

■ Pastor Isaiah Kihara Makoto (Pastor/ TLCCC The Servant of God Nagasaki Church)

A team has been sent to Israel for the period of about 2 weeks from 30 October to 11 November 2017. The team consists of 65 members including participants from the U.S. and those who participated partially.

At first, we could have meeting with Mr. Tom Hess again after long time as soon as we reached Jerusalem.

Moreover, on Saturday, 4th November, most of our team members have attended the Russian Jew church's Sabbath worship service, which was our 1st service in the new year. We could have deeper friendship with them by worshipping together in a style just like a combined worship service. Our services of team praising were blessed very much. Also, the message delivered by Pastor Paul Akimoto in Japanese, English and Russian has been delivered on-line, and it enabled the world to listen to the good news. Many people listened to the message.

I take it that the Lord has shown me the new style of world mission in the 21st century.

On the night of our last day, the 9th November, we could see the brothers and sisters from the Polish church in Jerusalem. After we finished our last holy meeting at 9 at night, we took taxi and moved to the hotel where the Polish church people are staying. We were touched by the Polish Pastor's testimony, "We could finally come to Israel as the fulfillment of word of Prophecy" in the middle of very deep presence of the Lord. The time to mix with them was very blessed one with most of us having full smiles with touched tears, even if it was for a short while. That was the most touching moment for me in this dispatch.

Among such full of blessings, on the 1st November, we have seen an iridescent cloud which looked like a clear rainbow on the sky above Mount Olive just like the sign, which deeply touched us and made our start of the year significant one.

Beginning from this year, our New Year worship service at Sea of Galilee and the worship service at Mt. Arbel had been broadcasted live, which enabled the whole Japan and the world to join our worship service together. By this, I felt work of God has progressed into the next stage in the flow of beginning of revival.

The verses, Mark 11:22-24 were given to us as the word of New Year. And he showed us to continue burning the incense of prayer of "thanksgiving and praising" for 24 hours as well. I think this 24 hours continuous prayer will greatly be related to the great harvest in revival. I think this year's Israel dispatch, sent while revival goes on has become the key to open the door of mission in the 21st century wider.

This Israel dispatch team has been protected from every danger, supported by your intercessory prayer. I am grateful for your precious intercessory prayer.

■Takuya Suga(Pastor/ TLCCC Sapporo Philadelphia Church)

Before I joined in this dispatch, I was given the thought, “Prepare to meet your God” from Amos 4:12. Since the verse given in my mind was to “prepare to meet God”, I was wondering if I would be called to heaven during Israel dispatch just like my father (who has been called to heaven in Israel).

During the daily devotional time on the day the team had departed Japan, the thought, “God’s wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden” from 1 Corinthians 2:7 came into my mind.

Since I was led to pray during the Israel dispatch this year, as well as last year, I spent time with God by prayer and praising at the Mt. Olive in Jerusalem and at the hotel room in Galilee instead of the tour.

It was a wonderful time to pray at Mt. Olive. I felt that God spoke to me, “Seek God’s wisdom. Seek the Spiritual gifts”. I kept on praying for God’s wisdom and Spiritual gifts from Mt. Olive, to Galilee, and the journey to the bus. I was greedy enough to seek for all 9 of Spiritual gifts from God.

God showed us iridescent cloud on the 1st of November, which is the first day of the year. We were able to attend the worship service of Russian Jewish church, which was a wonderful experience.

God blessed our Sunday worship service very much at Sea of Galilee at the beginning of the year. When we were given the New Year verse, “whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”(Mark 11:24), I took the verse literally by the Lord’s blessing. I was spoken a lot from God through the message delivered in the night holy meeting, and was blessed.

In Galilee, it was grateful that I was given blessing to have very tasty lunch meals at a Thai restaurant called Pagoda for three times.

I had other blessings given from God in this Israel dispatch. I had to stay in Israel for 3 days more after the dispatch team has gone back to Japan, because I had to go to hospital by God’s approval. The hospital was the one that my father was admitted 2 years ago, the one that he was called to heaven from.

I wondered if I would be called to heaven here again. However it was not God’s plan. I was given very precious care and time of blessing from God through this happening. I would like to share this experience with you all some other day.

I was able to return to Japan 3 days after the team had returned. I am grateful from my heart to those who took care of me and to those who prayed intercessory prayer for me. I am so grateful to the Lord who gave me wonderful blessing and guided me from my heart.