



NEWS & VIEWS

Volume 3, Number 22

How Much Longer, Lord?



Though there is a dispute about when the new millennium begins; however, the third millenium is just around the corner - in approximately 330 days. Nations, business enterprises, religious organizations, and even travel agencies have laid plans or are planning to celebrate the coming of the new millennium.

Not only the early Adventist pioneers but also many modern day Adventists never dreamed they would celebrate the third millennium on earth. Even the early computer programmers did not prepare to go beyond the year 1999. Consequently, the whole world is spending billions of dollars just to correct the Y2K problems.

It was not God's design that His people should celebrate the third millennium on earth. God eagerly wished His people to enter heaven, and that the gospel proclamation would have been completed long ago.

"It is true that time has continued longer than we expected in the early days of this message. Our Savior did not appear as soon as we hoped... Had Adventists, after the great disappointment in 1844, held fast their faith and followed on unitedly in the opening providence of God, receiving the message of the third angel and in the power of the Holy Spirit proclaiming it in the world, they would have seen the salvation of God, the Lord would have wrought mightily with their effort, the work would have been completed, and Christ would have come ere this to receive His people to their reward..."

"It was not the will of God that the coming of Christ should be thus delayed. God did not design that His people Israel, should wonder forty years in the wilderness. He promised to lead them directly to the land of Canaan, and establish there a holy, healthy, happy people..."

"Forty years did unbelief, murmuring, and rebellion shut out ancient Israel from the land of Canaan. The same sins have delayed the entrance of modern Israel into the heavenly Canaan. In neither case were the promises of God at fault. It is the unbelief, the worldliness, unconsecration, and strife among the Lord's professed people that have kept us in this world of sin and sorrow so many years." *Manuscript 4, 1883, Evangelism, 695,696.*

"Christ has not come to take us home yet because we have not completed our assignments. He has not come yet because our character is not transformed. The reason of His delay is to give us more time to finish our unfinished assignments. "Christ is waiting with longing desire for the manifestaion of Himself in His church. When the character of the Savior shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim His own." *Counsels to Parents, 324*

He has not come yet because we have not completed the proclamation of the gospel. Every Adventist should memorize Matthew 24:14 well. "The gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

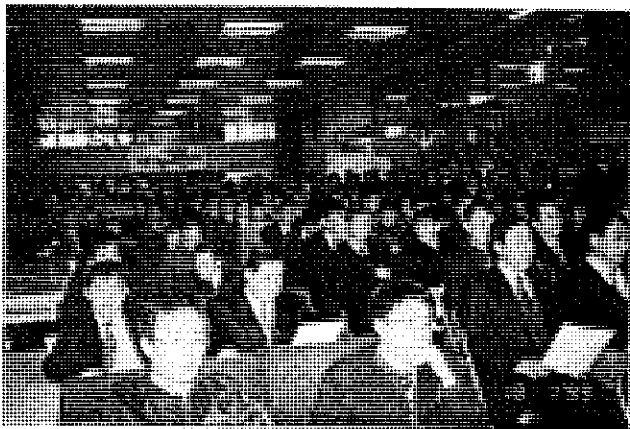
"Long has God waited for the spirit of service to take possession of the whole church so that everyone shall be working for Him according to his ability. When the members of the church of God do their appointed work in the needy field at home and abroad, in fulfillment of the gospel commission, the whole world will soon be warned and the Lord Jesus will return to this earth with power and great glory." *The Acts of the Apostles, 111.*

"God has completed His part faithfully. He is ready to come at any moment. But we have not completed our assignments. "It is the privilege of every Christian, not only to look for, but to hasten, the coming of our Lord. Were all who profess His name bearing fruit to His glory, how quickly the whole world would be sown with the seed of the gospel! Quickly the last great harvest would be ripened, and Christ would come." *Counsels to Parents*, 324

P. D. Chun, *President*

Adventist University Choir Given 1st Award in Korea

Adventist university in Korea was widely broadcasted through TV news during an evening golden hour on January 18, 1999. The music department of Korean Sahmyook University was invited to have the 1999 New Year's Music Concert during the noon hour on January 18. It performed in the lobby of the Government Sechongno Buildings in Seoul, and was sponsored by the Ministry of Government Administration & Home Affairs and Government Buildings Management Service. The program was under the auspices of the government's Ministry of Education.



Audience enjoying excellent music free of charge.

The university group was warmly welcomed by Director General of Government Buildings Management Service. Then Dean of Student Affairs of the university expressed heartfelt thanks for this opportunity. The 40-minute program attracted over 600 people, many were government workers.

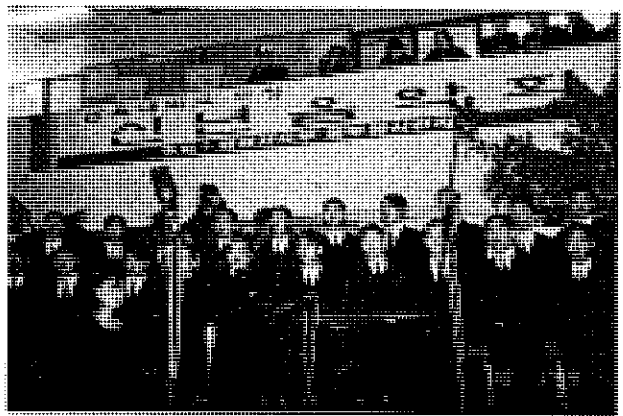
*Soprano solo by
Sahmyook Univ.
Professor of
Music Dept.,
Sun Joo Choi.*



The program was filled with variety. It included a violin trio, male double trio, soprano solo, tenor solo, female and male duet, and male choir. Although Korea is still under the IMF situation and is struggling against financial difficulty, these students raised their voices with happiness, joy and hope expecting something special for the new year. Since the audience was the general public, songs were chosen from Korean and foreign folk songs.

When the double trio sang bright and joyful songs like "O sole mio" and "Funicule funicula," attendees responded by clapping their hands. Everyone was pleased with the excellent music offered free of charge.

The Adventist university was asked to present this program because of their male choir of the university. The 22nd National University Music Contest was conducted under the auspices of the Ministry of Education in the Korean government at Yon-Se University on November 12, 1998. Korean Sahmyook University's male chorale took the prestigious first award. The university's male choir received the same award last year too.



Male choir of Sahmyook University composed mainly of theology students.

The choir is composed of 52 students. Ten are from the music department, 1 from business administration and 41 are theology students. While the choir was trained by Professor Suk Ki Kim, the conductor was Hun Chin Pe, and the pianist, Hye Lim Han. Both are students. They sang a German folk song "Pine Tree" and a Negro spiritual song "Steal Away", and won the first prize among 18 universities in Korea. These two songs were arranged by Professor Moon Yang Cho.

The Korean Sahmyook University has received the 1st award six times, and also other awards since 1977. Consequently, the name of Sahmyook University is well recognized, especially among music lovers. The university has approximately 2,800 students; and, of those 160 are studying music.

Tadaomi Shinmyo, *Communication/PARL Director*

Prosperous Language Institutes in Taiwan

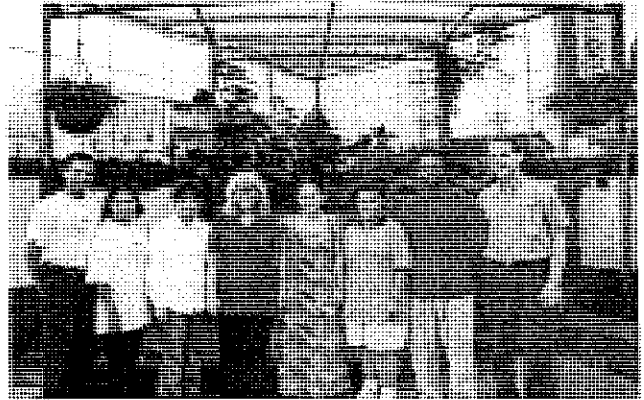


With Workers of San Yu English Bible Center in Kaohsiung (Marlene is the third from right and Golden is left.)

Language institutes in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division are very effective instruments to share our faith to others. We currently have English language schools in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and Mainland China. Additionally we have now a request to start an English school in Mongolia. This means that we need many more English teachers from abroad. We would like to ask the readers of this newsletter, NEWS & VIEWS, to respond to this modern "Macedonian Call" from these countries.

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The writer had an opportunity to visit the English schools in Taiwan on November 22, 1998. When I arrived at Kaohsiung Airport, Mrs. Marlene DeCoito, Director of San Yu English Bible Center, and Golden, who is one of her office secretaries met me. After serving in Thailand, Marlene came to Taiwan. She has worked there 4 years.



Teachers and administrative staffs at the headquarters of San Yu English Bible Center in Pingtung.

They took me to 5 branch locations of the English Bible Center. Most of the English schools are in conjunction with Seventh-day Adventist church buildings. However, there are exceptions. Some schools are in commercial buildings and one is in a hospital operated by an Adventist physician.

Presently there are 8 branches in Taiwan with a total enrollment of around 1,300. They have 32 foreign teachers. Some are from South Africa, U.S.A., Canada and Jamaica. A number of teachers are from South Africa because the director comes from that country. English schools in Taiwan are very blessed both spiritually and financially. The existence of English schools brings enthusiasm for evangelism and financial help to the church. Teachers are very enthusiastic witnesses although they are young and inexperienced in theology.

These young teachers are faithfully working for the Lord in spite of many cultural differences. Each English class is composed of less than 10 students. They usually teach 7 hours a day for 4 days per week. Furthermore, they spend their time from Friday to Sunday sharing their faith to other students through Bible study, outings and other activities. As the result of their effort, many students are led to know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. Since Taiwan is not a Christian country and the people have a strong family tie, it is not easy to baptize people whose loved ones oppose the change in their religion. In spite of such difficult situations, there are 10 to 15 baptisms annually through the English schools.

Tadaomi Shinmyo, *Communication/PARL Director*


Learn English Bible Seminar

January 11, 1999, the doors of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division large meeting room were opened to the residents of Ilsan, Korea. A red banner, stretched across the front of the room, showed that they had come to the "Learn English Bible Seminar." The seminar was scheduled to begin at 5:30 pm, but many interested students arrived early. Several local newspapers carried the advertisement for this special seminar and brochures were handed out in public squares.

"Learn English Bible Seminar" fits its name exactly. The only textbook is the Bible. Worksheets have been prepared using mnemonics. The lessons follow the 27 fundamental beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church as they are presented through God's Holy Word. Each evening they discuss a new topic and vocabulary, and they practice pronunciation. The worksheet becomes the property of the students so they can take it home for further study. Approximately 60 students attended the first evening. An introductory test was given to each student to ascertain their level of English comprehension. Several did not have an adequate understanding of English to be eligible for the classes. However, the present attendance averages about 40.

The young come, seniors come, mothers bring their small children and come. All are welcome. The opening evening each student was given a registration card and a new Bible. The Bible will be their free gift if they attend at least 10 classes. Sonja Kim and Hyun Sook Park, secretaries in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, have played an important role in preparing the materials for these classes. Lily Cho and Jae Wook have also actively participated in welcoming the students and have assisted where needed each evening. The classes are held three days each week: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:30 pm.

The classes are free. The Bibles are free. The lesson materials are free, the certificate upon completion of the Seminar will be free. So, also, the salvation offered through Jesus Christ is free. It is our privilege to make "... this gospel of the kingdom" available to anyone who is interested. Local church pastors attend regularly. They will study the Bible with anyone who wishes to continue after the close of the seminar.



Learn English Bible Seminar

An American, Gilbert Bertochini, is conducting a free Learn English Bible Seminar.

Date & Time: January 11 ~ February 24, 1999 (3 days a week: Mon/Tue/Wed) 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Location: Northern Asia-Pacific Division
Sam Hee Plaza, 5th Floor, 66 Chuyop-dong, Ilsan-gu, Koyang-city, Kyonggi-do, Korea 411-370 (next to Grand Department Store)
Telephone: (0344) 910-1529 (Park, Hyun Sook)

Qualifications:

1. Ages 16 to 70; everyone is welcome to come.
2. A person who can speak and read simple English
3. A person who desires to increase his vocabulary, comprehension of words, and speaking in English

Supplies: Textbooks (free):

1. Learn English Bible Seminar Manual
2. NKJV Bible

Gilbert Bertochini, *Ministerial Association Secretary*

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