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Ye adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore would be a friend of the world maketh himself an enemy of God. Or think ye that the scripture speaketh in vain? Doth the spirit which he made to dwell in us long unto envying?
(James 4:4-5)

November 2010

**Dear Friends and Partners
of the HCJB Global Ministry to the
Peoples in Czech and
Slovak Republics**
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Christmas decorations are showing up everywhere reminding us that the time of family gatherings, celebrations, holidays and gifts is here once again.



Overseas Christmas cards are trickling in. However, November is the time of thanksgiving and we have much to be thankful for. How sad that the true meaning of this Holiday is not known to everyone. How sad that we become more busy each year than thankful. This is the reason we should slow down and look back at what we have been blessed with. First of all it is His faithfulness and blessings. With loving care He provides everything we need and more. We give thanks that we had an opportunity to spend time with our family, and enjoy our grandchildren who are growing so fast. Samuel, our oldest grandson was born in 2000 and is now already 10 years old. We are grateful that all of our four grandchildren have godly parents and are homeschooled. We admire parental commitment in the education of their children. Our visit to their co-op was a wonderful experience since we had an opportunity to share with them about Reformation starting with John Hus and about our ministry here.

We had an opportunity to spend time with many friends from near and far whom we have not seen for a while as well as meet numerous new people. We were cherished guests as well as

hosting cherished friends. We visited many new places and enjoyed new experiences. We had some unusual experiences. Klara attended the CPC (Crisis Pregnancy Center) banquet where over 1200 people gathered while Pavel attended a cigar smoker's Bible study. His clothing was put on the terrace as soon as he came in the house.

We had numerous opportunities to minister in different places to different groups of people in different churches and military. Our ministry is reaching more people than ever – our helpers and co-laborers are doing a great job. Over all, we can say the Lord is blessing us much more than we deserve. We can hardly imagine life without ministry involvement.

LEGO LAND LANDING

During our last airplane approach to a landing strip from a different direction, we were amazed to see the Prague layout from the air. Apartment blocks looked like Lego land. Actually, it was recently announced that the Lego factory in the city of Kladno, which is next to Prague, will expand its production. Speaking of Lego, several churches got involved in children's evangelization through the Lego City program which was started in Germany. One of the truckloads of Lego blocks was loaned to Czech Christians to use. Miraculously this "starting kit" was later donated to Czech children.

The idea is to build Lego City on a platform 8x5 m. Children aged 6-12 years old built a city during 3 afternoons and on the 4th one, they showed what they built to their friends, parents and grandparents. Lego pieces are used to expand children's imaginations while they listen to Bible stories.

<http://www.cb.cz/legoprojekt/>

PUBLISHING An OLD BOOK

Together with the publishing ministry of Pilgrim's Reading we are pleased to announce that "Labyrinth of the World and Paradise of Heart", by Jan (John) Amos Comenius was translated into contemporary Czech language. Our prayer is that this book will find its way into the educational system of the Czech Republic. Wikipedia writes:

"Labyrinth of the World and Paradise of the Heart is a book by John Amos Comenius. The book is a satirical allegory. Considered a jewel of baroque literature, it is one of the author's most important works. Comenius finished the first version in 1623, but he rewrote the book several times, changing its concept and form. The book remains the most widely read work of older Czech literature.

The world is portrayed as a city which resembles a labyrinth, entered by a pilgrim (the narrator and author himself). The city has The Gate of Entering, and The Gate of Separation; six main streets which represent the six

classes of the world; The Castle of Fortune in its middle; and The Common Square.

In Part One of the book, *Labyrinth of the World* (Chapters 1 - 36), the pilgrim is joined by two guides, Searchall Ubiquitous (allegory of human curiosity and longing for knowledge), and Delusion (allegory of indolent adopting of conventional and shallow thoughts). He seeks a job for himself that would best suit both his body and soul. The guides, however, prevent the pilgrim from seeing reality by making him watch the world through glasses. He captures glimpses of the reality only seldom. That is why he cannot find the right choice; even in the Castle of Wisdom he sees Vanity.

He sees the human life as meaningless, and is terrified by death; yet he finds salvation in Part Two of the book, *Paradise of the Heart* (Chapters 37 - 54), where he returns to his heart, being called there by God. There he is visited by Christ who tells him what the real meaning of the world is, so the pilgrim, now transformed, can join the Invisible Church and see it through new glasses which are the word of God and the Holy Spirit. He finally beholds the Glory of God and is received among God's own. For this, he thanks with a prayer and a hymn that celebrates the Glory, Beauty and Love of God.

The book is written in an artistic language. It is a poetical vision, and Comenius doesn't just criticize society, he also tries to capture the progress of

Man in general (and show the dualism of material and spiritual ways of life). He points at the vanity of human Endeavour that focuses on the material world and tells the reader that one must follow the will of God, as it is revealed in the Bible."

As mentioned above, the book remains very popular and is still in print (so far the last two editions in old original language appeared in 2001, which was sold out very soon, and 2005). The new Moravian Library building which was opened in Brno on the 2nd of April 2001 has a stone relief of the Labyrinth on its front wall.

MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW EDITOR

Our new editorial team wrote: We realize that during the past year we accomplished a lot. Spurgeon's messages, the Conference's digest, and CDs were published. We are almost done with Lloyd/Jones "What is evangelical?". Preparation for the next conference is underway and we are looking forward to even greater quality. Our web archive is not yet done, but we are working on it. We have about 200 visitors daily on the web pages. All of this is a great encouragement to all of us. We want to praise the Lord for numerous opportunities and we want to say thank you for the wonderful cooperation with you. It is a pleasure and joy to serve together. Wishing you many days in His closeness.

– Jarda –

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUESTS

- 21 years ago, November 17th 1989 was the beginning of Velvet Revolution which led to the fall of Communism. At that time we lived in Indonesia and with great expectation we listened to what was going on by short wave radio. In January of 1990, we visited Czech Republic. For Pavel it was the first time after 21 years since we fled. In February 1990, we joined HCJB Global which led to our return to the place of our origins. We praise the Lord for the soon-to-be the 21st anniversary in ministry.
- Churches and friends who pray and faithfully support the ministry in Czech and Slovak Republics for 20 years.
- Please continue praying for Milan and the Slovak radio ministry. Next year the HCJB Global Conference and celebration will take place in Colorado Springs. We would like to take Milan along.
- Our Pastor Daniel is home from the hospital. He is recovering after transplant procedure of his own bone marrow. This shared experience is a great encouragement to all of us and we are looking forward to when Daniel is able to resume his pastoral privileges.
- Preparation of the January Mini theology conference in Brno is in progress. Materials are being translated and ready to be pub-

lished, speakers are lined up and registrations are coming in. Please pray for those who will attend.

- Please pray for our marital strain and stress situation. In all the busy ministry activities and involvement with other people, we have neglected our relationship.

We will spend Christmas at home with dear friends from Australia and the US. We wish you to spend Christmas in closeness to our Savior Jesus Christ.

***Love and greetings to all,
Thank you for your faithful support,
prayers and loving kindness.
In His Sovereign Grace with love
Pavel and Klara Steiger,
your HCJB Global Missionaries
in Czech Republic and Slovakia***

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