

PRAYER LETTER OF CHALLENGE LITERATURE FELLOWSHIP

AUGUST 2011

The Incomparable God

Isaiah 40: 26 'Lift up your eyes on high And see who

has created

these stars,
The One who
leads forth
their host by
number;

He calls them all by name;

Because of the greatness of His

might and the strength of His power,

Not one of them is missing.'

Isaiah meditates on the magnificence of the LORD and His sufficiency. "Lift up your eyes on high" he calls out, "and see who has created these stars." Like a father and child under the vast night sky he invites us to be overwhelmed by the enormity of God's creation, but more than that he points us to its Creator.

Have you ever stood under a clear Kimberley night-sky and marvelled at the Milky Way galaxy above? Just five percent of its calculated 200,000 million stars

would take more than a human lifetime to count. Yet God brings out each star in its splendour. His word tells us He named each star: knowing its unique orbit

and suspension in space, so that not one star goes astray.

Unlike us, God is not restricted to seeing His authority in the heavens alone.

Governments are raised and brought down. Every imaginable power of destruction is under His authority. No human thought, invention or authority compares with God's person. His holy character is sufficient to save humanity

through the sacrifice of Christ Jesus on the cross.



Israel's remnant through the Babylonian exile was brought to a new and liberating place of trust in God. We too can know that His grace is sufficient in every circumstance, as we look to Him in His word and prayer. Perhaps you're asking God "why?" Perhaps you feel He has turned his face away from you and circumstances threaten to dwarf you. Our God is incomparably great in His majesty and person. He knows when one little sparrow falls, He reads your heart and when we are weakest He is strongest. God's weary people receive His strength by trusting Him. Please join us in prayer over this month as we ask "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done."

IN FOCUS

SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA. Population approximately 570 million. Some web sites state that up to 90% of these people call themselves Christian. Unfortunately for the vast majority they do not understand what a Christian really is. They have syncretistic beliefs and Jesus just makes up part of that belief system. It is vitally important for a clear gospel message to be presented to the people and we praise the Lord for the doors that He is opening through Word of Life, an international evangelistic Christian youth ministry with operations in over 62 countries.

NEW ZEALAND

We will be printing a special Rugby World Cup edition of the paper for New Zealand in August. The printing in NZ has been quite sporadic over the last couple of years and we hope that this may be the start of a regular print run. Please continue to pray for the work in NZ.

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PRAYER POINTS

- Finances 250,000 papers have been printed for South American Soccer Cup being held in Argentina. This again presents a great opportunity for the gospel to go out to people from many countries. An arrangement has been made with Word of Life regarding a 50/50 funding arrangement, so this is a current need over and above our usual commitment.
- India, the work needs much prayer, significantly Staff appointments and the quality of printing.
- South Africa. It is wonderful to see the work continuing to grow and the demand for the paper increasing. Pray for our partner organisations Multi Ministries, World Hope Ministries and Gospel Outreach. Pray regarding staffing and funding and their ability to meet the demands placed on them.
- Zimbabwe. We have again been overwhelmed with responses to the paper and a major need is for trained people to be able to follow up first time commitments.
 Part of our project funding goes to help train and resource pastors for this type of ministry.
- Zambia. We need prayer about the printing and distribution of the paper. The demand is great but the distribution has not been happening as it needs to.

PRAISE POINTS

- Project funding for South African mission trip exceeded what we had hoped and so this enables extra food, Bibles, clothes etc to be supplied to people desperately needing them.
- Comment after paper distribution in Zimbabwe was: "In all the places that we travelled, from the Midlands, Bulawayo and Victoria Falls, we distributed over 15000 copies of Challenge., and the cry was 'could we have more!' We are getting responses from all over the country; some wanting them for evangelism and some for discipleship courses. Thank you to Challenge for sending us the newspaper; it has created a huge IMPACT in our country."
- Commencement of Ugandan edition which will be funded by another mission organisation.
- A church has committed to partially supporting the work in India for the next three years. It is such a blessing and we look forward to having the whole project funded.



MY RESPONSE
