



Aramaic M-South NT*

The Cross at the Center

“Christ’s death and resurrection constituted the central part of God’s saving acts, and the New Testament writers all express it in one way or another. Paul could speak of “a new creation” (2 Corinthians 5:17), which the book of Acts shows plainly had happened in Paul’s own case. There’s an emphasis in Acts and in the writings of John and Paul on the importance of believing in Jesus and living in newness of life.

“The four Gospels lead up to the cross as their climax, and the other books look back to it as their basis. Christianity challenges us to embrace salvation, which means abandoning an old way of life and proceeding in a new one.” (Leon Morris)

- **Praise God that the cross-centered message of the New Testament will soon be accessible to the speakers of the Aramaic M-South language.**

A Treasure on its Way

Typesetting of the Aramaic M-South New Testament will soon be completed, in answer to prayer. Printing and distribution are expected to happen by May 2012. The team has worked hard to bring it to its present stage.

People are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the published New Testament. The “Portrait of Jesus”, a selection of stories about the life of Jesus taken from the Gospels, has been prepared in the Aramaic M-South language to come alongside the New Testament.

Floodlight on Christ

The work of God’s Holy Spirit could appropriately be referred to as a floodlight ministry. He doesn’t call attention to Himself or present Himself directly to believers as the Father and Son do. Rather, He stands behind His people throwing light over their shoulder onto Jesus who stands facing them. He’s like a hidden floodlight shining on the Savior. So, as believers focus on Christ, “fixing [their] eyes on Him” (Hebrews 12:2), the power and holy life that the Spirit desires to bestow will be more and more evident in them.



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: 2010
- Expected Completion Date: 2012

- **Thank the Lord that the team’s work on the Aramaic M-South New Testament is nearly finished.**

- **Pray that God will open people’s hearts to accept and follow His Word in their mother tongue.**

- **Praise God for giving believers His Holy Spirit, without whom the truths of Scripture, especially about Christ, would stand unconnected to them personally.**

Six Steps of Translation

- 1. First Draft:** translators analyze what a passage says and produce a first draft.
- 2. Team check:** translators check each verse for accuracy and clarity.
- 3. Community Testing:** translators share drafted Scripture with community members to test how well it communicates.
- 4. Back Translation:** translators translate the draft “back” into a major language for a non-native consultant.
- 5. Consultant Check:** a consultant checks the translation with the team to make sure expected standards are met.
- 6. Proofread:** translators rigorously proofread the final draft for errors before publication.

ARAMAIC M-SOUTH NT PROJECT UPDATE—1

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