

SOVEREIGN GRACE BAPTIST **MISSION**

International - Papua New Guinea / **Malawi Africa**

P.O. Box 60150 Ndirande Bt. 6 Blantyre Malawi /
P.O.Box 233 – Mt Hagen (WHP) Papua New Guinea
Missionary / Evangelist: Peter A. Halliman
Email: panagioite042gmail.com
Website: sgbm-malawi-africa.com

Date: 08/June/2017

Dear Pastor, Church & All Supporters;

Proverbs 29:2 When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

We are into the Month of June, and the campaigning here in Papua New Guinea is well under way, I am not sure that I have ever seen an election like the one being conducted here now. The LORD said ***“Matthew 22:21 They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.”***

The country is in complete chaos with so many different parties having been registered and all running for the purpose of political power and gain. Because of many years with corrupt politicians, many have now learned and seen that becoming a politician is simply a matter to ‘get rich quick’. It is not to serve the people or the country for the good and well being of it, rather it is ‘get all the votes any way you can’ buy, trade, sell, give pay off, steal, any way to get, get it! Then one is in for the next five years and much of the funding that is budgeted for a certain district, province, area will see very little of this, whilst many of the politicians will find loop holes in the system to send government funding out of the country in to other countries and deposit into foreign accounts, purchase land, buy housing and so on, and so on.

I spent nearly four weeks in Port Moresby, the capitol city trying to get somewhere in the land’s department with applications to acquire a mission lease for land in the capitol city so we can legally operate a mission work there and have a place to do this. However, with all the corruption that has changed hands, many will not even entertain an application without a considerable payoff. The application will be lodged and that will be the end of it until one finds several hundred dollars to grease the palms of those sitting

behind the desk. First of all, I take a position that this is Biblically wrong, and morally wrong, secondly, once you become a payer, everyone gets something out of you along the way.

I had to pull up stakes and fly out to the Highlands and wait for this election to pass, there will be no moving of any legalities in any office until after the elections. This also I understand is still within the Sovereignty of GOD.

“Proverbs 21:1 The king's heart *is* in the hand of the LORD, *as* the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.”

We flew out to Mt. Hagen, which, is in the Western Highlands Province on Friday last week. I had left my vehicle in the care of Hepe Ekere and his brother Samson who is a driver and they were looking after the vehicle, starting it once a week to make sure nothing locked up and kept the batteries charged up.

When we arrived, and on the way back to where our accommodations are, which is the Mission Home, I noticed the fuel light was illuminated and the fuel gauge was not working. There was fuel in the tank, but not full so the next day I made sure it was topped up and still the same problem.

I did not want to leave town with this problem, not knowing if the ECU unit would send a wrong signal and shut down the engine. Therefore we spent the weekend, and I preached for the Kim Baptist Church located here in Mt. Hagen, just outside of town. We had a large crowd close to one hundred people or over.

On Monday, I checked the Land Rover dealer / workshop to see if they could fit me in, it would be Tuesday morning, so we waited before we would do our shopping to go out to the Mission Station.

I will now cut a long story short, the vehicle was booked into the workshop and sat till lunch and no one was doing anything, I have my own tools with me so I teamed up with one of the mechanics and started working on the vehicle, dropping the fuel tank. In the process one of the fuel lines broke (there are four). They do not have spares in their supply room, and so we are looking at now placing an order to Australia or the UK.

I needed all the oils changed and a full service today is Thursday evening as I write this... it has been since Tuesday that I have been working with the mechanic all day every day. We have fabricated a fuel plug / line and only a road test will tell the tale. What would be a simple thing in a developed country becomes a major issue here.

I became accustomed to Malawi/ Mozambique and felt comfortable with what I could get done there all those years, however I did not go ‘up’ in life when I returned to PNG, NO, I went down. So there is another level of patience to be had or demonstrated.

The mechanic stripped out the drain plug on the transfer case (the Land Rover is a 4x4), it has taken most of the day to remove this filler plug, in which, I had to weld a bolt onto the filler plug and remove it.

We got it removed, oil has been drained, a new filler plug cannot be found so we have to fabricate a new one tomorrow.

A driver was sent out to find oil filters and fuel filters, has taken two days to do this, and came back with one.

The shocks need to be changed out, but none in stock, none in the country and no rubber bushings. We will take used ones that have been changed out from other vehicles and make modifications to fit mine; at least I will have some rubber between metal parts. Tomorrow will make one full workweek (less one day) to service the vehicle and removing of a fuel tank.

I am reminded of the fact that when I have been travelling in the US, and needed to service our minivan, I would take it in (where ever a workshop was) and it would take maybe Thirty (30) min to change out the oils and filters.

Patience is what works here, but besides all this, I have spent nearly a week sharing GOD'S Word with people of whom I would never have had a chance to talk, or witness to.

Due to many things of recent development coming to PNG, such as T.V; Video's; Mobile / (cell) phones, Internet, city life, has compounded many problems in which the PNG people have to cope with. Someone may read this and think that I am against these things (well, for the most part) even people in developed countries abuse such things as I have mentioned.

You might want to check the thermostat on your spiritual gauge with all these technological advancements, ask yourself a question, (is my spiritual life any better)? (Am I closer to the LORD), do I spend as much time in prayer and church life as I do on 'social media'?? Do I use my devices for the honour of my LORD, and for the good of HIS people?

These answers will now set a preface to what I am about to write about, if you disagree, you have the burden to prove otherwise. From the years I worked here as a missionary in the mid 80's and then all the years in Africa, and back to PNG, I have seen a constant deteriorating in church life.

Many of the younger folks depart from their village, in search of a better job. Instead of GOD' people taking these matters to the LORD corporately and entering in prayer meetings with the LORD, asking, seeking, and knocking for answers, people just ran away, run off, and before you know it many of the 'younger church members' have now become stranded in a city or town where they find life much more different than they knew or lived in the village.

Tribal people have customs where they depend on each other, no one counts pennies (very different than most Western Nations). So, there is a burden placed on families already living in these cities, towns. With no jobs, the pressure is often times more than they can bare, yet because of tribal customs they find a way to deal with it.

Water is not free any longer, firewood is not free or found easily (most Highlanders) in the village sleep with a fire in the house to keep warm. Food is not easily found, and

especially now that they do not have a garden. Riding the public transport system (buses) becomes costly.

Without proper education employment is hard to find, so at the end of the day they become trapped. With the usage of cell phones, comes 'airtime', mostly in this country customers operate on a prepay system, charging the phone, etc. etc..

Other 'things' occupy the time and energy of people who at one time lived a completely different life. They see how other people are living and doing, and they have hope that one day too they can manage. A simple child like faith, this is needed when believing on the LORD to take care of you, however we are to also do and live as though everything depended on us.

So now, the problems in PNG, it is irreversible and the only way forward it to go back to the Bible and start teaching again the foundational truths that GOD has for HIS people. There needs to be a re-educating of GOD'S people and set in place a structure that will be followed, and work for these people.

LORD willing before long, I will be able to make a trip out to the Mission Station and start up again the work on the living quarters for us.

Until our next report, may the LORD keep each of you in the centre of HIS will and smile upon the work of your hands.

In His Name,

Missionary Peter Halliman