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The eighth day—that great day of the feast—our memory for 2019.

#### OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2019

Dear Brethren and Fellow Laborers,

We have all been REFRESHED and have REJOICED at the commanded Feast of the Lord! We really didn't want to see the Feast end! Gloria for one, did not want to come home. We had special western guests (David Bensinger from Idaho; Paul Adcock who is presently teaching English to 400 students in Korea; and Paul and Rie Sternberg who live in Bangkok); and all of us here in Burma were so thankful for their serving hearts in this far away country with very strange sounding names to us westerners. We are all back in our homes, and truly look forward to next year, AND, forever look forward to the plan that God has for us and all mankind!

Before the feast, Leon and I wrote to our regular weekly Sabbath-Sermon readers. We want to share this with all of you. "Hello Dear Brethren---the Beloved of God!!!

"... Leon and I had a wonderful, God-Blessed phone conversation with Mr. Earl Roemer (who some of you met at Passover and U.B. in JawkTaing a couple of years ago). He will be going to Hong Kong for the Feast. He is now 75 years of age and full of faith! Mr. Earl mentioned something that Leon and I want to share with you. He mentioned the following scripture and explained:

"Matthew 24:21 "For then shall be great **TRIBULATION**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

"In the Strong's Concordance, (G2346) the Greek work for Tribulation is: 'thlip'-sis'.

This word means '**PRESSURE'**. Are any of us under pressure? I think we can all relate, especially before the Holy Days. It also has other meanings listed: afflicted, affliction, anguish, burdened, persecution, tribulation, trouble.

"As we brethren learn and know each other, we pray for each other—the **PRESSURES**, troubles, trials, and sufferings that we go through for whatever purpose to the glory of God!"

"God's brethren are going through <u>much pressure</u> and trials. Satan is always right there to try and wear down His Saints! But we FIGHT—we KEEP ON KEEPING ON!!! All things are possible with God!!! What a great and wonderful miraculous calling we all have!"

It seems that the "**pressure**" does not let up—even after the Holy Days, and we are all feeling it. Like all those in the "Faith Chapter" we also will be counted among the faithful. So we must keep our eyes on our Father and Jesus—He in us and we in Him. Always in obedience, becoming more and more like our Elder Brother, until our change comes!

These are Jesus' words in John 4:36 "And he that reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit unto life eternal: that both he that sows and he that reaps may **rejoice** together".

Peter said this in 1 Peter 4:13 "But **rejoice**, inasmuch as you are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, you may be glad also with exceeding **joy**."

## HOLY DAYS AND MEETING IN BURMA

This year Gloria and I traveled to Myanmar (Burma) a bit early for an important meeting arranged by David Bensinger with deacon MyoZaw from Yangon, Davidson HlaBey and SawHlaEh from Sakhangyi, and pastor GumSengAung from JawkTaing. MyoZaw's lawyer was also there to guide us through questions for which we all needed some answers. Three major questions were in regards to:

- 1. Land ownership;
- 2. Was it necessary to register a church in Burma—and would there be any repercussions;
- 3. Government schools not allowing students off for the Sabbath.



David Bensinger and SengAung travel in long-tail boat with university students to Sakhangyi. (BrangKum, KhawnYe, HserNayPaw, LuLu. In the far back you can barely see SawHlaEh and EhThaw.

SengAung was relieved to learn that the JawkTaing church compound had the correct land papers for land that had been given by a Karen' grandmother many, many years ago. It is land that can **only** be church land and never changed! Also, in JawkTaing, we had never wanted to register the church so that we would keep a low profile. We learned that this was a good decision. When discussing government schools, the lawyer kept saying "wait until 2020." It seems there may be better changes coming to Burma. We sure hope so. In the meantime the Sabbath will be kept.

A very great blessing for all our brethren in both Sakhangyi and JawkTaing is that they have been safe from the military activities that still exist continually.



River view in long tail boat ride to Sabbath services. BrangKum, DoiBu, and KhawnYe.

Two days later, in Yangon (the old capitol city), on Atonement, David Bensinger gave his fourth sermon. He had spent almost a week in Sakhangyi already, giving sermons on both Sabbath and Trumpets. SengAung went down to translate for David Bensinger on the Sabbath and HserNayPaw (Legacy graduate and now a Yangon nursing student) translated on Trumpets. Our SDA university students were able to keep the Sabbath and Trumpets with our brethren in Sakhangyi, before heading to Yangon for Day of Atonement, and, their school break. Burma has Buddhist holidays each year around the same time we have U.B. and FOT because they also follow a lunar calendar.



Atonement in Yangon, Myanmar, with a special angle on camera, David Bensinger bent the room to fit us all in.

After the "Fast," all of us were headed to Taungoo or JawkTaing for the Sabbath and Feast of Tabernacles. The first holy day, and second day of the Feast, were at the Pathi Hotel so that David Bensinger, who gave both those sermons, sacrificing much time from home, could easily catch the bus for his flight in order to keep the rest of the feast with his family in Hawaii. The rest of the days, including the Last Great Day, were all in JawkTaing because all the kids get so carsick when coming down the mountain and then back up again—taking away all the joy in rejoicing—even the appetite for ice cream!

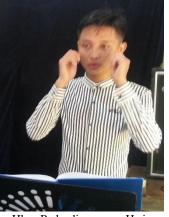


Sermon by Paul Sternberg and SengAung translating.

The rest of the sermons were shared by Paul Steinberg, SengAung, and Leon Sexton. God gave Leon extra strength to be able to give two of his own offertories and three sermons (sent graciously by Vince Szymkowiak, who continues to give us help). Though we all rejoiced with more than abundant special food—beef and ice cream seem to be the biggest hits—along with special musid, we all were spiritually bursting from our daily God-inspired messages!



David Bensinger and HserNayPaw as translator



HkawPa leading song. He is SengAung's regular helper.



SengAung translates Leon speaking on that great day of the feast. The sermon is by Vince Szymkowiak. Click to watch.



Meal time! <u>Click to</u> watch.

## JAWKTAING FOOD HALL

Lots of work went into completing the brick walls, and roof so that the food hall could be very comfortable for all of us feast goers. Now this building will end up with two floors. The first floor will be the Food Hall and the second floor will be a library, and place for classrooms, etc. Slowly but surely, one step at a time, the doors, windows, and floors will be completed. We'll keep you posted.



Concentration is on the yummy taste of ice cream



Children with SawSayPoh and Paul Adcock.



Clay oven almost finished.

We were all happy for Paul Adcock to be able to come and visit the students for which he has given scholarship donations. One of them being HserNaySay who will graduate from high school at the end of this year. Every time we turned around he was helping in some way to serve the students by reading English with them—each taking their turn at reading out loud. Wherever he could—he helped make the feast a more exciting time by doing things with the youth—taking the youth swimming to the river and the dam nearby; he built a clay oven with the kids so they could bake a loaf of bread and in the future, pizza is a possibility. Paul saw many possibilities for improvement and would like to

come back in February if a VolunteerVisa would be available to him. Here is what he wrote: "I really fell in love with the people there especially the kids and it was because of them that I had one of the best feasts ever."





Ready for baking with Zin

Evening dinner at the Pathi Hotel







Special music......

SawSayPoh

Blessing and HtayNeeHtoo





The rickety bridge until new one is completed—Utai in foreground, Leon in center; SengAung and Leon on motorbike. Thankfully our church brethren westerners included, all pulled together after the first Holy Day to make some repairs to strengthen boards and railing. Even loaded motorbikes cross over this bridge.

## GIRL SCOUT LAUREN SHEETS—HELPING EDUCATION IN JAWKTAING

Lauren Sheets lives in Missouri, U.S.A., and is in Mr. Vince Szymkowiak's congregation. This year she has decided to do a Girl Scout project to help bring educational English books to our youth in Burma. The first books were brought to us even before the project has officially started—Lauren taking advantage of Mr. Bensinger's trip to Burma for the Feast. Each year we have at least two youth programs during the spring and winter school breaks which last about two weeks each time. All the local youth from the community are invited to attend. Also throughout the year on Sundays, we teach young people that want to come and desire to learn English or computers. The English books that were donated are for different ages and levels to help advance the English reading, speaking, and writing skills being taught throughout the year. We are most grateful for Lauren Sheets serving our youth, and for giving them this incredible opportunity to this very small village named JawkTaing. THANK YOU LAUREN!!!



# LAZUM BRANG DEAD AT NEAR 70. 15 FEBRUARY 1950 TO 5 NOVEMBER 2019

In 2015 Lazum Brang had a severe stroke. He was no longer able to walk and had been bed ridden for all these years and needed daily care. For the last two years he went back to his home town in NaMawn, Kachinland, and Legacy provided funds so that his family could care for him. All four of his daughters, along with SengAung and his wife SengPan helped care for him while he was in JawkTaing. Legacy has

Lazum Brang and his wife SengPan helped care for him while he was in JawkTaing. Legacy has continued over the years—with your scholarship donations—to give all four of his daughters an education. The youngest, HtooSeng, will finish high school in a couple of years. DoiBu is in her first year at university, and is sponsored by a Kachin from the U.S.A. The two older daughters, KhawnYe and LuToi (LuLu), will graduate from university this year. Please pray for their lives when they finish school for God to provide a special job or way to make a living. Please ask God to make available work that miraculously will allow them every Sabbath day off!

Seng Aung performed the funeral in NaMawn. Please fervently pray for all of Lazum's family—especially his daughters—to comfort them as only God, our **loving Father**, knows how.

### THANK YOU! DEAR BRETHREN OUR FELLOW LABORERS

Last time we wrote to you that Legacy was in a crisis. We are most blessed and overjoyed to tell you that donations have *started* to come in once again. We had truly agonized over the last five months. Even our accountant in California didn't charge us his fees (and we didn't even ask him this favor). His kindness to us is unheard of. In four months' time we were \$14,000 short. Now we ask for you to continue your generosity so that God's work is able to continue both in Burma and Thailand.

We can bring you good news that the Feast of Tabernacles was completely paid by your kind donations. The second semester for KhawnYe was paid for by a scholarship donation.

THANK YOU, for continuing faithfully both in prayer and financially. Last letter we stated the reality of our situation as our friends suggested, and God is answering our prayers!

Gloria and I still plan to move back to the "Farm House" (currently the Legacy office) in January or February. With our heavy workload, we need to find time to pack our household while we still do all the administrative work in Thailand (Thai government procedures which have more and more red tape with constant changes, accounting, bills, communications, correspondence, Sabbath and Holy Day services, maintenance and repairs, doctor's appointments, etc., etc., etc., etc. . .) for here and Burma. This has been very overwhelming, especially operating in an Asian country. Please do pray that God will

help us and show us the way to go for His Work in the future. God knows we cannot continue as things are because as humans we can only do so much and we are not able to keep up this load without help.

In closing, we are keeping up with the news around the world which is getting more and more like it says in Revelation. We are in the end times. So we are inserting one more recent piece of news.



Offering to Molech 1

## **SATANIC STATUES**

More and more we see satanic monuments or statues being set up in various places around the globe. These are not always for education in historical museums, but oftentimes with satanic rituals—abominations. The Ishtar Gate of Babylon; Baphomet the goat-headed incarnation of Satan; and most recently the statue of Molech is being displayed at the Colosseum in Rome from 27<sup>th</sup> September to the 29<sup>th</sup> of March 2020. It is called *Carthago*, *The immortal myth*. Many have been incensed. Here is a quote from the 11<sup>th</sup> of November: "Previously, the Catholic Church had made the Colosseum a sacred site to honor these first Christians martyred for their faith. . . Now it's guarded by the pagan god Molech, whose demand for child sacrifice has been compared to the modern epidemic of abortion, and the faithful are greeted with a

statue honoring a pagan deity whose murderous spirit still seeks to kill children. . . 'some unidentified Catholics took matters into their own hands and walked into the church next to St. Peter's where the images were displayed and removed them and threw them into the Tiber.'" <sup>2</sup>

Will God give us a "time of rest" before all things come to a head? Our home country, the U.S., is in very deep trouble, absolutely NOT a UNITED STATES; and it is so heart wrenching to hear and watch. We are not turning back to God as a country—just as the days of old—when we leave God—God leaves us. Are there enough righteous that God would count so as to not let calamity come as yet? All creation groans for God's Kingdom—so we continue to seek it FIRST, DO what He says, and keep preaching the gospel wherever he leads all of us! In this God's people are of one mind, heart, and soul. So we love God and *all* our brethren (we make no borders) wherever they are!

In Christian love.

Leon and Gloria

### SEE ONE MORE PAGE OF PICS BELOW.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Offering to Molech (illustration from the 1897 *Bible Pictures and What They Teach Us* by Charles Foster) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moloch, By Joachim Menant - Glyptique Orientale, fig. 95 (p. 152);, CC BY-SA 3.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=4664980

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://jesusrepublic.org/statue-of-molech-pagan-deity-of-child-sacrifice-displayed-at-colosseum/







Naw Asha, NawJuneHey, and NawDawDaw

Utaiwan with child

HserNaySay with JaSeng





Seng Pan and Seng Aung



On our path to services, member's families gathering in front of HkawPa's home before coming to church. Rie Sternberg with family.



Blessing and NawNaw took us to NohNohPoh's home.



Asha's home with others of her family.