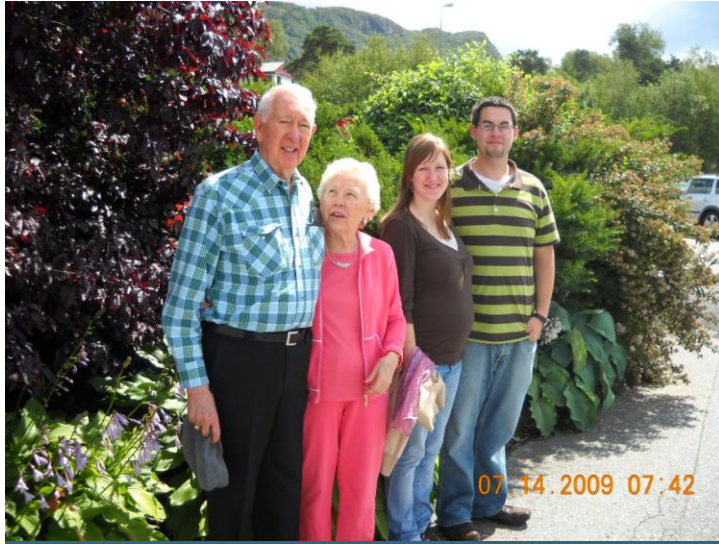


# The Gospel in Scandinavia



July & August  
2009 Report

Heath & Renee  
Robertson

← Bobby Adams just  
can't stop looking at  
that country  
preacher of hers!

## Attend. & Contrib. Averages

- Sunday AM: 5
- Tuesday PM: 3
- Contribution: 1198Kr  
(\$199)

## I Cor. 15:1-11: The Good News

(Expositing Light – Vol. 1, Nr. 1)

In I Corinthians 15:1-11, Paul outlines the basic elements and history of the gospel of Christ in an effort to stop a rising false doctrine in which was advocated that there is no future resurrection. Whether there is an imminent danger of apostasy or not, it is important that Christians often remind themselves of this basic foundation to the faith. As can be attested by her history, the Church suffers when people begin to consider ineffective or fail to remind themselves of this message which Paul considered “of first importance” (I Cor. 15:3). So, through an examination of these eleven verses, we will try to refresh our minds to the pertinent facts of the gospel message which was “once for all handed down to the saints” (Jude 3).

*euaggelion*, means ‘good news...’ It means a gift from God. It is the proclamation of the forgiveness of sins and sonship with God restored through Christ. It means remission of sins and reconciliation with God. The gospel is not only a message of salvation, but also the instrument through which the Holy Spirit works (Rom. 1:16)” (see: “gospel;” E-Sword edition.) There is no other biblical topic that more deeply concerns the relationship between God and man than the gospel. While it is true that Paul was addressing an issue among his readers, as was already noted, it is quite fitting that he should choose this as the last major concern in his letter.

“Now I make known to you, brethren, **the gospel...**” (I Cor. 15:1). According to the International Standard Bible Encyclopedia (ISBE), the English word gospel is “derived from the Anglo-Saxon word which meant ‘the story concerning God.’ In the New Testament the Greek word

(Continued On Page 3)

**“Blessed are they  
who did not see,  
and yet believed.”  
(John 20:29).**



We picked bing cherries at  
this farm in Hardanger. This is  
one of the major fruit growing  
areas of Norway.



Heath and Connie studied together almost every day during their 4 week visit.

## Visitors and Other News

Despite the many tourists in Bergen, we did not have many visitors during the last two months. However, there were many other things to do.

I told you last time that a **visitor in June**, from Scotland, had told Borgar to have me email him upon my return to Norway. As of the last report, I had written him and was awaiting a reply. I received a reply. He is apparently a member of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland. He did not seem to be too interested in studying together but we will see.

We have not heard from **Thomas** since the first time I spoke on the phone with him after returning to Norway. He had been having medical problems. So, we

do not know whether he has lost interest or is sick and unable to contact us. Please don't forget to pray for his physical and spiritual health.

We were able to make contact with **three Norwegians** that knew Connie from when he lived here. All were involved in some type of religious group already. So, we are unsure as of yet if they will produce fruit for the Lord. We are thankful for Connie's effort in contacting them while he was here.

We have **one man from India** and **two from Norway** currently taking a correspondence course. One of the Norwegians seems very interested and has asked for more study material!

## July/August Lessons & Studies

In July and August, Connie and I both taught. My sermons were **Seven Ways to give to God, When the Church Grew, Guard the Deposit, Who May Live On Your Holy Mountain, God So Loved, Futile Ways, and Bible Ought's**. I also continued teaching **Acts** on Sundays, **Deuteronomy** on Tuesdays, and **Hebrews** on Thursdays. Connie preached on **God's Prophetic Word, One Another, and Of Heaven or Of Men**. He also taught one of the **Deuteronomy** classes as well as a class on **Troubled About Many Things**. He and I had private studies just about every day during their 4-week visit. We studied **Romans, Discipline, Worship, The Certified Gospel, What Sort of People Ought Ye to Be** among other topics.

The meeting on "**God's Prophetic Word**" went well. They were good studies that reminded us of the power of God's Word. Unfortunately, we only had one visitor during the week, a man that knew Connie in the 50's. We do not know yet if he and his wife, whom we met on another occasion, will consider coming to the Lord. However, it was a profitable week of learning for the congregation.

## Connie and Bobby Adams' Visit

Connie and Bobbie Adams moved to Bergen in 1957. There was not much being done in this part of the world then and they wanted to change that. 52 years later, their groundwork has proved worth it! They paved the way for the great amount of good that has been done in Norway since that time. Of course, they would readily admit that the work would have died along time ago if it weren't those who kept the light burning after they moved. Although Bobbie has left this life, the faith that it took to come here "still speaks" (Heb. 11:4). It was a difficult work when they came and as the affluence increased in Norway, so did the difficulty. However, as Connie wrote in his new autobiography (which is a great read by the way), "We did what we came to do. We made a start."

This was the sixth trip, I believe, back to Norway since moving for Connie and the fourth for Bobby. Although Bobby had not previously lived here, she was just as zealous to get some work done here for the Lord. She and Renee studied many times and she led a ladies class. I pray to the Lord that He will give the courage to many other mature Christians to teach the younger ones around them. The handing down of "the Faith" is the only way my generation of Christians will survive. Thank you Connie and Bobby for your love and willingness to travel across the world to work with and encourage us!

**Heath & Renee  
Robertson**

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[churchofchrist.no](http://churchofchrist.no)

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**"The Aim of Our  
Charge Is Love"  
- 1 Tim. 1:5**

## Continued from pg.1

Obviously, this was not the first time these readers heard the good news. In fact, it was Paul who originally "preached" it to them (1 Cor. 15:1; Acts 18:1-8). His readers had "received" the gospel and now "stand" as "saved" people (1 Cor. 15:1, 2). However, he makes it clear that their original obedience "saved" them from their past sins but only by holding "fast the word" until their end would they receive the "crown of life" (1 Cor. 15:2; Acts 22:16; 1 Jn. 1:5-10; Rev. 2:10). So, an understanding of the implications of the gospel is just as important to those who have been God's servants for many years as it is to those who have not yet become Christians...

(To read the rest check out [www.StudiesintheScriptures.net!](http://www.StudiesintheScriptures.net!))

### **New Periodical and Website**

**Expositing Light** is a new bi-weekly mini-periodical that I have begun to publish. Each issue will contain one expository article (an article seeking to "expose" the meaning of a specific passage). Most articles will be written by me. You can subscribe to receive Expositing Light in your e-mail inbox or check them out on my new website. If you would like to subscribe, please write me at: [newdaygtr@yahoo.com](mailto:newdaygtr@yahoo.com).

**Studies in the Scriptures** is my new website. My efforts as a gospel preacher are to help others come to know or grow in their knowledge of God's Word. There are many things that I am working on to that end. I wanted to find a way to make the material accessible to all. What better or more effective way to do that than the internet? Currently there are just articles on the site. However, in the near future, you will be able to find sermons, Bible class material, and much more. There is a Bible Q&A page as well! The site is also the online home of Expositing Light. So, if you have time, please check it out:

[www.studiesinthescriptures.net](http://www.studiesinthescriptures.net)

**"Now may our Lord Jesus  
Christ... comfort and  
strengthen your hearts in  
every good work and  
word."  
(II Thess. 2:16, 17)**

### **Family Update**

Renee continues to have a healthy pregnancy. We had an appointment with our "jordmor" (midwife) just a few weeks ago. Most mothers-to-be select a midwife in Norway. She said both mother and child seemed to be doing normal. We are thankful that, so far, the pregnancy has been uneventful. Please continue to pray for my girls!

A brother who has been receiving my reports had contacted us with a desire to support our efforts here. He is of Norwegian descent which makes the connection a little more special. He began supporting us with \$100 per month to be used toward any advertising etc... We are thankful for those desirous of aiding us in Norway.

This brings our monthly support up to \$4400 per month. If any of our supporters would like a financial report at any time before our end of the year report, please feel free to ask.

As always, if there are any questions, comments, or concerns about us or the work here, please contact us using the information on the left side of this page.