

HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

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Psalms 50:15

“And call upon Me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify Me.”



Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand with wife, Sabina

Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand spent 14 years in Romanian communist prisons. Mrs. Wurmbrand was imprisoned nearly three years also for her Christian faith in same prisons.

**From an unpublished Bible meditation by late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand:
God is Alive**

One of the highest Christian virtues is joy.

The reformer Martin Luther was once sad and depressed. No argument brought by those around him seemed to bring him out of this state. Then his wife Katherine dressed in black entered his study, a black rimmed handkerchief to her eyes, like a woman in mourning. Concerned, Luther asked: "what happened? Who died?" She answered, "have you not heard the latest news? God is dead!" Luther shouted at her: "Have you gone mad? How dare you talk like that! God never dies!" His wife answered: "you are the fool. If God is not dead, what is the reason you keep being sad?" Then he embraced his wife and said, "a wise wife is so much more worth than a stupid husband!" Thereafter, Luther carved on the desk in his office, the words, "He is alive!"

In the Bible Book of Daniel 10:2-5 it is described: "In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks. I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled. And in the four and twentieth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, which is Hiddekel; Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked..." Daniel lifted his eyes after 21 days of sadness. He should have done it from the beginning. The Bible verse in the Psalms says: "call upon Me **in the day** of trouble" but we usually call God **after** the day of trouble. Call Him on that very day! Daniel spent 21 days in trouble and then remembered to call the Lord. God indeed answered him: "**from the first day**

that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, **thy words were heard...**" (Daniel 10:12)

Joshua, when closed to what seemed an unconquerable fortress, the city of Jericho, lifted his eyes. (Joshua 5:15) Had he not done this, he would have missed the unique occasion to see an angel, the otherwise unseen Commander of the Army of the Lord. This vision emboldened the people of Israel to conquer this fortress named Jericho. The Gospel writes, Jesus looked up to heaven (Mark 6:41) after which He miraculously multiplied a little bit of food so five thousands could eat.

"I will lift up my eyes whence comes my help" wrote David. (Psalm 121:1) The greatest joy you can give God is your trust, to enjoy Him, His salvation and all the good He gave you. Jesus can change water into wine. It means the Lord can perform the miracle of changing the water of your tears of sadness into moments of joy.

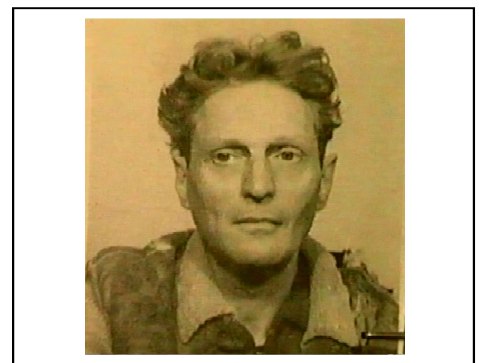
A great hindrance to happiness is seeking it, instead of enjoying it. Jesus went toward Gethsemane, in expectation of being sentenced to death, singing. The Psalm He sung says, "This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us be glad and rejoice in it" and "I praise You for You are good." (Psalm 118) It is God's commandment "Always rejoice!" Always believe in a God of miracles. After the crucifixion of Jesus, women going to the tomb wondered who would roll away the big stone covering the entrance to the tomb. They wished to anoint Jesus' corpse. They were of a frail power. To their disbelief an angel rendered them this service. Be sure that the "stones" which are above your power to roll away, will be taken aside by God. Do not count only with your power to do a thing but count on God's angels. Christians make the story of Jesus' miracles believable since they ARE AWARE they themselves live in the world of miracles. While worldly people are proud of earthly achievements, Christians know all things work together for good to them that love God. The spiritual achievement is obtained by a love for God. In the saddest moments Job could exclaim, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." Job was ready to lose everything so long he trusted and praised the God of the universe. Christians have no problems of believing in miracles since they know they are the miracle. Why doubt God could part the Red Sea when we believe God made the Red Sea. The One who made the Red Sea, can surely part it. Therefore, let us concentrate in loving God, He is alive. The love for God can remove the weight of sadness from your heart.



The Communist Jilava Prison.
Entrance to the underground cells.



Prison cell with bunk-beds with no mattress, prisoners were obliged to sleep on. Stove for show only, never heated in cold winters.



Mug shot of Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand when held in Jilava.

For the last 40 years, HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC. has extended financial support to Christian refugees from communist countries, orphans and Christians who had been imprisoned for their faith in present and former communist countries. Also helped is the Richard Wurmbrand College, a high school in Iasi where many children of disadvantaged families are able to study. See <http://helpforrefugees.com>.

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.” (Apostle James Epistle 1:27)

Christians and their families helped with your gifts
Costache CODREANU



He became a Christian in the year 1960. Later as a Pentecostal minister, due to his travels and intense evangelizing, the communist secret police imprisoned him at different times totaling nearly 10 ½ years of communist prison, especially during Ceausescu’s terror reign in Romania.

The secret police did not know how to contain the spreading of the Pentecostal message especially through villages in Romania. Some of the beatings to which he was subjected for baptizing believers, etc. are unimaginable as the secret police used a **“beating machine or robot.”** He was thrown out of a police car and left for dead. Some driver of another car which was about to hit him, became a believer after hearing his testimony. This picture shows his wife, daughter and grandson.

Christians and their families helped with your gifts
Trifu Ion



Brother Trifu is a Pentecostal Christian who was persecuted under communism in Romania. He has 15 (fifteen) children who are either married or about to be married. One is handicapped. The communist police (apparently had plenty the resources, to have) placed a policeman in front of his home night after night to make sure he was not going to some underground meeting. He was in a group of 8 persons arrested in 1983, having at that time 5 children at home. Eventually he was released after 3 months as the wives went to the capital city in Bucharest and protested. Even after the fall of communism he continued to have problems with the authorities as the same communist characters were still in charge in his place of work. He worked in construction until 2005 when he had a major accident, badly injuring his left hand and can no more work. He is declared by the present government a former political prisoner.

Christians and their families helped with your gifts



Ilie Neamtu 85, an active Pentecostal missionary in Romania and wife. Of an indomitable courage under communism, he gave publicly his Christian testimony speaking to crowds on the street, in trains, in buses, places of work and so on. On the 1st of July 1985 he was kidnapped off the street by the Romanian communist secret police. His wife and seven children remained without subsistence. Christians around helped them get through somehow.

Neamtu was tortured to sign statements that he will no more evangelize, hold underground meetings or conduct baptisms. He replied to his torturers, “my right hand will sign after you cut it off and someone else will hold the severed hand and somehow make a cut off hand sign.” After being beaten severely the communist officer shouted before slamming his prison cell-

door shut, “here will rot your bones. Not even the God you trust in, will get you out of here.” He remained in this cell a year and a half, being hungered, beaten, interrogated. Extremely physically weak, his prayers consisted of only the words, “Oh Lord” constantly reminding himself how in the Gospel it is written that Lord Jesus prayed for Apostle Peter not to lose his faith. Lord Jesus is described speaking to Apostle Peter in Luke 22:32 as saying: “But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not!” This tortured Romanian Christian was imploring Lord Jesus do same for him, he asked Lord Jesus pray also for Ilie Neamtu.

Neamtu recounts how imprisoned 15 feet underground in the dark and freezing cell, all of a sudden his body, following above prayer, felt warmed up to the point that he got scared thinking he lost his mind and cannot feel his body anymore. Neamtu knows a lot of the Bible by heart. Miraculously the verse of Psalm 89:19, “Then thou spakest in vision to thy holy one...” came to his mind because indeed he had an incredible vision: as if projected on the cell wall, many groups of Christians appeared kneeling giving prayers on his behalf. Under this image appeared the verse of James 5:16, “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” He understood how the more fervent the prayer, the more his body got heated up and praised God. He had not lost his mind. Under US government pressures the communist dictator Ceausescu had to give a decree freeing all those political prisoners sentenced to five years of prison or less. Neamtu had been sentenced to 2 years and seven months. Though he hoped for an immediate release, this was not the case. To torture him more, he was communicated how his sentenced had been revised to be increased to seven and a half years of prisons, so he could not be freed under the newly issued decree. The US ambassador being appraised of this specific communist attempt to trick the US government, paid even a personal visit to Neamtu’s home in Romania to convince himself this prisoner had not been freed. Then the ambassador intervened with members of the US Congress and in this way Neamtu was freed. Eventually under many international protests he was expelled together with the family out of communist Romania and allowed to come to the United States. In the US he met Christians who, like in his vision, had prayed for him. As soon as communism fell in Romania, Ilie Neamtu left the United States and continues to this day as a Christian missionary throughout the villages of Romania.

Christians and their families helped with your gifts

Due to tax laws inside Romania, some help needs be sent through the local Romanian nonprofit Sabina Wurmbrand Christian Association. Below, one of the receipts for financial support distributed in turn as financial aid to Richard Wurmbrand High School, the Agape Orphanage or to many Christians and their families, most of them now 70 to well into their nineties. Everyone endured many years of communist prison.

In English

11.08.2016

Fundația Filocalia – Colegiul „Richard Wurmbrand”, sediul în str. Smârdan nr. 13, Iași, 700399, fiind înregistrată ca fundație non-profit, având codul fiscal 3204471, reprezentată prin domnul Adonican Dascălu, confirm prin prezentul document că am primit 11.700 lei (contravaloarea a 3.000 de dolari) de la **Asociația Creștină Sabina Wurmbrand**, reprezentată de domnul Mihai Wurmbrand. Această donație a fost făcută pentru a sprijini educația copiilor din familii dezavantajate.

Filocalia Foundation – “Richard Wurmbrand” Christian School, str. Smârdan nr. 13, Iași, 700399, registered as a non-profit foundation, having the fiscal code 3204471, represented by Mr. Adonican Dascalu, confirms by this document that we received \$3,000 (11,700 lei) on August 11, 2016, from **Asociația Creștină Sabina Wurmbrand**, represented by Michael Wurmbrand. This donation was made to support the education of children from disadvantaged families.

Fundația „Filocalia”,

Ec. Adonican Dascălu



Three new children taken this fall into the Christian Agape Orphanage, helped from your donations.



Mother disappeared. Drunkard father so badly brutalized grandmother that social services asked Agape Orphanage intervene urgently. Above, the grandmother's shack. Below, sister Gavril Carmen, orphanage leader (left foreground) receiving the children.



Help for Refugees, P.O. Box 5161, Torrance, Ca. 90510, USA. Email: hfr@helpforrefugees.com, website: <http://helpforrefugees.com> (EIN: 95-3064521) is listed in Publication 78, Cumulative List of Organizations described in Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, a list of organizations eligible to receive tax-deductible charitable contributions. May be checked online at: <http://www.irs.gov/app/pub-78/>

Christians and their families helped with your gifts



Pastor Oleg Perbikovski and his wife surrounded by all their 16 children!

This minister writes:

“I was named as the (Baptist) pastor for the unregistered church in Kishinev, Republic of Moldova (at the time part of the Soviet Union and called: Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic - NT.) I am born in 1954 in the same city. My parents were believers so I attended church since my early childhood. I became a convinced Christian just before I did my military enlisting and was baptized right after I came out of the army (indeed a Christian miracle since his decision to be baptized was taken after this young man underwent 3 years of intense atheistic, communist indoctrination in the Soviet army – NT!)

I spent my youth working in the underground Christian activity of the church. I participated in the illegal printing of the underground print shop called "the Christian." I helped with printing and binding Christian books, transporting and spreading them out throughout the Soviet Union. We also spread Russian Bibles and booklets for children received from abroad. I married in 1981. Only 4 months after my wedding I was arrested suddenly while transporting flyers published by the “Committee of the (Christian) Imprisoned Relatives.” I was arrested and imprisoned for two years in the city of Kharkov (this is the second largest city in present Ukraine - NT.) I worked in a very polluted environment and ended up sick with asthma. After I came out of prison, God blessed us with having 16 children. This year we baptized (as a consenting adult) our 13th child. Eventually we formed four unregistered churches, being myself the minister for one of them. Our church has over 200 members with many children and young persons.” (Some churches are still unregistered in the Republic of Moldova as the present government, like in the previous communist era, forbids proselytism, evangelizing outside the denomination confines – NT.)