

ASKING POINT

Network

*He is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just.
A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He. Deut. 32:4*

Hope of the Nations

In His name the nations will put their hope. Matthew 12:21

NORTH KOREA

After 60 years of so called communist rule the very existence of Christians in North Korea is a Sovereign work of God. If Christians are "found out" they are executed, and so is their husband or wife, their children and their parents. No matter how desperate the situation is in North Korea, it is worse for the Christians. And still there are Christians in North Korea. They are very brave and secretly share their faith; in their poverty they share with others, Christians and non-Christians.

The government in North Korea began as a communist state but became a regime ruled by a man who forced the people to worship him as God. Kim Il Sung is now dead, and his son Kim Jung Il rules. He is called "the dear leader." Citizens of North Korea must daily give thanks to him for everything they have.

- continued next page -



The World from God's Perspective

I have longed to gather. Matthew 23:37

Is the Bride ready for the Wedding?

How can you help prepare Her in 2010?

*I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem,
coming down out of heaven from God,
prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.*

*One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls
full of the seven last plagues came and said to me,
"Come, I will show you the Bride, the Wife of the Lamb."*

Revelation 21:2&9

The Bride of Christ will be prepared, beautifully dressed and will become the Wife of the Lamb.

Who prepares a bride? She does, with her attendants. Who prepares the Bride of Christ? We do. How? Jesus showed us how: Christ **loved** the church and **gave** Himself up for her to **make** her holy, **cleansing** her by the **washing** with water through the word, and to **present** her to Himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. (Ephesians 5:25-27)

Jesus made provision for us to prepare the Bride:

He gave us the Word.

- continued next page -

God in Community

I come in the Name of the Lord Almighty. 1 Samuel 17:45

The Persecuted Church

**"We give no offense in anything,
that our ministry may not be blamed.
But in all things we commend ourselves
as ministers of God . . ."**

2 Corinthians 6:3

Christians faithfully bearing up under persecution witness to the world that **Jesus Christ is worth dying for**; sometimes by execution, or starvation; and sometimes by dying daily.

They **choose** Jesus instead of keeping the ordinary comforts of life—their children's opportunity for an education, or their livelihood, their friends, their entire family, their freedom.

- continued next page -

**...receive from Him
anything we ask, because we obey
His commands and do what pleases Him...**

1 John 3:22

Page 2 - Nations

North Korea continued . . .

There is an elite class that consists of Kim Jung Il, government staff, the military, police, and a small percentage of the population. They are well fed, clothed and housed. The rest of the population of North Korea lives in abject poverty in a country that has become a huge prison camp.

The conditions there are becoming even worse. An Open Doors' press release quotes Church leaders as saying, "The country has called for '100 days of combat.'" (This means that practically everyone has to work for the state. Any person found on the street without a valid reason is sent to a labor camp.) "The people don't have much opportunity to keep themselves alive. In Hwangae province it's normal **again** to see dead children in the street."

The Christians of North Korea ask for your fervent prayers.

meditate and pray:

Psalm 142 ~ I cry out to the LORD with my voice; With my voice to the LORD I make my supplication. I pour out my complaint before Him; I declare before Him my trouble. When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, Then You knew my path. In the way in which I walk they have secretly set a snare for me. Look on my right hand and see, For there is no one who acknowledges me; Refuge has failed me; No one cares for my soul. I cried out to You, O LORD: I said, "You are my refuge, My portion in the land of the living. Attend to my cry, For I am brought very low; Deliver me from my persecutors, For they are stronger than I. Bring my soul out of prison, That I may praise Your name; The righteous shall surround me, For You shall deal bountifully with me."

Galatians 1:3-5; Jeremiah 15:15-17; Habbakuk 3:17-19. 🌟

Page 2 - Community

The Persecuted Church continued . . .

The persecution of Christians varies in method and intensity from country to country. In China, there is now less harshness. However, the battle goes on.

The following letter excerpts are from an unusually large "underground Church."

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On October 30th 2009, Shouwang Church left the Huajie Plaza We left due to the continual pressure from the authorities that the owners of the rooms the church rented were coming under. For the love of Christ, the church did not want the landlord to shoulder the pressure that the church should shoulder. . . . our brothers and sisters braved the wind and snow attending Sunday worship at the east gate of the Haidian Park on the first of November.

Page 2 - Perspective

Readying the Bride continued . . .

How are we, the Bride, to be dressed? With humility we need to be clothed by Jesus. *"I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For He has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels."* Isaiah 61:10

The Bride becomes the Wife! We are ready for that eternal relationship by getting to know the Bridegroom well now, so that there is no awkwardness or unfamiliarity at the wedding feast of the Lamb! *"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better."* Ephesians 1:17

The entrance of this perfected Bride is after "the last plagues." **The Church will be refined in the darkest of days.** Then there will be such Light no other source will be needed for the glory of God gives light, and the Lamb is a lamp! (Revelation 21:23)

Begin 2010 by ASKing these things for the Bride of Christ:

- **The Bride to be prepared:** Wash her with the Word. *meditate and pray:* Ephesians 1-6; Matthew 25:1-13.
- **The Bride to be clothed:** *"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."* Colossians 3:12
- **The Bride to know the Bridegroom:** *"But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith."* Philippians 3:7-9
- **The Bride to emerge radiant in dark days:** *"These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed."* 1 Peter 1:7 🌟

In his sermon Pastor Tianming quoted Hebrews 11:23-31. God led Moses and the Israelites out of Egypt by cultivating faith in their lives, and they made the choice by faith.

. . . we ask our Christian family to pray earnestly to our God with us. . . . we look forward to God's special protection . . . "the pillar of cloud by day, the pillar of fire by night."

This is a road our generation has never walked. But we do believe it is a road the Lord has walked. As long as we are willing to offer ourselves to God and to pay all the cost following in His footsteps, the Lord will definitely lead us to victory in Him.

May God keep his Shouwang Church! Amen!

ASK for all our brothers and sisters being persecuted.

meditate and pray: 2 Corinthians 6:3-10. 🌟