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Thank You!

Church of Christ India Fund
c/o Dave Nance
399 Terry Lane Rd.
Covington, TN 38019



India Evangelism
Newsletter

January, 2023

"...how you turned from
idols to serve the living
and true God."

(1 Thessalonians 1:9)



Church of Christ India Fund

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Thomas the Apostle

While we are in India we often travel to the coastal city of Chennai where we have an extensive work going. In that city is a Catholic cathedral called St. Thomas Cathedral Basilica. We visited this structure, and it is quite impressive to behold. It is built over the supposed tomb of Thomas the Apostle. Tradition states that Thomas traveled to India around AD 52, eventually reaching Chennai, becoming the first to bring the gospel to that area of the world.

As is the case with most legends surrounding the apostles, we cannot be certain about how many of the stories are true, but in this case there seems to be at least some nugget of truth in it. Perhaps he was the first to take the gospel to India, as Paul wrote that the gospel had gone to “all the world” and that it “was preached to every creature under heaven” (Colossians 1:6, 23).

We don't have a divine record of the success of the gospel's spread in that region of the world, but I have no doubt that those people at least had opportunity to hear it. Thomas was said to have been martyred in Chennai where the St. Thomas Mount stands high above the city, perhaps alluding to how well the gospel was received.

Though the gospel was spread there before does not mean that the work was done. The gospel is being spread in India

today. Though it faces more opposition today than it did 50 years ago, it is still the most fertile place on earth for the gospel seed to be planted and to grow and thrive. Though Thomas perhaps begun the gospel spread in India, the work is never done. Even if saints are persecuted like Thomas, the gospel will continue to be taught.

Thank you for your support in making this work continue and thrive!

Robert Charnock

A New Year! A Great Outlook! A Great Challenge!

As we begin 2023, brother Dale Foster and his daughter Melissa LeDoux are going to India, beginning January 10th.

This is exciting, especially for our work among the women in the congregations that we work with! This will be Melissa's 2nd trip to India, having been long delayed by the Covid restrictions.

I don't need to tell you how important the women are in the congregations of our work, so they're excited to get some teaching and encouragement specifically tailored to their vital work.

They will be returning on February 2, so please keep them in prayer, and if anyone wants to make a special donation to help the widows that she'll be working with, please earmark it for that purpose.

We can get it into their hands via a wire transfer while they are in India.

I'll forward their report to you as soon as they get back. Dale is a great one to journal each day's events in his notebook (which I seldom have the discipline to do).

But there's also a bit of a challenge with our work now: *Inflation*.

An odd thing is happening concerning the donations to our work. All throughout the Covid restrictions when many churches met less frequently, and many members did not come to services at all, our donations held steady thanks to your commitment to the work!

However, now that inflation has taken hold, our donations have taken a hit, being less than they were. I frankly thought that we'd have had a decline during Covid and an increase during inflation. But the opposite seems to be true. This is affecting how far our support for widows, orphans and gospel preachers goes.

So please pray and consider increasing your support for this work in the coming year. It's hard, but it's also important!

Dave Nance



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