

Dear Friends:

Each of the members of the Watchmen Quartet want to communicate a very heart-felt thank you for your support of Truth Search 08 and also to give you a brief report regarding the results of this special event.

Let me begin by saying we believe that from start to finish, a sovereign God was in control and we choose to rejoice in the results! Michael Ramsden will pull a big crowd in our area when he returns. He now has name recognition in this area that will only spread.

This was a thrilling event for us, which brings us great joy for what the Lord did and some great sorrow for what some folks did not do. We should have had more people there but those who did come were very blessed, and we choose to be thankful! We know for certain that the switch in keynote speakers had a deleterious effect on the numbers. All eight buses, that were booked two months before the event, cancelled when they heard Ravi was not coming. But they missed a great speaker in Michael Ramsden. We heard many times that people had decided not to come when they knew Ravi was not coming and we did our very best to turn that around. But the effect on sheer numbers was dramatic. Here are a few stats that reflect the reality of what happened:

The final count on attendees estimated by John McGregor who did this type of thing with the Billy Graham organization non-stop for 14 years, is:

Thursday: 1,500

Friday: 2,300

Saturday: 3,000

Total of: 6,800

Recorded New Births: 20!!! Praise the Lord! This figure comes from counselors we spoke with; the people Michael prayed with for salvation and several others that reported leading their friends to the Lord who they brought with them. I have 8 cards that I have been asked to follow up on as well - people who want to think and talk more. Our best night was Saturday night for response.

Neat stories: The following Sunday morning Pastor Ron Curl of Bethany Missionary, told me of a 10 year old boy who came forward on Friday night and prayed with a counselor and gave his life to the Lord. According to Ron he was very sincere and was bubbling to tell folks on Sunday at church.

Ron also told me of a couple who have come to Bethany Missionary's Alpha group. Both Muslim in background, the husband had come to Christ but his wife had steadfastly stuck to her Muslim beliefs until she went to TS08 Saturday night. She gave her heart to the Lord there. Her husband and friends at Bethany are rejoicing.

A couple in their golden years came forward arm in arm, to receive Christ Saturday night.

One of the IATSE Union workers (K-W Auditorium), who worked one of the cameras each night, is Muslim as well. He was so impressed that on Monday morning, he sent an email to one of guys he knows at Yake Engineering - (the sound guys), asking if they could get together and talk more about it. He said he was really moved by what he heard!

From a practical perspective:

We received \$7,600 on Thursday night which had a matching grant - so it became \$15,200. And with an earlier offering that had been received for this cause, we had just over \$30,000 to give to HIV-AIDS work in Africa.

Our offering for Christian Horizons Friday night was around 7,800.00

The Food Bank received two 4X4 bins, full to the top with food goods and \$5,600 cash offering. The lady in charge told us that one dollar given to them equals eight dollars of purchasing power through their system. So that equates to: \$44,800.00 worth of groceries (if purchased at retail). They were very pleased.

It was not all we envisioned in the beginning, knowing the draw that Ravi would have been. But at the end of it all, we would certainly do it again. It was wonderful to see the excitement of those who responded to Christ and the folks who just loved hearing Michael.

You may be interested to know Michael has been invited to come back at his earliest convenience. It will likely be more of a teaching event, in someplace like Conestoga College which seats 1,800. We will have a capacity crowd for that! No doubt about it. His secretary told me either the fall of 09 or spring of 2010 may be workable.

Once again let me say a big thank you for your valued partnership in the gospel. Lives were touched eternally and the ripple effect will continue. May God multiply His rich blessing back to you in every area of your life for His glory!

Love in Christ, a serving brother,
Tim Harden, on behalf of the Watchmen and Truth Search 08.