

© Ivan Steiger MMX

For it is written, "I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE." Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? (1 Corinthians 1:19-20)

January 2011

Dear Friends and Partners of the HCJB Global Ministry to the Peoples in Czech Republic and Slovakia <pavel.steiger@gmail.com>

Christmas decorations are stored in boxes and all is back to normal. Especially during this season we realized how much we miss family gatherings. Our days were brightened first by dear friends from Australia. They are in our children's age group (over 40). Their growing children, almost teenagers, remind us how quickly grow our grandchildren. The Vargas', father and daughter (21), missionaries from Denver, arrived after Christmas and stayed over New



Years. During their stay we often heard excited exclamations – "frio, frio, frio" – while they shared about Prague weather with their family in the US over cell phone. And frio (cold) it was – temperatures were around 3° F all the time. Klara is glad that during the round of last outlet shopping in US she finally picked up a down jacket. We know that this year's cold weather is merciless in many places and Holiday travel was a nightmare for many.

It is hard to believe, but this January we are starting our 21st year in full time ministry with HCJB Global. Our yearly wall calendar is already marked through August. Once again it looks like a super busy year. The first days of the New Year Pavel was already making our travel arrangements. He purchased and printed all airline tickets. It is amazing what can be done nowadays on computer online.

In May, we plan to attend the HCJB Global Jubilee celebration and conference in Colorado Springs. We will visit our son's bachelor pad – the last time we were there was in 2002. On this trip we hope to visit at least four supporting churches: Denver, Madera, Santa Rosa and Klara's beloved New York. The most exciting event ahead of us is the arrival of our grandkids and of course their mom and dad in April. They were here in 2006, but Pavel is a bit concerned how six of them can fit into our apartment. Klara is sure that we will make it without any problem.

The end of the year was full of exciting news and answers to prayers:

#### **Two More FM Radio Frequencies**

The following is direct communication concerning cooperation between HCJB Global and Trans World Radio Slovakia:

Our dream became reality! I want to let you know that today (December 2010) we have received confirmation from The License Committee that two frequencies were assigned to us! Praise the Lord! That means that in a period of 365 days we must erect both transmitters and start broadcasting. Lord willing, we would like to start sometime in May or June next year. If possible we will appreciate any help concerning the transmitter equipment.

Luboš Vyhnánek

We, in HCJB Global Voice, were instrumental in obtaining the first FM license and provided hardware and technical support for Radio 7 broadcasting in Banská Bystrica, Slovakia; now TWR got two more licenses – Bratislava and Nove Mesto. Please, keep praying for breakthrough in Czech Republic.

#### Thanks for Praying

The best news of the year concerns our pastor Daniel. He recently had his final check up after auto bone marrow transplant. Daniel was diagnosed last December with multinomial myeloma. It is amazing to see how many people were touched, encouraged and influenced through Daniel's testimony. According latest lab and doctor's report he is in remission. Daniel delivered his first message at the Christmas service, one year after the diagnosis. Praise the Lord He is returning His servant back to us.

### Labyrinth of the World and Paradise of Heart

by Czech Jan Amos Komenský (John Amos Comenius) was updated from 400year old Czech into contemporary Czech language. We assisted financially in this undertaking. This nice present reached us just before Christmas.

#### Read more about Jan A. Komenský:

Click on the link below or copy and paste it into your browser: http://bit.ly/ic8VGf

## Read more about the book Click on the link below or copy and paste it into your browser: http://bit.ly/i2BSdj

# We strongly recommend read the book in English

Click on the link below or copy and paste it into your browser: <u>http://bit.ly/9KvSFL</u>

You will marvel at how current a nearly 400-year old writing can be. It should stand next to the Bible in every home. What a blessing. One of our prayer partners in Canada wrote: In your last prayer letter you mentioned that you are preparing "Labyrinth of the World and Paradise of Heart" in contemporary Czech language. I have a print from 1920 and this book was great encouragement to me during my life.

We add to this that many Czech believers who had to leave their home since 1620 due to religious persecution had this book with them. We hope that the sale of this book will help us to finance other publishing projects we have on hand. Last year our publishing team received a partial financial gift toward this project. We have some indications that this amount will be doubled this year.

In spite of their history (i.e. Huss and John A. Comenius) it is a well know fact that Czechs are said to be the least religious people. Due to a century of ongoing religious and national persecution they do not trust any religion, philosophy, or politics. They are perhaps the most skeptical people. Yet, it does not mean that they are ignorant to moral issues without conscience. They reject wrongdoing. All their virtues are related to some kind of "faith" just like the Jews had in the wilderness and practically all perished. A Czech commentator substituted God with justice, moral authority and higher values in the Ten Commandments. We think it may benefit you to put unbelieving Czech shoes on for a minute:

## - Beginning of quote -

1 I am the Justice, Law and Moral Authority, who brought you out of feudal, fascist and communist subjection. You must ascribe to Us otherwise you commit sin.

- 2 You shall not trust and serve anything else but our tried-and-true Higher Goals and Morality.
- 3 You shall not trust, obey and worship anybody else but Justice, Law and Moral Authority. If you will believe and trust them, beatitude and satisfaction will not dodge you on Earth.
- 4 Though consecrating and remembering the holidays sounds like a trade union commandment, we will gladly keep it without grumbling.
- 5-9 Commandments we accept without any changes.
- 10 This is the cornerstone of our mind: "You shall not covet your neighbor's house." Just compare for example the cry of Godless Czechland that in the frame of its capability after 1989 took immediate action according to principle by saying, "What was stolen during the Communist era ought to be returned to the rightful owners or their heirs" with Catholic Poland where not even a penny was returned to anybody!

# – Ending of quote –

The one whose income is less than 60 % of median national income is considered as poor in the European Union. According to this definition, the number of poor people in Czech Republic is the smallest in entire EU, perhaps in the world. Similarly, the number of rich will not be as high as in other countries.

We think it is not as bad with Czech's spirituality as it may seem on the surface. Their skepticism has even a positive side. They tend to be less two-faced.

They mostly tell you outright, without a napkin in front of their lips, what they really think. They usually will not leave one in doubts. When we lived in Indonesia and you introduced Christ, even to a Muslim, they almost always said "yes" since "no" in any situation is impolite. There are too many peoples in the world where emotions, traditions, trends and conventions prevail. When a Czech says "yes" to Christ it is rare, however solid! Sometimes we think, and may be wrong, that there are percentagewise as many Czech born again as in any other nation simply on the basis of:

Not everyone who says to Me, `Lord, Lord, ' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. (Matthew 7:21)

Only LORD knows whether our wellintentioned statistics are right. We should not dwell on them too much...

## **To Conclude:**

The Bible was better known in the 15<sup>th</sup> century by Czech protestant country-women than by most Catholic priests. Today our secular state Radio devotes a lot of time to celebrate true meaning of Christmas. Through carols and hymns listeners can hear the message of salvation. Through December the fundamental truth of the Gospel and the story of the birth of Christ were broadcasted with respect. We pray that this country will return back to love the Bible and authors like John Huss, Jan Amos Komenský and others.

## Praises and Prayer Requests

- Our January theological conference in Brno is in the final stage. Please pray for a smooth and blessed event.
- Please pray for our excellent team of workers, His servants, that Lord will protect them and bless them.
- Please pray for our wisdom, endurance and inspiration how to be encouragement to many more people.

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

<°))))><

Reed all our updated Prayer Letters in our archive at the end of each month: <u>http://www.hcjb.cz/newsletter</u>

#### You may mail your U.S.

Tax-deductible contributions to: HCJB GLOBAL P.O. BOX 39800 COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80949-9800 U.S.A.

You may mail your Canadian Tax-deductible contributions to: HCJB GLOBAL 3 - 44 SALTSMAN DRIVE CAMBRIDGE, ON N3H 4R7 CANADA

Attach to your check the following note: FOR THE MINISTRY OF PAVEL & KLARA STEIGER ACC # 100–110329