God's Word is Not Chained
Elijah M. Brown

Chains, through the centuries, have held Christians in bondage. They have not, however, held back God's word.

The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy -- "God's word is not chained" (2 Timothy 2:9). This truth remains even while so many Christians are confined and restricted even today.

-- God's word cannot be chained by the bonds of hunger and famine in Venezuela.

-- God's word cannot be chained by political violence that recently claimed lives outside a Baptist hospital in Nicaragua.

-- God's word cannot be chained by imprisonment and displacement in Myanmar, where two Baptist pastors were incarcerated until last month and where fighting in recent weeks has displaced thousands more.

-- God's word cannot be chained by illiteracy or by the reality that 209 million people worldwide have no portions of the Scripture translated into their heart language.

God's word remains powerful and active. Our hope is found in the transforming power of the word of God. And this word gives us work to do. ...

Click here for full article

Member Bodies in Action
Nepal Baptists celebrate 25 years
Baptists in Nepal celebrated their 25th anniversary as a national group April 11. They packed a rented hall for the celebration, with people standing in a courtyard outside and listening through the windows.

Denton Lotz, BWA General Secretary emeritus, assisted in the 1993 formation of the Nepal Baptist Church Council, and he returned for the April 11 celebration in Kathmandu. Lotz tells the story of Nepal Baptists and the celebration in a report on our website.

"What a joy to see God's leading among young Baptists, eager to share the Good News of Christ," Lotz writes. "The Nepal Baptists now have 219 churches and 248 fellowships, for a total of 467 meeting places! They have 20,000 baptized believers. ..."

"Nepal Baptists are not a Western missionary-led union; they are led completely by local pastors and indigenous leaders. They are enthusiastic about the power of the gospel and the joy Christ brings to their lives."

Read the full news story here.
Read Denton Lotz’s report here.

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Church Spotlight
Victor Visotsky and New Life Russian Baptist Church
Sterling, Virginia, USA

The gospel is being preached in Russian each week in a suburb outside Washington, D.C., and the church recently moved into its first building after 16 years of ministry. Pastor Victor Visotsky has led the congregation, New Life Russian Church, from the start.

Visotsky, with his wife and two children, came to the United States in 1991 at age 25. They moved to Pennsylvania from Narva, Estonia, in the Soviet Union.

In Estonia, Visotsky’s family had been Baptists. His great-grandfather had been an Orthodox deacon who became one of the first Baptists in the Ukraine years before. Baptists in Estonia had limited freedom. Visotsky’s parents were fined for having prayer meetings in their home after the KGB searched and confiscated Christian materials, including their Bibles. They fortunately were not imprisoned as some others were.

Seventeen years ago, Visotsky was asked to come to the Virginia suburbs outside Washington to start a Russian language church. He was hesitant, but a medical miracle led them to make the move.

Read the full story here.
BWA News

British Baptist leader Margaret Jarman dies at 85
Mike Pears named new director of IBTS Centre in Amsterdam

BWA Newsfeed
Baptist World magazine

Connect Points

BWA is now accepting nominations for BWA president and vice presidents for 2020-2025. Please go to bit.ly/BWANominations for the nomination process and forms.

There's still time to register for the BWA Annual Gathering in Zurich. Don't miss this chance to gather with the global Baptist community. Register here.

BWA podcast: Gifts from Global Baptists: Stories Engaging Churches in Conversation

BWAid Report

Baptist World Aid disbursed the following funds for relief and development in March and April. Amounts are in United States currency.

**Africa**
- Central Africa Republic: Food project in Ngaoudaye  $2,250
- Central Africa Republic: Relief project in Bria  $11,000
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DR Congo</td>
<td>Agricultural assistance, Ngungu</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DR Congo</td>
<td>Community development/hunger program</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>Drought relief in Namaach</td>
<td>$2,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>Hunger relief for IDP camps</td>
<td>$12,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>Disaster relief (tornado)</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>Agriculture project</td>
<td>$3,750</td>
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<td>India</td>
<td>Living Water project</td>
<td>$1,775</td>
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<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>Refugee project</td>
<td>$12,250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Asia/Pacific**
- India: Living Water project, $1,775

**Europe**
- Turkey: Refugee project, $12,250

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**Upcoming Events**

- Executive Committee
- Annual Gathering
- Celebration 2020
- Weekly Prayer Guide
- BWA Calendar

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**Downloads**

- BWA app
- BWA Human Rights Directory
- Covenant on Intra-Baptist Relations

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**BWA Publications**
Baptist World magazine

*BWA Publications*


Jesus Christ, the Door: The Official Report of the Twenty-first Baptist World Congress

Purchase at Amazon.com

Purchase at Amazon.com
About the Baptist World Alliance
The Baptist World Alliance, founded in 1905, is a fellowship of 238 conventions and unions in 124 countries and territories comprising 47 million members in 169,000 churches. Its priorities are nurturing the passion for mission and evangelism; promoting worship, fellowship and unity; responding to people in need; defending human rights and justice; and advancing relevant theological reflection.

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