

CHRISTIANS FOR ARMENIA

REFORMED FAITH AND LIFE

A Broadcast and Literature Ministry



NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2017



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UPDATE ON BIBLE TRANSLATION

Dear friends,

We are pleased to report in this newsletter the progress on the New Testament and Old Testament translation project and hope that you will be blessed by hearing about the positive developments of this huge undertaking.

This past June, Rev Mark Vander Hart and Rev. Eric Kayayan visited Armenia for five days to assist with the translation of the New Testament and the Psalms in modern Eastern Armenian. They met several times with members of the translation team, discussed several exegetical problems with the local specialists, and offered to gather additional material in English. Exchanges were positive and enriching, allowing them to better understand the challenges encountered with this project.

A printed, trial version was presented to them at the end of their stay. This version consists of introductory texts explaining the method of translation (based on the original languages), and includes the books of John, Acts, and Romans for the NT portion, and 72 Psalms for the OT portion. The trial version also includes explanatory footnotes and comments taken from the Reformation Study Bible (2005 edition). This version, along with a detailed questionnaire will be distributed to roughly 300 Armenian people, mainly Evangelical pastors. This will allow the editorial board to gather feedback about the reception of the translation, both in terms of content and presentation, and assist them in making changes where any comments or criticism are justified. The editorial board gives itself roughly four months to gather the questionnaires and to evaluate them properly, in collaboration with CFA's committee.

The translation of the Psalms should be completed before the end of 2017 (103 have already been translated, some of them still being in the hands of the Armenian editorial team). After the evaluation has been completed, the next New Testament books to be translated will be the Gospel according to Mark and First Peter.

Next spring, the committee of Christians for Armenia plans to send to Armenia Dr. Paul Wells (former professor of systematic theology at the Jean Calvin faculty of theology in Aix-en-Provence) for a ten-day period to assist with any other exegetical questions.

PAST TRIP AND UPCOMING TRIP TO ARMENIA

In addition to meetings with the translation team, Rev Vander Hart presented a well-attended seminar on the Reformation and preached in the main Evangelical church of Yerevan on Sunday morning with about two-hundred people in attendance.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Darwin's God: Evolution and the Problem of Evil, by C. Hunter, our latest translation in Armenian, has been published and a ceremony presenting this newest translation was held at the Endanik Center in the city of Gyumri while Revs. Vander Hart and Kayayan were there.

LETTER EXCERPT

The book on sects, *Truth Under Attack*, by Eryl Davis continues to be extremely well-received as the excerpt below testifies:

I attend "Endanik" center's English group. Several days ago, in the center was organized the event and some of the pupils of our group also participated in it. The event was dedicated to the international day of Armenian Language and we listened to different stories and novels, discussed them with our teachers and specialists. Our group was very lucky, won the second prize and as a present got the book about the sects Truth under attack.

When I began reading the book was very happy, as I've never read a book about the sects before. In it was explained the whole truth about the sects and their negative effect upon our lives and destiny.

I was mainly interested in the chapter about Jehovah's witnesses, as in Gyumri they are very active and have a great number of followers. They are walking along the streets, are visiting homes and are doing their best to involve in the sect as much people as possible. And per each new person "converted to the truth" they got money.

After reading the book I understood that you should be very strong; your faith must be based on Jesus Christ to be able to confront the challenges of the Evil. For me Jehovah's witnesses are the embodiment of Devil, but unfortunately among them you can see many poor people, especially old ones and youth who are trying to get profit and money from them.

As always, we covet your continued prayers and support. Your missionary vision encourages us in our work and we truly thank God for all of you.

In Christ,
Christians for Armenia



Meeting with the translation team



Sunday morning service

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