

THE BECKLEYS IN SOUTH AFRICA

April 2010 REPORT

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- **Loding Lectures / Ha Matsa lectures**
- **Zimbabwe Relief in Mutare & Darwin**
- **Moffat Tsiga**
- **Joanne to US to be with sick father**
- **Local Work**
- **More training classes to come**
- **Support Cut Back**



Deciding to cross
where the river has over run its banks.

Brethren,

Loding Lectures- The lectures at Loding over the Easter weekend were adventurous and informative. You can see by the picture the continual rain that was received and the fording of the road which a swollen river took over. The church at Loding provided two tents joined together in one of the brethren's back yard.



Notice the electrical cord in the water

There were about 200 people or more. Some were sitting with their shoes in rain water. Small drainage ditches were made to drain water away.

The lessons were interesting. Joel William's lesson was very short to emphasize to the memory his main point of the difference between the local church and the universal church. Another lesson was about one and a half hours long on forgiveness. It was a very well organized lesson emphasizing the attitude that was necessary in forgiveness. This was good, but I can't help but feel that this audience needed more balance on the necessity of repentance before forgiveness. To many brethren feel they should be accepted without any indication of repentance. Another lesson was about when to help the poor brother and when not to (when he is lazy). My assigned lesson was on the resurrection and judgment. It

could have easily been two hours long but it was about the allotted hour length. Les Maydell preached on the authority of the pattern using object lessons and Alan Fox followed up on authority dealing with when an example is binding and when it is not. James Buchanan visiting from Columbia Tenn. gave a very logically set out lesson on where are the dead. There was also a class for the teenagers and young people on keeping themselves pure in their youth. Over all, I believe much good was done. Unfortunately, in unfamiliar arrangements, someone took advantage and stole about R1700 (\$250) from brethren's belongings stored in the house by the tent. And like the son of the prophet with an ax in Elisha's day, a large sum of a sister's money missing was borrowed. Other brethren helped out, but it was not all replaced.



Ha Matsa Lectures- While brethren from all over South Africa came to Loding to study together over the holiday weekend, the Venda brethren made their own lectureship in Venda. The church at Ha Matsa sent out invitations to brethren in Venda requesting each church to send R50 each to help feed the people at the lectures. This was unlike any of the lectures among the brethren for a long time. Where there was no authority from the scripture for the church to pay expenses like feeding brethren who are not needy, the Loding brethren paid for thier hospitality out of their own pockets and donations from individuals. The Ha Matsa church solicited from the church treasury. They also invited a



Food provided by individuals at Loding

speaker from Vulaudzi whose congregation rejected the teachings against institutionalism from both myself a couple of years ago and from Ron Chaffin just last year. The institutional issue at Vulaudzi came up over the feeding non-needy brethren out of the church treasury. When I offered an alternative, so that the scriptures would not be violated and also to allow time to study the issue, they refused the offer of individual money to pay for the food claiming it had “strings” attached. Their lack of attitude toward caring about what was right and wrong ended my association with them.



Loding women cutting up chicken

If that were not enough, it has been discovered that the Venda brethren have a board of certain men from different congregations which is making decisions like who will preside over funeral arrangements of church members and their families. Although no support of these unscriptural practices have been given by Ron Chaffin or myself as evangelists, we do

understand this is the “traditional way” that Vendas’ take care of matters in their tribe. What is hard to understand is that some of these brothers are men who have stood against the liberal camp for over 20 years and have recognized the autonomy of the local church. Perhaps they have forgotten what they stood for or perhaps they were just following men all along. One man opposed the forming of this board when it was formed telling the brethren it was not scriptural. This disregard for church autonomy seems to be a product of tiredness in fighting for the old paths, a lack of understanding about authority and possibly motivated by a desire for a truly indigenous African church without foreign influence. But other churches in South Africa don’t seem to have this problem.

Zimbabwe Relief- has been distributed to brethren in the Mutare and Darwin areas of Zimbabwe. I

had planned to go up myself this time, but certain events developed that restricted my movement. I received several emails from brethren saying they received the funds for food from Shepherd and Dumisani. This is not an easy work trying to get funds or food to the brethren it should go to. There is a debit of appreciation owed to these men who do this work faithfully. All the information has not been verified yet, but I hope to sent it next week .

Moffat Tsiga- Moffat came back from Zimbabwe twice in April. The first time for his eye operation and the second for the follow up visit. Unfortunately, it was holiday time in South Africa and the doctor who did his operation was on leave, so Moffat will have to make one more visit to see him and probably get glasses adjusted to his eyesight. We were glad to be a part of his bettering his vision.



Moffat

Joanne in the USA- Joanne’s father, Glen Barnhart was in serious and grave condition. Although we both wanted to return to see him, we decided that at least Joanne should go. But we were not prepared for the expensive hike in air fare since

our visit to the States at the end of 2008. She had to cancel her Saturday afternoon class with the ladies at Tshiozwi, but Carole Chaffin is filling in for her in the Thursday class at Tshithuthuni. Joanne left on April 21. There were many travelers stranded at the airport when we arrived. This was due to the canceled flights from the volcano who's cloud of ash covered Europe. Ever since she left I am struggling to get by without her. She is due back this weekend.

Local Work at Tshiozwi continues with up and down attendance. We are slowly going through the life of Christ in the adult Bible classes. I was away from Tshiozwi on April 4 in order to speak at the Loding lectures. The lessons I preached at Tshiozwi were, Believing Jesus is Equal with the Father in Deity, The Resurrection from John 5:28, God's Purpose for the Man and the Sabbath (part 1).

There has been no more break-ins to the church building since last month. We hope thing will stay peaceful for a while.

The **prison work** continues about the same. With Prince helping out, I am able to spend more time preaching on Sunday afternoon worship instead to rushing from one place to another. On the down side, there was a fire and riot in Green prison over the insufficiency of water. Green prison has been locked down for a week, but is now showing signs of getting back to normal by this coming week. Obviously my Monday morning class was canceled in Green prison the last two weeks.



Calvin Sidebi and wife, pillars at Tshiozwi

More Studies Are Planned -for the young men wanting to preach. I hope to get the class going in about two weeks if passports are in order. I would also like to add another study and extend the time for it on the subject of first principles and growth of a Christian. We will see what can be done. The doctors may have something to say about that since I am to see two specialist soon. Keep us in your prayers. We are ever grateful for the fellowship we have with so many in the matter of giving and receiving. Thank you brethren.

Our efforts to get subsistence and medical assistance to Arao in Mozambique continues to be foiled by the Western Union's inability to communicate the correct information from one side to the other. This continues to be a source of irritation to us.

Support Cut Back- The brethren at Home Suite who have been supporting us \$667 per month have notified me that they are having to cut back to sending only \$200 per month. We are grateful for their help and efforts.

Dave's Finances up to this date:

1. In order for you to know the expenses that we incurred in our activities and the practical use of funds we have received this month (petrol and toll expenses not included), the following has been listed.
 - a. 50 more hymn books were made and sent back with 105 of the ones made last month. They were sent to Zimbabwe through Moffat.
 - b. Extra expenses this month in table below:

Date 2010	To:	@7.2367	Rand tot.	In \$
29 April	L. Ngorima -transportation to return to South Africa for study: R150		R150	20.73
29 April	M. Tsiga- transportation to return to South Africa for study: R150		R150	20.73
12 Apr.	M. Tsiga- medical expenses: R194		R194	26.81

Date 2010	To:	@7.2367	Rand tot.	In \$
28 Apr.	M. Tsiga- medical expenses: R2446; Received \$250(R1809.18) from Moffat; balance =		R636.82	88.00
10 Apr.	grape Juice for Lord's supper in Zim. R323.65		R323.65	44.72
19 April	Paradzai Kusena passport money to come to South Africa		in \$	\$150
19 April	Luke Zvapano passport money to come to South Africa		in \$	\$150
19 April	Mutengerere passport money to come to South Africa		in \$	\$150
19 April	L. Makunike passport money to come to South Africa		in \$	\$150
19 April	H. Muvhuto- out of \$150 for passport, used \$20 returned rest; \$50 for subsistence		in \$	\$70
29 April	R. Gararanga passport money (\$150) to come to S. A. plus transport and help(R175)=		R & in \$	\$174.18
19 April	Farai Chingondi. Extra help \$200		in \$	\$200
19 April	Cliford Ruzwidzo-\$200 for dialysis		in \$	\$400
13 April	Songbooks stapled by printer while stapler non operational R75		75	10.36
12 April	small plastic glasses for communion, R79.95		79.95	11.05
29 April	to Moffet Zulu (former Prisoner) help with rent via Markus Marendala R250		R250	34.55
13 April	Equipment repair, R1410		R1410	194.84
21 April	(Arao's) teaching supplies and printing paper, R799.83		R799.83	110.52
25 April	Help toward prison's needs, R100		R100	13.82
TOTAL:	(and other expenses not listed)			2020.31

c. Messenger for S. Musandiwa, \$75; and Arao Uchaio, \$25 ID:#963007353P

d. Annandale sent \$725 to cover taxes on the \$7275 given through me for relief.

2. The rest of the financial information is not yet in. I will sent it next week, Lord willing with the Relief details.

Brotherly,

Dave Beckley

All pictures (except Moffat) taken by Les and Linda Maydell. Guess who forgot their camera when they went to Loding?