

## **Temcat Mission Update March 2024:**

### **Greetings Brothers and Sisters;**

This February is a 'leap year', not sure where to leap to, but shortly we will be marching into March! This month has seen serious trials, tragedies, and some victories for the mission. Zimbabwe is facing the highest inflation in the world right now! Again, heartfelt thanks to all who remember the Mission in your prayers and share your gifts of love. We pray the Lord will send showers of all kinds of blessings to you all! As we see the political situations looming it is truly a time to keep our courage and hope always centered in the Lord! Amen!

### **The Strange and Scary end of the Mission Truck Saga!**

We told part of the story of the mission truck in the last newsletter. We never dreamed there would be more to it! Truly the Lord know something we did not and still do not know the answer to! In the week of the 20th this account happened as told here by Sister L. "The first truck was burnt last week at the workshop where it was being repaired. That one you obtained at first, they said it just self exploded for no apparent reason while in the panel beating shop and burnt down to ashes. Workers were badly injured who were working on it. [I think there must have been a bomb hidden in it or something like that!] Word around the streets says the car was with charms found in some hidden compartments too found by the panel beating team. No one knows who did what but it's down to ashes now. I am wondering if my boss had placed those and forgot to remove them or its just word on the streets." [we thank the Lord for sparing our workers as only He knows what could have happened]

### **Chishawasha Report:**

A challenge hit our newly baptized chief not long after our team returned home. Here was the issue reported by Sister P. you can see how the poor folk in these remote areas can be frightened and taken advantage of! "So, a witch doctor appeared in our area. And is building a shrine with plastics and thatch grass. Rumor in the village is that he possess the power to turn people into chickens. Everyone is scared of him. I am not sure how long he will stay but those people come and pass saying they are hunting for witches. Anyone who messes with them, this one claims he will turn them into chickens. Possibly as usual, he will meet the chief and ask that all people be commanded to the shrine go and be checked if they are witches then cleansed." But the chief put an end to his plans! Ps T. reports, "Yes I talked to the chief in Chishawasha. The chief did not make it mandatory. He said he forbade the witch to camp in his village and told him to pass on. So he left. By the time I called word said he had packed and left. The people I'm told were happy for the decision as they were afraid of the witch doctor. Chief told the people that all those who want to be cleansed should come to God for it is free, rather than these crooks who charge and not give pure cleansing but also leave you with devil charms. He declared his village, a Christian village. Only religions of God shall be tolerated any other will not be accepted any more. I was able to get hold of him towards sunset, and he had bravely dealt with the matter already."

### **Chegutu:**

In Zimbabwe now, the oppressive regime decided they wanted certain areas cleared, and it makes no difference if people's homes are there! They just go in with little or no warning and bulldoze the homes and force the people to flee. Many have nowhere to go really. Sadly the area where Masimba's family were located met this fate. Thankfully though, the house Masimba is staying and the where the church group meet, was not harmed as it is outside the proscribed section. Other areas and group members have been hit by this cruel aggression also! We pray for them all!

### **Two Boarding School interests in Nyanga District.**

I must share with you that February 8th we saw the most amazing thing! If I had not seen it I could hardly believe it, but someone caught it on video. Well as you saw in the last newsletter, Pastor T and Deacon E have gone to serve the 2 government boarding schools in the Nyanga district who had asked us to come there months back and we finally made it! They are doing first one for 10 days or so, then plan to do the other, and finish up with a needed baptism at the 3rd school [which was the original one] where the church is well established. Things were going well with good turnout of eager to learn young people and some parents, but a certain politician heard we were having successful Bible studies at the school and did not like it, so he sent in his false

prophet with a big noisy band to run at the same time and interrupt and distract the students away from our meetings. Well they arrived and set up and sure enough the band made so much noise it was impossible to hear the Pastor. So he did what we all do, went on his knees and sought the Lord for help! Before he could even get up from his prayer, believe it or not, there came this whirlwind and it began to sweep the people there into piles, it would send them one way and then another, in the video the pastor is standing watching it but it does not come near him or ones at the Bible meeting! It piles one group of people then leaves them to get up and piles another group then comes back and does it again! Then it gathered the chairs and scattered them all around. No one was killed or really injured though, which is typical of what the Lord does, but they were thoroughly scared, and as soon as they could they gathered up their band, battered up chairs, and stuff and got out of there, leaving the seminar to run in peace. I have never even heard of something like this! I guess few would believe it, but that was supernatural, no natural wind could act like that! There was intelligence behind it! Truly our Lord is mighty! Amen!! This was not the end of the challenges though. Due to the high inflation, the schools had to arrange to shut down early and yet we had many interests there. They are closing March 7 and the students will travel to their various homes. We realized that we had to at least provide books for them to take with them, and decided on Steps to Christ and a Gospel of John for each of them! Some have sda backgrounds! 48 souls were baptized on Feb. 24. And the Pastor returned home the next day. Yesterday the hundreds of books needed were purchased, divided and shipped to the 2 schools. [600 books. Each student will get 2 different books. Each school gets 150 Stc and 150 GJ]

They will have those 2 to keep faith growing!

#### **Agriculture Tragedy:**

The crop season that started out with promise has turned into possible disaster! First came storms and flooding, then since there has been no rain and the fields are dying and becoming dustbowls. Unless the Lord does intervene, famine looms for the nation! We are praying much, and invite you to join us in supplication at the throne of grace! Word just came to me from Ps. T, "It's showering this morning and it's so beautiful. Our prayer now is that although the crops are dead we just want the water table to rise so that wells will have water, and boreholes will not dry out. That's the threat we are facing now. We continue to pray" I said the Lord can raise the dead, so we will continue our cries to Him who cares for His suffering children!

**TC Website:** Link: <https://www.TemcatMission.com>

**Something to think about:** A favorite quote:

"The Elder Brother of our race is by the eternal throne. He looks upon every soul who is turning his face toward Him as the Saviour. He knows by experience what are the weaknesses of humanity, what are our wants, and where lies the strength of our temptations; for He was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. He is watching over you, trembling child of God. Are you tempted? He will deliver. Are you weak? He will strengthen. Are you ignorant? He will enlighten. Are you wounded? He will heal. The Lord "telleteth the number of the stars;" and yet "He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds." Psalm 147:4, 3. "Come unto Me," is His invitation. Whatever your anxieties and trials, spread out your case before the Lord. Your spirit will be braced for endurance. The way will be opened for you to disentangle yourself from embarrassment and difficulty. The weaker and more helpless you know yourself to be, the stronger will you become in His strength. The heavier your burdens, the more blessed the rest in casting them upon the Burden Bearer." DA 329.

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"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as you can." John Wesley.

Mission site: <https://www.TemcatMission.com>

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