

HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

Michael Wurmbrand, President

Tel. (310) 544-0814, Fax: (310) 377-0511.

PO Box 5161, Torrance, Ca. 90510, USA.

Email: hfr@helpforrefugees.com ; Website: <http://helpforrefugees.com>

August 2016

Book of Daniel 3:21

“who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?”



Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand with wife, Sabina

Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand spent 14 years in Romanian communist prisons. Mrs. Wurmbrand was imprisoned nearly three years also for her Christian faith in same prisons.

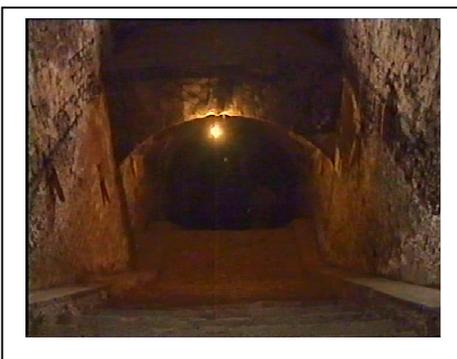
From an unpublished Bible meditation by late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand: The Son of God

Emperor Valens, named as the last true Roman emperor of The Roman empire (328-378 AD) sent one of his powerful ministers to the Christian bishop of the city of Caesarea, Saint Basil the Great. This imperial policeman threatened the older Christian bishop with deportation should Basil not renounce his Christian beliefs. Basil answered, "where could you banish me, when the entire earth belongs to my heavenly Father?" "Then we will confiscate your wealth", was the next threat. "I gathered my riches in heaven," replied Basil. "If you have a high enough ladder, by all means, go, take them." The envoy threatened further, "you shall be killed!" Basil explained how this life is quickly passing and when one dies, a life after death is starting. "I know you Christians love to become martyrs, so you can be in heaven. I will better keep you imprisoned behind locked doors and behind bars, your hands and feet in chains." said the policeman. Basil retorted, "my Friend Jesus, the Son of God, easily passes through tightly locked prison doors." Amazed, this imperial envoy exclaimed, "no one else dared answer me like this!" "Too bad you never met before a true Christian bishop" was Saint Basil final answer.

Just before communism was imposed in my country of birth, I was the minister of one of the largest churches in Bucharest, Romania. Important personalities, politicians, writers, ambassadors visited our church. At the time, when free, I had been under the protection of the Swedish government. Two months after the Romanian king Michael abdicated his throne at the end of December 1947, the communist secret police kidnapped me off the streets, four individuals pushed me into a car, then threw me into an underground solitary cell where I was held for two years under a false name. This was done so the communists could deny I had been imprisoned.

The Swedish ambassador ended up being declared *persona non grata* and thus was expelled from his post in Romania, because he insisted I should be released. The Romanian communist foreign minister at the time, Ana Pauker, claimed to this ambassador, I had run away with the funds of the Christian mission and am loitering through the streets of Copenhagen, Denmark, my pockets full of stolen money. Meanwhile I was being subjected to tortures and hunger in an underground cell, 30 feet beneath the most touristic square of Bucharest. None of the occasional foreign tourists would have any inkling of the intense suffering that took place under their feet. The main reason for myself being tortured was that the communists desired to hold a big show trial with myself as a “star” witness against all Christian churches in our country. My communist police interrogator, colonel Dulgheru would conduct these sessions of beatings, tortures and questioning during many nights. I had travelled before to Great Britain and had mentioned having visited the Westminster Abbey church. One night, like a venomous snake about to bite, he blurted, “Just dare not sign these (false) confessions, and you should know too well, I can have you shot as a counterrevolutionary, this very night!” I answered, “Mister colonel, you may have a unique experience. Yes, you can have me shot. Place your hand on my heart. If it flutters rapidly showing I am scared, you may be convinced there is no God and no eternal life. If it beats quietly, as if I were assured I will join my Savior, then you need think there is a God and there is eternal life.” “You are insane Wurmbrand or Georgescu (the false name I was held under) whatever your name. Don’t you get it, you are totally at my mercy and your Savior, whatever you name Him, can never open the gates of this prison? Forget you setting your eyes ever again on the Westminster Abbey church.” I answered calmly: “Jesus is his Name and He can make it for me to see again Westminster Abbey.” Slamming the door while exiting, he ordered for me next, a new beating session. This imposing communist colonel, quarreling with his own communist comrades, one day himself was pushed while dressed in full regalia, into a prison cell. God allowed me come out of communist prisons after having suffered inside 14 years. Myself and family were ransomed to the Free World for \$10,000 and I ended up being invited to preach inside Westminster Abbey, in London.

The Son of God is introduced to us in a most miraculous way in this 3rd chapter of this Bible Book of Daniel. Three men of faith were obliged to bow down in front of a golden statue of a foreign god. If they refused, they were threatened with sure death. They will be thrown into a furnace. The furnace moreover was heated seven times higher than usual. The three Jewish faith-filled men replied: "our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up." (Daniel 3:17-18) After being thrown into the furnace "the king was astonished....He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God." (Daniel 3:24-25) Let the world know that our Lord Jesus is the God who brings salvation and deliverance!



The Communist Jilava Prison.
Entrance to the underground cells.



Prison cell with bunk-beds with no mattress, prisoners were obliged to sleep on. Stove for show only, never heated in cold winters.



Mug shot of Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand when held in Jilava.

HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC. has helped for the last 40 years orphans and Christians who had been imprisoned for their faith in present and former communist countries. <http://helpforrefugees.com>
“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.” (Apostle James Epistle 1:27)

Christians Helped with Your Gifts From Inside Former Soviet Union A Christian Bible-Smuggler!



From the former Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic
(now Republic of Moldova)
Baptist Christian Vasile Tasca and wife Eugenia (4th and 3rd from the
right) together with his enlarged family of 6 children
and grandchildren.

Because of smuggling the Word of God, Brother Tasca suffered
three years in communist prisons in Russia during the former Soviet communist regime.

Read his story of his Bible smuggling in the Help for Refugees July 2016 newsletter.

See the <http://helpforrefugees.com> web site.

Brother Vasile Tasca, one of the leaders of the "Spring of Life" (Izvorul Vietii, in Romanian) Baptist church in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova described how the church was started in 1961. He talks of some of the persecutions Christians had to suffer under communism when the Republic of Moldova was part of the Soviet Union. The church was founded in a most intense period of persecution of Christians at the hands of the communists. "We started as a house church. If not sanctioned by the state, the Soviet authorities forbade any gathering around the Holy Scripture. We decided to listen to God rather than blindly following communist imposed laws. Out of this house church, Christian leaders emerged. They were able to plant six other such churches.

The first minister we had was Grigorie Rudenko, a man who suffered very much for his Christian faith. He passed through communist prisons. Between the years 1979 to 1985, six different members of our church passed through communist jails because of their Christian activities. Myself was imprisoned for my Bible smuggling activities (read the detailed description in the July 2016 issue of the Help For Refugees newsletter. See the <http://helpforrefugees.com> web site.) The Soviet police caught me with Christian literature and I spent for this alleged "crime" 3 years in prisons in the cities of Cahul and Pruncul. The Soviet police was burning our Christian literature and they regularly fined us and kept threatening us. In our yard for instance we had a tarpaulin tent for our Christian gatherings in the open. Many times they destroyed this tent. Policemen and common-law prisoners would be sent to abusively tear it down. For thirteen years this happened again and again.

The present location of this church was received at the time of the introduction of the "Perestroika" or the so called "Restructuring" of the country by the last leader of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev. This happened after Gorbachev had a meeting with the US President Ronald Reagan. Only on the day before this meeting, all Christians imprisoned for their faith in Soviet jails were unexpectedly freed. Suddenly the local authorities offered us the new church building grounds. At this moment the church holds about 250 worshipers. Sorry to say, the first Christian love and dedication of Christians has petered off. Now we are free to speak but we do not make full use of it. Do we need again persecution so we would wake up? I remember how the Soviet communist police chased us with attack dogs, to prevent us from having Christian gatherings. We need spread this information to today's youth to make them aware of this freedom we enjoy to evangelize.

Before discussing about today's leaders of the church it is right to mention those who led us and suffered communist persecution in the past. I mention Ivan Belev and Boris Gladkevici. Ivan Belev died in 2009 after conducting a beautiful Christian life, meaning under communism his life was not an easy life. He did not try avoid passing through communist prisons (by compromising with the communist authorities) something that seriously damaged his health. I remember how able he was to encourage out of God's Word so many desperate souls. He was much respected by

those who knew him. (For a short biography of Ivan Belev you may read the June 2016 issue of the Help For Refugees newsletter. See the <http://helpforrefugees.com> web site.) Pray for today's leaders of our church: pastors Vladimir Serbina and Eduard Edu. Our small church has a strong brass ensemble going into public places promoting evangelizing meetings. Pray for the three deacons Domusci Fiodor, Cos Ghenadie and for myself and our families. Pray for our church member Simion Castravet, a teacher in the public schools system who was able to witness the faith to many children with the full knowledge of their parents."

On the right, one of the receipts for support sent to many Christians, many of them now 70 to 90 years old. They suffered persecution under communism in Eastern Europe. Everyone endured many years of communist prison.

Brother Tasca's daughter Olivia wrote in an email:

"We confirm herewith the 9.680 Moldavian Lei (US \$500) credited to our account. We are very grateful. This money is of great help for my father's family. He has six children, four married but two still young teens.

Due to our economic situation in the Republic of Moldova, though pensioned, just to be able to maintain his family, he needs to work (as a lorry driver on international long distances) making trips to Europe, Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkey. We do not have enough words of thanks. The Lord be with you and bless your (missionary) work."

Brother Vasile Tasca suffered 3 years of Soviet communist prisons. He was persecuted for having smuggled thousands of Bibles into the Soviet Union.

ASOCIATIA CRESTINA SABINA WURMBRAND
Asociatie crestina non-profit
Presedinte Michael Wurmbrand
Bucuresti, C.P. 12, O.P. 74,

CONTRACT CADRU DE DONAȚIE

Intre
Asociatiei Crestina Sabina Wurmbrand cu sediul in Bucuresti, sector 6
Prel. Ghencea, nr. 28, bl. C5, sc. D, et. 4, ap. 134, asociatie inregistrata
la Judecatoria sector 6 prin Incheierea din 23.11.2015 si in Registrul Asociatiilor
si Fundatiilor la numarul 108 din 11.12.2015, in calitate de **donator**, pe de o parte,
și
DI/Dna Vasile Tasca
adresa Chisinau, str. Postei 34, MD-2059, identificat
prin 09505092698289 în calitate de **donatar**, pe de altă parte,
au convenit să încheie prezentul contract cadru de donație.

Asociatia donatoare doneaza în mod irevocabil și fără sarcini sume de bani in
functie de disponibilitatile asociatiei in scopul ajutorarii personale sau a
familiei pentru suferintelor indurate pentru credinta crestina.

Donatorul declara că acești bani provin din donatii facute asociatiei supuse
regimului fiscal de impozitare în conformitate cu legea română.

Donatarul declara că accepta cu multumire donația făcută.

Pentru DONATOR (semnatura, dna Reiss Silvia, secretar) _____
DONATAR (semnatura) T. W
Data primirii 14.04.2016

Asociatia Crestina Sabina Wurmbrand este o asociatie non-profit definitiva prin
incheierea din 23.11.2015 inregistrata in Registrul Asociatiilor si

Your gifts have allowed us to help financially several orphanages and many elderly Christians (between 70-100 years old) who suffered years inside communist prisons in Eastern Europe because of their Christian witness. Also helped is the Richard Wurmbrand College, a high school in Iasi.

**Christians helped with your gifts
Baptist minister Vadan, Vasile**



Born 5/11/1934 in Garbau, Cluj County, Romania. First wife died leaving him widowed with 3 children. Following the death of his wife he remarried. He completed the Baptist Seminary in Bucharest between 1955-1959 (a period of relaxed communist supervision of the church, when myself, Michael Wurmbrand also studied theology.) He led an extensive underground church activity, conducting many baptisms at night in the Mures river. He baptized many communist party members who were converted. He was arrested and sentenced to 2 years in prison. He was imprisoned and severely tortured for only 270 days though due to some local judicial review.

Christians helped with your gifts



From Rev. Teodor Miclea (now deceased)

I send you what you asked to be sent to Mr. Michael Wurmbrand, the son of the deceased Pastor (Richard Wurmbrand) with whom I spent together some time in the Colonia Peninsula Prison, Romania.

I was born 4/4/1917 in the Racova village, Romania. I was sentenced to 5 years imprisonment in the Cluj (communist) court and was freed on 10/5/1955. I officiated many (underground) church services in my own home and the homes of many other believers. When arrested I was part of 18 ministers (all sentenced in the same group.) I was imprisoned in Tirgu Mures, the military jail of Cluj, and in the so called Peninsula of Balta Alba, a true prison-city with many streets and prison buildings. I was imprisoned in the H2 prison compound filled with Christian ministers, among whom was also Michael's father (Rev. Richard Wurmbrand.) I attach a picture taken not long after coming out of prison (when just under 40 years old.)

Help For Refugees, P.O. Box 5161, Torrance, Ca. 90510, USA. Email: hfr@helpforrefugees.com, website: <http://helpforrefugees.com> (EIN: 95-3064521) is listed in Publication 78, Cumulative List of Organizations described in Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, a list of organizations eligible to receive tax-deductible charitable contributions. May be checked online at: <http://www.irs.gov/app/pub-78/>