

We arrived back home at the end of November after a wonderful four months in Europe. After Flekkeroy we went on to Oslo, accompanied by our daughter, Corinne, who hoped to expand her data base of Anne's ancestry by asking her relatives for their knowledge. Anne's cousin May and her husband Svein were admirable hosts and the fellowship was very sweet. Anne's labour of studying Norsk paid off as she was able to have good conversations with those relatives who spoke no English. Of course, we did the usual tourist things but one of the highlights was taking Corinne to a community, north of Oslo, where Anne's grandfather used to live. You can imagine their delight when they were given information leading to an unbroken line back to 1215AD!



Ancient stave church

From Norway we returned to Wales for the month of November. Our dear friend Jenna, from Victoria, had asked to meet us in Wales for her holiday as she wanted to see some of the people and places she had heard us talk about so often – our home community and places made famous by the revivals of 1904 and 1859. We were again blessed with a car and home for the month, so were able to take Jenna throughout South Wales. Also the weather was unbelievable for November and we enjoyed many fine, sunny days. One Sunday we attended Mt Zion in Cardigan, where Anne and I had spent a wonderful couple of months in 2009. After the service, where a visiting speaker had preached on Genesis 1:1, Jenna exclaimed “I've never heard singing or preaching like that!” - and we celebrated again the memory of the men under whose anointed preaching Anne and I had grown in faith. Oh, for more such anointed preaching today! Elisha cried



“Where is the God of Elijah?” We might well cry, “Where are the Elijahs of God?”

Evan Roberts memorial

“A man of God for the hour of God”

On November 20th I was the guest speaker at Mt Zion. They are in the process of finding a successor to Steve Evans, now retired. I believe that will be a difficult process as Steve had such an anointing whenever I heard him speak. You can hear some of his sermons on my *favourite links* page. You can also listen to my message at Mt Zion's webpage: www.sermon.net/mountzioncardigan/sermonid/119755816. I spoke about Caleb and Joshua as the only two spies who had a positive report of their spying out the Promised Land. When it was time to find a successor to Moses God instructed him to appoint Joshua 'for He has My Spirit in him'. Mt Zion must make sure that the successor to Steve must be a man who has God's Spirit in Him – an anointed man, called of God. Any other man, whatever may be his numerous degrees or good business skills, can never lead them into the promises of God, so adequately presented to them by their “Moses”. They themselves, must be as Caleb who, though 85 years old, still asked for the mountains where the giants dwell. They are not to be as the tribes who wanted to stay 'this side of Jordan' for it is 'a land fit for cattle'. The promises of God will only be experienced by those who qualify as 'the seed of Caleb'.



Martyr's spot

The last few days in UK were spent with Anne's cousin, Bernard and his wife Pam, near Ascot in Herts. Their son Mark teaches Latin at a private school in Oxford, so we visited that famous city to see some of the colleges and feel the history of that place. The buildings are magnificent but one highlight for me was to see the spot where Ridley, Latimer and later Cranmer, were martyred for their faith. We were also allowed into the Bodleian library to view some of its treasures, the Gutenberg Bible, first folios of Shakespeare's works, the Magna Carta, Newton's *Principia* and others. What a wonderful day!



Gutenberg Bible

While at Bernard's we were also able to spend a couple of hours over supper with Dr Keith Thompson and Fiona, his wife. I met Keith when he served periodically as anaesthetist on board the M/V Anastasis between 1990 and 1994. He had a special guest that evening – Regina, now 18 years old and living with her parents in Perth, Australia. Keith had rescued her mother from a certain, agonising death as she was unable to pay for a caesarian when her baby was breach at a hospital in Sierra Leone. Keith upped the money at the last moment and two lives were saved, to serve the Lord. Keith & Fiona are dear friends who continue to minister for the Lord in their unique giftings.

Our flight home was uneventful and we now look to see the next phase in our ministry. As Caleb I say, “My youth is renewed and I yearn even more for Mt Hebron” (meaning *fellowship* – with God).

As we look back over 2011 we are amazed how blessed of the Lord we have been. My prayer for 2012 is that I might be a blessing to Him and to His people.

Until my next newsletter,

Rejoicing in His mercies,

Gareth