

HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

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Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand with wife, Sabina

**June 2016**

## Gospel of John 10:1-2

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.”

Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand spent 14 years in Romanian communist prisons. Mrs. Wurmbrand was imprisoned nearly three years also for her Christian faith in same prisons.

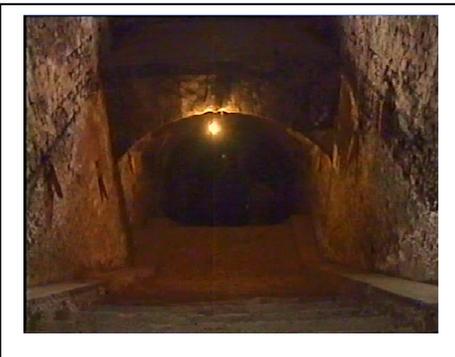
### **From an unpublished Bible meditation by late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand: What makes a True Minister**

Lord Jesus says: ” Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me.” (Revelation 3:20) Being accepted through the soul’s door is a slow, frustrating process. It seems easier to barge in. Why? It takes a lot of patiently waiting for the gatekeeper to open. A lady travelled a long way in order to hear for the first time the famous 18th Century Scottish preacher Ebenezer Erskine. She did confess to him later that when she travelled to hear a second of his sermons she was no more so deeply impressed . Erskine answered: “The first time you came to listen to God while the second time you came to hear me.” Why do you enter in a church? Is it because there is a wedding, a baptism , a confirmation, a funeral or you attend a regular service? Is it because of a concert? This would be like a sick man entering a hospital for the beauty of a nurse or for the beautiful view from its top. Do you go because the minister is a gifted speaker?

The only real motive for entering a church is in the hope of meeting God. It does not matter if you are an atheist. Many atheists arrived later to the conviction that God exists. It makes sense to risk one dollar at lottery on the remote possibility of getting a million. Why not risk entering a church for the chance of meeting God? You will like the pastor if you don't come to church for the pastor but for God. Why are ministers needed? God had said to Moses "I will make you god for Pharaoh". This Egyptian king needed one who should interpret to Him the will of God.

We, too, have hardened hearts and need ministers. The role of getting a commission from God is most dangerous. It is not a profession like any other. Like Moses one must be ready to confront personal danger and be ready to suffer, even die for the imparted teaching. A lady anxious to get salvation convened with the minister for a meeting. She came soaked having confronted a heavy rain. The pastor received her with the words "Well, I would not have expected you to come in such a weather." She stood up and left him with the words ; "I believed what you have to say is worth to give your life for. If it is not worth risking getting wet, I can renounce our talk."

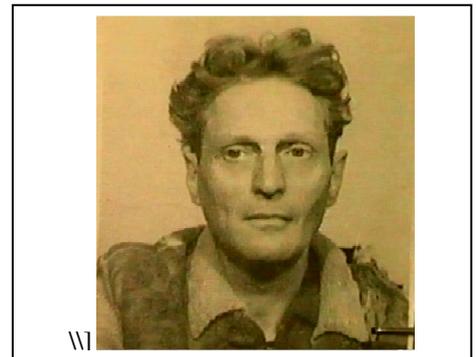
The pastor's main relationship is with God, not with the congregation and the less so with bishops, boards of elders, deacons and public relations men. The Book of Job shows that a sure way to arrive to talk to God is to accept, in faith, passing through a lot of suffering. If the pastor is seeking a good salary imagine a military officer asking the ultimate sacrifice on the part of soldiers, they being well aware being paid 20 times less than him. Since the role of a minister is not an enviable position, many people sent by God refused at first such high calling. Examples abound in the Bible, like Jonah, the prophet, like Moses and even Apostle Paul who spent a long time in the Arabian desert before accepting his calling. People having true spiritual experiences are stunned and marked for life in learning profound worthlessness and humility. The Gospel of Luke 5:8 shows the first Apostle Peter falling to his knees while exclaiming, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" A minister who did not have such an experience would be well advised to patiently wait for one and meantime introduce all the sermons with the humble confession of preaching from what was gleaned from books or from other people's experiences. St. John writes "That which we have seen and heard we declare unto you." (First Epistle of St. John, 1:3) What sermon could top this? Preachers who transmit the words of Jesus and not just speak about the words of Jesus are rare. In the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century an aged minister was urged by his board to retire. All he could show for to have added to the congregation was a youngster who was even misbehaving. But one time when the offering plate was passed around, this youngster instead of putting in a coin, placed the plate on the ground, stepped on it exclaiming, "I give myself!" This was dismissed as a prank. The name of this boy was Robert Moffat, later a renowned missionary in Africa. The famous missionary to Africa David Livingstone was his son-in-law. He wrote: "I will place no value on anything I have or may possess except in relation to the kingdom of Christ." The heart's door opens when expecting something of highest value. That's what true ministers impart: the Kingdom of Christ.



The Communist Jilava Prison.  
Entrance to the underground cells.



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



Mug shot of Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand when held in Jilava.

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.” (Apostle James Epistle 1:27)



Rebecca Acatrinei, an 8<sup>th</sup> grader of the Richard Wurmbrand College in Iasi, shown here with her mother and brother Beni. Due to prolonged treatment, being very sick with her kidneys, her memory has been affected, so she needs longer time and effort to acquire knowledge. Her father, Dumitru, suffered a work accident six years ago and injured his back severely. He is unable to work or help in the house.

Diane, the mother is the only breadwinner in the family. She cleans homes and works as a cleaning lady in the Christian high school. Attendance: 480 children, therefore quite a job. Beni, also a 5<sup>th</sup> grader at the Richard Wurmbrand College, attends the church with his family and loves going to Sunday school where he has learnt many verses and Christian songs by heart.



Christian workers of the Agape Orphanage, Pascani, Romania

ASOCIATIA CRESTINA SABINA WURMBRAND  
Asociatie crestina non-profit  
Presedintele Michael Wurmbrand  
Bucuressti, str. Prel. Ghencea nr.28, bl. C5, sc. Dap. 134, sector 6

CONTRACT DE DONAȚIE

Între

Asociației Crestina Sabina Wurmbrand cu sediul în București, sector Prel.Ghencea, nr. 28, bl. C5, sc. D, et. 4, ap. 134, asociație înscrisă la Judecătoria sector 6 prin Încheierea din 23.11.2015 și în Registrul Asociațiilor și Fundațiilor la numărul 108 din 11.12.2015, în calitate de donator, pe de o parte, și

Fundația Creștină pentru Copii AGAPE din str. Dragoș-Vodă nr. 23 Pășani, jud. Iași Persoana juridică prin S/PJ din data de 09.02.1995, pronunțată de Judecătoria Pășani, înscrisă în Registrul asociațiilor și fundațiilor prin certificatul S/PJ/1995, CUI 9819867 în calitate de donatar, pe de altă parte, au convenit să încheie prezentul contract de donație.

Asociația donatoare donează în scopul în mod irrevocabil și fără sarcini suma de (în cifre și litere)..... lei în scopul ajutorării copiilor orfani.

Donatorul declara că acești bani provin din donații facute asociației supuse regimului fiscal de impozitare în conformitate cu legea română.

Donatarul declara că accepta cu multumire donația făcută și o va folosi în scopurile declarate.

Pentru DONATOR (semnatura, dna Reiss Silvia, secretar)

DONATAR (semnatura, Gavril Dorin, director)

Data primirii 27.05.2016

Asociația Crestina Sabina Wurmbrand este o asociație non-profit definitivă prin hotărârea Judecătoarei Sectorului VI din 11.12.2015 în dosarul 31699/303/15, înscrisă în Registrul Asociațiilor și Fundațiilor la numărul 108 din 11.12.2015



Receipt for one of the current donations to the Agape Orphanage, Pășani, Romania.  
Amount: 8,000 RON  
(US \$2,000.)

Sabina Wurmbrand Christian Association of Romania helps over 60 elderly Christians and their families (now in their 80s & 90s) who suffered for their faith for many years in Romanian communist prisons. Some were described in Richard Wurmbrand's books. Below, one of the receipts.

ASOCIATIA CREȘTINĂ SABINA WURMBRAND

Asociație creștină non-profit  
București, sector 6, O.P.74.C.P.12

Am primit de la HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

Donația în sumă de: \$3000

Data: 25 mai 2016

Vă rugăm păstrați această chitanță ca o dovadă a darului dvs. către această asociație creștină caritabilă.

"... I-au rugat și au zis: "Domnule, am vrea sa vedem pe Isus." (Ioan 12:21)

"Atunci cei neprihăniți îi vor raspunde: "Doamne, cand Te-am vazut noi flămand și Ți-am dat sa mănânci? Sau fiindu-Ți sete și Ți-am dat de ai băut? Cand Te-am văzut noi străin și Te-am primit? Sau gol și Te-am îmbrăcat? Cand Te-am văzut noi bolnav sau în temnița și am venit pe la Ține?" (Matei 25:37-39)

Director  
Silvia Reiss



Asociația Creștină Sabina Wurmbrand este o asociație non-profit definitivă prin hotărârea Judecătoarei Sectorului VI din 11.12.2015 în dosarul 31699/303/15, înscrisă în Registrul Asociațiilor și Fundațiilor la numărul 108 din 11.12.2015

CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION SABINA WURMBRAND

A romanian charitable organization  
Bucharest, sector 6, O.P.74, C.P.12

Received from: HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

Amount of donation: \$3000

Date: May 25 2016

Please keep this receipt as a record of your gift to this non-profit Christian charitable organization.

"...and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus." (St. John 12:21)

"Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an/hungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?" (St. Matthew 25:37-39)

Director  
Silvia Reiss



Sabina Wurmbrand Christian Association is an approved non-profit association through the Sector VI Court decision dated 12/11/2015, file 31699/303/15, officially shown in the Associations and Foundations Register, position #108.

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

Your gifts have allowed us to help financially several orphanages including the Agape Orphanage in Pășani, Romania, an orphanage started by my parents, Richard and Sabina Wurmbrand; the Richard Wurmbrand College (an established Evangelical high school, 1-12 grades) in Iasi, Romania and many elderly Christians (between 70-100 years old), who spent years within communist prisons in Eastern 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

Help For Refugees (EIN: 95-3064521) is listed in Publication 78, Cumulative List of Organizations described in Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, a list of organizations eligible to receive tax-deductible charitable contributions. May be checked online at: <http://www.irs.gov/app/pub-78/>

With a population of about 20 million, Romania has over 200,000 orphans or 1%. Compare that with the United States: there are about 130,000 orphans in a 324 million population or 0.04%.

### Christians helped with your gifts



**Baptist Minister Ivan Petru BELEV**  
(now deceased)

**He wrote:** I was born on 26.03 in the year 1940 to Christian parents in Moldova, the region of Chimishpiysko in the village of Dimitrovka. After the war in 1945-46, when the Russians came, they closed down the Association, did away with the House of Prayer, and the Christians were scattered every which way. And so, there remained only two Christian families in that village – ours and another family. When I was 14-15 years old, I went into the world, and although I believed that God exists and I feared Him, I lived a sinful life that stretched to the age of 24 until I returned from the Army. On December 31, 1964, I happened upon a church service of Baptist believers, the Underground Church (persecuted) and there God touched my heart and I repented and accepted Christ. In 1965, in the month of March, I moved to Kishinev for work – I worked as a construction worker. I was baptized and became involved in church life and worked with the youth. Since our church was considered “unregistered” (underground church) we would meet in flats and private homes. The police came by very frequently, dispensing fines. In May of 1967, I was arrested for the 1<sup>st</sup> time for conducting a youth fellowship, but they released me after 3 days. The church grew and the houses did not hold the number of people - they did not fit. That is why we would meet in the forest in the summer - on the outskirts of the city but even there, the police came to scatter us away. In 1970, I got married and in 1971 I was elected as pastor.

At that time the church membership consisted of 180 members and together with the children, we comprised about 300 in number.

That is why in April of 1973, we, in the yard of one of our church members, built a tent of tarp material and would meet there. But after one year, the police destroyed it and so we would meet for the entire year under the open heavens. Then we again built a tent, larger in size because the church had increased and after 1 year, they again destroyed it. .And so, it was 4 times that we built a tent and the communists destroyed it for the last time on October 16, 1981. The church already numbered 400 members at that time and for 5 years it would meet under the open heavens, in winter and summer until “Perestroika” occurred under Gorbachev. We again built a tent. They arrested me on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 1982 and sentenced me to 2 years and 6 months. Finding myself in prison, God blessed me and was with me, although from the KGB’s perspective there were great pressures. It was more difficult for my wife – as she was left with 5 children, the eldest daughter was 11 years old, the youngest boy being 1 ½ years old and she was 6 months pregnant with the 6<sup>th</sup> child, who was born 4 months after my arrest. Currently we have 7 children. Four of them finished the Bible College and labor for the Lord. One went to Russia as a missionary. I continue to carry on the work of a pastor in the church. During the time or “Perestroika” when freedom came, we were able to plant 4 more churches from our church. (There are 22 Baptist churches in Kishinev at this time.) Our church has a house of prayer which was built with the help or Richard Wurmbrand, whom I personally know. We would meet together on numerous occasions, a wonderful Christian who loved God and the church very much, especially the persecuted Church. (I have a constant reminder of him – I accomplish my service as a pastor in the automobile which he gave me as a gift.) To Michael and your entire family, I am so very grateful to you for the help which I received from you. This is a great help for our family. May God bless you.

### Christians helped with your gifts



TUDOSE V. Constantin, (now deceased)

#### Autobiography

I am born in the village Liesti, County of Galati, Romania on 10/20/21. Though I was interested in Christianity from the age of 16, I became a Christian at the age of 24 and joined the Army of the Lord (a revival movement inside the Greek Orthodox Church.) In 1947, the denomination became illegal but I continued to work illegally during 45 years of atheistic Communism, being persecuted, arrested several times and spending many years of prison.

I was arrested for the first time in November 1947, but after a thorough interrogation I was allowed to be free with the demand I stop any religious activity, a condition which I of course, ignored.

I was arrested for a second time on 10/8/1950. I succeeded to escape out of jail and stayed in hiding for 3 months only but was caught, was tortured and again interrogated. For some reason I was again let free so long I get employed. I did obtain employment but only 3 months later I was again arrested and this time without any legal process, I was placed in a forced labor camp at the building of a canal on the Danube, in a locality called "Capul Midia" where daily 4-5 prisoners lapsed into a deadly coma due to the inhuman work conditions and tortures we underwent. I stayed here till 6/26/52 when I was freed. Yet 5 months later they wanted to arrest me again but God's good Hand protected me so that I could hide for nearly 3 years. (MW's note: I met him while he was in hiding and I was 14 years old on the only trip I undertook to visit my father's jail in the northern part of the country.) Again I was caught, tortured and interrogated a long time and placed in freedom.

In 1959 most of us who were considered as leaders of the Army of the Lord were again arrested and after 3 months of interrogation we were sentenced to life-long imprisonment for plotting against the "good social order." Following some order coming from the Interior Ministry we were transferred from the state security service of Galati to Cluj where the interrogations started all over during 3 months. They changed my sentencing to 12 years of jail, forced labor and confiscation of any personal goods for the crime of plotting against the social order through religious activity. I was freed (in the general amnesty) of August 1964.

I passed through the following (famous) prisons and prison camps: Galati, Cluj, Focsani, Tecuci, Bacau, Ghencea, Capul Midia, Gherla, Aiud, and several of the Braila hard labor camps. I was let free out of the famous extermination camp of Salcia (Braila.)

Once home again, it was difficult to find work and support the demands of the family. I continued my Christian work with no fear of a new arrest. We praise the Lord now for the new freedom we enjoy.

My years of imprisonment if added make a total of 9 years and 10 months (1 year, 2 mo. at the Canal labor camp, 5 years and 6 mos. different prisons, 3 years and 2 month as a fugitive in hiding under Communism,)

MW's note: I met him and his family on a trip to Romania. At the age of 82 he built a modest church for about 70 persons and conducted regular services. His daughter is an MD and bears my mother's endearing name, Bintzia (from Sabina.) Her father, a long time friend of our family, named her after my mother.

*Please share this newsletter with all your Christian friends list, church lists or send us their addresses (with their permission) so we may send them this newsletter!* HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC. A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation, P.O. Box 5161, Torrance, Ca. 90510, USA. Email: [hfr@helpforrefugees.com](mailto:hfr@helpforrefugees.com) ; **Read more at the website: <http://helpforrefugees.com>**