



# AABF PRAYER BULLETIN

A PUBLICATION OF ALL AFRICA BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP

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...African Baptists, uniting to fulfill the Great Commission

## HYMN.

### Blessed Assurance.

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!

O what a foretaste of glory divine!

Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

*Refrain - This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior, all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior, all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain.*

Perfect submission, all is at rest  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love. *Refrain.*

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## FUNDING OUTREACH AND MISSION

### HOW DID JESUS FUND HIS EVANGELISTIC MINISTRY IN THE FIRST CENTURY?

When Jesus began His ministry with His wandering disciples in the first century, He did not have any 'bank account' to draw from. The question then is how was he able to meet His financial commitments?

Yet the number of His disciples grew. We can say that: Jesus' mission was funded by God, His Father. God supplied all His

**Jesus' evangelistic mission was funded by women who benefited from His ministry.**

needs. Jesus trusted God and taught His disciples to do likewise.

**Jesus' evangelistic mission was funded by women who benefited from His ministry.**

The Bible says, "After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; Joanna the wife of Cuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means" (Luke 8:1-3). It should be noted that these were women of substance.

### Jesus itinerant ministry was probably funded by His secret disciples Nicodemus:

He was the one who visited Jesus at night; he questioned the legality of Jesus' condemnation without first trying Him. He also provided a mixture of myrrh and aloes for Jesus burial (John 3:1, 7:50, 19:39). Joseph of Arimathea: He donated his personal tomb for Jesus burial (John 19:38). Even

though it is not very clear how they paid the bills, their identifying with Jesus at burial suggests their personal involvement in His ministry. In summary, Jesus ministry was funded through: God's miraculous provision Rich women who benefited from His ministry. Rich men who were anonymous givers.

### How outreach and missions were funded during the Apostolic era

In the previous discussions, we have looked at how God's projects were financed in the Old Testament. Likewise, we have examined how Jesus itinerant evangelistic ministry was funded. Because of space and time, we will quickly look at how the Apostles funded their outreach

and missions. Particularly, we will learn from Paul who traveled throughout the Roman Empire, preaching, teaching and writing. Finally, we will draw some conclusions for our application today.

Barnabas' example: The Bible says those who owned land or houses (estates) sold them and brought the money for the common good of the newly established

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Christian community (Acts 4:32-37). As a result of their sacrificial giving, "With great power the Apostles continued

to testify to the resurrection of Jesus."

When Paul was serving in Corinth for one and a half years, he did not collect any money from them. Another Christian body was paying the bills (2 Cor 11:8).

This is similar to what in missions is called *adoption*. Partnership for outreach, missions, and evangelism:

Paul acknowledged the partnership he had with Philippian Christians (Phil 4:15-18).

Paul advocated for a consistent pattern of giving (1 Cor 16:2).

This could be

**We must realize that God is still talking to us today about many lands that we must reach with the gospel today.**

with tithes and offerings to your local church.

Paul collected financial help for Jerusalem Church (Acts 15:25-29;

1 Cor 16:1-4; 2

Cor 8:1-9:15).

**What is the lesson for us today as we obey God's command to take territories in Africa and other lands?**

We must realize that God is still

## FUNDING OUTREACH AND MISSION

talking to us today about many lands that we must reach with the gospel today (see the flyer Reaching Out to More People in Africa).

As you can see, most countries in North Africa are almost 100% Muslims.

For instance, Libya is 96.6% Muslims with 2.7% Christians.

The situation is not better in West Africa. In Guinea, the Muslim population is 85% with 10% Christians. If we are to reach them for Christ, the principles highlighted from our study above are relevant. We must believe and accept the fact that the command to reach out and go on missions is a mandate from God, not man's.

As Noah, Moses, and David obeyed, we must not be rebellious. Everything we own comes from God. There is nothing we own that has not been given to us. Therefore, we are stewards of the material possessions God gives us and must be willing to respond sacrificially and generously when there is a call to release part of what is committed to us. We should follow the examples of those faithful givers. Barnabas, David, Paul, the rich women, Nicodemus, Lydia, Philippian churches. We should do what Paul did; have genuine concern and use our influence to be the voice of the unreached people groups. We should use our influence and connection to create awareness, mobilize personnel and funds for missions and evangelism.

One of the ways to fund outreach and missions begins with your involvement in your local church.

It has ripple effects to your Association, Conference, Convention, Regional Fellowships, Continental, and Global bodies. Christians must earn their income genuinely and be willing to give not for showmanship.

**We must realize that God is still talking to us today about many lands that we must reach with the gospel today.**

**By Duros Jesu Ayanrinola  
General Secretary AABF.**

## CELEBRATION OF INDEPENDENCE



### Kenya

**K**enya, officially known as Republic of Kenya, got its independent from Britain on December 12, 1963. The country covers a land area of 582,646 sq. km. and has a population of 52,033,545 with annual growth of 2.30% and density of 89sq. Km. The capital city is Nairobi.

President Moi's Kipsigis-favoring government subverted opposition and marginalized the major ethnic groups (Kikuyu, Luo and Luyha), but passed on a legacy of stability—vital for this turbulent region. Kenya is now a multiparty state. In terms of economy, Kenya is pre-

dominantly agrarian, with light industries. It is also a major tourist destination. Post-independence stability aided good growth until 1976, but debt, recession and mismanagement have eroded this.

The venal elite have siphoned massive amounts of wealth—Kenya is infamous for its rampant corruption. Infrastructure development is essential. Drought, floods and famine have laid waste large areas causing food prices to rise and devastating the livestock population. **Pray for more stability in Kenya politics, Pray against corruption within state mechanism.** Pray that the Church will uphold righteousness and move Kenya forward. The Lord will move the Church to preach the gospel in the nation. Pray for the Love of Christ in the Church.

**Religion in Kenya:**  
**Christian (82.61%)**  
**Muslim (8.32%)**



### SOMALIA

**S**omalia is officially known as Soomaaliya. The country covers a land Area of 637,000 sq. km. and has a population of 12,246,171 with annual growth of 2.68% and density of 19/sq. km. Somalia became united as a single country in 1960, soon after the British (in the north) and the Italians (in the south) granted independence to their respective fiefs.

Cold War rivalries provided Somalia with weapon—first from the USSR, then from the USA—for disastrous wars against Ethiopia and for clan fighting. This brought the country to destitution. Somalia had its first independent in December 11th, 1931 from

Italy these are Italian Somaliland while the second independent was July 1st 1960 from Britain and are known as British Somaliland. In terms of economy, the people of Somalia practices subsistence pastoral farming—two thirds of Somalis are livestock herders. Sunni Islam is the official religion. Islamists (UIC) gained religious primacy and political power, and seek to enforce order through shari'a law. Pray

for liberation of Somaliland. Pray that Gospel will penetrate the heart of Somalis and they will give Jesus a chance. Pray that God will destroy the forces of Islam in Somalia.

Muammar Qaddafi. The country was transformed by the discovery of oil in 1959. Oil accounts for 95% of export income. Sunni Islam is the state religion and government endorses a moderate form of Islam. Evangelism of Libyan citizen is illegal. All faiths are free to worship in their own homes.

PRAYERS. Pray that the spiritual climate of Libya will change for Good in Evangelism and Revival. Christian worship will be tolerated. More missionary will be raised. Doors of Gospel opportunities will be opened. Pray for revival of Salvation in Libya. More Libyan will come to the Knowledge of Christ and Accept Him.

**Religion in Somalia**  
**Islam (99.67%).**  
**Christianity (.33%)**

### LIBYA



**L**ibya is known as Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

The country covers the land area of 1,775,550 sq. km. It has the population of 7,698,742 with annual growth of 1.47% and 4/sq. km. The capital city is Tripoli. Ruled by Italy 1911-1943 and gained their full independence on 24th December 1951 as a monarchy. However, there was a military coup of 1969 led by a revolutionary republic under

**Religion in Libya**  
**Islam 97.02%.**  
**Christianity (2.64%)**

# BAPTIST WORKS IN AFRICA.



**G**ambia is a silver of a nation extending on both sides of Gambia River within the heart of the country of Senegal. It received its independence from Great Britain in 1965. Its population is about 90% of Muslim with less than 6 percent Christian, most of whom are Roman Catholic. Illiteracy is very high. In 1979 Mel and Ruby Pittman, missionaries of Association of Baptists for World Evangelism (ABWE) entered Gambia, first settling in Banjul, the capital but after a short time moved into the interior to dungu Kebbeh on the North bank of Gambia River. In 1982, a medical center

## Baptist Work In Gambia (1979).

was opened with assistance from USA renovating and enlarged the facilities and Literacy Center was dedicated in 1989. Southern Baptist sent a missionary couple in 1982, Ronald and Anita Hunt, who immediately engaged in the study of the Madinka Language. They opened a Baptist Community Centre that provided crafts, sewing, cooking, sports, vocational training, Bible study, and correspondence courses. A Center was also set up at Kanifing and a Dental Clinic at Farafenni. In its outreach, visual aids are

**Psalm 2:8 Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.**

important with the use of film-strips, now translated into Madinka, Wolof, and Fula and Jesus Film in Mandinka. Several churches, including the Glory Baptist Church, Banjul have been established. The mission needs literature for Sunday School, Correspondence work and literacy programs.

**Bibliography: Baptists Around The World, A Comprehensive**

**Handbook, Broadman & Holman Publishers 1995, pg. 72.** Pray for the Power of God to be manifested in Gambia. Pray for Divine support as the work continues in Jesus name.



## Baptist Work In Guinea (1988).

**G**uinea was a French territory until 1958 when it declared its independence. It is heavily Moslem (around 69%) with an extremely small Christian minority of a little more than 1%. In 1988 Sothern Baptists sent a missionary couple to Conakry, the capital where they began language study. In 1990 the government of Guinea granted the Mission official recognition. A French /Susu church has been formed. In 1991 a Baptist Center was opened which offer Eng-

lish Classes and the Mission opened another station in 1993 at Forecariah. The Baptist work is still in its infancy but has a open door in a predominantly Moslem land. **Bibliography: Baptists**

**Psalms 2:7 I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. (KJV)**

**Around The World, A Comprehensive Handbook, Broadman & Holman Publishers 1995, pg. 75.** Pray for this Nation that they will experience

the power of God that will destroy all strongholds in the Land for Gospel to penetrate and reign.



## Baptist Work In Guinea Bissau 1992

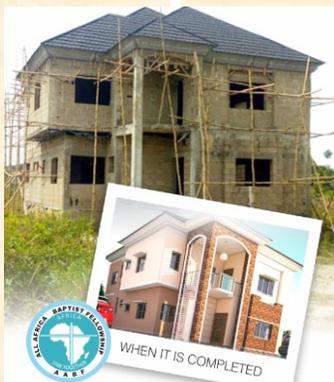
Baptist Work In Guinea Bissau 1992 Guinea Bissau gained independence from Portugal in 1974. About half the inhabitants are traditional tribalists, while 38% are Moslem and 10% Christian, mostly Roman Catholic. In December 1992, a Southern Baptist couple, Michael and Lynn Hutchinson, made an exploratory trip, and early in the following year established residency. There are two other Protestant missions which have missionaries assigned to the country.

**Bibliography: Baptists Around The World, A Comprehensive Handbook, Broadman & Holman Publishers 1995, pg. 75.** Pray that this nation will yield willingly to the gospel of the Kingdom. Pray that God will establish His Kingdom in this Nation in the Holy Ghost Power.

## SPECIAL NOTICE

**This is inform us of about AABF New secretariat.**

The New Secretariat is still under construction. However, the body is short on funds. We implore you to prayerfully consider being a part of what God is doing as a Convention, as a Church and/or as an individual.



The is the current pictures showing the stage of the present building and when it is completed: Pray for us and make your contributions available to us. AABF Account details are as follows:

**Account Name:** All Africa Baptist Fellowship

**Bank Name/Address:**

Zenith Bank Plc, No 1A, Obafemi Awolowo Way, Idi Moli J Allen Rounda-

bout, Ibadan, Nigeria  
**Account Number:** 5070173207

**Swift Code:** ZEIBNGLA

**Sort Code:** 057190015

Your contribution toward the completion of this project will be highly appreciated.

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## PUBLICATIONS

Do you have a burden you would like to share with the continental Baptist family? Do you have an information you would like to be included in this publication? feel free to let us know.

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## Baptist Work In Ghana (1918)



**B**aptist Work In Ghana (1918) Ghana Formerly known

as Gold Coast, was first Black African Nation to receive independence in 1957 from Great Britain after more than a century control. More than 60% of the population is Christian with Roman Catholic, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Anglican churches. Baptists are a small but growing minority. Mark C. Hayford, a Ghanaian started Baptist work.

He received his call and ordination in Nigeria. By 1926 He has planted forty-five churches, but after his death in 1935, they began to die. Immigrant Yoruba Baptist traders from Nigeria, established a church in 1918 and by 1920 they had grouped themselves into churches in major trading towns across the country. They could not make impact among the Ghanaian because of exclusive Yoruba language. In 1935, the churches formed the Yoruba Baptist Association, affiliated with the Nigerian Baptist Convention. Homer and Ossei Littleton, came to work with the Association through Southern Baptist Convention with John Idowu and his wife from NBC and they both settled and established churches in Kumasi, Tamale and Sekondi. First indigenous Church was formed in 1952 and a Hospital was established in Nalerigu (1958). A training center (now a seminary at Abuakwa) and a training center at Tamale were also established. In 1947, the Yoruba Association became the Gold Coast Baptist Conference in affiliation with the Nigerian Baptist Convention until 1963 and changed to Ghana Baptist Convention in 1964. The government immigration policy forced the Yorubas to leave the country and adversely affected Baptist work, for most church buildings were left empty and the convention lost its leadership. Ghana Baptist Mission reorganized the convention and registered with the

**Isalah 60: 2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.**

government in 1973. This established an indigenous Ghanaian Baptist work and growth was rapid in membership, churches, seminary and ministry. In 1986 the work suffered the misfortune of split between the missions and the Convention. In August 1992 a reconciliation of the two convention factions and the Ghana Baptist was achieved through an agreed structure for single work and it is growing very fast. There are other Baptists since Ghana independence, National Baptist from the United States have

provided some assistance when they enter in 1958 to Yoruba Churches before their exodus and the FMB of National Baptist Convention of America came back in 1980 and is supporting an expanding Baptist work whose major centers are in Accra, Kumasi and Obuasi. Baptist Mid-Mission has been in Ghana since 1946, they formed a Ghana Association of Regular Baptist Churches and they are around Accra Tema and in the extreme Upper Region. They established Baptist Bible Institute in Wa and engaged in Bible translation. A Ghanaian who had accepted 7th Day as the Sabbath wrote in 1898 to a 7th day Baptist Church of Richburg, New York, requesting for assistance and sent Peter Velthuysen to the field in 1902 and died that same year since no one was sent again. **Bibliography: Baptists Around The World, A Comprehensive Handbook, Broadman & Holman Publishers 1995, pg. 73-74. Pray for the work in Ghana that God empower His work and His People. Pray for the manifestations of Holy Ghost power in Ghana. Men and women will be united in Purpose for Kingdom Progress. Pray for divine vision for Ghana Leaders to break through into New Frontier Ministry. Pray that Ghana Missions will enter into an Apostolic Ministry in Jesus name. Pray for a mighty revival in the Land for all Christians to Arise and preach the Gospel.**