



Frank and Salud Benoit  
Apartado 43  
41130 Puebla del Río  
(Sevilla) SPAIN

Frank's e-mail: [frasalben@yahoo.com](mailto:frasalben@yahoo.com)

Salud's e-mail: [sali\\_ps@hotmail.com](mailto:sali_ps@hotmail.com)

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Dear Friends,

**1 Peter 2:6** says: "*For this is contained in Scripture: 'Behold I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious cornerstone, and he who believes in Him will not be disappointed'.*" (NASB) Many things and people in life *disappoint* us. Many things and people in church can *disappoint* us too. But that is why the one "*who believes in*

*Him* (i.e., Jesus) *will not be disappointed*." This verse (from Isa. 28:16) is repeated three times in the NT! So, we need to remember to keep our hope-focus on Jesus and *not on the circumstances or people who can disappoint us*. That will help us to "*not be disappointed*" and to keep on to the finish (Heb. 12:1-3). May God help you to keep your belief and hope focused on Jesus, so that you won't be "*disappointed*"!

**Puebla del Río Church.** The church has brought many disappointments since we returned in May: long-time members quit coming, offerings are half of what they were before the pandemic, new people bring some encouragement but are unstable in their response to Christ, amid serious personal problems our treasurer resigned and now it requires a special business meeting and a long legal process (for the bank account and the Ministry of Justice who regulates religious entities) to accept. **A normal Sunday service** will have anywhere from 10-12 people (or up to 15-16 people when believers from other towns visit!). **A bright spot** in all of this has been the ministry of **Arturo and Elisabeth**, serving with encouragement and much commitment! Arturo and Frank are co-pastoring, while Elisabeth and Salud are helping with other ministries. **Please pray for us to keep our focus on Christ and not the disappointments as we work to rebuild the Puebla church, and for God to touch everyone's hearts so that they will walk truly committed to Christ and to being a strong testimony for Him in this town!**



**Other ministry.** We met 3 summer mission students from **Río Grande Bible Institute** (TX) during their 6 weeks in the Seville area. We had them for a few meals, and Frank helped with some transportation. One of them stayed with us for a week too. **Salud** is still working on the **fall Ladies retreat**, coming up Oct. 29-30, with over 170 women now registered. She also is involved in preparing a national-level Ladies Dept. in the Federation of Evangelical Churches (and might represent Andalucía for that). On Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>, **Frank** starts to teach an 8-week class on "Spanish Christianity Before the Reformation" for the Master's program at **the Seminary**.

Remember that **TBM approved receiving donations for the Seminary library for 1 year** (until March 2023). Several generous gifts came in Mar., Apr. and May (and we thank those who gave!), but no more donations have come in since then. If you would like to help with this, you can still send your donation to TBM, designated: **Seville Seminary Library Fund**. **All donations go 100% to the Library**, as TBM withholds nothing. Frank is also helping in the preparations for a 15-day exhibit on "The Protestant Reformation in Seville" for Jan. 2023 in a large town by Seville. This is in cooperation with a Baptist church, the Seville Evangelical Historical Society, and the Seminary. More details in our next letter! **Please pray for God to give us wisdom and strength to give our best to these other ministries and benefit the greater testimony of Jesus Christ in Seville, Andalucía and Spain.**

**Family news.** Salud and I had a 10-day vacation in August! We spent 3 days alone and saw some neat castles, went to the beach, and then spent 3 days with each of

our children and their spouses. In Granada, **Elisabeth** (now 6 months pregnant) and **Sam** are getting the bedroom ready for **a baby boy** in early December! Salud has spent extra days there, helping with things and accompanying Elisabeth to her prenatal check-ups. **Thank you for praying for the pregnancy to go well!** In Jaén, **Jonathan and Irene** are also doing well and now live in Irene's hometown 5 miles from Jaén, where their home church is too. We were proud to see Jonathan preside the Sunday service when we went to church with them. Last school year they lived 40 miles away due to Irene's teaching job. Both of them now work in Jaén city. **We're so thankful to God for the blessing of our family.**



Thank you, too, for your faithful prayer and support for us to serve Christ here and also for praying for what we share in these letters. We pray for God to bless and keep you in everything and that you "*will not be disappointed*" as you "*believe in Him*" (Jesus)!

In Jesus' love and service, *Frank and Salud*

