



Alabaster Ministries

"He shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified and meet for the master's use and prepared unto every good work." 2 Tim 2:21

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Roz Heyns

JUNE NEWS 2014

Dearest Friends and Partners,

When we compare our life span to eternity it is just a spec, not even discernable to the mind's eye. Dad Howard recently went home to be with the Lord. He was 88 years old and had finished his race. I was blessed to be with him for the two weeks before he went and each day we would pray for the Lord to take him. I finally realized that as long as I stayed with him he was going to hang on so I flew back to the States and he was winging his way to heaven as I was winging my way across North Africa. He went to sleep and never woke up. I have been at a number of bedsides as people were dying but this was the first time where there was total peace, no disease and Dad gave up the ghost as did the patriarchs of the Old Testament.

"Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was gathered to his people. And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah" (Genesis 25:8-9 KJV).

It has often been my experience that loved ones hold on to their dying relatives instead of letting them go. The culture in Africa dictates that you should hang on as long as you can to those dying. Dad's nurses were horrified that he should want to die and that we were happy to let him go even though they are saved and assured a place in heaven. They were offended that we should pray that God take him home and that we did not feed him if he did not want to eat.

So many are afraid to die even though they know Jesus. If we are not running a race for the Kingdom, if we are not occupied carrying out the will of God for our lives, if, when we go we have not left behind on earth a legacy for the Kingdom and if our relationship with Jesus has not blossomed and grown over the years then I can understand why we would want to hang on. That is why it is time for us to meet God at the burning bush without further delay. It is so easy for us to become busy with our daily lives.

Work takes up so much time along with the commutes to and from work that so many have. Then when we get home all we want to do is relax. Most days it is even an effort to cook a meal or play with the kids or even ask about their day. That is if the kids are even home because most nights they are off to play their extra-curricular activities. Where exactly in all this busyness is there time for the Lord? We have to make it – while sitting on traffic on the way to and from work. Make that a time for prayer. It is amazing how your work day will change for the positive if we make the decision to do that instead of listening to the negativeness of the news or to some rap/hip-hop or some miserable country music song about being drunk and my wife left me and now I'm alone – woe is me. Well, if you get drunk most nights it is no wonder your wife left you!

God needs to come first in our lives before even wife/husband and family. If we place Him there He will make plenty of time for family because He created the family.



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MALAWI CONFERENCE

Each year we, as Alabaster Ministries, come together to celebrate the wonderful work that God is doing and also to win more souls for the Kingdom of God. This year's conference was nothing more than another extra-ordinary event that allowed God's power to be manifested beyond our wildest imagination. We saw chains being broken, souls being set free. We saw things happen that are beyond our human understanding. One word to describe the event is "awesome".

One particular bewildering testimony is of an old woman who had been seriously ill numerous years before and was taken to a witch-doctor for healing by her son. She was given a charm necklace that was meant to heal her and she was told that if she dared to remove the necklace she would die. On the day of the conference we set out to pray for the elderly. When we prayed for her she was willing to get saved but was persistent about not removing the necklace. We did not remove the necklace but simply prayed that God would take control and when she woke up the next morning the necklace had miraculously vanished. No-one had removed it and the cord was so thick it could only be cut off and no-one had a knife or scissors. It was never recovered and we know that this indeed was God's power and His answer to prayer.

Where the presence of God is the devil tries to manipulate his way in so that God's power does not manifest. We faced several attempts from him to hinder what God wanted to do. We had continuous mechanical difficulties with the truck that was sent out to pick up people from various villages for the conference but again God's power triumphed and the conference continued on time. During the conference we had water baptism which symbolized the washing away of the old man and the transformation to a new reformed man through Christ. We also had Holy Communion to bring us together as the Body of Christ. The most beautiful thing though, was the sight of the Holy Spirit filling the people and allowing them to speak in tongues. Indeed it was a powerful conference.

LINDA MAVUTULA, DIRECTOR MALAWI

MALAWI CONFERENCE

Hi Roz,

I thought I would give you some feedback on my time with you at the Elderly Conference! Thank you so much for inviting me to join you, it was a real challenge but also a great blessing.

Where to begin? It was clearly a Conference the enemy did not want to happen. The flat tyres on the truck, some health issues on my behalf both before and after the Conference but not once during the 4 days, all emphasized the greatness of our God and that He will have His way no matter what anyone else tries to do. Hallelujah.

Seeing 400+ elderly sitting mainly on rush mats, the men on benches, in the shade of some big trees with the large cooking pots preparing the next meal smoking away over open fires in the background, was a picture to behold. The kitchen staff were amazing grabbing, sleep as and when they could.



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Thank you for giving me the privilege of doing so much of the teaching - that was a real challenge for me but also a great delight. To see so many respond for water baptism was wonderful. But the lesson for me here was the number of women who had witchcraft symbols round their necks and/or wrists. I was impressed with the firm but gentle way in which James dealt with such, praying over them to break the curse of witchcraft, before allowing them to be baptized. Wonderful.

The sadness of seeing that one woman turn away though, preferring to keep her witchcraft symbols rather than trust in the Lord. What a testimony she now has though on waking the next day to find it had completely disappeared without trace. What a loving, merciful Father proving that He can keep her alive against the curse placed by the witch doctor of death should she ever remove it. Glory to God!

One picture which will stay with me forever was the man who broke out into tongues with tears of joy streaming down his face as I was teaching on the importance of being baptized in the Holy Spirit with the manifestation of speaking in tongues. Bless him, he tried so hard to contain it so as not to disrupt the meeting, but it was a joy to see. Praise God for the power of His word.

To see the elderly praying for each other, caring for one another - those 2 sisters, the younger (pink head scarf) caring for the elder one (blue top) who was virtually blind - seeing over 150 come forward for the baptism in Holy Spirit and hearing them praying in tongues, what an inspiration they are.



They may not be physically able to obey the command of the Lord to GO and make disciples of all nations but to know that they meet weekly, and in some cases oftener, to pray together is an example to us all.

Hearing their testimonies of what a blessing and encouragement to them the Conference was, the gifts they received, and the delight at His Word and also to hear about the homes that had been built for some of them was an inspiration for me. They are truly no longer a forgotten people. The ministry of the Word and practical coupled with the love shown to them is surely unique in Malawi and a wonderful example of what can be done when just one person is touched by the Lord with His love and compassion.

And finally, finally, sharing a room with you Roz. You are an amazing example of how to be so organized and how to live out of a suitcase, neatly packed each morning and ready to move on - incredible if not impossible!!!

Bless you and thank you.

Penny

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HOUSING PROJECT

Last year we completed 20 houses for the elderly and it was decided that this year we would focus on those houses that need upgrading. Many already have homes that are built from fired brick but they do not have a decent roof or floor or they have no windows or proper doors. The plan is to upgrade these by pouring a concrete floor and placing corrugated roofing on the existing buildings. We will also put in windows with burglar bars and mosquito netting and a front door that they can lock when they go out.

We are beginning to make bricks for the church/conference center and intend to make it

large enough for 250 to 300 people.

Please help support this project. Bricks cost about US 0.50 cents to make so even \$10 will go a long way towards this project. I know that many people think it is not worth sending a check for \$5.00 or \$10.00 but we can make those amounts really increase in Malawi. Please remember that we have a paypal account so you can donate via PayPal without ever having to make out a check or mail it. Our web site is rozheyns.org and you can sign up on that to donate.

I would love for you all to be able to hear the testimonies of the elderly who have new homes. It was so heart rending when they stood at the conference and gave their testimonies. You have made their lives so much brighter and easier. Thank you to all who have given to these projects.



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MALAWI GIRLS

While at the conference I was able to meet with about seven of our 35 girls. School was still in session and we did not have the chance to get out to the villages to meet the others except late at night when everyone was in bed.

I could not believe the change in the faces and the bearing of them, especially the older girls. Wow, God is so wonderful. Some of them are now in church on Sundays and they have hope which clearly shows in their visage. Their eyes laugh and light up and are no long dead and without any form of life.

I was told by someone over there that we are wasting time and money by taking on these girls as it is a cultural problem and it will never cease. Well I believe that Jesus came to set men free one at a time and you cannot put a price on the life of anyone. Thank you Jesus that You died to save me in every aspect - spirit soul and body. Thank you all for realizing that too.

MEETINGS

While I was in Zimbabwe recently I had the opportunity to preach at a Church of God. They were so excited they were texting each other at three in the morning. Much of the ministry is to encourage the Body of Christ and also to teach on how to pray and intercede in these last days.

If you would like me to come and share at your home group or church please call (636)358-4615.