

Just inter-~~view~~ #1
view! *Reference*

AUTHOR: Bishop Festo Kivengere
PLACE: The Crew of the Good Ship Grace, Inc., Haven Of Rest, Hollywood, CA.
DATE: October 1981
EVENT: Festo's tape of January 27, 1981
THEME: The Harvest is Ready but the Workers are few.
TEXT: Matt. 9:36
APPEAL FOR: (Karamoja famine mentioned) - and the Feeding Program)

RADIO STATION SIGNAL TONE

INTRODUCTION:

To be one of the speakers of this internationally syndicated Gospel Radio Broadcast, Haven of Rest, for the past 16 years has been a giant task for me, but it has been full of blessings I will tell you about. It is to meet a variety of God's servants, come to know them as personal friends, present them to you and talk with them for you to hear.

Today, we have such a very special guest, this is the Haven of Rest Broadcast, I am your Host, Paul Evans. Our special guest today is the beloved minister of reconciliation, Bishop Festo Kivengere of Uganda.

SINGING AN OPENING HYMN

Our special guest today is Bishop Festo Kivengere of Uganda. Certainly, Bishop Festo is no stranger to the Haven of Rest audience, and we are delighted that he could be with us again. His visits are all too brief. And I want to say, welcome Bishop Festo Kivengere.

Festo: Thank you very much my brother, I'm glad to be here today.

Paul: Well, this is always a delight, you know I have coined a little three word phrase for our visits which are, which are all too infrequent. It is a kind of a hullo, preach and good-bye, situation.

Festo: Aha ha ha, very interesting.

Paul: And, but the last time you were with us, we were, well you were here in a sense of an urgent mission, on behalf of the people of Uganda, particularly the northern section where drought and just many crisis had occurred. There was, there was famine there, you were concerned for the children that we were going to lose a whole generation of children through starvation there. And I know that, that is on the top of our people's minds and hearts. Would you report back on that.

Festo: I'm very glad to report back that, through the love, concern, and participation of God's people in sending what we needed in order to purchase, oat meal and food and others who came to our aid with milk. We are now serving that area by feeding more than 30,000 school children whose bright eyes and, and their faces no longer have that terrible atmosphere of starvation hanging on them. They are becoming alive. And not only are we feeding them, we are giving them each a hoe, and some seeds so that they may learn how to put their hands in the ground and grow the very food they desperately need. There is real hope through the ministry of you all brethren, and we praise God for that.

Paul: Bishop this feeding, if we can just use that phrase, is done at the location of the school itself so you also work in education and evangelism along with this. Is this true?

Festo: Yes, indeed. In fact it is a very beautiful setting. The, the, what we do really is to organize together with the parents and the teachers so that it may be done properly and locally. And then the school provides little plots for the children to learn to grow these seeds like beans, and peas and some maize and of course this is a wonderful thing because then, we are changing the Karamoja people from entirely depending on milk and blood, to depending on, to, to, to having something more than those things. So it is a transition really, and we are very thankful. And then usually, after the children have been fed. Then we sit under a tree, 600, 700 children and we clap and sing and tell them about Jesus. And it really makes sense to see their eyes brighten and their hearts ready to receive that Good News.

Paul: And they are into regular studies also becoming literate?

Festo: Oh yes indeed. These are elementary, good, these are government schools, but the government of Uganda welcomes us to do anything we want. To teach the Bible, the Bible is recognized in all our schools and you can conduct a mission as you like, prayer meeting, no interference whatsoever. It is a wonderful situation, and an open mission field.

Paul: I can't think of anyone who would love to do it, more than you. You sort of covered this from two directions. First of all, from

Festo: And therefore, the resurrection, which was the most exciting experience, did not excite the disciples until the Holy Spirit touched their hearts, then of course you couldn't stop them. And I believe, this is where we are now. I see England, I have just been in West Germany, in Britain, I have been in the United States, many times here and I see, in the well developed western countries the only key to bring men and women from an invasion of despair and sinnicism, is to see the risen living Lord Jesus Christ.

SINGING(Let me see this world dear Lord in Your Eyes)

Paul: We speak of a, we speak of the world, we speak of Uganda 14 million people, Africa itself is about 400 million, how would you describe the spiritual state of Africa as a whole?

Festo: It is a very exciting situation now. In fact we feel in the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, the harvest is ready, the laborers to gather it in are very few. Everywhere on the continent, people are crowding into churches like anything. Even areas which used to be very difficult indeed, are now opening in such an unusual way. I have been in the Sudan recently, and to see what is going on in the Sudan, the congregations filling the Churches, the Sudan is calling us to take teams there so that we can share with our brothers this wonderful message of God's Love with everybody, in other parts of Africa, it is the same. So the continent with those millions is a continent, much more open for the Good News than ever before in its history.

Paul: It seems to me Festo that you are going to have to find a spectacular way to get to all these places at one time. May be you will have to go into mass communication or you may be at the present time.

Festo: May I add to that that this is part, this is one of the greatest, greatest excitement we have on the continent. Our people, the readership of Africa, the listeners are still the people of the spoken word more than the people of the written word. For the majority of our people are still illiterate, and it will take a long time to make them completely illiterate, therefore, what do they do? Most of them possess small radios, and they listen to the messages of course if there are no good messages, they will listen to the bad ones. But you can see, what it is, governments in Africa give us free time to come on the radio and speak to the people. In Kenya, in Uganda, in Tanzania we hear these cries, so really radio in Africa today is a great asset, and that's why other forces are also taking advantage of that and even making it difficult for Christians to come with the message of Jesus Christ, because there are still great wide open doors for the message of Jesus Christ by radio.

Paul: Festo before we sat down to the microphones to have this visit you were describing for me something that happened in one of your preaching missions. I think you said you were in a traditional church where possibly, and I don't want, you know I don't want to put any one down, but the Lord Jesus Christ is not preached in a way you preach Him, and set Him forth. Would you in a minute just describe what happened in that church?

Festo: torn to pieces by all sorts of other forces.

Paul: This, I would have to say that, that what you speak for Africa though is it has to be the hope of the world.

Festo: Indeed, I believe firmly, in fact recently I produced a little book called, "Hope For Uganda, and The World", and by that I mean, that not only is Uganda and Africa desperately in need of this message of hope, perhaps developed countries of Europe, old countries of christian traditions, these countries need this message if not more because they have got a lot of false securities, to send them to sleep more than struggling third world countries where people face reality much more easily than those who have got prosperity to hide reality.

Paul: Our guest is Bishop Festo Kivengere from Uganda, what a visit we have had together, and before we say good-bye to Festo today, I would like for him to bring just a special brief message from the word to your hearts who are listening.

Festo: This is the great joy, and I am going to read these beautiful words which have got, which are a great challenge to all of us. Here in Matt. 9:36, as Jesus saw the crowds, His heart was filled with pity for them because they were worried and helpless, like sheep without a sheperd. So He said to his disciples, the harvest is large but there are few workers to gather it in. Pray to the owner of the harvest that He will send out workers to gather, to gather in His harvest. This passage is absolutely at the center of what we have been talking about, and here He is, here is the world as the Lord Jesus saw it, and again the

Paul Evan's closing words:

The Haven of Rest Broadcast is released over 1400 times each week, in the United States, Canada and throughout the world, of these broadcast 89 are released each week into strategic population centers of the Far East, 22 programs into South America, 45 into main land China. We heard three times a week in Liberia as well as daily short wave releases through the facilities of the Far East Broadcasting company, which reach Bangladesh, Shrilank, India and Burma.

Also the French Broadcast, "Ecoute" is sponsored by the Haven of Rest of Canada. And is heard daily on 7 stations in Quebec, with host Adrian Robert Show.

The purpose of the Haven of Rest ministries is to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, with as many people as possible throughout the world. Oh we thank God for the privilege He has given to us.

Please remember Haven of Rest in your ministry of giving. We depend solely on your prayerful gifts of love for our financial support. You may address us as follows. Haven of Rest, Hollywood, CA 90028, that address again is Haven of Rest, Hollywood, Ca 90028.

Now Good-bye to Bishop Festo Kivengere, God be with him and the same with each of you our dear listeners.

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