

December 2006

Dear Christian Friends,

As far as I can remember — it must be at the age of five or six— I wanted to become a Missionary! Where? In China or in India.

I was born and raised in a Christian family. My father was an Evangelical minister who escaped the Genocide of 1915, losing both parents and three brothers, and endured three years of exile among Kurds under horrible conditions. My mother lost her parents and five brothers. And so, my geographical notions would not extend further than these countries, so much so that for the child I was, they were par excellence the heathen countries, who knew nothing of the Lord Jesus!

I did not become a missionary there. On the contrary, the Lord opened another field, French Reformed churches in France and later the entire French-speaking world as a Broadcast minister.

What about Armenia? Well those were the years during which the homeland was under Soviet domination. My main concern was how to get rid of that tyranny. And what better way to achieve it than becoming the Prime minister of a liberated Armenia?

Well, I did not become Prime Minister. And even when the cunning and pernicious communist propaganda invited Armenians of the Diaspora to return to the homeland after WWII, we refused to join the thousands of Armenians taking the boat from Piereas, Greece —where I was born— to go to the historic homeland.

Yet, the Lord offered another possibility to serve the homeland. Even before my official retirement from the French Reformed broadcast ministry some twelve years ago, I decided that the best way to help Armenia to recover from the atheist regime and its inhuman sequels was to proclaim the Gospel through the spoken and written word. This ministry started with the encouragement and support of a few friends, Armenian or not.

Our conviction was that the Reformed understanding of the Gospel and of the Christian Life would be the best way to introduce to the Christian Faith those who escaped the atheist regime.

Now, not only Armenians in Armenia but also from other places are eager to listen to our broadcast or to read our literature. Just a few days ago a telephone call. Guess from where! Moscow. A gentleman explaining that there are thousands of Armenians in Russia who need to hear the Gospel and to become familiar with the **Faith and Life ministry** which is grounded upon the Gospel. We are already sending material to Moscow, as much as the international situation allows such transportation. For, as you may know, relations between Russia and Georgia are strained, and for my poor country, Georgia is the only port which can be used to export or import material!

Several letters from listeners and readers again witness how they benefit from our ministry. It would take pages to relate all of them and let you know the gratitude of our correspondents. The Holy Spirit is active and is effectively operating in the lives of many.

Thank you too, dear friends; thank you to all of you who, during the past twelve years, have shared with us this spiritual burden, such an urgent ministry. Because of your prayers and financial support it has been possible.

At the end of the year we have not been able to reach the proposed budget for 2006. However, some of the most important expenses have been covered, thanks to your generous contribution.

I take the opportunity to thank especially my friend and colleague, Reverend Rick Miller of Dutton U.R.C. for his generous help and willingness to make the recordings at his Church which spares us some costly expenses.

Dear friends, may the celebration of the Incarnation of the Son and Savior fill you with a special Joy. May the all powerful grace and the peace which surpasses all human understanding keep and protect you so that you may each day praise Him and serve Him.

In His communion,

A.R. Kayayan