



# Aramaic M-South NT\*

## A Time To Pray

“Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere” (Ephesians 6:18, NLT).

It’s a time of rejoicing as the Aramaic M-South New Testament translation project approaches completion. Thank you for helping make this possible! There’s an awareness of an intense spiritual battle underway. Your continued partnership in prayer is vital during the final stages of this project.

There’s still much work ahead before the Scriptures can be typeset and printed. During final checks and spelling adjustments, some important translation problems were found and fixed. But this means that the New Testament needs to have three-fourths of it consultant-checked again, which will probably take about a year. So the dedication will be postponed from the original May 2012 date. Available project funds are expected to cover the cost of the remaining work.

It’s no surprise that there are sometimes delays. Satan knows the power of the “seed” of God’s Word; that once planted in the human heart, it will take root, transform lives and change eternal destinies.

## The Sword of the Spirit

Though opposition against the work of the Lord Jesus is to be expected, we possess powerful tools to thwart the plans of darkness. We have the mighty weapon of prayer as described by the Apostle Paul (Ephesians 6:10-17):

“Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. We are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world...Therefore, put on every piece of God’s armor and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.”

As we await the printing and impact of the mother-tongue Scriptures, we have great purpose to persevere in prayer. Translation teams and their families are especially vulnerable during this time as the Enemy challenges the project completion and brings to bear both inward and outward forces. Please consider these strategic points as you continue to pray for the Aramaic M-South New Testament project.



*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: 2012

- Thank the Lord that the Aramaic M-South people soon will have the New Testament in their own language. Pray for His continued protection.

- Pray for the consultant-checking yet needed so that the finished product may be of the highest possible quality.

- Ask God to create a greater hunger for His Word within the local communities.

### 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.

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