

## **African Trip Report 2009 Part 2**

### **Summary Report of visit to Zambia from a Pastor's Perspective**

When we arrived home the following letter from the pastor we were with the whole time we were in Zambia, was waiting for us. As you read it, realize that English is not his mother language. You will see from the content of the letter, that they send their greetings to you who prayed and gave so that we could be with them and minister with them. He gives a good summary of our visit, so please read his letter from an African pastor's heart & perspective.



David, Sylvia D., Jean and Davison Zulu

**Dear David and Sylvia. Our wonderful friends, who not long time ago were found to be in our midst. Yes, you planned, prayed, traveled and dwelled among us. we saw and share much together, and during the many hours of being together we were privileged to hear and learn from you...got so much impacted, blessed, and finally were left alone like orphans. We wished, especially, the Zulu family, you could have stayed a little longer...even for a DAY longer. But God needed you to be in another part of the world....Kenya. Equally, they too needed you, just as much as we needed for you to be with us much longer, like it was in Kenya.**

**So we were to see off, yet not lose memories so cherished in our hearts. Like a dream you were gone, physically from our sight. Jean and I saw you down there as you walked towards the Kenya Airways Plane ready to take you away from our sight. It gave us a vivid picture like when the disciples of Jesus stood on that Mount of Olives and watch their Master and Friend being taken away from their sight. Finally, the door to the plane closed in our eyes. Were we dreaming, we spoke to each other. Leonard, our driver was there too as we waited for the plane to start off. We noted as minutes ticked off that there was a small delay. When all was done we were like others who stood and watched the huge Air Piece, take off to the skies of Africa, only minutes later to disappear into the crown of the bright sunshine of tropical Africa.**

**But it all started many months, and to be honest with way back when God connected our two families. Gerry of New York is the beginning of the Story. It is a very interesting Story I pray to write some day, granted time.**

**For now let us just begin by saying "Thank you David and Sylvia for making it to come to visit us. We know and understand it was not easy for you to do that. God was with you all the way.....many prayed and planned with you. Your family members, the Church and other well wishers and supporters were all the time by your side as you began to pray and plan to visit us in this far off place in Africa. We are aware of how much the devil had on many occasions tried to stop you to make the trip a reality. Like the Bible says if we are with God who can be against us. The arrows of the enemy are no match to the protecting wings of our Great God. Thank again for coming to see and share your life with us. Since your departure from us, I have met and spoken to some of people who were privileged to meet and hear you speak. Many of these give glowing testimonies that " ....it was worth while for you to come and visit us...to hear you share your vast experiences....so vividly spoken and relate to our lives...."**

**For Jean and I who had spent more hours with you, the least we can say to you is to tell you that " memories of you will never fade away from our hearts and mind.. you became just part of us...it hurt us so much to even think that you were to leave us"**

**Thank you again to you, your family members, the Church(es) which helped to make you travel, be with us, share your love, and donate just much more to our family, and to the others who generously sacrificed both in love and kind, some of those who donated to you so that in the end you too could give to us. We may not even know the names of so many who gave, but God knows them. Double portions of blessing should pour to each of them and those individual churches across America, where months before you ventured to seek help. There is so much behind the scene. One thing though is clear. God worked in the lives of those dear friends.**

**PLEASE pass to each one of them our heartfelt expressed gratitude. To each one of your family member, young and old, we say, again" THANK YOU, and WE LOVE you so much. It is our prayer that our Good God will grant all at His disposal....love, blessings, and divine protection until eternity.**

**Specifically, we the Zulu family members were blessed to receive, much more than can be mentioned.**

**Financial Assistance - Much was given to the Zulu family, mainly in the areas of food provisions, lunches, Dinners, books, watches, other gifts, toys to the children, paying of House Rentals, and not to talk of prayers you prayed at every given opportunity, your fatherly and motherly love and kind words you spoke to us...there was never a moment during your 16 days stay with us that you ever expressed or showed a picture of anger, but all we could see in you was tears of joy flowing and much to the amazement of us, but considering**

**the hardship you were subjected to go through....the African way of keeping time...ever late, but you kept smiling and continued showing your love. You truly depicted your true picture that you were called to be Missionaries. Your testimonies shared to us confirmed your Calling that it is God who in His Wisdom called and separated you to be Missionaries to this hurting world.**

**Thank you to for accepting to meet some members of my relatives, our Bishop, The General Secretary and other Pastors in our Church. You humbly accepted to meet the other Christian leaders from different Church Organization in the towns and Cities you visited, Luanshya, Chingola and Lusaka.**

**Thank you again for meeting the Orphans and Widows especially in Luanshya and Lusaka. During the Seminars, you both spoke to other invited leaders. The timely visit to the Civic and political leaders in our town, Luanshya, notably, the Deputy Mayor, The Town Clerk and others you happen to meet.**



Bishop Albert & Progress Ngimu

( the bishop is also the second in command of the Lusaka police department)

**Chris, Maria, and their family members, the Ngimu family members, Daniel Sakala,. our GS and his large family, meals at the Elder Benjamin Banda, the Driver in Chingola, many who shared their respective testimonies. The Leadership Teams in Luanshya and Chingola as well as Lusaka. A visit to our small farm and scores of other people you met , the hard and rough road drive to the farm. The visits to see Early May Chibende and the Associate Manager in Lusaka, (The Printing and Publishing Company) and the business discussed and agreed dealing with the Widows' book and plans for the future. You instituted hope in our lives.**

**You experienced the warmth of the Zambian people, you tasted and ate the Zambia food. You did not complain or select, but received all what was cooked for you. During the stay and lodging in some Guest houses, enjoyed to make yourself feel at home. Despite the mosquitoes, you endured all that in your quest to portray your true love for Africa and the African peoples.**

**In many ways and aspects you "almost" in our minds "became Zambians." In your hearts you were Zambian, feeling the hurt and need found in the Zambian widows and Orphans. We can safely say now that your heart seems to be for Zambia. When you spoke how you will, once back home, share with your family members about the Zambian realities and needs, we felt touched. Each day that passed we are reminded of many things you shared with us. We love you so much that the least we can prove to show our love for you, is to keep the "light of love and prayer" continue burning.**

**The Widows' Ministry and Missions development and training shared in our discussion with the Bishop and the GS [General Secretary], is an inspiration. We will continue praying that all issues discussed here with you will be become a reality some day.**

**Praising His Name.**

**Faithfully for His Mission here in Africa.**

**Davison and Jean**

PS. Following are some of the issues he mentioned:

1. The establishment of JOY AGAIN FOUNDATION. He asked David to be a consultant & Advisory Board member to help him get it organized and registered with the Zambian government. Joy Again's purpose will be to provide ministry and training for widows, to help them find ways of earning income. and to build a home and school for orphans.
2. To help their leaders get a Bible School established for training pastors and Christian leaders.
3. To complete the translation of Sylvia's book, "Widows of the Old Testament."
4. To get Sylvia's book published in English & distributed throughout Southern Africa.
5. To start a mission program reaching out cross culturally. Note:  
After challenging the church in Chingola to reach out beyond their own congregation, they took up an offering, which amounted to \$18.00 & gave it to us for mission work.

May 26 - Please **pray for David as he assists his son James, in Kansas City, MO** to complete work projects in the house they need to move into in June. Pray that God will give them strength, wisdom, health and safety; also that they will complete the work in good time. **Pray for me as I remain at home for two weeks to catch up with office and house work** and fly to KC June 6. The following week we will drive to MN for a family wedding and then home to Ohio. Thank you for your prayers.

David and Sylvia De Jong