughed at this "old white mlungu" travelling with them in an overloaded taxi ... but they don't realize how much I love it!!!







On arriving in Tengani, first it was time to distribute the Bibles to all the leaders. What an emotional time it was to see people hold their very own Bible for the first time, the very precious Word of God in their hands... WOW ...

I remembered that 208 million believers in Africa don't own a Bible and 80% of pastors have had no formal training ... these are staggering statistics!







We then went into a day of training and I spoke on:

- 1. Qualifications of a leader from 1 Peter 5
- 2. Nehemiah an <u>exemplary leader</u>
- 3. Jesus The Transforming Leader

It was time for lunch with the temperature touching 40 degrees C.

I was privileged to provide lunch for everyone, which we all thoroughly enjoyed. (the goat we bought at a cost of 40,000 kw)

Lunch is a time for fellowship and we just so enjoyed being together, planning how to grow the Church in the future. They are all humble, gentle, poor but such godly men.

What an unbelievable day it was – distributing the Bibles, speaking on leadership, providing lunch for all the delegates. After lunch we then had the long haul back to Nambiro. I was so exhausted that I managed to fall asleep in the taxi!!!



On arriving back at my little house, there was an ice-cold coke waiting, some caramel condensed milk, which I love, and a bucket of warm water to have a good wash after being out in the village all day. They really care for my every need ... As darkness descends on the village, I am off to sleep on the floor.

But tonight, I want you to listen again to **Fred Arnot**, that amazing missionary who pioneered the work in Angola. He wrote in 1881 these lovely words which I can fully relate to:

"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 African people and long for their conversions. Now is a golden opportunity. It does not seem too much to say that scores of true servants of the Lord are needed in this part of Africa.



Daniel is already snoring his head off next door ... I love these dear people!!!

SATURDAY, 16 MARCH

A new day dawns across Malawi and I am so incredibly blessed to be here living in my little house serving my precious students, living with them, eating with them, and now training up a new generation of leaders for their Churches which they have planted. But I must begin in the "Missionary Workshop" and follow in the footsteps of my heroes. My Bible readings continued in Exodus, Proverbs, John and we started Ephesians, soaking into my heart and mind the Word of God. In my time of prayer, I remembered the MOOR people living in Senegal, and then **Oswald Chambers** closed off my devotions. The last few morning **Chambers** spoke on the need for <u>consistency and friendship</u> with God, today on being identified with Jesus.:



"The inseparable spiritual need each of us has is the need to sign the death certificate of our old nature."

This is the title of Amy Carmichael's biography "A Chance to Die". It speaks of death to self and a life fully identified with Jesus. My hot water has arrived so I can enjoy a lovely shave, wash and be ready for another full day of training. We enjoyed breakfast together of some bread and tea, so now I am off to preach my lungs out as William Perkins used to say. But I want to try and follow the example of Francois Coillard, of whom Stephen Neil wrote the following about his life and ministry in Africa:

"Many missionaries were fine men, but Coillard seemed to stand out above then all: his peculiar combination of patience, persistence, ability to understand the African, humour and radical godliness made him one of the dominant figures in Africa for 40 years.

How I long to be exactly like that as I work across Africa but especially here in Malawi. Yesterday I met with all our Church leaders from Mozambique and Tengani, and today I want to focus on Nambiro.

Sadly, there are difficulties here which need to be sorted out prayerfully and graciously. First, I had a long meeting with Lenard, Daniel and John mainly over the issue of Daniel being in control and heading up the work, as we all agreed to 5 years ago. The devil tried to get in, but I was so grateful to the Lord because at the end of our time there were tears of repentance and things are now back on track.







The 3 leaders; Daniel, John and Lenard

Handing over Bibles to more of the Leaders

From there I went to visit one of our earliest students, <u>FRIDAY TEMBO</u>. Sadly, one of my closest friends gave him a lot of money to establish an orphanage which unfortunately never materialized and fellowship and trust was broken. But I went to him and it was very moving to see how visibly

moved he was that I had gone to him, put my arms around him and had the most wonderful time together. Wow ... today has been emotional but glorious.

After meeting with Friday, I went to visit John Dzongololo and his wife, we enjoyed lunch together under the tree.







Pastor Friday Jingo

Meeting with John and his wife

When I arrived back at my home so very happy, there was the Chief of the village waiting to greet me. We shared some MAHEU together which the ladies had been making all day.







After a very challenging but emotional and fulfilling day, we all enjoyed our supper of chicken and rice so lovingly prepared by the ladies over their fires.

Now before the sun sets and I hit the floor, I want to quote from **Bishop Stephen Neil** in his classic "A History of Christian Missions", which I have just read for the 3rd time. Makes for riveting reading:



- Missionary activity if always the sign of vitality in the church
- As always happens, new life in the Church found its outlet in renewed missionary activity
- The missionary enterprise of the Churches is always in a measure a reflection of their vigour, of their wealth and of that power of conviction which finds its expression in self-sacrifice and a willingness for adventurous service.

Please pray that I will always walk with Jesus with a heart and life passionate for missions, following my missionary God. Now time to hit this rock-hard floor ... *David Livingstone would*

be proud of me. He at least slept on a sheep skin and a hide from a horse ... Wow... my hero, he has dominated my life in Africa for over 44 years – since that 1st trip up to ONDANGWA way bck in 1980!!!

SUNDAY, 17 MARCH

As the first light of the day dawns, it is time to get off the floor, watch the sunrise then go into the "Missionary Workshop". The village is coming alive so I began with the readings from the Bible in Exodus, John, Proverbs and Ehesians, listening to the voice of God in the Word of God. In my time of prayer, I prayed especially for the KHASONKE people living in Snegal. This time of devotion is critical for me, enabling me to stay close to Jesys and continue in my walk with God. In the book



"The Everlasting God" by Dr. Broaphton Knox, he opened this book on the doctrine of God with these words:

"The doctrine of God is of the utmost importance, for it controls the whole of life. As a person thinks about God, that is to say, as he thinks about ultimate reality, so his standards of behaviour values and relations with other people are determined."



I am busy reading this book, it really is magnificent. But, as always, my mentor, **Oswald Chambers** closes my devotions and this is what he wrote this morning on "*The Burning Heart*" from Luke 24:32.



"We need to learn this secret of the burning heart. Suddenly Jesus appears to us, fires are set ablaze, and we are given wonderful visions, but then we must learn to maintain the secret of the burning heart."

My deepest longing is just that, to be a man with a burning heart. My bucket of warm water has arrived so let me go and enjoy my shave and a wash, enjoy my breakfast of some bread and tea and then go to the "Jon Cole-Edwardes Hall" and preach my heart out as all the village comes together for the service.



It is times like these that I miss Jon terribly, it seems to get harder for me even after 10 years, I so longed for him to see the fruit of his work. But one day ... together again ...then forever ...

As I now go and preach to the village, I prayed the prayer of James Fraser who wrote in 1915 at the age of 30:



"Give me Lisu converts and I can truly say I will be happy even in a pigsty."







After giving more Bible out to the leaders from Nambiro, I preached from 1 Corinthians 15:1-5 on "our glorious gospel" and by the grace of God there was a marvellous response. Many indicated their desire to come to Christ and be saved. It was the most wonderful end to my trip, just the cherry on the top of the cake.

My time has now come to leave *ILALA*, the village, my son Jon, and Daniel and head back home. It is a dream being here for me:

- ∇ To see the 3 men trained and equipped at KMBC.
- ∇ To see the new Churches, they are busy planting across Malawi and Mozambique.
- ∇ To see their leaders emerging and the joy I had to spend days training them.
- ∇ To see precious souls being saved in Jon's Hall.
- ∇ To see the borehole working 24 x 7 is moving.
- ∇ I just love these precious, gentle, kind and gracious people.
- ∇ To hand over the Bibles will a never-to-be forgotten experience.

With a huge lump in my throat, I had to then get on my bicycle taxi and go to the taxi rank in order to catch a mini bus all the way back to Blantyre. Daniel waited with me and I was able to hand over all my clothes, money and whatever else I could give him.

BUT I always feel I am leaving Jon behind; all this is very emotional for me ... "bye dad" Daniel says as the taxi takes off ...



but I was too chocked up to respond. It always seems longer going back up the escarpment and in a jam-packed taxi, the 4 hours felt like an eternity, but eventually we arrived in Blantyre. William Borden described **Samuel Zwemer** in the following way:



"He was a man with a map. Charged with facts and with enthusiasm, grim with earnestness, filled with a passion for Christ and the perishing.

Please pray that I can get to that standard. And now to sleep on a bed with clean sheets ... wow...

MONDAY, 18 MARCH

Sadly, my last morning has arrived! As the first light of dawn breaks, I wanted to be up early and watch another magnificent sunrise over Malawi, so conscious of how very privileged I am to be a missionary in Africa and to be living my dream. As I went into the "Missionary Workshop", by Bible readings continued in Exodus, John, Proverbs and Ephesians where I was able to listen to the voice of God in the Word of God. Then in my time of prayer I remembered the



GUH AYNA people, another unreached people living in the Sudan. I was also able to thank the Lord for His hand upon this trip:

- > Travelling mercies in the taxis, bicycles, boda-bodas
- Training up the new generation of leaders
- Preaching in the J.C.E. Hall and seeing souls saved
- Living in my house with no water, electricity or toilet
- Spending time with my precious students, Daniel, Lenard, John and Friday
- > Handing out those Bibles to those who never had owned a Bible

Oswald Chambers then closed off my devotion with these words:

"The desires of the flesh war against the spirit and the Spirit wars against the flesh, which began at rebirth, and what produce carnality. But Paul said; walk in the Spirit and you will not fulfil the lusts of the flesh."



After a small breakfast of some bread and tea, I took a leisurely stroll to the main road, and so enjoyed walking down LIVINSTONE Street and HENDERSON Street.





From there I hitched a taxi to the airport. My books are read, my money is finished and my bags are totally empty; wow no heavy Bible to lug around; but there was one last thing to do ...go and say good-bye to *David Livingstone*.

Livingstone, the greatest missionary ever to come to Africa, opened up Africa for the Gospel. All his work had this one dream; to opened up Africa, and what a brilliant job he did. To walk around "St. Michael and All Angels Church" is both humbling and stirring. I love going up to the altar, kneeling down and just thanking the Lord for all His grace in calling me and allowing me to live my dream across Africa. To see the plaques dedicated to all the pioneer missionaries is stirring – Henderson, Stewart, Cleland, Livingstone ... I just love being here. These men of whom the world is not worth, are my heroes ... if only I could follow them more closely ...

I could never leave Blantyre without first going to say goodbye and thank you to *David Livingstone*. I have followed in his steps across Africa for the past 44 years ...







I then flew home the most blessed man on the planet and landed safely after my two flights. Tomorrow morning, I will be back at my desk at 5:30 am to mark the exams my students have written while I was away and prepare them as pastors and missionaries for Africa. God willing, I then leave for Rwanda in May, Uganda in June, Zambia and Democratic Republic of Congo in September, so life is very full for me, surely no one better than David Livingstone could close off my time in Malawi with these beautiful and stirring words:

"I am a missionary, heart and soul. God had an only Son, and He was a missionary and a physician. I am a poor, poor imitation of Him, or wish to be. In this service I hope to live; in it I wish to die!"

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

~ David Livingstone

That's me ... in this service I hope to live, in it I wish to die! See you soon RWANDA

EPILOGUE

For those of you who have kindly stood with me over these 73 trips into Africa and read my Journals, you will know this is the first time I am including an epilogue, and I tell you why. On this trip:

- ☑ To see Jon's borehole working 24 x 7, supplying the village with water is incredible.
- ☑ To see the men's faces when I gave them their 1st Bible was heart wrenching,
- ☑ To see souls' beings saved at our last service was humbling and glorious.
- **☑** To see Lenard, Daniel and John reconcile was beautiful.
- **☑** To see joy on Friday's face brought tears to my eyes.
- **☑** To celebrate Jon's birthday at the borehole was very emotional.

I left the village having poured out my life!! Not only do I go back with absolutely nothing in my bag, but I have given them everything of myself and felt EXHAUSTED. But at that moment I read this in "MY Utmost for His Highest" and it moved me deeply, enough to want to share it with you all, my precious friends and supporters. It was a message for me from the Lord.

The most beloved devotional of all time.

By Oswald Chambers

Are You Exhausted Spiritually?



Exhaustion means that our vital energies are completely worn out and spent. Spiritual exhaustion is never the result of sin, but of service. Whether or not you experience exhaustion will depend on where you get your supplies. Jesus said to Peter, "Feed My sheep," but He gave him nothing with which to feed them (John 21:17). The process of being made broken bread and poured-out wine means that you have to be the nourishment for other people's souls until they learn to feed on God. They must drain you completely— to the very last drop. But be careful to replenish your supply, or you will quickly be utterly exhausted. Until others learn to draw on the life of the Lord Jesus directly, they will have to draw on His life through you. You must literally be their source of supply, until they learn to take their nourishment from God. We owe it to God to be our best for His lambs and sheep, as well as for Him.

Have you delivered yourself over to exhaustion because of the way you have been serving God? If so, then renew and rekindle your desires and affections. Examine your reasons for service. Is your source based on your own understanding or is it grounded on the redemption of Jesus Christ? Continually look back to the foundation of your love and affection and remember where your Source of power lies. You have no right to complain, "O Lord, I am so exhausted." He saved and sanctified you to exhaust you. Be exhausted for God, but remember that He is your supply. "All my springs are in you"

(Psalm 87:7).

Thank you, Jesus, to you be all the glory.





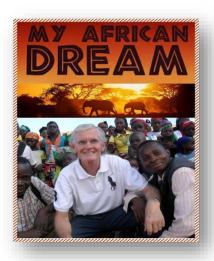
If you would like to share in, or support my work into Africa, I would value your partnership. Perhaps you may like to consider one the followings avenues:



- ☑ 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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