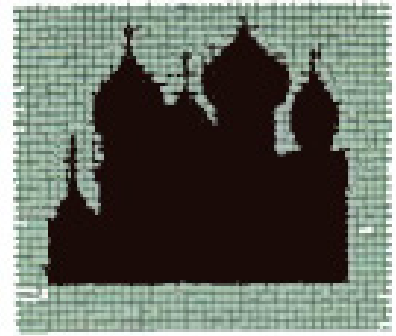


The Russian Bible Society  
**B**IBLE **J**OURNAL



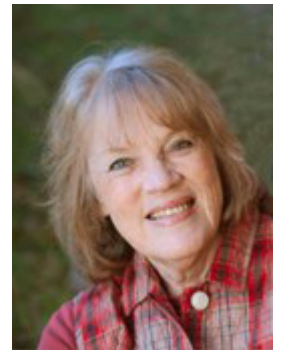
Volume 67 Issue 1 January-March 2018 ISSN 0405-058

*Giving the Pure Word of God to the Language Groups in the Commonwealth of Independent States*



**Sheila Stewart Doom with the Lord**

After ten weeks of hospitalization and rehab following open heart surgery, Sheila Stewart Doom, age 78, went to be with her Lord January 3rd about 6:40 pm in Asheville, North Carolina. She was the daughter of the Russian Bible Society's second director, the late Dr. James A. Stewart. She made trips with her husband to the former Communist-controlled countries of Republic of Georgia and Ukraine and repeated trips to Czechoslovakia. She helped in writing, proofreading and mailing the *Bible Journal* since 1975. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Bob Doom; two sons, Robert and Jamie; daughters Susan and Jana; their mates; and thirteen grandchildren. She is also survived by her younger sister, Sharon Wilkerson, and brother-in-law, Ben Wilkerson; two stepbrother pastors, Daniel and Mark Fajfr; and a stepsister, Jana Fajfrova.



Sheila carried a prayer burden for the individuals and projects began and executed through the Russian Bible Society. Please remember the children, their mates and grandchildren, that each will know and fully follow the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Ukrainian New Testament**



God willing, the Ukrainian New Testament will be printed in 2018. Daily, the work of the Ukrainian translation team progresses. The lead translator, Brother Yura Popchenko, shares the following updates from prayer letters and emails:

"Languages of the world use passive constructions, that is, sentences with verbs in the passive voice, like in 'The building is built by the builders'. In some cases the agent is expressed, like 'builder' in the example. In others, however, the agent is not expressed, like in 'The house was built last year'. To avoid expressing the agent is the main purpose of using passive constructions. The New Testament uses passive constructions in which God is the obvious agent but He is not expressed, and many grammars call it a 'divine passive'. Ukrainian does not have a specific verb form for the passive voice. For that purpose it employs reflexive verbs, passive

participles and a special verb form. Very often the passive voice is changed into an active one and indefinite-personal sentences are typically used in this case, like 'they say'. While in some cases such transformations do not affect the meaning, in others the meaning is seriously changed from what was intended by God. This is especially true when reflexive verbs or active constructions are used. Let's consider two examples from the Sermon on the Mount.

"Jesus said that those that mourn will be comforted and those that hunger and thirst after righteousness will be filled (Mat. 5:4, 6). In both verses, God is implied as the one who will comfort the mourning and fill the hungry and thirsty. However, many Ukrainian Bibles and the Russian Synodal Bible use reflexive verbs in these verses and this seriously changes the meaning. It is now understood that either people will comfort and fill themselves, or the comforting and filling will take place on its own. God is out of picture ... Translation differences like that make a huge difference in peoples' lives. It is one thing to know that I should comfort and fill myself, and it is a completely different thing to know that God is the one who will comfort and fill me ...

*(continued on page 2)*

“When the trial edition was printed, each of our boys received a copy and has been reading through it. Last month, our family gathered for a discussion about the translation. The older boys had quite a number of questions and suggestions about different words and we spent the better part of a Sunday afternoon going through the book of Matthew. I must admit that I loved working with my sons like this!

“This past month, I had an opportunity to present my work at one of the churches in Kyiv with some folks from other churches joining us. I explained to the crowd the distinctives of our translation: it is an evangelical, literal translation, based on the Received Text which aims at accuracy, clarity and readability. Two things are usually the most eye-opening to people: textual corruptions and Greek Orthodox or Roman Catholic corruptions of the current Ukrainian Bibles. One of the pastors present related to me how he used to be unreceptive of our translation until he ran into a blatant Greek Orthodox corruption of the Bible he used. As a result, he switched to our translation and has been preaching from it ever since! ...”

When Brother Popchenko was questioned about the two added helps this Ukrainian New Testament will have, he said: “The cross references are almost done, we have only half of the gospel of Matthew left. Headings are done for about 1/3 of the New Testament. Most of the time is spent now on making changes to the text of the New Testament. We are striving to have it done by the end of June. Please pray for that.”

Please pray daily for all of the pastors, readers, grammarians and translation team to have accuracy as they handle the precious Word of God. You'll rejoice that the Lord's people have almost completed the funding of printing 25,000 copies at an estimated cost of \$3.00 a copy. We have in hand \$68,567.92 of the anticipated need of \$75,000.00. To God be the glory! Of course, there are variables such as type size and layout that may increase or decrease the final printing costs. We'll have the adjustments when the text, layout and type size are finalized in June, God willing.

## ЄВАНГЕЛІЄ ВІД МАРКА

### РОЗДІЛ 1

*Служіння Іоана Хрестителя  
(Мт. 3:1-12; Лк. 3:1-6;  
Ін. 1:6-8, 19-34)*

**П**ОЧАТОК Євангелія Ісуса Христа, Сина Божого,  
2 Як написано у пророків: Ось Я посилаю Свого вісника перед Твоїм лицем, який приготує Тобі дорогу перед Тобою.  
3 Голос того, хто волає в пустелі: Приготуйте дорогу Господу, прямими зробіть для Нього стежки.  
4 З'явився Іоан, і хрестив у пустелі, проповідуючи хрещення покаяння для прощення гріхів.

### Розділ 1

2 Мал. 3:1;  
Мт. 11:10;  
Лк. 7:27  
3 Іс. 40:3;  
Мт. 3:3;  
Лк. 3:4;  
Ін. 1:23  
4 Мт. 3:1;  
Лк. 3:3;  
Дії 13:24;  
19:4  
5 Мт. 3:5-6  
6 Мт. 3:4.  
Лев. 11:22;  
2 Цар. 1:8;  
Зах. 13:4  
7 Мт. 3:11;  
Лк. 3:16;  
Ін. 1:15, 27;  
Дії 13:25  
8 Мт. 3:11;

*Спокушання Ісуса  
(Мт. 4:1-11; Лк. 4:1-13)*

12 І відразу Дух повів Його в пустелю.  
13 І був Він там у пустелі сорок днів, спокушуваний сатаною, і був з дикими звірами, і ангели служили Йому.

*Прихід Ісуса в Галілею  
(Мт. 4:12-17; Лк. 4:14-15)*

14 Після того, як Іоан був виданий, прийшов Ісус у Галілею і проповідував Євангеліє Царства Божого,  
15 Кажучи: Сповнився час і наблизилось Царство Боже: покайтесь і віруйте в Євангеліє!

## **Russian Bible Society Begins 74th Year of Ministry**

The Russian Bible Society was founded and incorporated in Washington, DC in 1944. As we enter our 74th year we do so with gratitude for the Lord sustaining us. We thank Him for keeping us from apostatizing. One brother said the first generation of families, schools and ministries are evangelists; the second are pastors; the third are college and university professors; the fourth are apostates. Again, I thank God for His keeping the Russian Bible Society from apostasy. “*Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy*” (Jude 24).

The Russian Bible Society stands in that mainstream of Biblical doctrine that has traditionally characterized orthodox Baptists in history. With respect to the great doctrines of Christian faith, RBS is fundamental rather than liberal. With respect to the doctrine of salvation, RBS is Calvinistic rather than Arminian. With respect to the doctrine and nature of the Church and its ordinances, RBS is Baptist rather than Reformed.

RBS stands in the doctrinal position of mainstream Baptist history and as such adopts Articles of Faith which is essentially the 1833 New Hampshire Baptist Confession of Faith, with the exception of Article 19, dealing with prophecy. We believe that in the time of the “end of all things” that the meaning of the apocalyptic passages has become clearer.

RBS believes that the Word of God (Holy Scripture) constitutes our only and all-sufficient rule of faith and practice and that all creeds and confessions must be subject to this final authority. Thus, this fact reminds us that the preceding Articles of Faith are not acclaimed as infallible statements on a par with Scripture.

The Father of Modern Missions, William Carey, provided accurate word for word translation of the Bible in several Indian languages. The first white Baptist missionary from America, Adoniram Judson, who labored in Burma, labored for many years to provide an accurate word for word translation of the Bible into the Burmese language. The RBS desires to be involved in translating and printing accurate word for word translations based on the Hebrew Masoretic and Greek Received texts.

We stand without apology for the “*faith which was once delivered unto the saints*” (Jude 3). We are a Bible-believing and Bible-practicing organization. We oppose neo-evangelicalism, ecumenical evangelism, the charismatic movement and hyper-Calvinism.

At a Russian Bible Society Board Meeting we welcomed Rev. James Esser and Rev. Ben Wilkerson and unanimously voted them to become members of our Board of Directors.

## Latvian Bibles

First, rejoice that the 20,000 copies of the Latvian Bible arrived in Riga in October 2017 from the printer, and the final cost including delivery was \$7.37 a copy.

In December Brother Samoylich held an evangelistic outreach in a Riga high school, and about 300 Bibles were given away.

### **First Teachers Conference 2018**

On January 20th-21st the Public School Teachers Conference was held in Riga. Brother Samoylich reports: "These were amazing two days of God's guidance and wisdom. More than 200 teachers attended the conference, more than 150 schools from all Latvia were represented. 28 teachers came for the first time, several received Jesus as their Saviour. These Teachers Conferences are an opportunity for Christian teachers to invite their colleagues so a seed of faith can be sown in their hearts.

"After the October conference, I was ready to cancel this January conference, because I had no finances, and I did not have a plan for it. I am so grateful for God's provision even when it seemed impossible. I am very thankful to Brother Wally Schoon for his input and to all the sponsors who supported! I know these conferences are God's project, and He carries them out, we are just instruments in His hands. God also sent us three great speakers from the UK ... Teachers were very blessed with the wisdom and knowledge they received. Very many said they want to see and hear these speakers again."

### **Teachers Give Feedback**

"In every lecture, I received ideas, inspiration, spiritual strengthening. The speakers are outstanding personalities. May God bless their work and through it — us, our students and families! Glory to God!" — RK

"The topics that were chosen for this conference are useful for me as a teacher, but they also change me as a person. I realise I am not alone who has problems and unsolved situations, but the same kind of problems exist and are solved in other countries! Although the situations are alike, I was glad to learn that they can be solved and how they can be solved, this was such an encouragement and inspiration after this conference. Christian teachers are highly valuable. Thank you for this blessed work that change everyone of us!" — IL

*The greatest gift that can be given to any nation is an accurate Bible translation!*

Population:  
1,944,643 (July 2017 est)

Ethnic Groups:  
Latvian 61.8%  
Russian 25.6%

Languages:  
Latvian (official) 56.3%  
Russian 33.8%

Religion:  
Lutheran 19.6%  
Orthodox 15.3%  
other Christian 1%



### **Prayer Requested for April 14-15 Conference**

God willing, the third conference for the academic year will be held April 14th-15th. Pray for God's leadership for speakers. Pray for needed finances to host the conference. Pray for the Lord to bring many unsaved teachers to the conference and bring Holy Spirit conviction on them, drawing many to Christ.

### **Russian Bibles for Latvia**

According to the *World Factbook*, out of the current population in Latvia of 1,944,643 about 498,000 are Russian. Brother Samoylich in a recent email said he thought that there are about 40 Russian-speaking Baptist churches in Latvia. We asked Brother Samoylich if these churches could use quantities of Russian Bibles for outreach: "Yes, I have contact with all Russian pastors. It is a good idea to help Russian churches to do outreaches. And we are praying right now for the project 'Bible to Each Home'. Yesterday, I had a meeting with some missionaries who are working in Russia. I shared about my work in Latvia and the work with Bibles. They asked me for Russian Bibles for Russia. In summer, they will have European Football Championship in 10 different cities. They want to do outreaches on streets and the stadium. They asked for my help, but I told them that for now, I have no Russian Bibles for these events, and we cannot help."

Pray for us to have wisdom in the printing of a slightly larger size type than last time we printed Russian Bibles for Latvia. Pray that we can deliver them to Riga to be a part of the "Bible to Each Home" project for both Latvian and Russian homes. Pray also that we can get them to Latvia before the summer. We now have \$8,715.85 of the estimated cost of \$25,000.00 for the 5,000-copy printing. Pray for wisdom — we may need to print 15,000 or 20,000 copies and trust the Lord for additional funds.

## RESPONSE COUPON

YES, HERE IS MY GIFT OF SUPPORT TO MEET THE SPIRITUAL NEED OF PRECIOUS SOULS

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30.00    \_\_\_\_\_ \$75.00    \_\_\_\_\_ \$150.00    \_\_\_\_\_ \$300.00    \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER

\_\_\_\_\_ Georgian Projects

\_\_\_\_\_ Georgian University Student Ministry

\_\_\_\_\_ Georgian Printing of Spurgeon's Morning by Morning

\_\_\_\_\_ Russian Bibles for Latvia

\_\_\_\_\_ Ukrainian Translation

\_\_\_\_\_ Ukrainian New Testament (\$3.00 each)

**Russian Bible Society Begins 74th Year**

Brother Jerry Young, who served as assistant director for years, has a debilitating disease and is no longer able to attend board meetings or function as assistant director. As our director will celebrate his 80th birthday in March, the board discussed the need of a new director to replace him. Brother Doom suggested that we consider a God-called preacher who is bilingual in Russian and English so that he could minister in both Russian and English-speaking churches. We have 5½ million Russian speakers in the United States. One such qualified brother has been contacted, but after meeting with a few board members, did not feel becoming the director is God's will at the present. Will you please pray with us about this matter?

May I conclude this article by raising an alarm as did William Fetler (Basil Malof) when in the early 1900's the Bolsheviks

took over Russia and showed their hatred of the God of the Bible and Christians? Our beloved Republic tolerated the progressive views of the political party that put Woodrow Wilson in the White House. Those views have continued to grow so that in our most recent presidential election one of the political parties espoused and propagated the Socialistic views of its candidate. I want to be very clear. Progressive = Socialism = Communism. If we continue down this political path Christians in USA will be imprisoned, tortured and killed. Our church buildings will be burned or torn down and our missionary outreach to the world stopped. We must aggressively evangelize the USA. We must recover the prayer meeting so that it's the best attended meeting of the week. We must beg the Triune God of Holy Scripture to revive His work in the midst of the years in a cultural-changing revival.



“Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.”  
(Jude 24)

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Asheville, NC  
Permit No 161

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Republic of Georgia Projects**

God willing, in early March the translation of *Morning by Morning* into Georgian should be completed. When we get the page count, we can get accurate printing quotes of printing at least 5,000 copies.

Other Georgian Projects for January-March 2018:

	Total Need	In Hand
Georgian Projects	\$3,147.00	\$1,627.86
Georgian University Student Ministry	\$1,465.00	\$1,465.00
Georgian Widows	\$750.00	\$410.59

**RUSSIAN BIBLE SOCIETY**

THE RUSSIAN BIBLE SOCIETY has been at the frontline of providing Bibles for Russia and its people since 1944. We believe the greatest gift we can give to any people is the pure Word of God in their native tongue. Therefore, we are committed to continually providing word for word translations based on reliable manuscripts, such as the Received Greek Text. Thus, the Bibles we publish are the “Synodal Translation” of the Russian Bible and its accurate translation into the minority languages of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

**Rev. Basil Malof / William Fetler, Founder**

**Board of Directors**

Dr. Bob Doom, President

Mr. Bob Akins, Secretary

Rev. Danny Hardin, Brother Jerry Young

Rev. James Esser, Rev. Ben Wilkerson

**BIBLE JOURNAL**

*BIBLE JOURNAL* is a quarterly newsletter published by the Russian Bible Society, PO Box 6068, Asheville, NC 28816. *BIBLE JOURNAL* is published to promote the various projects and ministries of the Russian Bible Society. It is sent to all donors and interested persons for \$1.00 per year donation. To start, cancel, or change the address on your subscription to the *BIBLE JOURNAL*, please send your instructions along with your name, your current address, and your address label (if you have one) to the above address.