

The LORD gave the word: and great was the company of those that published it. *Psalm 68: 11.*

The SARIPALLIs

Sent by: East Side Baptist Church (Pastor – Bro. Curt Rutledge)



Dear Pastors, churches, and praying friends,

October 12, 2021

We thank and praise God for His faithfulness in leading us as a Good and Great Shepherd. And we thank you all for your faithful prayers for our protection, provision, wisdom, and guidance of the Holy Spirit in the service of our Lord. He is our anchor who holds us still in uncertain circumstances, as we put our trust in Him alone.

We presumed that for me to be Naturalized would be better under the present circumstances for travelling. But I had to cancel my appointment after the Lord brought a missionary friend who updated me on the dangerous new rules under the OCI (Overseas Citizen of India), which would severely jeopardize the mission work. The ruling Hindu fundamentalist government is making all out efforts to destabilize Christian activities as I have mentioned in my last letter. Therefore, we need to give heed to the Scriptures and be “wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.” That leaves me to keep the PR for now, and Esther to be Naturalized to reduce the trouble both ways, but I’ll have to be back every six months until things change.

Many are falling sick to viral fever in India, making it harder for pulpit supply for the four churches, but the Lord is raising young men who are willing to go. Victory Baptist Church, Medak had a wonderful turn out for the Youth Retreat, where young ones and few older folks with kids came from all the mission churches yearning for a good gathering and preaching which was hard to come by in almost two years. Some of them visited the historic Anglican church nearby, from which my father came out after he was saved.

There were two funerals in two of the mission churches, which was a great time to preach the Gospel to the heathen relatives and neighbors. Funerals in villages are a big challenge, where the relatives cause a lot of commotion leading to violence and persecution. There are times when they broke open the coffin and snatched the dead body and cremated it with Hindu rituals. Every death is a challenge to the churches and pastors due to the extreme heathenism that dominates that pagan culture. Please continue to pray for the rising persecution and more number of new anti-Christian outfits causing much violence.

The translation work is in progress, and we covet your prayers that the Lord would put His seal on the work and give us the confidence to get it ready for printing. It won’t be long, but we’re waiting on the Lord and His will and to be done in His time.

After a few appointments that I have, I’m planning to leave in mid or late November God willing, and Esther leaves earlier to be with her ninety year old mom. We are ever grateful for your faithful support and prayers for us, and we assure you of our love and prayers.

Serving the Saviour

Bro. Rufus Saripalli and Family

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