



# Dr. Louis A. and Cheryle Turk to INDONESIA Bible translation and church planting



A ministry of Maranatha Baptist Church, 2800 N. Divis Avenue, Bethany, OK 73008; Phone: 405-789-4662

Dear co-laborers in Christ,  
Dec. 3, 2021. When the virgin Mary gave birth to the only begotten Son of God an angel appeared to some shepherds and announced His birth, saying, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger" (Luke 2:10-12 KJV). John 1:41 explains to us that "Christ" is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word "Messiah"—who according to Daniel 9:26 would be "cut off, but not for himself." "Cut off" is a Hebrew idiom for capital punishment (see Isaiah 53:8 KJV). Jesus would take the death penalty for the sins of all other humans. Because Jesus's mother was a virgin human, and His father was God the Father, Jesus was a sinless human (1 Peter 2:21-25 KJV), and therefore able to die for the sins of us all. The Bible tells us that after the angel made this announcement, "...suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, **Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men**" (Luke 2:13-14 KJV).

Please note that the good will was from **God toward men**, not from men toward God. In the Lembaga Alkitab Indonesia (Indonesian Bible Society) translation in use all over Indonesia, Luke 2:14 has been changed to read "Kemuliaan bagi Allah di tempat yang mahatinggi dan damai sejahtera di bumi di antara manusia yang **berkenan** kepada-Nya," which means, "Glory to **Allah** in the most high place and peace and prosperity to **men who like Him**." So, they change this important verse to no longer show **Jehovah God's** good will toward sinful men, but rather to give glory to the false god, **Allah**, who will give peace and prosperity to men **who show good will toward Allah!** The message of salvation of sinful men by grace through faith in Christ is thereby changed to a message of salvation by doing good works for Allah. That is just one of hundreds of corruptions the Indonesian Bible Society has made to God's word in direct violation of Rev. 22:18-19.

Thank you for helping us produce an accurate translation of God's word for the Indonesian people. May this be the last Christmas they will

be without a pure Bible which plainly and clearly gives them the message they so desperately need of "peace, good will toward men" from Jehovah God through that sinless baby born in Bethlehem.

### Translation progress

Lots of work has been done on the New Testament. Every book in the New Testament except for John and Romans has been given an additional proofreading since our last report, and several books have been proofread twice. Our translation skills have improved considerably since starting this project years ago, and so we are finding solutions to problem words, some of which require making corrections in multiple books. We want there to be no errors of any kind in the finished translation.

I'm also adding many footnotes to point out important Bible doctrines that most people overlook, especially concerning eternal salvation by grace through faith, believer's baptism by immersion, and the local nature of the church.

### Evangelism

I was recently privileged to lead a young lady from Jamaica to the Lord here in Oklahoma. It was a tremendous blessing to see the joy on her face when she realized that through Christ she could know 100% for sure that she will go to Heaven when she dies.

I'm still endeavoring to win Indonesians to Christ using the Internet. I now have 2,451 Facebook friends. I've also opened a Youtube channel to make it easier to post sermons. Indonesians are contacting me via Facebook Messenger, and I explain the gospel to them, and answer their questions. So far, only one person has professed faith in Christ, but I've explained the gospel to many.

What would I rather do, translate the Bible or win souls to Christ? I would rather win souls to Christ. But winning souls to Christ without an accurate translation of the Bible is extremely difficult. I'm certain that I'll win far more souls to Christ in the long run by keeping the finishing of the New Testament in first priority.

### Prayer requests

1. Please keep praying that we will be able to return to Indonesia with the New Testament completely finished and ready to use early next year.
2. The biggest hindrance to the translation project during this past year has been sick-

ness. Please pray that God will grant our whole translation team good health, so that we have full energy to finish the New Testament without delays.

3. Please have special prayer for Bro. Herli's family in Indonesia. The police have set up roadblocks in his city, and when people drive by they are stopped, and if they don't have a vaccination certificate the police vaccinate them by force. Bro. Herli has a thyroid problem for which he is on a medication that compromises his immune system. The manufacturer of that medication warns in big, bold letters on their website that users of that medicine must not receive any vaccination. So, if they force vaccinate him he will likely become immediately ill with Covid-19. He has asked his doctor to give him an exception letter, but due to the extreme politicizing of Covid-19, his doctor is afraid to do so.
4. Please pray that God will call more sound independent Baptist men to be missionaries to Indonesia.

### Funerals

Two of my cousins from the Turk side of my family tree died recently. I attended the funeral of David in Kansas, and I'm waiting word about the funeral of Joann. Please pray for their family members left behind, and for me as I try to witness to them.

We were shocked to learn that Bro. Bobby Harjo, missionary sent out by our home church to the American Indians in New Mexico went home to be with the Lord on November the 27th. He was a great gospel preacher, and deeply loved by our church. May God raise up many men like him to take his place. Please pray for his family members left behind.

Thank you for your faithful support of our ministries. We pray that God will give you a blessed Christmas season with many souls saved and added to your church.

Yours for the gospel to Indonesia,

Louis A. and Cheryle Turk