

## Needham News - Summer 2017

Papua New Guinea is a country of staggering variety. Deep valleys are isolated by rugged mountains and impenetrable forests. Every valley contains a different people group with a unique language and culture. More than 900 languages make for difficult communications. Many of these people know only their own valley and don't know that they live in Papua New Guinea. They do not know they have a government or that the sea exists. Ignorance of their circumstances does not alter the facts.

"Who is the Lord that I should obey Him? I do not know the Lord and I will not [obey]..." These are the words of the then most powerful man in the world who turned out to be the most foolish.

God is God and Jesus is King. Some recognise this, others do not but God is Absolute and His magnificent authority rules the universe. The last few weeks have been proof to us that the Kingdom of Heaven is a reality in the hearts of people from every country. In Canada we were guests of the churches in Kenora, Ontario for a Spring Bible conference including a full day of ministry to Christian workers and leaders. There was great enthusiasm and a most encouraging spirit throughout the time. We left via the airport in Winnipeg where we had breakfast with some dear friends who suggested a similar event there in 2018. If you live in that area please email us. The Methodist church in Twin Lake, Michigan gave us a royal welcome and here as everywhere we could see Jesus alive and well, reigning in the people. The last event in this short trip was the wedding of our son Paul to Deb, a lovely Canadian woman. The wedding was in Markdale, Ontario and was held in a beautiful garden setting. The food and company were both great but the crowning glory was the presence of Christ.

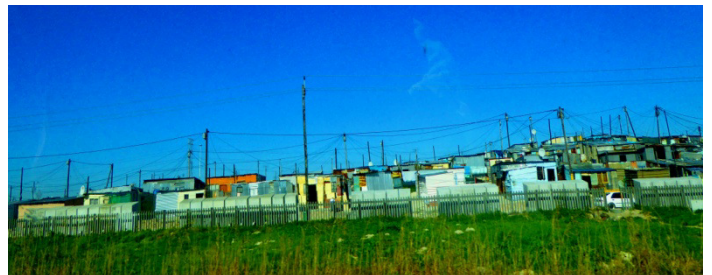
There was scarcely time to get over jetlag till Eva went to England to visit our son Andrew who is recovering well from quadruple heart bypass surgery. We are glad to say that he is making excellent progress and thank all of you who prayed for him.

Ken, meanwhile, went to the islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues in the Indian Ocean. Here he had opportunities in three Anglican churches. His host was Paul Draper, first met as a fellow student in 1962! He organised everything including my accommodation in a school for disabled children.



Next stop, South Africa. Annalise Wiid, a former student at Capernwray Bible School, with a remarkable writing, teaching and music ministry organised an incredible two weeks for both of us. Another amazing woman, Ereena van de Venter, went into a territory dominated by two gangs at war with each other. The whole community was torn apart by drugs and violence. Ereena brought them Jesus and now thirty years later the community is a missionary sending people. We were

privileged to work with them. I also had the opportunity to minister in a newly established church in a 10,000 strong community called Broadlands. The people live in an astonishing collection of one room huts built of bits of tin and cardboard.



The Dutch Reformed church has an International congregation in Stellenbosch. These are mostly post-graduate students from over 25 countries as far apart as South America and Sri Lanka and many other African countries too. Ken was guest preacher for two Sundays with this lively and colourful assembly. The worship team led an amalgam of African music, songs in a variety of languages and sound theology. They were a great inspiration. Annalise sang a powerful song "One More" after the last sermon.

Back to the most powerful man in the world – he was not Chinese, North Korean or American. His title was Pharaoh and he was Egyptian. When Moses and Aaron confronted him in the Name of God he was completely confident in himself and arrogant in his ignorance. The account is in Exodus 5. God revealed Himself to Pharaoh and Pharaoh hardened his heart. He lost his wealth, his son, his reputation, his army and his life. Worst of all he died unrepentant and lost his soul. There are many Pharaohs strutting around today and while they may sound very confident nevertheless this is God's world and His reign will never be shaken.

Please keep praying for us. The next ministry will be in Turkey and Denmark for Ken and Ireland for Eva. Thank you so much for your interest and prayer support.

In the Life and Love of Jesus

Ken and Eva Needham