

SOVEREIGN GRACE **BAPTIST MISSION** International - **Papua New Guinea / Malawi Africa**

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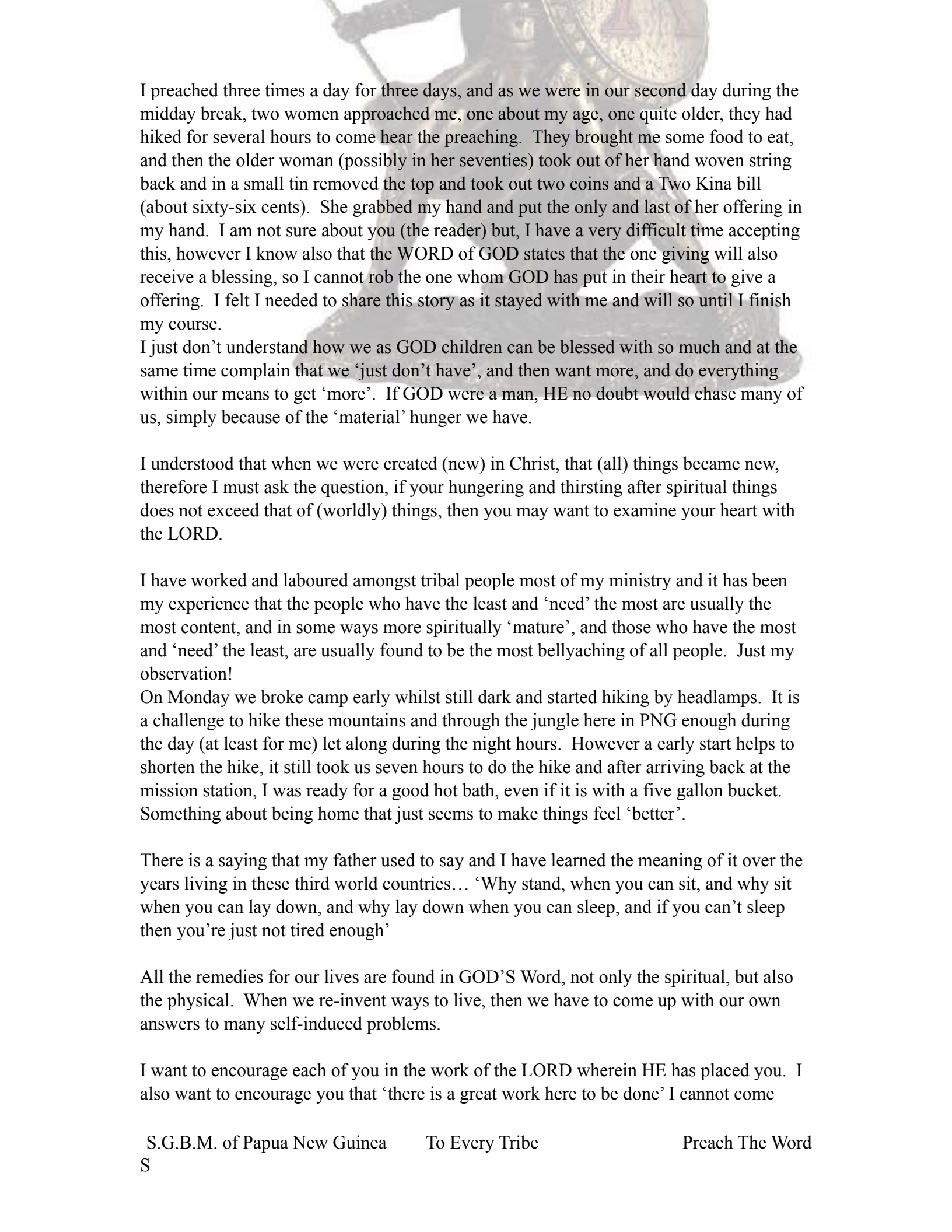
Date: 13 Sept 2017

Dear Pastor, Church and All Supporters;

1 Samuel 14:6 And Jonathan said to the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised: it may be that the LORD will work for us: for there is no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by few.

It has been a few weeks since I have been able to get a written report regarding the mission work. Not because there hasn't been anything to report on, the opposite has been true. However, due to my laptop charger having a fault, and unable to find one in the country, I was limited in what I could do. I am not the type of person that tries to use my smart phone for a keyboard. I learned how to type in school and a phone keypad just does not do it for me.

I will start by saying, I made a bush patrol to one of our churches in the Duna area, the hike took us some seven hours, and not having hiked since 2011 it was a bit challenging but GOD seen us through. The church needed assistance in conducting some business, as they lost their pastor last year, and many of the men have either died off (the older men) or else left the church for the towns and cities in search of work. Many of our churches that were once thriving large Baptist churches have now (like many) been reduced to small numbers and most of that number is made up of women and older men.



I preached three times a day for three days, and as we were in our second day during the midday break, two women approached me, one about my age, one quite older, they had hiked for several hours to come hear the preaching. They brought me some food to eat, and then the older woman (possibly in her seventies) took out of her hand woven string bag and in a small tin removed the top and took out two coins and a Two Kina bill (about sixty-six cents). She grabbed my hand and put the only and last of her offering in my hand. I am not sure about you (the reader) but, I have a very difficult time accepting this, however I know also that the WORD of GOD states that the one giving will also receive a blessing, so I cannot rob the one whom GOD has put in their heart to give a offering. I felt I needed to share this story as it stayed with me and will so until I finish my course.

I just don't understand how we as GOD children can be blessed with so much and at the same time complain that we 'just don't have', and then want more, and do everything within our means to get 'more'. If GOD were a man, HE no doubt would chase many of us, simply because of the 'material' hunger we have.

I understood that when we were created (new) in Christ, that (all) things became new, therefore I must ask the question, if your hungering and thirsting after spiritual things does not exceed that of (worldly) things, then you may want to examine your heart with the LORD.

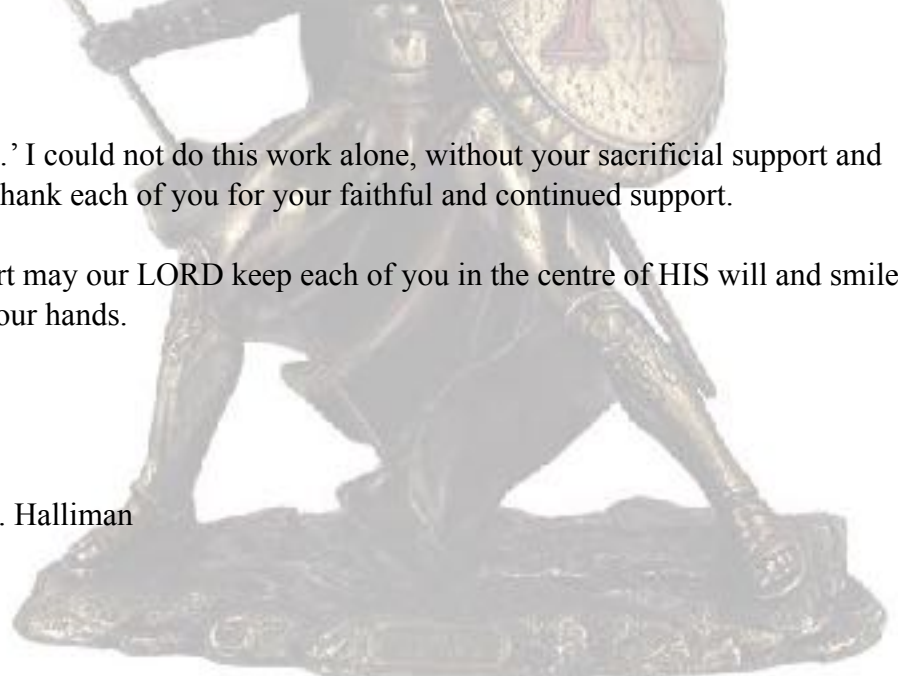
I have worked and laboured amongst tribal people most of my ministry and it has been my experience that the people who have the least and 'need' the most are usually the most content, and in some ways more spiritually 'mature', and those who have the most and 'need' the least, are usually found to be the most bellyaching of all people. Just my observation!

On Monday we broke camp early whilst still dark and started hiking by headlamps. It is a challenge to hike these mountains and through the jungle here in PNG enough during the day (at least for me) let alone during the night hours. However an early start helps to shorten the hike, it still took us seven hours to do the hike and after arriving back at the mission station, I was ready for a good hot bath, even if it is with a five gallon bucket. Something about being home that just seems to make things feel 'better'.

There is a saying that my father used to say and I have learned the meaning of it over the years living in these third world countries... 'Why stand, when you can sit, and why sit when you can lay down, and why lay down when you can sleep, and if you can't sleep then you're just not tired enough'

All the remedies for our lives are found in GOD'S Word, not only the spiritual, but also the physical. When we re-invent ways to live, then we have to come up with our own answers to many self-induced problems.

I want to encourage each of you in the work of the LORD wherein HE has placed you. I also want to encourage you that 'there is a great work here to be done' I cannot come



down off the wall...’ I could not do this work alone, without your sacrificial support and prayers. I want to thank each of you for your faithful and continued support.

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

In His Name,

Missionary Peter A. Halliman