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NEWS FROM ROME (Italy)

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Dear brethren in the Lord,

We hope to find each one of you doing fine in all God's blessing. We'd like to express our deep feeling of gratefulness for your fellowship that allows us to preach the gospel also in Rome, a city surrounded by human philosophies and pagan traditionalism. Your confidence in us made possible to serve Christ with faithfulness and perseverance. Our mission is not easy; the working field has been damaged by centuries of false doctrines and deep Bible ignorance. In spite of all, we are trying our best in announcing the gospel in purity and soundness. We hope to find good and honest hearts with whom bringing fruits to the Lord.

PERSONAL NEWS. Thanking God, we're doing very well. Our first grandson, Alessandro, is growing healthy (now he's 10 month old). He's a great joy and blessing for all the family. Our daughter Valeria is doing a great job with him, with patience and lovely attentions. Our son Paolo is still working at Bologna but we see him often when he comes down.

My parents also are doing well. My dad Sandro (89 years old) is in good health but at his age he needs more rest. He's still busy with his translation works. Brethren around Italy ask for the commentaries he prepared and is a joy for us to share his works with other believers. My mother Elisabetta (close to 87 years old) is having some improvements but still in need of daily medical cares and therapies. Gina, a sister of the church from Philippine, is nursing her at home. I'm satisfied so far from the situation we built.

PREACHING EFFORTS IN ROME. The local work is continuing well, with ups and downs typical of every sound church that strives to grow and get better. It's a good time of common unity and participation in the work.

Over here, this is a time of vacation and several brethren are out of town, but soon we should get back all together to increase in our activities and common projects.

My personal and individual weekly Bible classes are continuing with some brethren and also new contacts. My meetings with **Arthur** (young man born in Albania, but living in Italy since 10 years) are continuing. His religious background is Muslim mixed with Catholic influence (and some Jehovah's Witnesses teachings). You can imagine his confusion and the many questions he has on the Bible. The mixing is quite explosive!

However, his attitude is good and this is important for a fruitful study, even if predictable long.

A sister of the church, **Paoliana** (sister of Amedeo) - with whom we had to withdraw from in 2013 – made a public repentance asking for forgiveness: we greatly rejoiced and accepted her back again.

I'm continuing to study and work together with Marco. As I wrote you, we rented a meeting place in Ciampino to start a new work there. The rent will be \$750 per month. We're doing necessary works inside to fix and fit it. By September we should start doing office and information work there, hoping to start a local afternoon worship as soon as possible. Marco is very excited about it and really busy in following all the things that need to be done soon.

The churches in Trieste and Monfalcone invite me to hold a series of gospel meeting sometimes in October or November and I will be glad to share my preaching knowledge with all of them. I'll write more about it in future reports.

Our general average attendance is about 38, with a good number of contacts and visitors.

VISITORS FROM CHURCHES. I'd like to list the ones that came to visit us, encouraging with their presence. **Gary, Sherri & Dylan Richards** (Cedar Park, TX); **Michael, Jeanne & Abigail Bickle** (Vicenza Church, Italy); **Maggie Trigg & Jed Bickle** (Martinez, GA); **Jeffrey Welker** (Madison, IN); **Adam, Kimberly, Madeline, Ellie & Charlotte Kingry** (Surabaya, Indonesia); **Anna Kingry** (Salem, OR); **Mike & Kim Walker** (Cypress, TX); **Hannah Cooper** (Bowling Green, KY); **Dennis & Gloria Turner** (Chicago, IL); **Meredith Ward** (Tampa, FL); **Debi Ward** (Ft. Myers, FL); **Matthew & Emily Stephenson** (Bowling Green, KY); **Emily & Johann Ramkiesoon** (Gainesville, FL); **Laura & Shannon Holman** (Mesa, AZ). A particular note goes to the recent visit of **David Thomley** (Spring Hills, TN) and **David McClister** (Tampa, FL), who preached for us a very interesting lesson on the concept of "Glory" in the Bible. We sincerely thank all those brethren for their encouragement and evident closeness to the Lord.

God may continue to bless you in everything. Thanks again for your constant and trusting confidence that allow us to do such a work. The brethren in Rome send their best greetings.

Antonella, Valeria & Paolo send their salutation and love.

"They of Italy salute you".

Stefano Corazza