

Tracing The Footsteps of Jesus Update from Europe Hunting Expedition (Gospel Art)

Report #3 – Prague, Czech Republic

Sunday PM July 26, 2009

Dear Friends and Supporters of The Biblical World

Since there were not any direct frequent flyer tickets available from Paris to Copenhagen, I had to be routed through Prague. So I requested the longest layover available so I could go into the city and search for gospel art (arriving at 11:40 AM and departing at 5 PM). After booking the ticket, I realized how difficult it would be to take the Metro into town, visit the museums and churches and return for the connection to Copenhagen by 5 PM. I was really tired from the jet lag, the automobile trip to Cambridge, and the late night train ride into Paris. I was beginning to feel sorry for myself, thinking that I would have to stay at the airport in Prague and wait for my connection wasting one full day of the trip.

Can you imagine my surprise when I read this email on Friday morning in Paris:

Dear Tony,

I have your e-mail address from Kandus Thorp, Hope Channel. She encouraged me to contact you. We are Czech Hope TV (Czech Republic, EUROPE). We are part of Hope Channel Family. We got your program In Footsteps of Paul from Hope Channel USA. We would like to translate it into our language and broadcast it on Czech Hope TV. We would like to ask you so nicely to send script (transcript) of your program In Footsteps of Paul. It will really help our translator.

Thank you for your program. You did a very good job. It is a great way how to tell people about Paul, Jesus and Bible.

I responded by thanking Pavlina for her email and explained that I would be passing through Prague on Sunday (two days later). She replied that she would like to take me to see their studio and then to lunch. Afterward she would drive me to the museums and churches.

Wow, I thought! God you are so good—it was no accident that you routed me through Prague. It was not an unfortunate mistake, but a providence! Your timing is just right!

Indeed, Pavlina met me at the airport and we departed straight for the National Museum where I was able to collect wonderful after work from several of the European masters.



Tony and Pavlina at the National Museum in Prague



Jesus Carrying The Cross



The Mocking of Christ



Jesus being beaten

We then went down to the St. Nickolas Cathedral where there was a special expedition of paintings by a Czech artist from the 16th century on display.



Pilate washing his hands



Behold The Man

After a brief lunch Pavlina dropped me at the airport at 4:15 and I easily made my connection for Copenhagen.

As I settled onto the plane I gave thanks to God for His incredible guidance on this trip. The providential timing of Pavlina's email, just when I thought the day would be consumed by sitting in airports, was so encouraging. To realize how the Lord arranged for the folks at Czech television to inquire about the Paul series on the very Friday I arrived in Paris is something I will never forget.

Then I praised the Lord for how He is using the Paul series to touch hearts around the world through the English language and how He is now opening so many doors for it to be in available in other languages including Czech.

I rejoiced as I thought of the wonderful art work illustrating the life of Jesus that I had already collected on this trip and prayed God would use these photographs to enrich the series on the life of Jesus so that it will appeal to people around the world and lead them to know Jesus.

Then I prayed that I would be able to find the Fredericksborg Castle, visit the Chapel and photograph the Carl Bloch paintings illustrating the life of Jesus. Although this was the major reason for coming to Europe on this strange itinerary, I was not sure if the paintings were accessible to the public or if the museum would permit them to be photographed.

Yet, I was confident that God would open a door (to be continued)....