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I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I will also hold you
by the hand and watch over you, and I will appoint you as a
covenant to the people, as a *light to the nations*... Isaiah 42:6

JANUARY 2024

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Matthew 24:43-44 (NKJV)

But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

As we **step** into the new year of 2024 we sense an urgency to highlight the topic of “*being prepared*”. Prepared for what? We are not at all suggesting that Jesus is returning in 2024 (although that would be OK with us) but are believers prepared to face the spiritual (and possibly physical) attacks that some are suggesting 2024 will bring?

It is interesting to us that the warning the Lord gave us in “*Stand by for Heavy Rolls*” several years ago, and has brought it to our attention again recently, that other ministers are being shown similar pictures of what lies ahead. Rick Renner, for instance, in a recent newsletter tells of a prophetic word the Lord gave him while on a flight to a certain city, and experienced some heavy turbulence. According to Rick Renner, the Lord showed him that episodes of turbulence could be expected especially in the financial, political and national realms.

Looking at the world situation right now, it is pretty easy to see the possibility of things getting “*bumpy*” in 2024. What can we do? In *Stand by for Heavy Rolls*, the Lord showed us through scripture the importance of *staying close to God, staying close to His Word, and staying close to and loving one another*. In the message the Lord showed Rick Renner, the solution for believers is to: *stay in faith, stay in peace, stay in love, stay in fellowship, and keep sowing seed for the sake of eternity*. Sounds very similar doesn't it?

For those who remain steadfast in following the above recommendations, even though the world may seem to be collapsing in front of them, they can experience supernatural peace, assurance, provision and victory.

There is one more thing: Preparation is not something you do when the attack comes, it must be done as far in advance as possible to be successful. We are in a battle, and as soldiers in the battle we need to know that we are not alone in fighting. There is an army of the Lord preparing for any kind of situation the enemy may throw at us. A natural military force spends most of its time preparing. Only after thorough preparation are they ready to engage the enemy. Start now!

In Luke 5:7 When Jesus had used Simon Peter's boat as a platform to teach from, it says: “*So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.*”

There was such a supernatural catch of fish that Simon needed help from his partners to take in the catch. Partners are critical to achieving success - especially in ministry.

We want all of our partners to know how much we appreciate your prayers and financial support for Light to the Nations Ministries. The response to our Roma Christmas gift request was a lot like the “net breaking catch” experienced in Luke chapter 5. Not only were we able to bless the children from each church with a nice bag of goodies, All the church members are receiving gifts of food that will not only bless them at Christmas, but also beyond. In fact, we are able to provide for many of the people well into the spring months. Thank you partners!!!

Among the things our partners have responded to is the call we made for help in getting chairs and tables for the church in Ózd, Hungary. Thanks to your response, we were able to purchase four “banquet” style tables and 25 chairs that are beginning to replace the cheap, plastic chairs they have been using.

We were blessed to have with us on this recent trip, Pastor Thomas Lohnke from Langenthal, Switzerland. Not only did Pastor Thomas teach and minister with us, he did almost all of the driving for which I (Dan) am very thankful.



Above left & center: Some of the children in Ózd (left) and Szakcs (center) receive Christmas goodies thanks to partners of Light to the Nations. Actually, Santa (Mikulas) is separated from Christmas in Hungary, so that Christmas eve and Christmas day are reserved for celebrating the birth of Jesus. Mikulas comes on December 6, instead of the 25th. The church members receive their food gifts closer to Christmas. This newsletter is being written between kids gifts and adult gifts, so pictures of the food packages will have to be in next month's newsletter. Thank you partners for making this Christmas special for many families. **Above right:** Pastor Istvan Sule is shown here giving Bibles to a young family who started attending the church in Ózd, and also received Jesus as their Lord and Savior. The churches are growing!

Below left: Here, Dan and Pastor Thomas Lohnke (background) pray for Pastor Istvan and Szilvia Sule, officially setting them apart as Pastors over the Ózd, Hungary church. **Below center:** As we left the church service in Ózd, this homeless man greeted us just outside the door. After a short conversation, Marta was able to lead him to Jesus, and we invited him to come back and attend church there. **Below right:** We were able to bring Pastors Istvan and Szilvia with us to Florida for a brief visit. They have been very faithful in helping to grow the Kingdom of God. The two pictures at the very **bottom right** of this page show some of the new chairs and one of four new tables provided by partners of Light to the Nations. Thank you!!!



Thank you partners, for your faithfulness in prayer and financial support. Our prayer is that because of your generous gifts, there is an abundance of the fruit that abounds to your account (Phil 4:15).

Have a happy, prosperous and blessed new year!

Dan & Marta Lewis

