



THE ROBINSONS

MISSIONARIES TO THE PEOPLE OF

CHILE



MAY 2019

The church of the Valdivians

Well, as hinted at last month, the situation in the Valdivia church is turning out to be the typical “good-news-bad-news” scenario [and this is a rare instance in which “typical” describes matters both *biblically* (the LORD bringing good things out of the “bad”) as well as *ecclesiastically*, i.e.: “typical” in the spiritual environment of modern-day Laodicean Churchianity (okay, that’s as far as I’ll take the preaching and teaching, etc.)]. First, the “bad news” [always better first]: several of the “old-timers” got disgruntled (basically, because they didn’t get their way) and left [and...that’s just as much “air time” as we will concede to the “bad news” and its, uh, constituents (by way of confirmation: yes, the Matthew-18:15-16-Galatians-6:1-II-Thessalonians-3:15 overtures have made, but without the desired results; please pray for them just generally, as it would be imprudent to give specific names here)]. Now, the “good news” (which, in accordance with Romans 8:28 and Galatians 6:7-8, is so much more abundant than the...“other”...that it must needs be outlined briefly and numerically: 1) the “Good News” of eternal soul salvation in JESUS CHRIST is reaching a veritable *plethora* of new “candidates” (i.e.: any lost person is a “candidate” for “election” [irresistible (!) theological *bon mot*; apologies...]), by way of the effusive and enthusiastic personal witnessing of the new core group of believers in the church (introduced in the last 2 prayer letters), an edifying side-effect of which is the spiritual invigoration of the entire church when listening to their joyous testimonies of the LORD not only saving and securing *them*, but granting them the *privilege* of being able to witness about it, and HIM, to everyone around them! [“Every eye closed, every head bowed...”]. 2) Segueing directly from that, Bro. Eder and Sis. Barbara led her elderly parents, **Claudio and Juana**, to CHRIST, and Sis. Katherine led **Cristian** and another **Claudio** to CHRIST (those last 2 actually “got saved” during the Basic Beginner’s Bible Study that Pastor Raul is having weekly with them, as a result of several weeks of being evangelized by this new family); those still being “worked on,” for whom prayer is requested, include **Constanza** (Montanna’s coworker), **Eriberto** (Sis. Isabella’s son-in-law; his *saved* wife, **Karen** [Isabella’s daughter] is out of fellowship with the LORD, which has a direct effect on the lost condition of their 3 daughters, **Macarena, Melanie, and Melissa**, as well as the major family troubles they’re experiencing - please pray that the LORD makes a “grand slam” with that household), and **Marcelo** (Katherine’s husband). 3) Sis. Katherine has freely offered a part of her commercial property in downtown Valdivia for the Valdivia church to build a small structure to call “home” (i.e.: a “church building” [more like “cabin” or “cottage,” but we don’t apologize for the fact that it won’t measure up to Churchian “building” standards]), and, simultaneously [not “coincidentally,” because GOD doesn’t “work anonymously” (His name is THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, and He works *openly* and *marvelously*, for those who are willing to recognize it and give Him the glory for it!)], an extremely generous “unspecified” monetary donation from Bible Baptist Church of Pensacola, FL, is going to enable us to fund the entire cost of the materials for the project! The (physical) labor will be provided by the men of both the Valdivia and Paillaco churches, including our new brother Cristian mentioned above, who is [quite “conveniently”] a professional carpenter/builder (as is Pastor Raul; both following the lead of their “Jewish Boss”, I suppose...). LORD permitting, we should be getting started this Saturday (1 June), and very much appreciate your prayers for all of it, especially for safety and the weather (this is usually the rainiest time of year here, but you have a direct line to the GOD of the weather!). Alright, turning our attention beyond Valdivia...

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“BUT YE SHALL RECEIVE POWER, AFTER THAT THE
HOLY GHOST IS COME UPON YOU: AND YE SHALL BE
WITNESSES UNTO ME BOTH IN JERUSALEM, AND IN
ALL JUDÆA, AND IN SAMARIA, AND UNTO THE
UTTERMOST PART OF THE EARTH.”
ACTS 1:8

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The labor in Osorno

A similar reporting framework is suitable here: the “bad news” was that, at his request, we attempted to visit with Bro. Atilio’s (of Punta Arenas) lost grandmother **Sofia** (almost 90 years old and suffering from Alzheimer’s, as we came to find out), but were not able to see her due to her having a “bad day” when we showed up (as things go cyclically with chronic diseases, especially at her age), her daughter **Angelica** (who cares for her) also informing us at the door that they wanted absolutely nothing to do with what we were offering (that being the Gospel of free, eternal salvation in JESUS CHRIST, with unconditional pardon of sins, a personal relationship with the GOD of the universe, and clear entrance into Glory, to boot [but I already said I wasn’t going to preach anymore...]). Turns out that Angelica is an “ex-evangelical,” and became so fed up with being made ecclesiastical merchandise of (II Peter 2:3a) that she has resolutely turned her back on the Absolute Truth of CHRIST and the Bible [very “typical” (see above) of the noxious effects of Evangelical Religionism here]; please do pray for them. The “good news” was that, later that same day, after door knocking and street preaching, Bro. Vince and I stopped to grab some lunch [it moves fast around here, so you have to be quick (groan...I’d better add “telling jokes” to the not-to-do-list)], at which point *another* **Angelica** [“coincidence,” ha!] approached him to ask for some monetary assistance. Well, as the Acts-3 plot-line unfolded, she manifested interest in He Whom is beyond “silver and gold,” and invited us to her domicile to tell her and her “companion” about Him, from the Bible. As a result, both she and **Aladin** prayed and asked the LORD JESUS CHRIST to save them! While praying for their spiritual growth (especially regarding joining the existent Bible study with the Alvarados), pray for her physical health as well, which has impeded our necessarily limited follow-up efforts (due to distance, schedules, etc.). As far as the door-knocking this time, we only really talked to **Javier** (a professing atheist, who was actually more pleasant and amenable than the “ex-evangelical” [this, too, is “typical”]), as everyone else was “too busy” and just brushed us off. Our street-preaching time turned out to be when the Catholic church (which just “coincidentally” happens to be near our favorite location) was letting out some kind of special afternoon “mass” or something, so many of them got Gospel tracts, as well as an “earful.” Please be in prayer for these lost folks, because it’s no “coincidence” for anyone when the Gospel of JESUS CHRIST passes by their way.

The work at “the end of the world,” and an additional prayer request

Well, we’re still trying to get to Punta Arenas (“permanently,” that is), but these things take time, and the LORD knows the right time, of course (Ecclesiastes 3). Thank you for keeping the Hansens in prayer from last time: they got their national ID cards, which officially ends their Temporary Residence Visa process; now, they get to move on to the *Permanent* Residence Visa process [oh, joy!] I will be helping them “get the ball rolling” on this as soon as I am able to be there again. They continue to work with the contacts they’ve made since being there, and continue to have opportunities with English-speakers (of which there are many more than here, comparatively speaking), as their Spanish-language abilities slowly improve. Please continue to pray for **Bro. Atilio**, who continues to study with Bro. Derek and is still very forward to reach his friends and family with the Truth, although he finds it somewhat discouraging that they don’t respond to it as he has; his mother **Laura** seems to be “warming up” to the study times that he and Derek have there (it’s her house), which is a positive sign of your prayers at work. On a more personal note, we ask you to pray for Brenda’s dad, **Harvey**: his wife of 47 years recently passed away (the LORD was very merciful to her and allowed it to happen relatively quickly and with minimal suffering), and he himself is in poor health, dealing with a couple of serious chronic issues. Thankfully, they are both saved; in any event, as he goes through all that is necessary these next few months, Harvey could sure use a bit more grace, comfort, and encouragement in the LORD, in addition to that which He gives us all in already limitless quantities (James 4:6a), so thank you for praying for your brother in CHRIST, and for all your spiritual brethren here in southern Chile.

In Christ,

Philip & Brenda Robinson