



OPERATION COMPASSION
For the fatherless and widows

James 1:27

ONE GOAT

PENNIES 3,750
 NICKELS 750
 DIMES 375
 QUARTERS 150
 DOLLARS 37.50

WORLD POPULATION
2009 2025 2050

World	6.6 bil	7.9 bil	9.3 bil
China	1.3 bil	1.5 bil	1.4 bil
India	1.1 bil	1.4 bil	1.7 bil
USA	303 mil	349 mil	420 mil
Indonesia	232 mil	271 mil	297 mil
Brazil	189 mil	228.9 mil	260 mil
Pakistan	169 mil	228.8 mil	295 mil
Bangladesh	149 mil	190 mil	231 mil
Nigeria	144 mil	205 mil	282 mil
Russia	142 mil	129 mil	109 mil
Japan	128 mil	119 mil	95 mil
Congo	63 mil	108 mil	187 mil
Philippines	89 mil	120 mil	149 mil

www.PRB.org/worldpopulation data sheet

**THE MASSES
 AND THE MASTER**

It staggers the mind to realize the enormous number of people on this earth and that our Lord and Master commanded: ***“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned” (Mark 16:15-16).***

On these souls we must have compassion and develop among us a greater zeal for world evangelism. This will require a grass roots effort among us. Our youth must be stirred to enter this fight for souls and great numbers of native brethren in various countries must be trained to reach their own.

OPERATION “*COMPASSION*”

To assure John that He was the Christ, our Lord quoted from the writings of Isaiah and applied the words to Himself: ***“The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them”*** (Isa. 29:18; 35:4-6; 61:1).

Because of its tremendous population India has more people in poverty than all of Africa. That is not to suggest that the poor of Africa are not in great need of the gospel.

In India we are continuously training men to preach to the masses. Not only so, but over these 22 years we have sought to help widows, fatherless, lepers, the blind and deaf. In fact, we have a Bible school and home for the latter two groups in Pudukottai, Tamil Nadu with 53 enrolled. One fellow laborer, Don Iverson, has set up cottage homes for 119 orphans at Chettipalayam, Tamil Nadu where our Bible schools are located for single men and women.

Concerning the needs of widows, many of you have participated in our goats or cows for widows over these many years. The program is deliberately designed to avoid a “welfare” type system. The widows must develop their own flock of goats to care for themselves. The program provides each widow with at least 5 goats (4 females and 1 male). For each child that she has she receives one extra goat. We provide \$10.50 per month cash assistance for 18-24 months while the flock is being developed. The sister receives \$2.10 for each child during this time.

Goats make a marvelous business for a widow as they can be fed on scrub land and stubble in the paddy fields. These are goats raised for meat and sell for \$1.90 per pound while beef sells for \$.75 per pound. The widow and/or her children will follow the goats through their area as they graze on any kind of vegetation they can find. When we lived in Pakistan (before we knew better) we planted flowers outside our compound wall. As soon as the flowers would sprout along would come a goat or cow and nip them in the bud.

It is written of our Lord, ***“He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for...”*** (Mark 6:34).

If we expect to reach souls for Jesus among the 6.6 billion with whom we share this planet we must have a double portion of compassion for the poor, the lame, the blind, the leper and the widow. Not only so, but we must instill such in our children. OPERATION “*COMPASSION*” is designed to do the latter. Over the past three to five years as the churches of Christ have grown in South India more and more widows have come into the faith. As I have written before we require of widows who obey the gospel to prove themselves faithful over 18-24 months before we supply them with assistance. This is to encourage them not to be baptized for material gain.

As of last Fall we have a backlog of 82 widows with 86 children among them. Of these 62 want goats. The number of goats needed is 347 at a cost of \$37.50 each or a total of \$13,012.50. I wrote before that each goat costs \$35.00, but the supply and demand factor has pushed the price for a goat to Rs 1,800 (\$37.50). The other 20 sisters asked for a milk cow each, which costs Rs 17,500 (\$365) for a total of \$7,300. The overall total needed is \$20,312.00. As of this date (January 8, 2009) we have \$6,990 toward that figure. So we have about enough to cover the cost of the cows.

On the back side of the Newsletter you will see a picture of a jar. Hopefully each Sunday school teacher will want to encourage his or her class to fill such a jar to buy a goat or goats for a destitute widow. A plastic jar should work fine and a permanent marker could be used to write the various items on it. Then it may be filled with pennies, nickels, dimes, etc.

If you are interested in helping us in OPERATION “*COMPASSION*” we would like to hear from you at P.O. Box 1010, Crossville, TN 38557. I will send you an 8 1/2 x 14 color poster of widows receiving goats for your display. You may think of many ways to help the young people put compassion into action and demonstrate it to others. When their jar is full have them as a group present it to the elders and ask that it be sent to India for the widows.

The brothers and I deliver the goats to each widow by various conveyances. On this particular day no truck was available so the local brother and I had to ride in the rickshaw with the driver and 5 goats!!!



A BRIEF REPORT

On New Year’s Eve I arrived home at 11:30 p.m. from, my latest trip to India. The main purpose of this trip was to orientate the principals of nine of the 27 schools of preaching, which we now conduct, to a different format. These nine are our oldest schools; having been established between 1989 and 2002. Literally hundreds of men have gone through them and are now serving in various regions of Tamil Nadu. Interestingly, during the time I was talking with the principals I learned that between 80 and 85 percent of our graduates are actively working with a local congregation. Others, although not preaching, are attending worship. In order to have effective follow up, on the 4th Saturday each month the students in the vicinity of each of the nine training centers will gather for testing over the material they have studied for the past four weeks.

The new training program will have brothers who are graduates, well trained in the scriptures and preaching regularly, serving as teachers in their own village. It will be a Paul/Timothy type training program where the local preacher will spend two hours three evenings a week training one or two brothers in his own locale.

The 368 who have signed up for these new classes are in addition to the more than 400 in our other eighteen schools of preaching. The idea with these small schools is to get more leaders trained for the village churches. As I have written before our work is training preachers (II Tim. 2:2), but the bottom line is to plant strong self-perpetuating local churches of Christ.

NEWSLETTER TAKES ON NEW FORMAT

As is quite obvious the Newsletter is coming to you in a new format. With this issue we have stopped sending return envelopes which will save money and postage.

From the bottom of my heart I thank all of you who have used those envelopes over the years to hold up our hands in this work of faith and labor of love. I hope you will write down or even commit to memory our address: Waldron Mission Fund, P.O. Box 1010, Crossville, TN 38557 and continue to help us as we train soldiers for the Master. May His Father and ours bless you both now (2009) and forever.

With Love,

Jim E. Waldron