



Aramaic M-South NT*

A Wealth of Teaching about Christ

In the book of Acts, we learn that for 40 days after Christ arose He was “speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God” (1:3). In the four Gospels, the content of Jesus’ teaching on the subject during His whole earthly ministry is more fully elaborated upon, with reference especially to His suffering and subsequent glory (Luke 24:26-27). Jesus’ followers in the book of Acts preached on this exalted theme as well.

In the epistles and book of Revelation, the sacred authors delve thoroughly into the theological implications of Jesus’ resurrection, which became the connecting link between His suffering and glory, solving the mystery of a Messiah who must die for His people and yet who also must reign over them gloriously in a coming kingdom.

- **Thank the Lord for the wealth of teachings about Christ in the New Testament.**
- **Praise God for the Aramaic M-South team, who’ve undertaken the superhuman task of conveying the New Testament into the people’s mother tongue.**

Gearing Up for the Climax

The Aramaic M-South team continues to aim at getting the mother-tongue New Testament typeset by year’s end. The lead translator and head exegetical consultant painstakingly press on with their meticulous checking of the New Testament translation. The target date to publish and distribute it is 2011.

As the team gears up for that finale, they continue to labor alongside Aramaic churches to ensure their readiness to use the translation. They’re thrilled about the *Portrait of Jesus* publication, which relates the words and deeds of Jesus in the Gospels in an easily understandable format. That booklet is designed to pave the way for people to receive the entire New Testament. Checking and rechecking of this booklet to print together with the audio version is close to completion.

The Backbone of the Bible

The team is steadfast in their effort to make sure that key words in the New Testament, such as *salvation, grace and sin*, are accurate and clear, since these concepts form the thematic backbone of the Bible and are critical to conveying the good tidings contained there.



For security reasons, pseudonyms have been used for the language name and names of individuals.

- **Location: East Mediterranean**
- **Number of Speakers: 15,000**
- **Year Project Began: 2003**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2010**

- **Thank the Lord for the team’s steady advance toward the end of their work on the New Testament.**
- **Pray that the team can keep up the pace they’ve set for themselves for the rest of this year.**

- **Pray for Godspeed for the team as they settle upon the renderings of key biblical terms, so that the essential meaning of Scripture will come through loud and clear.**





Aramaic M-South

A Double Joy

The team is experiencing a double joy. Now that the New Testament is in the final stages and will soon be in people's hands, they know that the glorious revelation of the gospel of Christ will at last be available to mother-tongue speakers. But also they're happy to now be turning their attention to translating the Old Testament. They gladly announce this transition and look forward with anticipation to the Lord bringing partners alongside to pray for and assist materially in this new work.

- **Praise God that one goal (the New Testament) is on the verge of completion and another (the Old Testament) is poised to begin.**
- **Pray for the team as they tackle the Old Testament, which is about three times as long as the New Testament.**
- **Pray that the Lord will provide partners to stand with the team in this work.**

The God of the Old Testament

Unquestionably God's sovereignty over all creation—His supreme kingship over people and nations and over the course of history—is the most basic metaphor and pervasive theological concept in the Old Testament. As the Sovereign Lord, He displays His unfailing love, transcendent greatness and goodness to all creatures under heaven.

God's holiness is also axiomatic in the Old Testament. His holiness refers to His incomparably awesome majesty—the mysterious, overwhelming presence of His infinite power before which the whole creation trembles. It also refers to His absolute moral virtue, a quality so infinitely pure that it unmask and judges every moral flaw or fault.

- **Thank the Lord for being the matchless portion that He is to His people.**
- **Pray that the Aramaic M-South team will draw upon God's greatness, holiness and strength as they strive to provide the Old Testament for mother-tongue speakers.**