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## ***NEWS FROM ROME (Italy)***

Rome, June 22, 2007

Dear brethren in Christ,

my family and I hope to find each one of you doing fine in God's blessings. Before any detail concerning our preaching work, we would like to express our sincere thankfulness for being in spiritual fellowship with you in the preaching of the gospel also in Rome. We are trying to do our best in reaching as many as possible to Christ but we need your patience and full understanding of the difficult nature of this work.

***PERSONAL NEWS.*** Thanking God, we are all doing fine. **Valeria** (24) and **Paolo** (23) are busy with their jobs and both are growing in Bible knowledge and congregational responsibilities. Paolo is doing a nice job in the leading of songs. Soon he will deliver his first sermon.

About my father in law, **Rodolfo Berdini** (84 years old), he's still in a precarious health condition. He's tremendously weak and feeble and his recovery is much longer than we thought at first. He can't fully walk and needs tutorials and daily assistance. Obviously, as you can imagine, my wife Antonella (and her sister Rosanna) are under heavy pressure trying to do what they can to provide the necessary assistance. Let's hope and pray for better days. We ask for your prayers and thoughts.

My parents **Sandro** and **Elisabetta** are instead fairly well, considering age and some physical problems. Keep also them in your thoughts.

My father is still working very hard to his translating work. He already translated and printed several N.T. commentaries, so useful and important for the growth of Christians in this Country.

***PREACHING IN ROME.*** The local work at via Sannio is living an encouraging time. First of all, the public gospel meeting on "The Da Vinci Code" went really well, with encouraging new perspectives. Gianni Berdini (from Trieste) and David Thomley (from Brentwood, TN) spoke with simplicity and clearness, touching the major points in relation to what Dan Brown wrote about the Bible and Jesus. They really did an excellent job, showing deep preparation on the subject and positive attitude about Bible studying.

We spent a lot of money in preparing the meeting, through ads on the major newspapers, plus flyers to hand out. But we have been blessed with good results. The meeting place was full each night with an attendance of 68-75 people, of whom more than 25 were visitors attending for the first time. Some of them left their addresses to be called back in case of further initiatives. The most important thing is that few days later I started with four of them a sort of "group study" (reading and comments on the gospel of Luke). This new study is going fine and we can see of good interest and participation.

Another good new is concerning a young lady, **Ilaria**, who was baptized into Christ few weeks before the gospel meeting with the joy of all of us but in particular of our brother **Pierpaolo** (her boyfriend). I already talked with Ilaria's mother about the Bible and our attitude about it. In Italy when someone leaves the Catholic church, people think that is going through strange, mysterious, dangerous sects or cults, experiencing abuses and easy "brain washing". So I went to meet this woman to explain our sincere Bible purposes to make her comfortable about Ilaria's decision to become a part of us. I hope that along the way she may also get closer to the gospel. We left each other with a friendly situation.

Another good new is that **Italo Fiorilli** (father of our member **Amedeo**) decided to come back among us (he left the church about 30 years ago) and be again a member of our congregation. Experience, time, true repentance worked together to make a new man. I think that when a sinners come back is always a joy and new strengths for a local church. We're also working on others that experienced the same thing years ago. We'll see.

Our attendance is 30 on Sunday and 18 on Thursday class. My father and I exchange the teaching of classes & sermons; the college student class is studying Galatians.

**PREACHING IN ANZIO.** This preaching opportunity is going fine. Every Wednesday afternoon (from 5 to 7.30 PM) I preach for the small church of **Anzio**. They are few people (about 10) but very interested in knowing and learning more about the Bible. This coming Saturday I'll attend their special meeting to which they invited different members of local churches around this area. So I'll be able to meet members of other churches having a direct and personal opportunity to exchange our spiritual convictions.

Before closing I'd like to thank the many US visitors attending with us in this period. We had the joy to meet **Mark Bingham's FC tour** (about 40 people) and in the same Sunday **Bob Buchanon** (Bowling Green, KY) and **David McClister** (Tampa, FL) who both preached for us (under my translation). For their visit, we also thank **Jeff Carr** (Mardeville, CA); **Jeff & Kristen Dutra** (Kennesaw, GA); **Stewart & Carole Richline** (Scottsville, AZ); **Carey Dillinger** (Leesburg, FL); **Calli Waltrip** (Greenville, KY); **Haley Krek** (Norcross, GA); **Jason & Misty Carley** (Huntington, TX); **Daniel & Amy Dulak** (Austin, TX); **Daniel & Rachel Lockwood** (Austin, TX);.

The Saints in Rome send their greetings, thanking you for the opportunity given me to preach the gospel among them. Your trust and patience are greatly appreciated.

Antonella, Valeria and Paolo send their love and gratefulness.

*"They of Italy salute you".*

*Stefano Corazza*