

End-month news – July 2020

Dear Friends,



Give thanks that churches were open as from Sunday 19th July! Some churches started slowly, partly presumably because people remain nervous about attending in case police get involved. Some of my children were apprehended after church for walking along the road in our local township without masks covering their mouths and nose. They were

released after cutting grass and gathering and burning rubbish for the police, I am told.

Africa Foxed by Covid-19, and wily foreign experts

All in all it seems that Kenya, as much of Africa, is seriously foxed by covid-19. Many of my African friends are telling me “Jim. Covid is not there!” They realise that fear of covid-19, like fear of a curse, is itself potentially very damaging, it may itself kill. Add to this: If my shaking someone’s hand can make them sick, as is taught by today’s anti-covid-19 ‘science’, then if someone gets sick, someone who shook their hand becomes the suspected witch. The prospect of friendliness shown by being close to someone being re-interpreted as attempted murder is horrific, to say the least. Already going to church, an activity that was revolutionising the prior constant terror of witchcraft that people were living under before the Gospel came, is under suspicion by no less an authority than government itself.

Add to the above: once it is shown that social distancing cannot work, advocating for it and other dehumanising practices is not offering any clear strategy for solving the crisis. That is to say, in Kenya at least, it seems clear, that people are not able to practice sufficient social distancing to stop the spread of the pandemic. They can only, at best, slow it. To postpone a crisis is not to resolve it. The postponement itself is vastly costly – children not at school, businesses failing, hunger and poverty on the increase, let alone (probably) exponential increases in suspicions, witchcraft accusation terrorising communities.

Give thanks for more opportunities to do door-to-door visiting with local pastors, encouraging people with God’s word.

Give thanks for often very good fellowship with Egyptians, Kenyans, and Tanzanians here at the Coptic mission station, where I am given many opportunities to teach the bible.

Pray for Saturday 25th July – when 6 or 8 of the missionaries who I until recently taught the Luo language, are to come to visit me at home.

Pray for the ongoing covid-19 situation here: the Kenyan government has not been able to prevent covid-19 from spreading. It seems (humanly speaking) it’s only a matter of time ...

Give thanks that I recovered quickly from a recent bout of malaria (or was it covid???).

Give thanks and pray for me as my rate of writing blogs, articles and other treatises' has been growing ... I am realising massive gaps in the knowledge even of very serious scholars in the West, particularly their ignorance about the Gospel.

Pray for me to successfully find a publisher for my latest book that looks at anti-racism.

Attachments?

I have at times attached articles for people's interest. I have been writing A LOT. Probably the best way to see what I am writing, is to go here: <https://jimharries.academia.edu/research#papers> If the system does not let you in, please register with academia.edu first. To do so is simple and free.

Volunteers I am looking for volunteers who are computer-savvy to assist in administering some of the writing I am doing.

Yours,

Jim