

Yura Popchenko Reports on Ukrainian Bible Translation

And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

Matthew 24:6

The political rhetoric of the moment is at a fever pitch. Regardless of what your personal opinion may be of America's role in the Ukrainian/Russian war the human toll is very real. Brother Popchenko is very zealous for his homeland and broken hearted for the level of destruction. But the greater burden is for the souls of men, women and children who face an uncertain future in this life and, without Christ, a very certain future in eternity.

The Russian Bible Society continues to support Brother Yura, his son Yurko, Anya and Ira in the ongoing translation work of the Old Testament and revision of work on the New Testament. Below is from his May-June prayer letter.

* * *

We are glad to report that we have begun proofreading the new addition of New Testament with Psalms. Typesetting turned out to be much more challenging and time-consuming than we anticipated. The designer was not doing a good enough job and we had to try a few others until we found one who has experience in typesetting the Bible.

Then massive power outages in the country, when there is no electricity more often than not, left very little time for work to be done. This is due to the fact that 90% of thermal power plants in the country are destroyed by the Russians,

which caused a huge electricity deficit. Only hydro and nuclear power plants remain in operation.

After two of my assistants and I proofread the typesetting and make necessary corrections, the text will be ready for printing. We hope to have this done by the end of the summer.

The past two months we have seen a drop in requests for the New Testaments for distribution: our man in Ukraine shipped only 1,472 copies (16 boxes).

This might be due to the fact that a new law on mobilization came into effect on May 18 and now all men between 18

and 60 years of age must visit draft offices and update their personal information.

This has become the main concern for the entire society, particularly men, and attracted much attention. Nevertheless, we have received reports and requests from people involved in spreading the Scripture.

A man from the city of Ponika wrote, "Greetings, Brother! Thank you for blessing us with literature. We had the opportunity to serve in the Zaporizhyya region by preaching the Gospel, distributing food aid and New Testaments."

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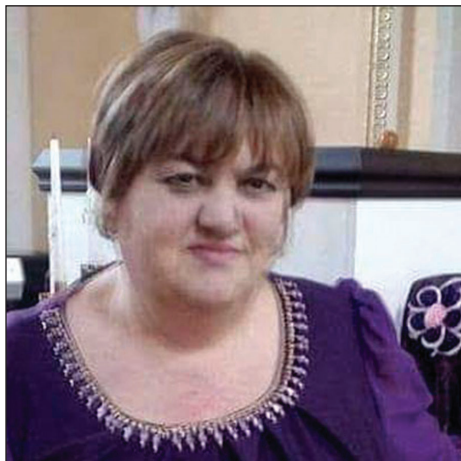
Ukrainian/Russian continues to take a devastating toll in Ukraine.

Saintly Sister Goes to be with Christ

Brother Gari Arutinov has informed us of the passing of one of the widows in the Republic of Georgia who has been supported by the Russian Bible Society. Below is a tribute by Brother Garry and translated by Sister Katja in our office.

We are grateful for the increased support for these needy widows.

* * *



Sister Margo



*In loving memory
of Sister Margo
1961-2024*

*“Blessed are the dead which die in
the Lord”*

— Revelation 14:13

Kind, cheerful, open to the needs of others, the soul of Sister Margaret now enjoys happiness and peace with the One Whom she devotedly served here on earth.

Relatives and friends addressed her as “our dear Margo.” Sisters often gathered in her house for fellowship, mutual prayerful support and in-depth Bible study, to which Margo invariably invited her neighbors. Usually, such evenings ended with a pleasant conversation over tea.

For the last 20 years of her life, Margo was a member of the Grace Baptist Church in Tbilisi (Georgia). Having been widowed, she was also one of the sisters receiving monthly financial assistance

“For the Widows of Georgia”.

Margo suffered from diabetes, which began to progress rapidly over the years, causing her unbearable pain and suffering. She spent the last three months of her life in a hospital bed, waiting for mercy from the Lord and her speedy deliverance.

When she was visited by her friends and the pastor of the church, Garry

Arutyunov, she always tried to look as cheerful as possible and she was grateful for everything.

Margo left behind siblings, (sisters and brother) for whom she always prayed and she asked us to support her in these prayers.

Rest in peace until we meet again in the presence of the Lord, dear Margo!



Ladies group in Ukraine gathering for fellowship.



Bibles in Hands



Since the beginning of this year and particularly this summer the Russian Bible Society has sent hundreds of Russian Bibles all across the United States.

Many of these Bibles are freely given to new converts at their baptism. We have provided 178 baptismal certificates to various churches. Not every church gives a certificate to a new convert upon baptism but many do.

We are encouraged that the Russian Bible Society has such a significant part in the salvation and growth of those that have been saved this year. Of course it isn't personal on our part but it is a blessing to provide Bibles and other spiritual materials to local churches for their evangelism and discipleship.

We had such a rapid decline in our stock of Russian/English Parallel Bibles that we had to reorder 2,000 copies. They have been shipped from Korea and are due to arrive the first week of September. Please pray for their safe arrival.

Bible Distribution in Ukraine



RESPONSE COUPON

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

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“ . . . All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”

— Matthew 28:18b-19

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Vladislav from the city of Odesa writes, “Yesterday, the first batch of humanitarian aid was taken to the military hospital. We distributed the New Testaments to everyone in their rooms and put them in places where there are always people.”

Another Vladislav from the city of Bilogorodka wrote, “Thank you for the books! We continue our mission of saving the soul of the Ukrainian people!”

Serhiy from the city of Zhytomyr asked for more scriptures, “Greetings, Brother! Last year you sent us New Testaments to the city of Zhytomyr. Can you send us another 600 New Testaments? Our Ark of Salvation Church distributes food aid: these are packages with various groceries up to 15-17 pounds. We put Bible literature and a New Testament in each package. Now the aid is distributed in villages of the Zhytomyr region. We try to bring each package to the house and hand it to an individual personally. There is almost no general distribution, but only individual.”

We praise the Lord for His word going out and we believe that it will not return void.

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

— Psalm 119:11

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.

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