MISSION STORY #1: MONEY AND DECEPTION

“There is only one frequency left in that city,” we were told. “Whoever wins the sealed bid government auction, will have gotten the last TV channel available.”

Our legal director filled out the reams of paperwork and, looking at the minimum bid and praying for divine wisdom, she added a certain amount to the minimum bid, sealed the envelope, and left it at the government office. She knew that on the stated day, all the sealed envelopes would be opened and the government would grant the license to the highest bidder.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, the city mayor decided he wanted that last license and was willing to pay the cost. From the best of our knowledge we found out that he contacted one of his buddies in the government office and paid a significant amount to have him open the sealed envelopes before the deadline so that he could outbid the highest bidder. Since our bid was the highest, he added $500, and turned in his bid in a sealed envelope feeling certain that his maneuver had won him the license.

“You did what?” our legal director asked the government officer incredulously. “You lost our application?” Yes, the man acknowledged sheepishly, for some strange reason her application had disappeared. Please refill out all the application and turn it in. They would accept it even though the deadline had passed since it wasn’t her fault. They would wait for her to turn in the new application before opening the “sealed” envelopes containing the applications.
“As if I didn’t have enough to do already,” she mumbled to herself as she began the tedious process of filling out all the forms. As she approached the end of the form where the bid amount was to be entered, the Holy Spirit whispered into her ear. “Make it $1000 higher than your last bid.” So filling out the new amount she sealed the envelope and took it to the government office.

After our application form had been received, the date was set for opening all the bids and for announcing the winner to whom the last television channel was to be granted. Can you imagine the surprise of the major when it was discovered that the amount offered by the Adventists was $500 higher than his own bid? Only then did we understand why the application had been lost. God wanted that channel for Himself and no amount of money or deceit could derail His plan as long as His people are listening and obedient.

MISSION STORY #2: MY DAUGHTER IS DYING

“Our four-year-old daughter is dying.” Gregory and Beverly Joseph, the Amerindian parents, stood by the plane in Paruima holding their little one in their arms. “Could you fly her to the hospital to see if anyone can save her life?”

I knew their little daughter had been fighting a terrible health condition for years and had been deteriorating. Putting her in the plane I flew the child with her parents to the hospital 2 hours away. Unfortunately, a few days later their little one passed away. I flew the little casket in to the village in Western Guyana where they buried her awaiting the resurrection morning.

Within a few months they approached me to say that the death of their daughter had inspired them to return to Southern Guyana to become Bible Workers among their own tribe speaking Wapishana. Over the past years, with the support of our mission planes, and now a full-time plane based in Southern Guyana flown by Pastor James Ash, the work has grown. Yet, according to Pastor Ash, while villages remain unreached, miracle-working cults have begun penetrating them and closing doors to evangelism. We must not delay to reach those villages still open and who are begging for someone to come preach the Gospel.

The latest plans are to record the Advent message professionally in our Bolivia studios in each of the dialects. That way even untrained workers will be able to go into the villages with an LED video projector to present the Advent message in their own dialect so everyone will understand.

In a few weeks, when I get back from Indonesia and the Philippines, I will be picking up Brother Gregory in Guyana and taking him with me in the plane to Bolivia where he will be recording his presentations in the beautiful new ADvenir media center. Dialects other than Wapishana will soon follow. How exciting. There is no time to waste. Time is urgent while doors are still open. The Josephs so much want to see their little daughter again.

Video Equipment for each worker: An LED video projector, 12-volt deep cycle battery, and solar panel must be purchased for each worker. The approximate cost for this equipment is $600 and we are praying God will provide equipment for the first ten of our workers.

GOD’S BLESSINGS TO GMI: A SUMMARY FOR 2010

1. GRENADA TV/RADIO: The Global Family Network (GFN) in Grenada received its license to broadcast television 24/7 in addition to its current FM radio license. This is an historic even for church media in the Caribbean. The transmitter has been delivered but more equipment is needed to begin transmission as well as construction of the media center. www.gobalfamilynetwork.net. Contact John Bartels gfn@spiceisle.com
2. MARTINIQUE/FRANCE TV: The French Government granted a television license to “Television de la Famille” (TVF) in Martinique. The signal is now being uplinked on the NSS806 satellite out of Bolivia and being carried on cable in the Caribbean and the door is open to all France and French territories. This is historical not only in the Adventist church but in the Protestant world. www.tvfamille.org. Contact: Tania François-Haugrin taniafrancoishaugrin@yahoo.fr

3. ANOTHER EUROPEAN TELEVISION: We thank God for the birth of another European network, LightChannel Dutch, which began broadcasting on satellite only a few days ago. As the French network covers both France and the French speaking countries of the Caribbean and South America, this Dutch network is able to do the same for Holland and the Dutch speaking countries in the Caribbean. www.lightchanneltv.nl. Contact Johan De Boer johan.de.boer@home.nl. Media teams are sprouting up in other countries which will soon be on the air. I will report on them as soon as broadcasts begin.

4. BOLIVIA WORLD MEDIA: ADvenir Spanish TV network in Bolivia moves 8 miles outside of the city of Santa Cruz to beautiful 57 acre property which now includes a 3,300’ runway and beautiful 21,000 square foot, 2-story media center constructed by volunteers and paid for primarily by volunteers. The earth station in this new location is now uplinking four languages across the Americas and Europe, (ADvenir Spanish, TVF French, GFN English, LightChannel Dutch) and will soon include ADvenir Portuguese and LightChannel Romania). www.redadvenir.org, Contact: Richard Carrera richard_carrera@hotmail.com

5. EXPANSION OF MEDIA ACROSS ASIA: The most exciting event just happened. We have been offered space for four new networks on the Aguila2 satellite currently carrying HCBN, AT NO EXTRA CHARGE. Five networks for the price of one ($11,000/month). THE ONLY REQUIREMENT IS THAT WE SET UP THE SERVERS AND USE THE SPACE. THE COST OF A VIDEO SERVER IS $7500 AS THE ENCODER IS PROVIDED FREE. WE NEED FOUR VIDEO SERVERS TO CARRY Bengali (for Bangladesh), Mongolian, Mandarin (China) and Thai/Burmese (Myanmar). WE ARE PRAYING THAT GOD WILL IMPRESS HIS PEOPLE TO SACRIFICE SO THAT MILLIONS MORE IN ASIA WILL HEAR THE "GOOD NEWS". WE HAVE THE VOLUNTEERS TO SET UP THE NETWORKS. WE CANNOT LOSE THIS OPPORTUNITY. What a wonderful team we have with the He’s Coming Broadcasting Network (HCBN) in the Philippines. They have been producing, evangelizing and expanding the work with TV and radio across the Philippines and helping other countries in Asia. There is a new media center in Thailand, thanks to our sister ministry Jesus4Asia and the teamwork directed by Jon Wood jwood@jesus4asia.org. Productions are beginning in many of Asia’s countries and will soon join HCBN on the satellite. www.hcbn.org. Contact Boyz Jamandre b0yz.05@gmail.com

6. MEDICAL AVIATION: Nine new mission pilots have joined the GMI Adventist Medical Aviation program this year. Four more are preparing for launching in the near future. God also provided four additional planes to add to the mission fleet this year. Specific needs yet to be addressed are additional helicopter(s) for the Philippines and Norway, Single-engine turbine for Mongolia and twin-turbine aircraft capable of moving people and supplies to earthquake areas like Haiti and across the oceans from Brazil to Africa, across Africa and Asia. Contacts: David (GMI) davico@gospelministry.org, Jeff Sutton (South/Central America) jjsutton@southern.edu, Gary Roberts (Africa) roberts@gospelministry.org, Sven Gustavsen (Norway) svgustav@online.no, Dwayne Harris (Philippines) harrdw@hotmail.com, and Beaver Eller (Mongolia) mongols4him@gmail.com

7. SCHOOLS PRODUCE MISSIONARIES: Many children and young people graduated this year from our twelve schools (primary, secondary, industrial and Bible worker). Some of these young persons have accepted further training to work as missionaries for God. But this has come at a great personal sacrifice as almost all of the school shared the need for volunteer teachers. Though funding went down slightly, the growth GMI experienced this year the stretched finances a bit more painfully than usual. Yet, we must say that almost everyone and every ministry is
experiencing similar difficulties. Since our Heavenly Father owns the world and all its resources, we make no complaints here. We know that He is teaching us greater dependence as we loosen our hold on the world and increase our grip on divine support. However, we continue to pray that the Lord of the Harvest will send more workers into the field and will provide for the needs of each person and project. If you are interested in applying for volunteer mission service, please do so through our web page www.gmivolunteers.org and keep in touch with our volunteer coordinator, Babi Cristea babi@gospelministry.org.

2010 CHALLENGES
There is a general increasing of restrictions in many countries (if not most). Many liberties that people have taken for granted are being withdrawn. The liberty to travel, invest, preach, publish, broadcast and in some places to buy/sell is being reduced. It is obvious that there is an influence behind the scenes that sees God preparing His people for the great outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and is doing everything possible to obstruct the way in the future. But this is exactly what will happen at the end of time. We have been advised that…

“We have no time to lose. The end is near. The passage from place to place to spread the truth will soon be hedged with dangers on the right hand and on the left. Everything will be placed to obstruct the way of the Lord's messengers, so that they will not be able to do that which it is possible for them to do now. We must look our work fairly in the face, and advance as fast as possible in aggressive warfare.” Christian Service, p.79

2010 OPPORTUNITIES
As the world financial crisis deepens, though some doors are closing, other doors of opportunity are opening. These include lowered cost of buying equipment, airplanes, properties, etc. Satellite space is becoming more available as well as more tv/radio stations are becoming available for lease. The increasing crisis is developing a general public who is looking for answers, and God’s Word has the answers they are seeking. I encourage each of you to commit yourself to making God’s finishing work your priority, preparing your heart, body and mind for the great work ahead. It is in surrendering that we are strengthened for the days ahead. Seize every opportunity within your reach to bring light to those in darkness. God will be your constant helper and sustainer as you do so.

“The call to place all on the altar of service comes to each one. We are not all asked to serve as Elisha served, nor are we all bidden to sell everything we have; but God asks us to give His service the first place in our lives, to allow no day to pass without doing something to advance His work in the earth.” Christian Service, p. 105

ONE YEAR CLOSER TO JESUS' COMING
Normally the world looks to a new year filled with hopes of greater peace and prosperity. Yet the storm clouds are clearly seen and anxiety grips many hearts. However, we do look forward to God’s increased blessing on his people as the world accelerates toward Jesus’ soon coming. The best days of the church are straight ahead, but the evidence around us states clearly that they will not be easy ones. We are to gain courage and press forward in complete confidence on our Divine General who is directing all the affairs of this earth. Daily press closer to His side and closer to His people.

As we see God taking the reins of control into his own hands, let us determine to give him full control of our lives, our families, our assets and our time. He will always be found trustworthy in managing our affairs. Below I have attached a special article from the Spirit of Prophecy, “A
View of the Conflict”. If you would understand what is straight ahead, this article will be of great encouragement to you. Pray for our new General Conference president, Pastor Ted Wilson, that God will give him wisdom as he sounds the trumpet to rally the troops.

TO EACH OF YOU THAT PARTNERED WITH GMI THIS YEAR, ESPECIALLY THROUGH SACRIFICE, I WANT TO SAY A BIG THANK YOU. WE REALIZE THAT ONLY AS GOD INSPIRES AND STRENGTHENS US CAN THE WORK GO FORWARD. I PRAY THAT YOU HAVE BEEN BLESSED THROUGH YOUR GIVING AND THAT GOD HAS PAID YOU BACK WITH A CUP FULL OF JOY. I AM VERY GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE A SERVANT OF GOD, FOR EACH OF OUR MANY FRONTLINE MISSIONARIES, AND TO PARTNER WITH YOU IN THAT SERVICE.

From the front lines (currently in Indonesia)

Uncle David

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A VIEW OF THE CONFLICT
by Ellen G. White
Published in: Pamphlets, p. 109
A View of the Conflict (1903)
By Ellen G. White

In vision I saw two armies in terrible conflict. One army was led by banners bearing the world's insignia; the other was led by the blood-stained banner of Prince Emmanuel. Standard after standard was left to trail in the dust as company after company from the Lord's army joined the foe; and tribe after tribe from the ranks of the enemy united with the commandment-keeping people of God. An angel flying in the midst of heaven put the standards of Emmanuel into many hands, while a mighty general cried with a loud voice: "Come into line. Let those who are loyal to the commandments of God and the testimony of Christ now take their position. Come out from among them, and be ye separate, and touch not the unclean, and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters. Let all who will come up to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty."

The battle raged. Victory alternated from side to side. Now the soldiers of the cross gave way, "as when a standard-bearer fainteth." But their apparent retreat was but an effort to gain a more advantageous position. Shouts of joy were heard. A song of praise to God went up, and angel voices united in the song, as Christ's soldiers planted His banner on the walls of fortresses till then held by the enemy. The Captain of our salvation was ordering the battle and sending support to His soldiers. His power was mightily displayed, encouraging them to press the battle to the gates. He taught them terrible things in righteousness as He led them on step by step, conquering and to conquer.

At last the victory was gained. The army following the banner with the inscription, "The commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus," was gloriously triumphant. The soldiers of
Christ were close beside the gates of the city of God, and with joy the city received her King. The kingdom of peace and joy and everlasting righteousness was established. God's will was done on earth, as it is done in heaven.

Now the church is militant. Now we are confronted with a world in midnight darkness, almost wholly given over to idolatry. But the day is coming when the battle will have been fought, the victory won. The will of God is to be done on earth, as it is done in heaven. Then the nations will own no other law than the law of heaven. All will be a happy, united family, clothed with the garments of praise and thanksgiving,—the robe of Christ's righteousness. All nature, in its surpassing loveliness, will offer to God a constant tribute of praise and adoration. The world will be bathed in the light of heaven. The years will move on in gladness. The light of the moon will be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun will be sevenfold greater than it is now. Over the scene the morning stars will sing together, and the sons of God will shout for joy, and God and Christ will unite in proclaiming, "There shall be no more sin, neither shall there be any more death."

This is the scene that is presented to me. But the church must still fight against seen and unseen foes. Satanic agencies in human form are on the ground. Men have confederated to oppose the Lord of hosts.

These confederacies will continue until Christ shall leave His place of intercession before the mercy-seat, and shall put on the garments of vengeance. Satanic agencies are in every city, busily organizing into parties those opposed to the law of God. Professed saints and avowed unbelievers take their stand with these parties. This is no time for the people of God to be weaklings. We can not afford to be off our guard for one moment.

"Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the enemy. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God."

"This I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; that ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

"Let your conversation be as becometh the gospel of Christ; . . . stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; and in nothing terrified by your adversaries; which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God. For unto you it is given in behalf of Christ, not only to believe on Him, but also to suffer for His sake."

There are revealed in these last days, visions of future glory, scenes pictured by the hand of God, and these should be dear to His church. What sustained the Son of God in His betrayal and
trial?—He saw of the travail of His soul, and was satisfied. He caught a view of the expanse of
eternity, and saw the happiness of those who through His humiliation should receive pardon
and everlasting life. He was wounded for their transgressions, bruised for their iniquities. The
chastisement of their peace was upon Him, and with His stripes they were healed. His ear
captured the shout of the redeemed. He heard the ransomed ones singing the song of Moses and
the Lamb.

We must have a vision of the future and of the blessedness of heaven. Stand on the threshold of
eternity, and hear the gracious welcome given to those who in this life have co-operated with
Christ, regarding it as a privilege and an honor to suffer for His sake. As they unite with the
angels, they cast their crowns at the feet of the Redeemer, exclaiming: "Worthy is the Lamb
that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory,
and blessing. . . . Honor and glory and power be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and
unto the Lamb forever and ever."

There the redeemed ones greet those who directed them to the uplifted Saviour. They unite in
praising Him who died that human beings might have the life that measures with the life of
God. The conflict is over. All tribulation and strife are at an end. Songs of victory fill all heaven
as the redeemed stand around the throne of God. All take up the joyful strain, "Worthy, worthy
is the Lamb that was slain, and lives again, a triumphant conqueror."

"I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds,
and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white
robes, and palms in their hands; and cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which
sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb."

"These are they which came out of much tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made
them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve
Him day and night in His temple; and He that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.
They shall hunger no more; neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any
heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto
living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." "And there shall
be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the
former things are passed away."

Will you catch the inspiration of the vision? Will you let your mind dwell upon the picture? Will
you not be truly converted, and then go forth to labor in a spirit entirely different from the spirit
in which you have labored in the past, displacing the enemy, breaking down every barrier to the
advancement of the gospel, filling hearts with the light and peace and joy of the Lord? Shall not
this miserable spirit of fault-finding and murmuring be buried, never to have a resurrection?
Shall not the incense of praise and thanksgiving ascend from hearts purified and sanctified and
glorified by the presence of Christ? Shall we not in faith lay hold of sinners, and bring them to
the cross?

Who will this day consecrate themselves to the service of the Lord? Who will now pledge
themselves not to affiliate with the world, but to come out from the world, and be separate,
refusing to pollute the soul with the worldly schemes and worldly practices that have been
keeping the church under the enemy's influence?
We are in this world to lift the cross of Calvary. As we lift this cross, we shall find that it lifts us. Let every Christian stand in his lot and place, catching the inspiration of the work that Christ did for souls while in this world. We need the ardor of the Christian hero, who can endure the seeing of Him that is invisible. Our faith is to have a resurrection. The soldiers of the cross are to exert a positive influence for good. Christ says, "He that is not for Me is against Me, and he that gathereth not with Me scattereth abroad." Indifference in the Christian life is a manifest denial of Christ.

Should we not see in the world today medical missionaries who in all the features of their work are worthy of the name they bear, who aspire to the doing of deeds worthy of valiant soldiers of Christ? We are living near the close of the great conflict, when many souls are to be rescued from the slavery of sin.

We are living in a time when to Christ's followers the promise specially belongs, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." He who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, He who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light, bids us let our light shine brightly before men, that they may see our good works, and glorify our Father who is in heaven. In such rich measure has light been given to God's people that Christ is justified in telling them that they are to be the light of the world.

To our physicians and ministers I send the message: "Lay hold of the Lord's work as if you believed the truth for this time. Medical missionary workers and workers in the gospel ministry are to be bound together by indissoluble ties. Their work is to be done with freshness and power. Throughout our churches there is to be a reconversion and a reconstruction to service. Shall we not, in our work in the future, and in the gatherings that we hold, be of one accord? Shall we not wrestle with God in prayer, asking for the Holy Spirit to come into every heart? The presence of Christ, manifest among us, would cure the leprosy of unbelief that has made our service so weak and inefficient. We need the breath of the divine life breathed into us. We are to be channels through which the Lord can send light and grace to the world. Backsliders are to be reclaimed. We are to put away our sins, by confession and repentance, humbling our proud hearts before God. Floods of spiritual power are now to be poured forth upon those prepared to receive it.

Let us now consecrate ourselves to the proclamation of the message: "Prepare ye the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway for our God." Divine and human instrumentalities are to unite for the accomplishment of one great object. "The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whatsoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

"They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever."
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