

## The WORD Amongst Us!

bristmas is the time of the year when we celebrate the WORD becoming flesh. John gave testimony to the glory he saw in the flesh of Jesus, describing it as "full of GRACE and TRUTH." I am so glad that grace precedes

truth. Perhaps it could be said that for truth to be received, it must be wrapped in grace. People are hungry to see the glory of God. Our challenge being, can our flesh incarnate the WORD, in its grace and truth? Is our evangelism just throwing truth at people, or will we wrap it in the costly, sometimes painful gift of grace?

I hope you can find the grace to forgive us for our long lack of news. So much has happened, so much has been happening and so much would be happening in the next few weeks. Much not possible to be included here, that we have not organized ourselves sufficiently to write about it.

As I pondered on what to write for this end of the year newsletter, George Fredrick Handel's great classical work "Messiah" comes to mind. Most of us

are familiar with Handel's great classical. The story behind this great work makes it even more powerful to the listener. In 1741, the 57 year old Handel's personal life was at an all-time low. He was hopelessly in debt and in severe depression. Coming out of this state seemed impossible.

About this time a minor poet, named Charles Jenners, delivered to Handel a collection of Biblical excerpts under the title of "A Sacred Oratorio." With little interest, Handel began to turn through the pages of the manuscript, "He was despised and rejected of men." Handel identified with those words because he too was "despised and rejected of men."

Something began to happen to him. The words began to reverberate in his soul: "Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the

Prince of Peace." He began to compose music to those powerful words. He was in seclusion for 24 days and was seldom able to even eat. At times he would jump up and wave his hands in the air, shouting, "Hallelujah!" Later Handel confided, "I think I did see all heaven before me, and the great God

Himself."

The rest is history, and thousands of times each Christmas and Easter crowds have been inspired by this great masterpiece which climaxes in the great "Hallelujah Chorus." At one of the earlier performances in London, as the music began to build through the "Hallelujah Chorus," the king stood and all the audience with him. This has been customary practice since that time.

God revealed Himself through His Word. When Handel realized the greatness of God, the greatness of his problems faded in the distance. Furthermore a work of art rose out of his despair and triumphant revelation.

This Christmas, may you and I get a deeper revelation of the Word that became flesh. May we begin to see ourselves as a work of art. It is my sincere prayer that you and I would not be trapped in the circumstances of "a world in crises." We are children of God. May Emmanuel be real to you this Christmas and in 2015. He is still, "Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace". May a strong "Hallelujah" come out of you in recognition of God's awesome power and majesty working in and through you!

Have a grace filled 2015,



Bread for Life Board: Steve Langton, Tim Nix, Ernest Ehabe, Dr. Jackson Downey, Floretta Green and Dr. Roxanne Cheek













## End of the Year Gifts

uring the Christmas season, we celebrate the priceless gift we receive through the birth and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In worshipful response, we also give – of our time, energy, abilities, and resources. We know that Kingdom investment is important to you and want to invite you to consider joining BFL in your year end giving. Here are some things to keep in mind! Contributions mailed to CTEN must be postmarked no later than December 31st. Online credit card donations must be posted through the CTEN's website (www.cten.org/breadforlife) no later than December 31st. CTEN is also able to receive contributions of stocks, bonds and mutual funds, which are then sold and the proceeds provided to Bread For Life International.

Remember that any year end gifts of stocks, bonds or mutual funds must be received in the CTEN's brokerage account by December 31st. Call 800-872-5404 for more information.







CONTAINER SHIPPED - Our 40 foot container from Atlanta arrived Douala in late October. We are in need of \$7,500 to clear outstanding clearing

THANK YOU! -So thankful for the many ways God chose to provide in 2014. Many of you were used of God to meet needs at the right time. We are praying God's multifarious blessings on you in 2015.

Gifts to Bread for Life are tax deductible, please send all gifts to: Commission to Every Nation: PO Box 291307, Kerrville, TX 78029 • (830) 896-8326 • www.cten.org/breadforlife/ Please do not reduce your level of giving to your local church in order to support this ministry



