



**SOVEREIGN GRACE**



**BAPTIST MISSION**

**International -**

**Papua New Guinea / Malawi Africa**

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Dear Pastor, Church and All Supporters;

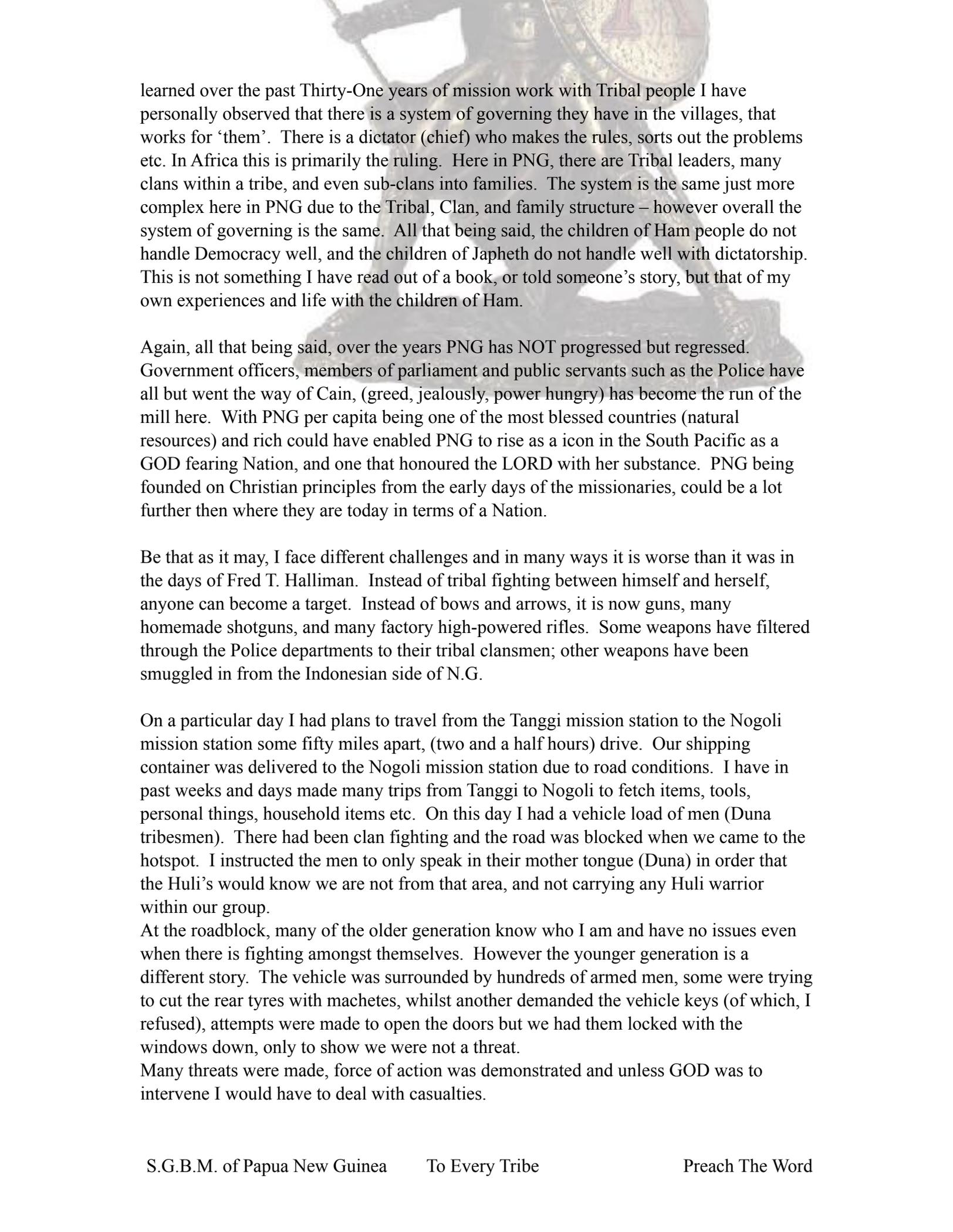
**Psalms 33:10** The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect.

Quickly we are coming to the ending of 2017 and (**Jeremiah 8:20**) “The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.”

The mission work here in PNG, offers a great mission field, and with that comes great challenges and obstacles. As Paul wrote many times, not only of the blessings of the LORD and how GOD smiled upon the work of his hands, but also he shared many experiences how the LORD allowed hindrances, obstacles and oftentimes what seemed to be roadblocks.

I too must share with you the supporter, reader, and or follower of the LORD’S work here in this field. I will share only a few of the incidents that you may know how better to pray for the work.

From the early years when Australia governed PNG, things were difficult and primitive in terms of development. Life as we (the Western world) know and live, was turned back into time. Many roads impassable, canned food, kerosene lanterns, and so on, and so on. PNG gained independence, and from there (1975) things began to deteriorate rapidly. I will make a statement, some may agree, and some may disagree, however what I have



learned over the past Thirty-One years of mission work with Tribal people I have personally observed that there is a system of governing they have in the villages, that works for 'them'. There is a dictator (chief) who makes the rules, sorts out the problems etc. In Africa this is primarily the ruling. Here in PNG, there are Tribal leaders, many clans within a tribe, and even sub-clans into families. The system is the same just more complex here in PNG due to the Tribal, Clan, and family structure – however overall the system of governing is the same. All that being said, the children of Ham people do not handle Democracy well, and the children of Japheth do not handle well with dictatorship. This is not something I have read out of a book, or told someone's story, but that of my own experiences and life with the children of Ham.

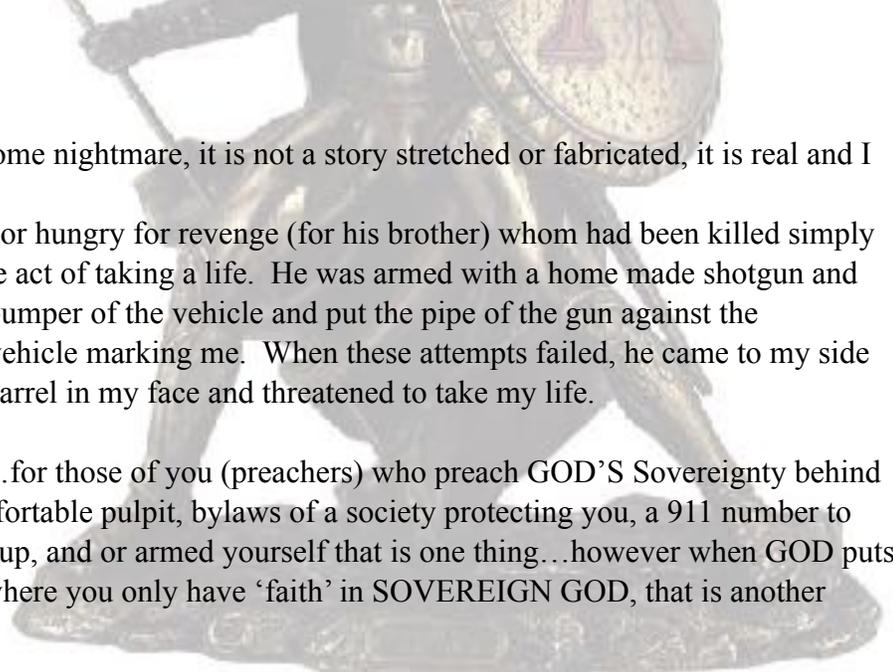
Again, all that being said, over the years PNG has NOT progressed but regressed. Government officers, members of parliament and public servants such as the Police have all but went the way of Cain, (greed, jealousy, power hungry) has become the run of the mill here. With PNG per capita being one of the most blessed countries (natural resources) and rich could have enabled PNG to rise as a icon in the South Pacific as a GOD fearing Nation, and one that honoured the LORD with her substance. PNG being founded on Christian principles from the early days of the missionaries, could be a lot further then where they are today in terms of a Nation.

Be that as it may, I face different challenges and in many ways it is worse than it was in the days of Fred T. Halliman. Instead of tribal fighting between himself and herself, anyone can become a target. Instead of bows and arrows, it is now guns, many homemade shotguns, and many factory high-powered rifles. Some weapons have filtered through the Police departments to their tribal clansmen; other weapons have been smuggled in from the Indonesian side of N.G.

On a particular day I had plans to travel from the Tanggi mission station to the Nogoli mission station some fifty miles apart, (two and a half hours) drive. Our shipping container was delivered to the Nogoli mission station due to road conditions. I have in past weeks and days made many trips from Tanggi to Nogoli to fetch items, tools, personal things, household items etc. On this day I had a vehicle load of men (Duna tribesmen). There had been clan fighting and the road was blocked when we came to the hotspot. I instructed the men to only speak in their mother tongue (Duna) in order that the Huli's would know we are not from that area, and not carrying any Huli warrior within our group.

At the roadblock, many of the older generation know who I am and have no issues even when there is fighting amongst themselves. However the younger generation is a different story. The vehicle was surrounded by hundreds of armed men, some were trying to cut the rear tyres with machetes, whilst another demanded the vehicle keys (of which, I refused), attempts were made to open the doors but we had them locked with the windows down, only to show we were not a threat.

Many threats were made, force of action was demonstrated and unless GOD was to intervene I would have to deal with casualties.



This report is not some nightmare, it is not a story stretched or fabricated, it is real and I am in it.

A young Huli warrior hungry for revenge (for his brother) whom had been killed simply wanted to return the act of taking a life. He was armed with a home made shotgun and stood on the front bumper of the vehicle and put the pipe of the gun against the windscreen of the vehicle marking me. When these attempts failed, he came to my side and stuck the gun barrel in my face and threatened to take my life.

I will just say this...for those of you (preachers) who preach GOD'S Sovereignty behind the safety of a comfortable pulpit, bylaws of a society protecting you, a 911 number to call for Police backup, and or armed yourself that is one thing...however when GOD puts you in a situation where you only have 'faith' in SOVEREIGN GOD, that is another thing.

Some may even read these reports and inside of you may think 'why' or is this not tempting the LORD? I would also ask you the reader, to take a good survey of the life of Christ and the Apostles, and the life of the early churches in the N.T. I believe many Bible stories are just that to many of GOD'S people today, 'just stories'!

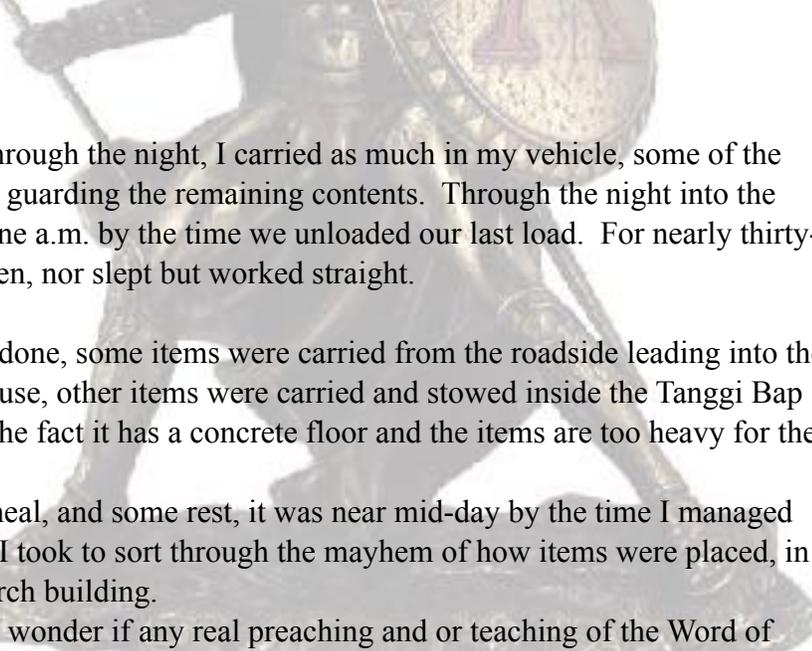
Bye and bye, we were not harmed, and allowed passage. We arrived at Nogoli and spent the day loading contents. I had hired a six-wheeled dump truck to transport as much as I could the heavy contents that I could not carry in the Land Rover. We received a message of urgency from a messenger, 'Lodge not this night in the wilderness of Nogoli' war was coming and any persons found lodging would be counted as part of the enemy.

We immediately halted our work, tied down the contents and made preparations for a departure. It was near the ending of the day, and not much daylight remaining. Prayer is a constant ingredient of my life here, and depending on a GOD who answers is encouraging.

Our trip back to Tanggi about half way was halted, the clutch of the dump truck went out. We were out of the troubled area so at least that was behind us. Now being in the night hours, the task of finding another vehicle, which seemed impossible at this point in time and mostly in terms of where we were located.

Again, the LORD answers to our problem, from nowhere came this man whom owned a four -Tonne lorry and offered his vehicle to help. You have to live this story to understand the particulars.

In the night we started working to unload contents onto this other vehicle. Many of the items were tools, hardware and materials for the workshop, which I had packed up from Malawi. Though I do not own a lot in terms of housing and some of the 'nicer' things of life, what I do have is what turns the wheels of the mission work.



Three trips were made through the night, I carried as much in my vehicle, some of the men, and some were left guarding the remaining contents. Through the night into the morning hours, it was nine a.m. by the time we unloaded our last load. For nearly thirty-six hours we had not eaten, nor slept but worked straight.

After it was all said and done, some items were carried from the roadside leading into the mission station to the house, other items were carried and stowed inside the Tanggi Bap Church building due to the fact it has a concrete floor and the items are too heavy for the house.

I was ready for a bath, meal, and some rest, it was near mid-day by the time I managed this. The next few days I took to sort through the mayhem of how items were placed, in the house and in the church building.

Unless you read this and wonder if any real preaching and or teaching of the Word of GOD go on, I must tell you that hardly a day passes that I do not teach in our bible classes at the Tanggi Mission Station. Every day Mon to Fri for one hour we have bible classes. As I have afore mentioned this, it was started with a small group and now we have up to one hundred people coming. Not all are professing Christians, mixed, children, women, and men. Sundays I preach twice and work in bush patrols where and when we can. There are a lot of demands in the work and a heavy load to carry; however GOD is not short on HIS Grace, nor is HIS hand heavy that HE cannot save.

Until our next report may our LORD keep each of you in the centre of HIS will and bless the work of your hands. I want to thank each of you for your prayers, and financial support. I know and understand that many make sacrificial offerings towards this work and we could not do what we do without you.

In His Name,

Missionary Peter A Halliman