



SOVEREIGN GRACE

BAPTIST MISSION

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

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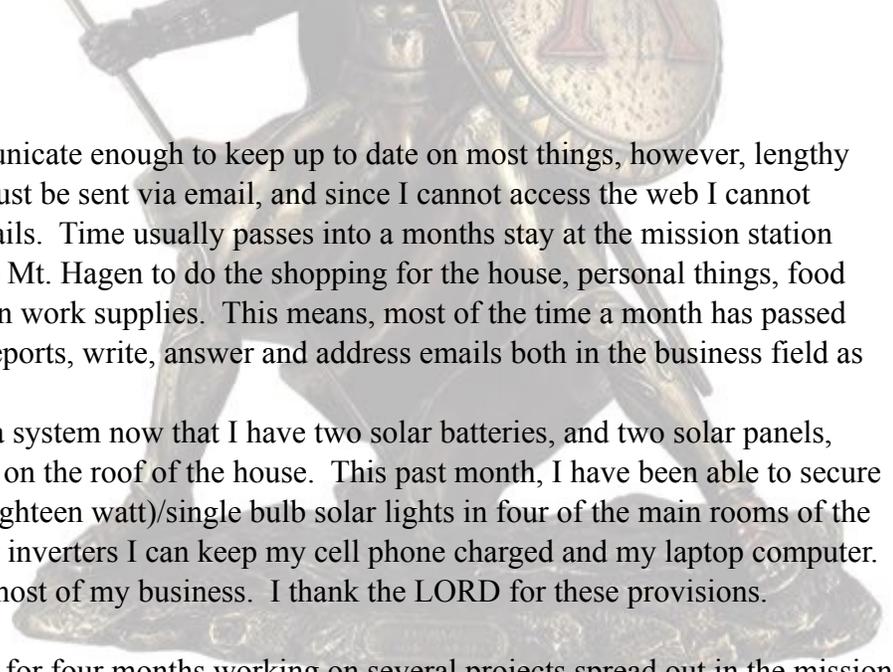
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Dear Pastor, Church and All Supporters;

Acts 14:22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, *and* exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Like many of my reports over the years, seem to fall behind simply because of the workload that comes with the mission work. Over the past years in Malawi, those who came to visit the work, became witnesses of the hardships, joys, and labour involved in the mission work that the LORD has placed me in. This being said, whilst I laboured in Malawi Africa though many things were hard and difficult, the blessings and joys of the LORDS working far out weighed the negatives.

The convenience of life here in PNG is yet another story. I have mentioned this in past reports but want to bring to attention again the physical side of things or the human difficulty that challenges our lives here. One, there is no Internet here at the Tanggi mission station, never has been and not now, and don't know when it will become so. I have 2G-network signal from a PNG based cell-phone company, this is enough to make local calls, local texts, and Int-texts on a smartphone-based application called (WhatsApp). I communicate most of the time with family and some others in Malawi and the USA on this application.



I am able to communicate enough to keep up to date on most things, however, lengthy communications must be sent via email, and since I cannot access the web I cannot receive or send emails. Time usually passes into a months stay at the mission station before I get back to Mt. Hagen to do the shopping for the house, personal things, food etc., and the mission work supplies. This means, most of the time a month has passed before I can send reports, write, answer and address emails both in the business field as well as personal.

I have worked out a system now that I have two solar batteries, and two solar panels, which are mounted on the roof of the house. This past month, I have been able to secure and install Four (Eighteen watt)/single bulb solar lights in four of the main rooms of the house. With power inverters I can keep my cell phone charged and my laptop computer. This takes care of most of my business. I thank the LORD for these provisions.

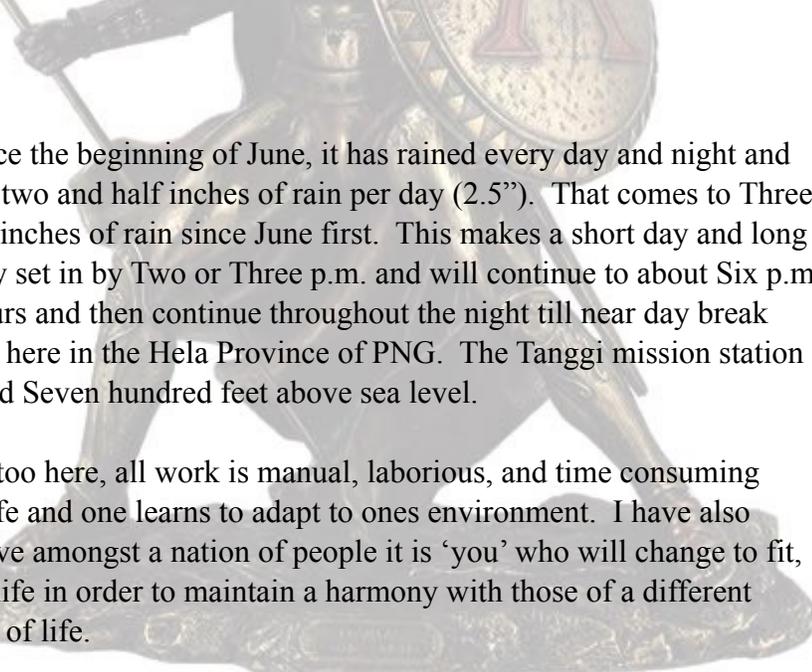
I have been flat out for four months working on several projects spread out in the mission work, of which I will share with you.

One, the new house I am constructing, it will not be as permanent as the house my father built back in the early sixties, simply because I do not have a sawmill. After hiring a local sawmill and the team to operate it, I quickly realized that I did not have the budget to continue in this direction. Though PNG is remote and many things are still backward and simple, the oil companies, government ministers and 'love of money' has all but ruined a simply way of life here. There is no such thing as a 'low-budget' way of living or doing things here, even all the way back into the bush where we are located and live. The taste of money, and the lifestyle these people live with no overheads, no bills, and no need to depend on a 'money world' they have learned to work the system and make demands for their services. Therefore, when it comes time to hire casual labour the demands are much more then what I was faced with in Malawi.

I have said all that to say this, with the economy being strong here in PNG, and with the prices of the commodities, the distance I have to drive and the road conditions that are before me takes its toll on the budget, the vehicle, and anyone who is living in this life.

PNG is a hard country and the demands are tremendous. It is far easier to go from here to some other less developed country, and then it is to be in another country and come here. At least from my perspective and from where I live and do what it is that I do.

The new house I have the posts set, and up to some of the flooring completed. I have run out of sawn timber. When I get the time I will take down the old house that was built at another mission station at (Nogoli) that I had my father built, he started it I finished it. Over the years, it has been gutted and now a Skelton of a house stands. There is enough timber in that house for me to finish the flooring and outside of my new house, plus the roof. This will give me enough breathing room with the budget to finish the house and keep the mission work going.



We are into Oct, and since the beginning of June, it has rained every day and night and we have been averaging two and half inches of rain per day (2.5”). That comes to Three Hundred and Ten (310) inches of rain since June first. This makes a short day and long nights. The rains usually set in by Two or Three p.m. and will continue to about Six p.m. and halt for a couple hours and then continue throughout the night till near day break which comes at Six a.m. here in the Hela Province of PNG. The Tanggi mission station is situated at Five Thousand Seven hundred feet above sea level.

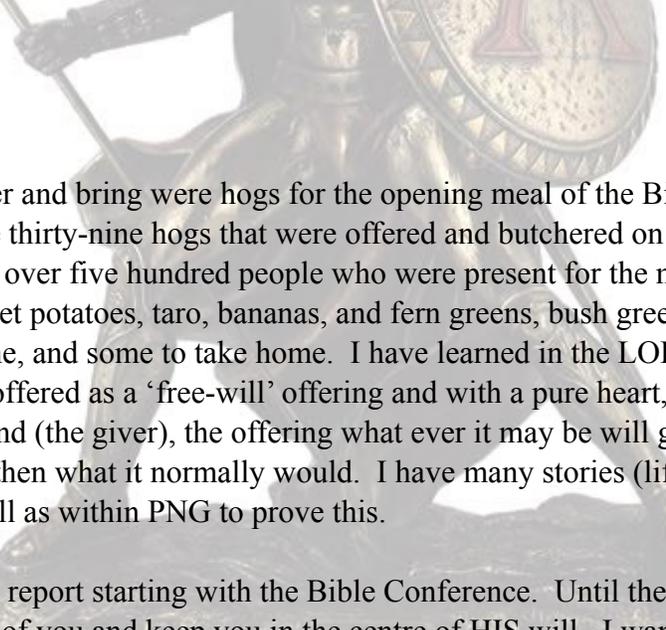
As it was in Malawi, so too here, all work is manual, laborious, and time consuming however it is a way of life and one learns to adapt to ones environment. I have also learned that when you live amongst a nation of people it is ‘you’ who will change to fit, and adapt to the way of life in order to maintain a harmony with those of a different culture, custom and way of life.

During the month of August I hosted a Bible Conference here at the Tanggi Mission Station, the Tanggi Baptist Church offered their building, which is built on the mission station so it was simply a matter of putting the mechanics of work and preparation in place. For some three weeks I worked with several men constructing toilets, bathhouses and sleeping quarters for the visitors that would be coming in. Unlike Malawi, these people live in the second largest rain forest in the world, second only to (the Amazon) this being said, they have learned over centuries of time how to thatch roofs (leak proof), this is where I learned and tried to teach the Malawians, but it just never got off the ground with them, they prefer to ask the (Missionaries) for plastic sheeting, and roofing sheets if they can get them.

The only materials I had to buy were nails; hinges for the doors, padlocks for the houses, the rest of the materials were taken from the bush. Everything was prepared and set up for the Bible Conference; I had to purchase one hundred and fifty kilos of rice and two cartons of fish (24 cans in each) to supplement the food for the conference. Most of the time these folks live on sweet potatoes as their stable diet. There is a short story that is in order here for you to understand the setting.

Many years ago, when dad first came here, he found that they (the natives) seemed to run into what they called ‘a hunger season’, this turned out to simply be they would just plant a garden and wait for the sweet potatoes to grow and produce, after some four months the gardens started producing. They would eat as long as the garden contained food. At the end of this season which, would last some five or six months, then they would start another garden and so on. What they did not realize is there is a time lapse between the gardens and harvest. This is what they called their ‘hunger season’. It could be, can be, eliminated or remedied by and with, planting another garden in due season etc....

That generation has died out, just as my father has passed on, and so too this teaching has gone. Now we are back to the same problem therefore the reason for the purchase of rice and tin fish to assist in the Conference.



What the people did offer and bring were hogs for the opening meal of the Bible Conference. There were thirty-nine hogs that were offered and butchered on Thursday the 24th of Aug. We had over five hundred people who were present for the meal and with the hogs, some sweet potatoes, taro, bananas, and fern greens, bush greens there was enough food for everyone, and some to take home. I have learned in the LORD'S work that when something is offered as a 'free-will' offering and with a pure heart, the LORD will bless the offering, and (the giver), the offering what ever it may be will go further, last longer, be stronger, then what it normally would. I have many stories (life examples) both from Malawi as well as within PNG to prove this.

I will pick up in the next report starting with the Bible Conference. Until then may our LORD richly bless each of you and keep you in the centre of HIS will. I want to thank each of you for your faithful support and sacrificial giving. We could not do what we do without you and your gift of giving.

In His Name,

Missionary Peter A Halliman