TAKING THE SAVING GOSPEL TO A LOST WORLD

RONALD COLEMAN 8813 WOOD GLEN DRIVE ROWLETT, TEXAS 75088 (972) 412-4273

"...GO INTO ALL THE
WORLD AND PREACH THE
GOSPEL TO EVERY
CREATURE..."

CENTERVILLE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

1102 E. CENTERVILLE ROAD GARLAND, TEXAS 75041 (972) 278-3179

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TAMSO, GHANA

There is terrible poverty in this land of about 25 million souls but the Lord's church is flourishing in many parts of the country. There is more political stability than in some African nations and, unlike nearby Nigeria, there is little Islamic violence against Christians. **Jacob Dassah**, age 47, preaches for the congregation in Tamso, a town about 200 miles from the capital, Accra. They conduct a preacher training school with a three year program of study. Jacob directs the school. He and three other preachers in the area do the teaching. My first time to teach there was last November—the first ever, and still the only, foreign teacher. (They would like more help.)

For some, teachers and students, just getting to the class is difficult. This is because of poor roads and having to depend on a taxi, bus service or walking great distances to get around. The financial situation, of course, is nothing like here in the USA. There is no support to enable the students to study fulltime. They must continue to work to support their families in what we would consider very difficult circumstances. So, the classes are at night from 6 to 9 o'clock. There are two subjects each school session. My assignment was challenging! Jacob asked me to teach both **Daniel** and **Revelation**. They wanted these books taught at the same session because of their similarities; both containing highly symbolic, apocalyptic language. Attendance was usually around 35, including 2 or 3 ladies. About 20 of these are fulltime students in the school. They seem really keen to learn and are full of questions. I taught in the school for two full weeks and also had some private daytime studies with some of the students. On the three Sundays I was there I preached at Tamso, a village nearby and a town about 50 miles away.

E-mail address: RONROSECOLEMAN@aol.com

They want me to come back late in the year to teach Christian Ethics and speak at the school's graduation program on December 14th. I don't know yet if I can do that so have made no commitment. The church there and the preacher training school are doing a great work. They ask for our prayers!

Rose will teach a ladies' class and I will preach twice at the <u>Grand Teton Family Bible Encampment</u> which begins July 13. This wonderful, four-day event takes place at Colter Bay Village, Wyoming. We have participated before and experienced terrific fellowship and edification. Being in Grand Teton National Park and very close to Yellowstone National Park the scenery is fantastic. Also, the temperature is much better than Dallas in mid-July! The theme this year is "The Worshiping Assembly." The lessons will concern all aspects of God's law on the important topic of worship.

In February, 1962 Rose and I arrived in New Zealand. We went with two other young couples to establish the Lord's church in the city of Hamilton. Our coworkers were **Don** and **Elnora Oelze** and **Dan** and **Judie Jenkins**. Later that year our first converts were **Clyde** and **Alison Reid**. They were so important in our lives and so important to God's work there through the years. Both had been sick for a long time and this week—on the same day—they went to be with the Lord.

If you keep up with the news you are aware of the continuing chaos and violence in **Ukraine**. I'm trying to get regular reports from the brethren in Kremenchuk where we work. Latest news is that the city is still safe. There are many problems in the nation as a result of the conflict with Russia on the eastern border. It remains to be seen how much of the country Russia will try to take over and what the final outcome of all this will be. Please pray about it and for the church in that land. We plan to make our usual autumn trip to teach in Kremenchuk. I'm sure the benevolent help we always take will be more needed than ever.

Your coworker,

Ronald Coleman