HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

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Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand spent

Mrs. Wurmbrand was imprisoned nearly three years also for her Christian faith in same prisons.

14 years in Romanian communist

prisons.

May 2016

Genesis 1:1

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

From an unpublished Bible meditation by late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand: Is there a God?

I knew a very, very poor lady who had no living relatives. She boasted having lived all her life in a suburb. No one had ever invited her outside the neighborhood she lived in. Yet, same lady was very keen to get involved in any discussions about various political problems in this world.

Since thousands of years there are controversies as to whether God exists and if He is, who is He, how He is and what should our relationship to Him be?

None of us has seen the entire earthly globe, much less could we fathom this humongous universe. There is a spiritual universe as well that we hardly could contemplate.

Wise Solomon wrote, "(God) has set eternity in the human heart." (Ecclesiastes 3:11) Any discussion of doubts about God just shows the common denominator of humanity: our boundless ignorance.

Should we disbelieve His existence since our mind seems not to find him? It would be like doubting the existence of music because we cannot touch it. Outside of our mind there are no sounds whatsoever. All there is outside our ears are air vibrations. These become "music" to our mind. Therefore most likely to speak of the existence of God we must transcend our limited mind.

In the 17th century in Eastern Europe lived an intellectual personality boasting of being an atheist. This for those times, was a rather rare occurrence. A clergyman when meeting him said to him, "you have it much more difficult than myself. If I meet a man suffering, in need, many times I pass him by thinking, God will take care of him. Yet, you do not believe in God, so you are under an immediate obligation to help such a person. Go ahead and undertake many such acts of charity and love and your heart will open up to God's revelation!"

We must remain in ignorance unless God reveals Himself to our human nature. God is the Being Who started all being. Since He is the Creator how could we doubt His existence? Under communism, while travelling in a train compartment a Christians took out a Bible to read. A fellow traveler confronted him saying, "how can you continue to be a believer when science nowadays has shown that all celestial bodies appeared of themselves?" The believer tongue-in cheek replied, "I also believe that all celestial bodies appeared without anyone's intervention." The other replied, "so you are a disbeliever like myself?" "Please pay careful attention to what I said," replied the Christian, "ALL CELESTIAL BODIES, THAT MEANS INCLUDING SATELLITES APPEARED OF THEMSELVES." "No, the satellites are man-made," defended the atheist. "Then if a small, earth-tumbling satellite had to have a maker, why would all majestic planets appear of themselves?" replied the Christian.

It is very possible that we, living in God's universe, do not understand Our Maker like pets in our home do not understand the ambit of the owner of the house they live in. To know of God we first must realize who we are. Lord Jesus helps us when He disclosed the secret to all who believe, "Ye are Gods." In other words only if we obtain God's nature by a total change of our mind through faith, we can understand God. To fathom God we must be of same nature. Lord Jesus explained that The Kingdom of God is near us, even within us. A deaf man attended a wedding. When music started and the guests rose up to dance, the deaf man could not comprehend the need for such dance movements and people seemed jumping around in a way that made no sense. Since the consciousness of eternity is in our heart, that's where God reveals Himself to us. How could a limited mind blinded and made deaf understand a leap of faith? How is it conceivable that witnessing the incredible, unique miracle of life, we would be doubting its miraculous Maker? Through faith we find God. Those who do not believe in God are like the mad man in a legend who, while looking in a mirror, pretended not to see his head.



The Communist Jilava Prison. Entrance to the underground cells.



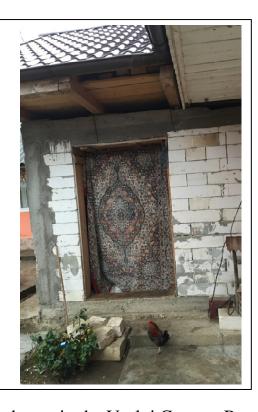
Prison cell with bunk-beds with no Mug shot of Late Reverend Richard mattress, prisoners were obliged to sleep on. Stove for show only, never heated in cold winters.



Wurmbrand when held in Jilava.

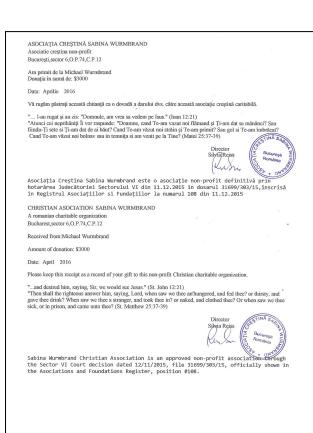


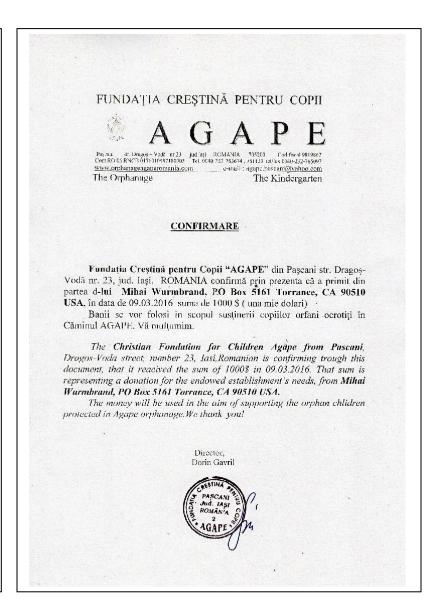
Above: Orphan-children playing in the yard of the Agape Orphanage, Pascani, Romania. Background left: Mrs. Carmen Gavril, Administrator.





The poor house in the Vaslui County, Romania (carpets instead of a door and windows) in which lives the family of one of the children (Andrei P.) attending the Richard Wurmbrand High School in Iasi, Romania.





Sample Receipts for Support Sent by Help For Refugees to Christian Works started by the Wurmbrand Family in Romania

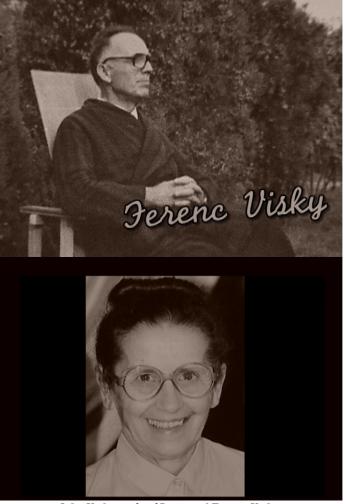
Your gifts have allowed us to help financially several orphanages including the Agape Orphanage in Pascani, Romania, an orphanage started by my parents, Richard and Sabina Wurmbrand; the Richard Wurmbrand College (an established Evangelical high school, grades) in Iasi, Romania and many elderly Christians (between 70-100) years old), who spent years within communist prisons Eastern in Europe because of their Christian witness. Some of them were held in common cells with my parents, late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand and his wife Sabina. Thank you for all your prayers and gifts. Michael Wurmbrand

Romania has the most intense emigration process when it comes to working abroad. 16% of children have parents working abroad, 24% are neglected children, 11% are abandoned children, 10% are institutionalized orphans. Some of the activities the children do, to support themselves or their families: • Beggars 41%; •Salesmen 17%; • Car-washers 3%; Thieves 2%; • Traders 25%; • Recyclers 5%; • Domestic activities 7%. The Romanian educational system is disastrous. Nationally, only 62% of high school graduates passed in 2013 the end-of-12th grade (named "Baccalaureate") exam. 100% of the students in the Richard Wurmbrand School passed the exam same year. A published report of the European Commission states that "the smallest salaries in the educational system in the European Union are those of the Romanian teachers". Thus, a Romanian teacher earns in one year the amount of money a Danish teacher earns in a month or a Luxemburg teacher in 2 weeks. We mention that the average monthly salary of a teacher is US \$300.

Christians helped with your gifts The story of suffering under communism of the Visky family



The dilapidated shack where the wife of Reverend Visky and her seven children were "sent to die of hunger" in the no-man's land, the Baragan plains of communist Romania. Closest human settlement was to be found by walking 13 miles away. Many Christians dared imprisonment to secretly carry food to them.



Iulia Visky, wife of Reverend Ferenc Visky



The wife of Reverend Visky, Iulia (center back) with their seven children and Deme Maria (back left) a Christian lady who volunteered to be deported with this family to the no-man's land of Baragan under the terror-regime in communist Romania.

Rev. Richard Wurmbrand spent several years under Communism in the same prison cell with Reverend Visky. He described him as one of the true saints he has met in his life. While Visky was in prison, his wife Iulia and 7 small children were deported for a long period to live in a "Romanian no-man's land," the so-called Baragan steppes. The closest other human settlement was about 13 miles away on foot. On Pentecost Sunday, 1958 Reverend Visky Ferencz was arrested by the Communist secret police together with other 20 Christians of the (Calvinist) Reformed Church and placed in a show-trial in Oradea in the Military Court. He was sentenced for his Christian activities to 22 years of hardlabor prison. Though not imprisoned or sentenced to prison, a member of his church, Ms. Deme Maria requested with tears in her eves to be deported together with the wife and his 7 children. This helper, a saint in her own right, though not persecuted or arrested, went into banishment with the entire family, while the father was in prison, as a sacrifice with no hope of recognition. remuneration, etc. A communist secret police officer told her, vou are nothing less than crazy since you ask for nothing less" than death." Her preferred Romanian song was, "Salvation we received as a gift, we have nothing to pay; through Jesus crucified, we have nothing to pay." Once freed from there, they were taken into Mrs. Sabina Wurmbrand's very tiny attic two rooms in Bucharest and for several weeks 11 persons lived in these two rooms and shared whatever food there was. Following Visky's imprisonment he continued his activity as a minister. Persecution continued under Ceausescu's Communist regime. His activity as a Reformed minister was forbidden after 1983. He suffered many threats, interrogations and house-searches from the Communist secret police. Reverend Visky and wife are deceased.

His large family continues his Christian legacy. Pray for them!

Christians helped with your gifts



Todor Nicolae, now deceased. Wife: Todor Maria, 93 years old.

His biography comes from the Romanian book "The Prisoners of Hope" by Rev. Ferenc Visky.

Todor Nicolae, a Baptist believer, was sentenced for his Christian activities under Communism to 17 years of forced labor. He was freed after only 4 years of difficult prison.

He describes his conversion in 1947. He was a paralegal secretary in a law office, an educated person. Following his wife's conversion through the work of a famous Romanian Baptist minister Nichifor Marcu, he asked his wife to chose between not going to church anymore or signing a divorce agreement.

His wife would not desist from going to church so she eventually signed the divorce consent with no complaint but stated how, divorced or not, she will ever grieve for his lost soul. Shocked by this, he was filled with remorse and destroyed the signed paper on which he had worked previously for a long time, and promised to go to church with his wife same night.

In church again Pastor Marcu preached comparing what God and humans did to Jesus.

God sent his Son out of love to do good and humans killed him out of hate. He asked," do you want to be on God's side or on these hateful humans' side?"

He became a Christian at the age of 25 following this testimony and even told his wife how he is ready to go to prison for Christ.

He was indeed arrested in December 1958 for his open Christian professing. He witnessed so much to his interrogator and asked him about his soul that this one ended up protesting, "I am supposed to interrogate you but you end up interrogating me." He made many converts among those imprisoned, by mainly describing his moving story of conversion. One of them became a Christian being impressed by his love for the Communist torturers.

He wrote to us how he considered himself blessed to end in the same prison cell with Romania's greatest Christian composer, Nicolae Moldovanu (now deceased, his family also being helped by us) and learning the beautiful Romanian Christian song, "Lord increase my love." He praised God for having been imprisoned for the Christian faith.

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