



GOSPEL OUTREACH TO ETHIOPIA

WOODWARD PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST

7886 NORTH MILLBROOK

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93720

559 446-2550 www.wpcoc.com

February 24, 2014

Dear Brethren and Friends of the Gospel Outreach to Ethiopia,

A few days ago, we received an email from Brother Moges with pictures and reports concerning a two day Bible Seminar that he and Brother Abebe Haile Michael conducted at the Shafamo congregation in the Arbegona area in the Sidama Zone. The church was introduced into this area around 1993. You will be encouraged by Moges' report.



About 400 members of the Church, area preachers and many non-members attended the seminar. Currently 12 congregations are located in Arbegona and Aroresa areas. Included in this audience were many people from different denominations. The building was full and people were listening by the windows out side the building. These area Church leaders (right) have fought the good fight to spread the gospel for the past twenty one years.



THE AYELE NEGE FAMILY:

Three of the first preachers from the Arbegona area to graduate from the Senteria Preacher Training School were Ayele Nega, Petros Fiche and Worku Funa. These brothers were very successful in bringing many to Christ. They had to face all kinds of persecution and their faith was tested daily. After about three years one of them, Bro. Ayele, gave up and went back to the denomination where he previously had been a member. He became a preacher

for them and over the years took his stand against the Church. A little over a year ago he became very sick. When he knew the end was near, he called his wife and children and expressed to them how sorry he was for leaving the Lord's Church. He begged them to promise him not to follow his way and lose their souls. He asked them to repent and return back to the Church of Christ. His family made a commitment to him to follow his instructions. A short while later he died and after the time of mourning, his wife and his two sons with their families came during our seminar and repented in front of the Shafamo Church. Praise the Lord!!



MOGES SPEAKING TO THE PREACHERS:

(I wanted to leave the report from Moges and put in my thoughts here: There are no words to describe how important his and Abebe's presence with preachers serves to encourage them. These brethren are under constant pressure from small time political leaders who have been raised in various faith systems in the area and take any other kind of teaching as an attack on their comfort zone. Encouragement is important to these preachers and us all! jec)

MORE NEWS FROM MOGES:



On their trip, Moges and Abebe visited with Walde Ghorghis at the School of Preaching in Jajura. This school serves to train preachers for the churches in the Soro Zone as well as other areas, some as far as 300 miles away. Here is a statement in Moges' report, "Bro. Walde informed us in the last 9 months a total of 10 new congregations have been established in various areas and 508 people have obeyed the gospel and been added to those churches.



Bro. Molla Sugamo, right, is the director of the Shone School of Preaching. This school was established to supply preachers for the new churches being established in the Badewatcho, Kambatta and Wollieta Zones. The number of new "water well congregations" in those areas has grown to more than 100. Molla stated that in reports received from preachers in the last 3 months, 74 people have been added to the Lord's Church in those areas.



Another area Moges and Abebe were able to visit on their trip was Dawro. Churches in this area were planted when the government started a "resettlement" program where people were taken from their over populated ancestral lands and transferred to a low populated area, in this case, Dawro. Some of our preachers saw the need to move to the new places where our members were being sent to make sure that churches were organized and members were being watched over. In the April 25, 2013, we reported about Brother Behailu Yosef being one of those preachers. Six churches were organized having more than 1000 members combined. Moges and Abebe met with Behailu and another preacher named Abraham Abure and received news that 75 people have been baptized and added to the churches, including one new congregation, raising the number now to seven.

There is more good news from Moges to share. Perhaps we will do that in our next report. We appreciate more than words can say how much your prayers and support means for this work! Our prayer for all of you is that God will continue to bless you all!

Kevin and John Ed Clark