



# East Gates

*Seeing Beyond the Impossible™*

INTERNATIONAL

September - October 2022

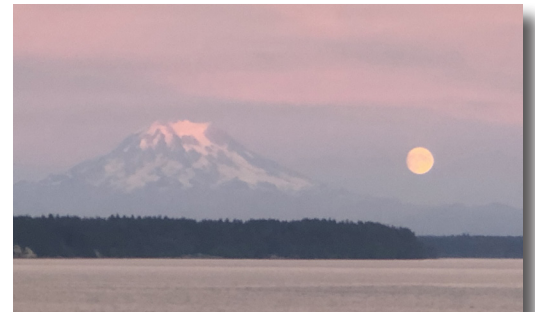
*D*ear East Gates partner,

Greetings from our brothers and sisters in China and those of us here at the East Gates headquarters near Seattle, WA. Biblically, we're now fully into the Fall festivals - Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement and Feast of Tabernacles. They have *great* significance in that they represent all that Jesus will prophetically fulfill when He returns, which may be sooner than we think!

Beginning with the Feast of Trumpets that began on the evening of September 25th, we gather on this holy day to prepare and anticipate the time that Jesus spoke of in **I Thessalonians 4:13-16**. "We do not want you to be uninformed brothers and sisters about those who are asleep (have died) so that you will not grieve as the rest of mankind do, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose from the dead, so also God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus... for the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the **trumpet of God**, and the dead in Christ will rise first."

For those of us who are listening to "God's Voice" and not "the Noise" in the world, the Fall festivals are a time of great reflection, sincere repentance and joyful preparation for Jesus' soon coming return. Jesus observed and celebrated them all when He was on earth and still does today for they represent what He will be fulfilling in bringing heaven down to earth beginning at Jerusalem. He doesn't expect us to celebrate what He does not celebrate Himself. He doesn't expect us to become what He is not Himself. He lives within us! **Galatians 2:20, Romans 8:11**

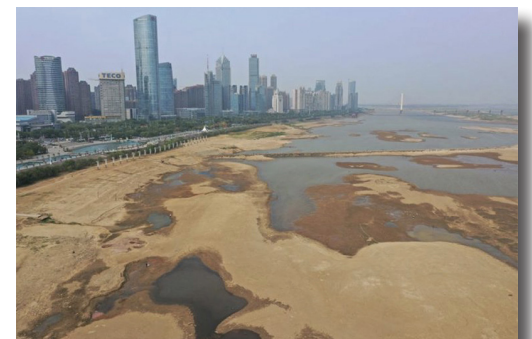
*R*eliable sources say China's economy is collapsing. Famine is spreading throughout the world and there are mass migrations of people moving to regions where they can find food, water and energy. Chinese sisters and brothers ask what are they to do. We share how God is sovereign and in complete control. We've been called to be God's image bearers on earth and like John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus' first coming, we are called to prepare for His second coming. **I Thessalonians 5:1-11**



On October 9th, there will be a full moon, as there always is at the beginning of the Feast of Tabernacles, issuing in a time when God will bring heaven down to earth and fill the world with His light. **Revelation 22:5**



A Chinese believer blows the shofar (trumpet). It is blown during biblical holy day festivals, times of celebration, blessing and declaration of war. It represents the voice of God.



China's worse drought in 50 years leaves its largest and longest river, the Yangtze, low and dry in 45 cities and counties affecting more than one million acres of crops and major hydropower loss.

**Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these...you did for Me.** *Matthew 25:40*

Over the past 32 years, East Gates has always been used by God to help prepare our Chinese brothers and sisters for the soon coming return of their Savior, Jesus Christ. As the world's sorrows and birth pangs of Creation increase (**Romans 8:22, John 16:21-22**) we share how their suffering will eventually turn to eternal joy when God's promise of bringing full restoration to His Creation will be fulfilled (**Revelation 21**). Our one and only true God, who only has the power to resurrect and bring the dead back to life, will do so as revealed in **Revelation 20**. In the meantime, we focus on worshipping God in Spirit and in Truth (**John 4:23-24**) and let Him take care of the rest!

With this in mind, there is still much Kingdom work to do in China. For example, recently we were made aware of Miao minority tribe parents living in the rural mountainous areas of Yunnan Province that need to work abroad all year round. As a result, a growing number of their children have needed to stay with temporary guardians such as grandparents, other relatives and friends. These guardians must take care of all the children's needs. Because they're not prepared for such a daunting responsibility, many family problems have arisen.



A typical poor Miao tribe home in Yunnan Province.



Probably the greatest challenge parents and children from the minority tribe areas face are the fact the guardians are typically old, frail, have little or no literacy and are heavily burdened. The guardians are not rich. They also must work long, hard hours in the field and care for their livestock. They're so busy with farm work, they don't have time to care for the children. Feeling overwhelmed, too often the guardians spoil the children and give them whatever they want, not having time to educate them on necessary life skills.

Many of the children's parents are divorced or have died of disease. Other children only have one mother or father or never see their parents in a calendar year. These "left behind" youth are now doing poorly in school as many are traumatized and manifest signs of autism and depression. A local Pastor "P", whom we know, asked us for help.



Children may be "left behind" in this world but not in God's realm. In God's family, one child has infinite and eternal worth.

### PSALM 82:3

Provide justice for the needy and the fatherless; uphold the rights of the oppressed and the destitute.





We decided to help support Pastor “P” and his co-workers. Our assistance now enables them to make home visits to learn more about the families’ situations. Over time, it has allowed them to provide proper homeschool materials to guide and educate the youth. With particularly poor families, especially orphans or children from single-parent families, we’ve been able to relieve some of their financial burdens by providing daily living expenses and school tuition.



The trip to many of these remote, rural Miao family homes can be long and arduous.



All children love to learn, even ones that have rough starts. East Gates works with Pastor “P” and his team to change the trajectory of these youths’ lives.



Children may be surrounded by squalor and poverty but if they realize they were born for a purpose, are unique and valued, these “wilted flowers” start blooming once again.



The Bible is filled with stories that youth can build their imaginations around. God breathed into His children the breath of Life and the ability to create, learn and dream.

Pastor “P” says they provide this caregiving, educational and gospel sharing ministry for Christian and non-Christian children. He shares with them how only faith can truly change their lives and encourages them to study hard so they can go to university and leave poverty behind. Many Bible characters like Moses and Jephthah had rough beginnings and look at what God did with them!



Pastor “P” and his co-workers carve out time to provide prayer and psychological counseling for the parents, guardians and children.



Pastor “P” and his team create camps to help the youth learn more about communication and socialization skills and just have fun.



## HABO MA CHURCH IS MAKING MAJOR HEADWAY!



Only a few capable and competent workers can accomplish a lot in China.

*T*hank you to all those who answered the call to help contribute to the building of the new Habo Ma church in Yunnan Province. As you can see it's been making major progress before winter sets in. The new sanctuary will not only provide for the existing members but also the growth they expect when services resume. The pastor and congregation all send their heartfelt prayers and gratitude.



Counting the cost reaps great spiritual dividends.

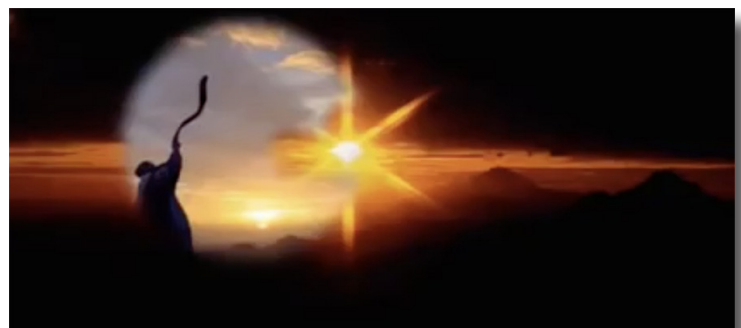


The Er-bo Ni church in Yunnan Province is almost completed except for the pews.



*C*hinese have always been builders and there is nothing more satisfying than building a church in which to worship and glorify the Lord. So as churches go up, on many occasions, East Gates is asked to assist in small and large ways. Recently, the Er-bo Ni church in Yunnan requested funds to help put in 20 benches of pews for RMB20,000 or US\$3,105. In the US it would cost about \$800-\$1200 per bench or US\$20,000.

*F*aithful supporters of East Gates, as we continue to be a resounding shofar and voice of the Lord in China, we will see and hear more testimonies of what our Chinese brothers and sisters are inspired to do to expand God's Kingdom presence in their land. Someday soon, the last trumpet or shofar will literally resound and echo throughout Creation. Our King will return and set up His eternal Kingdom (**I Corinthians 15:52**). What a magnificent time that will be! In the meantime, let us continue to stay focussed and worship Him in Spirit and in Truth!



*Kingdom blessings to you all.*

*Ned and Christina*  
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