2009 Ukraine Trip

Robert C. Newman
My Ukraine Trip

- November 3-12, 2009
- All my time was in Kiev area
- Hosts: Biblical grad and PCA missionary Jon Eide & wife Traci (& kids)
- Purposes:
  - Speaking
  - Seeing Ukraine
  - Meeting believers, seekers, missionaries
Ukraine Population Statistics

- Population: 52 million
- Kiev: 2.6 million
- Ethnicity:
  - Ukrainians 73%
  - Russians 22%
  - Others 5%
    - Jews
    - Belarussians
    - Moldovans
Ukraine Religion Statistics

- Various Orthodox: 84%*
  * % of religious
- Ukrainian Greek Catholic: 8%
- Roman Catholic: 2.2%
- Protestant: 2.2%
- Jewish: 0.6%
- Other: 3.2%
Ukrainian Belief Statistics

- Atheist 20%
- Agnostic 15%
- Deist 35%
- New Age 1%
- Neodoukhobor 25%
- Orthodox 4%
- Catholic 1%
Swine Flu

• Just a week before I headed for Ukraine, the Prime Minister closed all schools and cancelled all public meetings for three weeks to slow the spread of the flu.

• As a result, I had three talks at universities cancelled, as well as two talks at an Orthodox seminary.
The Trip Over

• Tuesday November 3
  – Depart Charlottesville 4:38 pm
  – Arrive Detroit 5:50 pm
  – Depart Detroit 10:19 pm

• Wednesday November 4
  – Arrive Amsterdam 10:52 am
  – Depart Amsterdam 1:48 pm
  – Arrive Kiev 4:36 pm
  – At Eide’s 6:51 pm
The Trip Over
Thursday November 5

- Talking with Jon Eide & Sasha Bukovietski, a Christian book publisher
- At Book Exposition, where Sasha’s firm “Colloquium” has a booth
- Lunch with Jon & Eric Huber, country director for PCA
- At offices of Presbyterian Church of Holy Trinity & MTW; tea with Jon & Max Tikonov, pastor of Solomensky P-R Ch
Friday November 6

• Sightseeing with Jon & daughter Natalie
  – Funicular (inclined RR) down to River Dnieper
  – St Michael’s Cathedral & Bell Tower
  – Bessarabia Market

• Lunch with Ivan Bespalov, pastor of Church of the Holy Trinity

• Dinner at Ukraine Strabu Restaurant with the Eides
Funicular (Inclined Railway)

Abstracts of Powerpoint Talks

Newmanlib.ibri.org
Saturday November 7

- Out walking, taking pictures
- Sightseeing at Kiev Pechersk Lavra, oldest monastery in Ukraine or Russia, with catacombs, with Jon & Ira Basenko
- At St Vladimir’s Church, saw part of service with choir and Patriarch
Sunday November 8

• Preaching at Solomenski Presbyterian Reformed Church, using my Power-Point talk “Job”

• Evening talk for members of Solomenski RC and Church of the Holy Trinity, using my Power-Point talk “Genetic Engineering and Cloning”
The Book of Job

Understanding Suffering

Robert C. Newman
Genetic Engineering & Cloning

Robert C Newman & Bartholomew J Votta
Monday November 9

- Visit with Nancy & Matthew Westerhal
  - Matthew (son) a senior at Kiev Christian Academy, to talk about science study in US
  - Mother Nancy is a doctor
  - Father Tom teaches at Pentecostal Seminary
- Afternoon visit with Dara Reshitina, recent HS grad, very fluent in English
- Dinner at home of Jos, Marlies & Christian Colijn; Jos is academic dean of Evangelical Reformed Seminary Ukraine
Tuesday November 10

• Sightseeing:
  – St Andrew’s Descent
  – Lunch at Cafeteria

• English Club at Clemmer’s apartment
  – About 15 present
  – Talked about popular superstitions, both Ukrainian and American
  – Gave my Power-Point talk “Astrology”
Astrology: Is Your Destiny in the Stars?

Robert C. Newman
Biblical Seminary
Wednesday November 11

• Visit to Stitenko Cemetery with Jon & Zhenya Nestra

• Stopped by Babi Yar Memorial
  – Over 100 thousand people killed here by Nazis: Jews, Ukrainians, Gypsies, etc.

• Tour of Chernobyl Museum
  – Where nuclear power station blew up in April 1986
  – Site is abandoned, along with 20 mi radius around it, reaching to 40 mi from Kiev
Abstracts of Powerpoint Talks

Newmanlib.ibri.org
Thursday November 12

- Up 2:45 am
- Depart Kiev 7:08 am
- Arrive Amsterdam 8:46 am
- Depart Amsterdam 1:48 pm
- Arrive Atlanta 4:55 pm
- Depart Atlanta 8:29 pm
- Arrive Charlottesville 10:01 pm