



Paul and Miriam Coblantz
Missionaries to the



Amish

Winter 2023-2024

In Amish Homes

*And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name
JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Und sie wird
einen Sohn gebären, des Namen sollst du Jesus heißen; denn er
wird sein Volk selig machen von ihren Sünden. Matthew 1:21*

On Friday I had the privilege of taking a van load of Amish to Auburn, Indiana, for the viewing of a seven-year-old girl. Auburn is located just outside of Fort Wayne in a large Swiss Amish community. Joseph and his wife Esther were sitting closest to me in the van that day. Joseph is the lead minister in his community. He is also a fourth cousin of mine. We have only known each other for about a year and have become friends. On occasion we have discussed scripture. This time, Joseph talked to me about Anabaptist history. I asked him if he knew about Baptist history in America, and he said he did not. I told him of Baptists who were persecuted for starting churches in the New England states. Knowing we are Baptists, he asked me if we believed in "once saved always saved." I told him I believe in eternal life, like the Bible teaches. I asked him if he believes eternal life is a gift. "Well, we are going to be judged by our works," he exclaimed. "But not for salvation," I said, "according to John 5:24." "What about Matthew 25 where Jesus will separate the sheep from the goats?" he asked. I said, "The bible teaches the sheep are the saved, and they will be separated from the lost one day, like the 'wheat from the tares'."

Joseph seemed confused about all these passages on this subject. I told him that my confidence was in the words of Jesus, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me hath everlasting life." I don't remember all the passages I told him of, but a few were Romans 6:23, that salvation is a gift, and again in Ephesians 2:8 and 9. In the end Joseph told me that he agreed with me on the scripture we shared and was trusting only in Jesus and not in any works of his own. What a victory it would be if he started teaching these things in church.

I have witnessed to several dozen Amish in recent months; some have a clear salvation testimony, but others do not. The field is white unto harvest! Pray for us to have more opportunities to witness.

Family News: Miriam and I are both in fair health which is a great blessing. We thank you for your prayers! Driving Amish gets me into many homes and opportunities to testify. We have a fifteen-passenger van and a thirty-two-passenger bus pictured on the right. We had some Amish folks help us with some remodeling at our house.

We trust you are doing well and enjoying family during Christmas and the New Year. Have a Merry Christmas and a blessed 2024. Thank you for your prayers for us and the support you have sent. **Please make checks payable to and send to Good News Baptist Church, P. O. Box 49, Smithville, OH 44677.**



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