

Romania Missions

Raul Enyedi, str. Izvor nr. 3, Bocşa, CS, 325300, Romania. E-mail: raul_enyedi@yahoo.com
Printing work under the authority of Grace Bible Baptist Church, Denham Springs, LA 70726
Bro. Lucien LeSage, e-mail: lucienlesage@cox.net;
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Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Mission work. Services and mission work went on as usual in Bocşa, Filiaşi, Timişoara and Bucharest. I preached in Bocşa and Bucharest, Aurel Miclea in Timişoara and Bocşa and Aurel Munteanu in Filiaşi and Bucharest. After my return from Peru, I wanted to make a trip to central Romania, Bucharest and to return to Bocşa through the South, visiting the brethren in Filiaşi. I couldn't make the trip when I initially planned, because of bad weather, strikes in Bucharest that would have made the travel in the city more difficult and also because I was so tired after the trip to Peru, that I just needed more time to rest. Once again, I was reminded that our plans are not the Lord's plans and that He is the Sovereign and we are the servants. We must do what He tells us, when He tells us. In the last days of November Aurel Miclea and I loaded the van with literature for Bucharest and I started the 900 mile long mission trip. The Lord was good and everywhere I went, I had good fellowship. Many brethren needed prayers and strengthening, as they were and are going through difficulties. I am glad that the Lord used me to bless them and edify them. I reached Bucharest in the coldest days of the year, so far, with the van so loaded with literature that I was concerned about every bump or hole I was hitting, and you find a lot of them on our roads. The brethren were delighted to see the 6,000 booklets and 1,000 books of various titles that I brought. I had many visits in Bucharest and Sunday we met for fellowship from 13:00 to 20:30.

On Monday, I helped sister Doina with things concerning her apartment, which was devastated by her previous carer and her family. As you may remember, Doina was baptized in last August. She is paralyzed from waist down. Her care giver occupied abusively Doina's place and she had to leave for her own safety and find another place to rent, while paying rent and utilities at that apartment, too. Finally, authorities stepped in and evacuated those people. But before they left, they cut with an angle grinder all windows and doors, the water pipes and the drainage, and tore out all the wiring. It would require a considerable amount of money to fix up everything. And we didn't know if it was worth it, because the city owns the place. I went with Doina and spoke with them and they said that nobody can make Doina move out as long as she wants to be there, and that she even has the right to buy the place from them, to redeem it. This was good news for her. She doesn't have the money to buy it, but at least the place is worth fixing up for her. I will be doing the electrical wiring, and other brethren from Bucharest will help with what they can. She is always joyful and thankful, a true example for all of us. She even thanks the Lord for her handicap and it is amazing to see everything she does in her condition. I would appreciate your prayers for her and for this situation. She can stay at this current place until June. After that, she will have to return to that apartment, whether it is repaired or not.

Literature work. After sending the catalog, we started receiving daily requests for literature. Praise the Lord! We are preparing the new titles to print starting with January, Bro. Cockrell's *Here Comes The Bride!* and a book that I am finishing now, *The Church that Jesus Built*. This material is based on a series of messages that I preached at the conference in Peru. The outline is already available in English and in Spanish. Thank you again for being part of this tremendous and amazing work! May the Lord bless you and reward you abundantly! **Bro. Raul**