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TPI Africa Trip Report 3

1 message

J Balmer <jbalmerjr@yahoo.com>**Thu, Nov 18, 2010 at 4:06 PM**

Here is John's report on more of the institute in Lilongwe, Malawi. He did get a sore throat that week due to the cooking fires, but he is fine now. He's been in Zimbabwe the last few weeks by himself, which has been very tiring. He finished the teaching yesterday, and will have a few days rest before heading to South Africa. I leave next Wednesday morning to join up with him there. Thanks for standing with us in prayer for these trips, the institutes, and the pastors. Jennifer Balmer

Dear Friends,

This begins the fuller missions journal:

I woke up the next day around 5 AM on [Tuesday, October 26th](#) in the big room at the back of the main facility of the Missions 4 Jesus Warehouse Headquarters, which is located in Lumbadzi, an area in South Central Lilongwe, Malawi. We had running water again today, so we got to take a cold shower from a nozzle overhead. It was pretty cold, but after a short while you get used to it. Then I got dressed and ready for the day because today is the second day of the TPI/Missions 4 Jesus Pastoral Training Institute, and we are planning to start early this morning at 8 AM. Dwight Terrell, one of the team members of Missions 4 Jesus from Unionville Baptist Church in Monroe, North Carolina, had come on this trip to help with the cooking for all the meals. He made some eggs and bacon along with toast, hot tea, and water. The eggs and bacon were great! So after breakfast, I finished getting ready for the day and when all final preparations were complete, I was ready to walk over to the venue to begin the TPI Institute.

Several of the team members walked around the block to the next street over to the venue of the TPI Institute, which is the Chinkhuti CCAP Church (Church of Central Africa Presbyterian), which is also located in the Lumbadzi area of Lilongwe. We went inside the sanctuary, which is a pretty new church building and has plenty of space to handle our expected group of 250 to 300 pastors. There was a packed crowd of pastors already present waiting for the TPI/Missions 4 Jesus Institute to begin at 7:30 AM. [We had 227 pastors present this morning for the second day of the pastoral training institute.](#) Hastings Jailosi, the National Chairman of Missions 4 Jesus first got up and opened the TPI/Missions for Jesus Pastors Institute. He had Marvin Tarlton, the Chairman of Missions 4 Jesus, to come up and give a few introductory comments and then he turned the microphone over to Stephen Watkins, the youth pastor at Unionville Baptist Church in Monroe, North Carolina, and he led the group in worship with a song on a track from his I-Pod. Then he opened in prayer and turned the microphone over to me to begin the first session of the pastors training institute.

I began teaching the first session on Expository Preaching by reviewing over the need for Expository Preaching since most preachers in Africa do not study the Bible before preaching from it only because they have not been taught how to do this systematically. Many also take verses out of context and impose their own meanings on them and preach messages which do not reflect the original intended meaning of the text. Then I began the second session on Expository Preaching, which deals with the study of a whole book and making

a chart of the book to see the big picture and understand the context of that book. I also reviewed over the definitions of expository preaching and went back over the need to study the text from 2 Timothy 2:15. I also set the context of the first step of studying the text, which is observation.

Then we delved into the steps of developing an expository message, which involves looking at the historical background of the book that one is preaching. I encouraged the pastors to preach through whole books because God has given us His revelation in 66 books in the Bible and He wants us to preach all of His revelation, not just offer verses here and there in a piecemeal fashion. We need to systematically preach through whole books of the Bible in our preaching ministry. So I encouraged them to get a good study Bible with a good concordance to help them in their study of the Bible. Then they need to look at the author, when the book was written, the recipients of the book, and the historical circumstances or personal situations or issues that gave rise to the writing of the book. They also need to look at the historical purpose of the book that led to the author's writing of the book. Second, they need to look at the literary content of the book. They need to look at the author's purpose in writing the book to his audience. They also need to look at the author's main arguments of how he presents his ideas to his audience.

We are looking at the book of Ephesians this week, so I explained to the pastors how to develop a chart of the book by showing the literary content of the book by revealing the main divisions and minor divisions of the whole book, which is how the author structures his ideas in major and minor units within the book. Therefore, I showed them the chart of the book of Ephesians that I had done for them in the TPI notebook. I divided the book of Ephesians into 14 major divisions, which I observed and put them into a chart to see the whole book at a glance. This helps the pastor to see how the whole book fits together so he can preach through each of these major divisions in 14 weeks, and thereby, preach through the whole book of Ephesians and teach all of the content of God's revelation to his people. I concluded this session with the need for the pastors to study the text every day to prepare their messages much like their wives prepare their meals for them with much diligence. Then Hastings Jailosi came up and highlighted the importance of expository preaching for the pastors with a special emphasis on studying the text. He also dismissed the group for a short fifteen-minute break outside the sanctuary.

After the break, Hastings Jailosi introduced Pastor Osco Gardin, Jr. to come up and begin his session on "The Supremacy of Christ: Expository Studies in the Book of Colossians." Osco preached a message on "A Pastor's Prayer for his People," from Col. 1:9-14. He brought out the urgency, persistency, and unity in Paul's prayer for the Colossian Church. First, he prays for them to know the will of God, which is a personal desire, the providence of God, and the promise from the Word of God. Second, he prays for them to be filled with all knowledge, which speaks of the believers being controlled by the knowledge of Christ in their lives. Third, he prays for them to be filled with the knowledge of God, which is to be doing the will and work of God. Fourth, he prays for them to be fruitful, which involves their daily walk, work, and time with God. Fifth, he prays for them to have the divine power of God, which involves them having patience, longsuffering, joyfulness, and thankfulness. Then Osco preached a message on "Why Should I be Thankful?" (Col. 1:12-14). He taught that one of the hardest things that we ever have to do is to give thanks in all things. He mentioned four words that will cause us to be thankful that Christ has accomplished for us. They are first that we have an inheritance that is reserved in heaven for you. Second, we are translated out of the darkness into the kingdom of His Son. Third, we have redemption in Christ. Fourth, we have the forgiveness of sins. Therefore, we give thanks to the Father for what He had done on our behalf. Then Osco closed out his preaching with a challenge to the pastors, and Hastings Jailosi came up and closed out the session and had the people take a short break.

Then after the break, we resumed the institute in the main sanctuary again, and there was some singing led by one of the pastors. Then Hastings Jailosi had me come up and teach my second session of the day on the Principles of Biblical Leadership. I focused the teaching today more on the personal leadership development process in the life of the leader. I reviewed over the definition of leadership that we dealt with yesterday and the three dimensions of leadership, and taught more on each of these three dimensions, and then looked at

the first dimension of leadership development, which deals with the leader himself and how God develops us as leaders. I went to some Biblical examples such as Abraham and Moses to show how God is more concerned with developing a leader that He can use to lead His people. I told them that they are all enrolled in God's School of Leadership Training and He gives a lifetime of leadership lessons to develop His leaders for the Church. I taught each of the three leadership dimensions more fully. The local committee had brought two white eraser boards and I used one of them for this morning's session. I drew three circles on one board, which represented the three dimensions of leadership. I first showed that the Person dimension involves having a personal life of integrity and credibility, and walking in integrity, humility, in a manner worthy of your calling, in love, and by faith. Second, the People dimension involves "equipping the saints to do the work of ministry," Paul entrusting Timothy to find "faithful men who will be able to teach others also," Jesus sending out the twelve and the seventy, and Paul appointing elders in every church. Finally, the Purpose dimension involves "going and making disciples of all nations," "preaching the gospel to every creature," "becoming My witness in the world," "that the man of God may be complete and equipped for every good work." Therefore, if any of these three dimensions falls apart, leadership breaks down much like one of the three legs of a stool falling off and the whole stool falling to the ground. I then told them that Christ is at the center of this leadership process of the leader influencing the people to accomplish the purpose, and the Holy Spirit empowers the believer in each of these three dimensions to enable him to function in all three dimensions. Therefore, I drew a cross with a H. S. at the bottom of it on the board right in the center of the three circles to show that Christ and the Holy Spirit are at the center of all three dimensions of leadership to enable us to become the best leader that we can become and make each leadership dimension effective for us. It is possible to have a position of leadership without functioning as a leader. It is also possible to function as a leader without having a position of leadership.

I then concluded my session with encouraging the pastors to be the leader God wants them to be, and He will bless them greatly. I also encouraged them to put these principles to work in their ministries. [I gave an invitation for the pastors to come forward to commit their lives to the Lord to become the best leader possible for their church, and 78 pastors came forward to deal with some aspect of their leadership development.](#) [There was a short time of prayer and then I closed in a word of prayer.](#) Then Hastings Jailosi came up and made a few logistical comments to prepare the pastors for the lunch break, had a pastor lead in prayer, and then dismissed the group for lunch.

All the pastors went out the front door of the sanctuary and formed two queues (lines) and waited their turn to have their hands washed and get their meals that the ladies had cooked for them all morning long. They had nsema and beef, veggies, and water. They got their plate and went to a place where they could eat with their brothers and relax and talk for awhile. Meanwhile, I walked back over to the Missions 4 Jesus Warehouse Headquarters, where Dwight Terrell had cooked Ramen noodles with bread and water. It was good to sit down with some of the team members and relax and eat a meal that was more acclimated to our western tastes. [My throat was hurting as a result of the smoke coming into the church from the ladies cooking on an open fire right next to the church, and the wind brings the smoke into the sanctuary. Dwight fixed me a coffee cup of hot salt water, which I gargled to help relieve my throat and ease the pain a little bit.](#) I stayed for a little while longer to relax after teaching two sessions this morning at the TPI Institute.

After awhile, Pastor Osco Gardin went back over to the venue of the TPI Institute, which is the Chinkhuti CCAP Church (Church of Central Africa Presbyterian), to begin the afternoon session of the TPI Institute. [We had 227 pastors present this afternoon for the second day of the pastoral training institute.](#) Hastings Jailosi got up and introduced Pastor Gardin to come up and teach his afternoon session on "A Survey of Theology." He taught his second session on Basic Bible Doctrines on the subject of the Bible. He looked at what the Bible teaches about itself from the internal evidence of the Scriptures as well as the external evidence from outside the Scriptures, which validate the Bible. He looked at the inspiration of the Bible and how the Holy Spirit guided the Biblical writers to write each of the 66 books. He also dealt with the reason for the many translations of the Bible. Then Osco Gardin dealt with the characteristics of the Bible, such as the fact that the Bible is truth, the perfect Word of God, it never changes and is eternal, it is effective, powerful, and life

changing, and it has authority in our lives. Then he looked at the effects of the Word of God, which involved the following: God's Word created all that exists, sustains His creation, gives spiritual life, sanctifies the believer, gives light and understanding, and brings spiritual prosperity. Pastor Osco also dealt with what books are in the Bible and the process of how the canon of the Scriptures was determined over the years after the writing of the books of the Bible. Furthermore, he dealt with the reliability of the Scriptures since the original copies of the Old Testament were written on leather or papyrus to last over the centuries, and with the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, the copies of the Bible lasted for many centuries without destruction. Finally, he dealt with understanding the Scriptures through a process of studying the Word of God with the help of the illumination of the Holy Spirit, and how one can correctly interpret the Scriptures with proper understanding of these Biblical principles of interpretation. Then Osco made a few concluding remarks about the nature of the Bible. He then concluded his session and handed the microphone over to Hastings Jailosi, who concluded this session on Systematic Theology.

After a short stand-up break, Hastings Jailosi had me come up and teach the last session of the day on the Overview of the Old Testament. We first reviewed over the Walk Thru the Bible in through most of the book of Genesis, including Genesis 1-11 and the call of Abraham to go to the promised land through the birth of Joseph and his being sold in slavery to Egypt. Then I picked up the story from Joseph (we had pastors come up and act out the story of Joseph and the Jews going down to Egypt), and taught them the sequence of events in the story of the Pentateuch where the Jews were sold in slavery in Egypt for 400 years and then God raised up a deliverer, Moses, to deliver God's people from bondage, save them through the Red Sea, and bring them to Mount Sinai, where the Lord God gave Moses the Law and the tabernacle. Then we looked at Israel's history where the first generation of saved Israelites refused to believe in God to bring them into the promised land, but rather feared the giants in the land. So all of that generation except Joshua and Caleb perished in the wilderness, and God began over again with the new generation at Moab, where Moses gave the second law (the book of Deuteronomy), which is the same law and tabernacle to the new generation in preparation for coming into the promised land after 450 years. This brings us to the end of the Pentateuch and then we reviewed over the first five books of the Old Testament.

We stopped for the day since it was now 5:30 PM and we have had a full day of teaching at the institute. This completed the second day of the TPI Institute in Lilongwe, Malawi. Pastor Hastings Jailosi came and made a few announcements and directives for the coming days. Then Marvin Tarlton also came up and concluded the second day of the TPI/Missions 4 Jesus Pastoral Training Institute and the pastors were dismissed after one of the pastors closed the day in prayer.

After the institute was over for the day, some of the pastors came up to me and thanked me for the teaching, but most of the pastors filed out the front of the church and went back to the ADL Hall (Airport Development Limited) around the block on the next side street perpendicular to the venue, where most of them are staying for the week. They went there to unwind and rest and talk for an hour before they will come back here to the church for their dinner meal. Meanwhile, I walked back with some of the team members over to the Missions 4 Jesus Warehouse Headquarters, which is around the block on the next street over horizontal to the venue. We sat and discussed with some of the Mission 4 Jesus team members about the success of the pastoral training institute so far. I was having a difficulty, however, with my throat as a result of the smoke coming into the church from the ladies cooking on an open fire right next to the church, and the wind brings the smoke into the sanctuary. It was affecting Pastor Osco Gardin's eyes and my throat since I was teaching in it for most of the day. After a little while, the six of us (American team - Dwight Terrell, Stephen Watkins, Osco Gardin, Jr., and myself who traveled together from the United States, and the two other team members from Missions 4 Jesus, Marvin Tarlton and Jimmy Funderburk) loaded up in a dilapidated old van that looked like it was driven back in the 1940s. We were joined by the Malawi national team that consisted of Matthew Banda, Willow Msosa, Henry Hwayo, and our driver, Francis Jailosi. We left about 6 PM and drove from our suburb, Lumbadzi, into the city of Lilongwe, and we stopped at the crossroads at the Pizza Inn to have our dinner. We all piled out of the van and ordered five large pizzas and cokes, and ate them around the table outside the restaurant. I mainly ate from a Pepperoni and Beef pizza, but there was plenty of pizza for everybody. After

dinner, we loaded back up in the van and drove back to the Missions 4 Jesus Warehouse Headquarters, which is located in Lumbadzi, an area in South Central Lilongwe, Malawi. It was a great diversion for everyone to get out into town and get out of the daily routine. When we got back home, we all spent some time talking with some of the Mission 4 Jesus team members out in the open area under the canopy outside our bedroom. I was pretty tired after a long day so I went to my bunk bed and downloaded some of my camera cards and recharged my batteries. Then I got into my lower bunk bed and went to bed around 11 PM after drinking some bottled water. We had a great second day at the TPI/Missions 4 Jesus Pastors Training Institute here in Lilongwe, Malawi.

I woke up the next day around 5 AM on [Wednesday, October 27th](#) in the big room at the back of the main facility of the Missions 4 Jesus Warehouse Headquarters, which is located in Lumbadzi, an area in South Central Lilongwe, Malawi. We had running water again today, so we got to take a cold shower from a nozzle overhead. It was pretty cold but after a short while you get used to it. Then I got dressed and ready for the day because today is the third day of the TPI/Missions 4 Jesus Pastoral Training Institute, and we are planning to start early again this morning at 8 AM. Dwight Terrell had come on this trip to help with the cooking for all the meals. He laid out the packets of oatmeal, which we mixed with hot water and also had some cereal with cold milk, hot tea, and water. Dwight also fixed me a coffee cup of hot salt water, which I gargled to help relieve my throat and ease the pain a little bit from preaching at the church in a room where the smoke from the cooking fires were coming into the church. So after getting ready for the day and all final preparations were complete, I was ready to walk over to the venue to begin the TPI Institute.

Several of the team members walked around the block to the venue of the TPI Institute, which is the Chinkhuti CCAP Church (Church of Central Africa Presbyterian), which is also located in the Lumbadzi area of Lilongwe. There was a packed crowd of pastors already present waiting for the TPI/Missions 4 Jesus Institute to begin at 7:30 AM. [We had 235 pastors present this morning for the third day of the pastoral training institute.](#) Hastings Jailosi, the National Chairman of Missions 4 Jesus first got up and opened the TPI/Missions for Jesus Pastors Institute. He had Marvin Tarlton, the Chairman of Missions 4 Jesus, to come up and give a few introductory comments and then he turned the microphone over to Stephen Watkins, the youth pastor at Unionville Baptist Church in Monroe, North Carolina, and he led the group in worship with a song on a track from his I-Pod. Then he opened in prayer and turned the microphone over to me to begin the first session of the pastors training institute.

I began teaching the first session of the day on Expository Preaching by reviewing over the need for Expository Preaching since most preachers in Africa do not study the Bible before preaching from it only because they have not been taught how to do this systematically. Many also take verses out of context and impose their own meanings on them and preach messages which do not reflect the original intended meaning of the text. I began the third session on Expository Preaching, which deals with the study of a particular passage of a book, and doing a grammatical analysis of that passage. The local committee had brought two white eraser boards and I used one of them for this morning's session. While Stephen Watkins was singing to open the day, I copied the entire passage of Ephesians 2:1-10 on one of the two boards. It took me some time to copy the text on the board, but it was the only way for me to show them how to study every word of the text. Then I began by reviewing over the definitions of expository preaching and went back over the need to study the text from 2 Timothy 2:15. I also set the context of the first step of studying the text, which is observation. We also reviewed over the process of studying the whole book and making a chart of the book.

Today I taught them the process of looking at the details of the text by studying the grammatical specifics of a particular passage such as the one we chose in Ephesians 2:1-10. I then showed them how to write out the passage word for word on a piece of paper and how to observe every detail of the text. We looked at the passage on the board and identified every subject and verb in the text. We also looked at every tense of the

verbs and the voice of the verbs, whether they were active or passive. We also looked at other parts of speech like adverbs, adjectives, direct and indirect objects, pronouns, relative pronouns, participles, and other details to see how the whole text fits together. It took some time to go through this passage since these pastors had never been exposed to a study of the details of the text like this before. I concluded my session by stressing the importance of studying grammar by using the grammar notes in the notebook. Then Hastings Jailosi came up and highlighted the importance of expository preaching for the pastors with a special emphasis on studying the text. He also dismissed the group for a short fifteen-minute break outside the sanctuary.

After the break, Hastings Jailosi introduced Pastor Osco Gardin, Jr. to come up and begin his session on "The Supremacy of Christ: Expositional Studies in the Book of Colossians." Osco preached a message on "The Supremacy of Christ" from Col. 1:15-21. The uniqueness of Christ is unlike no other human being that ever lived on the face of the earth. Incarnation – Nobody was ever born like Him (virgin birth); Crucifixion – Nobody ever died like He did (vicarious death); Nobody ever got up like He did (victorious resurrection); Ascension – Nobody ever went up like He did (vital ascension); and Glorification – Nobody will ever come back like He will do (visible return). There are several aspects of the person of Christ, which Paul brings out in this text. First, Jesus alone reveals the Father (Col. 1:15). Jesus makes the Father visible because He is the image of God. Therefore, He said, "If you have seen Me, you have seen the Father." Second, Jesus alone rules the universe (Col. 1:16-17). He is the power of creation – "by Him all things were created." He is the preserver of creation – "by Him all things consist." He is the purpose of creation – "all the fullness to dwell in Him." Third, Jesus alone reconciles the lost (Col. 1:20-21). Reconciliation brings together two parties that are estranged or separated from each other, and sin is what separates us from God and each other. Christ reconciled the world, the Jew and the Gentile, and all sinners by grace through faith. Paul deals with their past alienation, their present reconciliation, and their future glorification. Therefore, Christ is not only prominent, but also pre-eminent above all creation, and that is why He deserves to be first place in everything.

Osco closed out his preaching with a challenge to the pastors, and Marvin Tarlton came up and closed out the session and thought that this was the last session before lunch, so he had the pastors spend a few minutes of quiet time in prayer before he dismissed the group for lunch. Hastings Jailosi came up quickly, however, and corrected the situation by giving the pastors a short break before the last session would be taught by me on Leadership before the lunch break.

Then after the short stand-up break, we resumed the institute in the main sanctuary again. Then Hastings Jailosi had me come up and teach my second session of the day on the Principles of Biblical Leadership. I focused the teaching today more on the personal leadership development process in the life of the leader. I brought up the white eraser board that I used yesterday to draw the three circles on one board, which represented the three dimensions of leadership. I reviewed over the definition of leadership that we dealt with at the beginning of the week and the three dimensions of leadership, and then looked at the first dimension of leadership development, which deals with the leader himself and how God develops us as leaders. In today's session, I taught the pastors on "Developing a Team Ministry Approach." I first went to the ministry of Barnabas in Acts 11:25-26, and 13:1-2, and showed how he displayed a "team ministry approach" by going and getting Saul in Tarsus and bringing him down to Antioch to share a teaching ministry there with him for one year. Then in Acts 13:1, we see that there are five key leaders in the Church of Antioch, which shows us that Barnabas shared his ministry with others and developed a team of leaders, which the Holy Spirit was able to send two of them on the mission field. We also went to the ministry of Moses in the Old Testament to show how he had to learn the team ministry approach. God first defined the task by responding to the need of delivering the Israelites from their bondage in Egypt, and then he designated the leader to fill the task, when He called Moses to go to Pharaoh and tell him to let My people go free to the Promised Land. Then the Lord taught Moses the principle of dividing the responsibility of the ministry when He used Jethro, his father-in-law, to show him that he needed to divide up the tasks of the ministry for others and not bear it all alone.

I taught the characteristics of a team-ministry approach, which are: a shared burden (Num. 11:16-17), loyalty to the leader (Num. 12:1-9), multiplication of leadership (Ex. 17:8-13), and compatibility of leadership (Deut. 31:23). Then I challenged the pastors to build their teams based on the strengths, not their weaknesses because each team member is most effective when they are in situations that build on their strengths, and it makes the overall team more effective in its approach. I then completed the session with encouraging the pastors to be the leader God wants them to be, and He will bless them greatly. I also encouraged them to put these principles to work in their ministries. [I then gave an invitation for the pastors to come forward to commit their lives to the Lord to become the best leader possible for their church, and 111 pastors came forward to deal with some aspect of their leadership development.](#) There was a short time of prayer and then I closed in a word of prayer. Then Hastings Jailosi came up and made a few logistical comments to prepare the pastors for the lunch break, had a pastor lead in prayer, and then dismissed the group for lunch.

All the pastors went out the front door of the sanctuary and formed two queues (lines) and waited their turn to have their hands washed and get their meals that the ladies had cooked for them all morning long. They had nsema and chicken, veggies, and water. They got their plate and went to a place where they could eat with their brothers and relax and talk for awhile. One of the pastors asked me to join him in eating with the pastors there at the church, but I needed to first go back to the Missions 4 Jesus Warehouse and get another card for my camera and then come back again for lunch. So, I walked back over to the Missions 4 Jesus Warehouse Headquarters, and got my card and then told Dwight Terrell that I would be eating lunch over at the church with the pastors. My throat was hurting as a result of the smoke coming into the church from the ladies cooking on an open fire right next to the church, and the wind brings the smoke into the sanctuary. Dwight fixed me a coffee cup of hot salt water, which I gargled to help relieve my throat and ease the pain a little bit. Then I walked back over to the venue of the TPI Institute, which is the Chinkhuti CCAP Church (Church of Central Africa Presbyterian), where I met up with some of the pastors to have some lunch with them. I only took some white rice and sauce because the chicken did not look very well cooked and I was not sure about the veggies either, so I just took the rice along with my bottled water that I had brought over with me. I sat down on a bench with several of the pastors and ate what seemed to be rather stale rice with some sauce on it, but it was good to have the fellowship with the pastors, and they really appreciated that I was eating their lunch with them, even though I ate very little of the meal. After lunch, I walked back to the Missions 4 Jesus Warehouse Headquarters to rest a little bit before I would come back to the venue for my last session of the day.

Meanwhile, Pastor Osco Gardin went back over to the venue of the TPI Institute, which is the Chinkhuti CCAP Church (Church of Central Africa Presbyterian), to begin the afternoon session of the TPI Institute. We had 235 pastors present this afternoon for the third day of the pastoral training institute. Hastings Jailosi got up and introduced Pastor Gardin to come up and teach his afternoon session on "A Survey of Theology." He taught his third session on Basic Bible Doctrines on the subject of Christology, which is the subject of God the Son. He covered the theology of the second person of the Godhead, our Lord Jesus Christ. First, Osco dealt with the Deity of Christ, by looking at His preexistence (John 8:58) and the proofs of His Deity in what He said about Himself, His works, His characteristics, and the ascriptions attributed to Him. Then he dealt with the humanity of Christ, by looking at His incarnational birth, the proofs of His humanity in that He had a human body, He had a human spirit and soul, He had human characteristics, and He had human names, and finally he looked at the union of Jesus' Deity and humanity. Then Osco dealt with the kenosis (emptying of some of the Divine attributes) of Christ, the sinlessness of Christ, the earthly life of Jesus, the offices that He held, which are prophet, priest, and king. Osco also dealt with the resurrection and ascension of Christ by looking at the fact of His resurrection, the nature of His resurrection, and the importance of both His resurrection and ascension.

Finally, he dealt with the present ministry of Christ and the future ministry of Christ. In summary, God spoke to

us through the Son, and He made the Son the heir of all things. The Son is the creator of the universe, the radiance of God's glory, the exact representation of His nature, and the One who sustains the universe. Jesus is the perfect sacrifice for man's sin, and the perfect high priest. Jesus is fully human and fully God. The sufferings and substitutionary death of Christ and the blood of Christ provide my salvation. Jesus was raised from the dead, He is exalted and is in heaven, and He is coming to the earth again. Then Osco made a few concluding remarks about the nature of God's Son. He then concluded his session and handed the microphone over to Hastings Jailosi, who concluded this session on Systematic Theology.

After a short stand-up break, Hastings Jailosi then had me come up and teach the last session of the day on the Overview of the Old Testament. We then reviewed over the book of Genesis and did all the signs of the first part of the Walk Thru seminar. We also reviewed over the rest of the Pentateuch by doing the signs of all the major people, places, and events. I then taught through the conquest period with Joshua conquering the land and settling it and the period of the Judges, Ruth, Samuel, and the United Kingdom era with Saul, David, and Solomon. Then we reviewed over the signs of the whole Pentateuch and the Conquest Period, Judges, and United Kingdom Era. Then we stopped for the day since it was now 5:30 PM and we have had a full day of teaching at the institute and had a great day with these pastors and church leaders. This completed the third day of the TPI Institute in Lilongwe, Malawi. Pastor Hastings Jailosi came and made a few announcements and directives for the coming days. Then Marvin Tarlton also came up and concluded the third day of the TPI/Missions 4 Jesus Pastoral Training Institute and the pastors were dismissed after one of the pastors closed the day in prayer.

After the institute was over for the day, some of the pastors came up to me and thanked me for the teaching, but most of the pastors filed out the front of the church and went back to the ADL Hall (Airport Development Limited) around the block on the next side street perpendicular to the venue, where most of them are staying for the week. They went there to unwind and rest and talk for an hour before they will come back here to the church for their dinner meal. Meanwhile, I walked back with some of the team members over to the Missions 4 Jesus Warehouse Headquarters, which is around the block on the next street over horizontal to the venue. We sat and discussed with some of the Mission 4 Jesus team members about the success of the pastoral training institute so far. I was not having as much difficulty, however, with my throat as a result of the smoke coming into the church from the ladies cooking on an open fire right next to the church, and the wind brings the smoke into the sanctuary. It was affecting Pastor Osco Gardin's eyes and my throat since I was teaching in it for most of the day, but I was doing a little better thanks to Dwight Terrell's concoction of hot salt water which I was gargling each day.

After a little while, Pastor Hastings Jailosi took me in his car down the road to the Evelyte Cyber Café so I could get on the internet and send my Email Report and some other emails to Jennifer and see what is going on at home. Pastor Jailosi left me there at the cyber café while he went on some errands and I spent a couple of hours there at the desktop computer sending emails and catching up on the news and sports that is happening around the world. A computer guru named Lytone Nkunika helped me out with a couple of jams I got into with a very slow computer network, but he got everything fixed and it all worked out fine. Then after awhile, Pastor Hastings Jailosi came back again to the cyber café, and I was finishing up on the computer. I had emailed Jennifer and answered some other emails, but I finally shut down the computers and Hastings Jailosi paid the guy at the front desk 455 kwacha for my time on the internet. Then I loaded back up in Pastor Jailosi's car and drove over to the Missions 4 Jesus Warehouse Headquarters, where Dwight Terrell, one of the team members of Missions 4 Jesus from Unionville Baptist Church in Monroe, North Carolina, had cooked tuna with noddles earlier. So I got my plate and had my dinner of tuna and noodles and bread and water along with a Fanta Orange soft drink. I had a good time of eating a great meal and fellowshiping with some of the other team members in our room. After dinner, we all spent some time talking with some of the Mission 4 Jesus team members out in the open area under the canopy outside our bedroom. After awhile, I was pretty tired after a long day so I went to my bunk bed and downloaded some of my camera cards and recharged my batteries. Then I got into my lower bunk bed and went to bed around 11 PM after drinking some bottled water. We had a great third day at the TPI/Missions 4 Jesus Pastors Training Institute here in Lilongwe,

Malawi.

I thank the Lord for His faithfulness to get us all safely to Lilongwe, Malawi for our first ever institute there for TPI in Malawi. Thanks for standing with us in prayer and helping us with these institutes. Please continue to pray for all our logistics and the financing of these institutes because we are trusting the Lord to cover the expenses for all of these pastors in seven institutes in four countries over the next month into December.

Yours for Christ's mission,

John Balmer, Jr.
