

Indochina Missions Newsletter; June 2015 *Unto the Uttermost Parts of the Earth*

Saveun and I send you greetings from the 100 degree days of Cambodia. We hope you are doing well in your service to our Lord Jesus and that you are growing in grace day by day. This newsletter will be dedicated to the meaning of the words of our Lord Jesus to bring the Gospel to the uttermost parts of the earth.

In Bible times, the term 'uttermost parts of the earth' was used in reference to the Queen of Sheba. By all appearances, Jerusalem, with its magnificent Temple and flowing with a bounty of the finest cedar and fir construction materials made it the center of civilization. Moving out from Jerusalem into Ethiopian Africa would bring an entirely different landscape and way of life. For this reason, the Apostles were not from the civilized areas of Jerusalem. They were, rather, from areas in which they had to work amongst the common people and where they would personally encounter travellers from other areas. A prime case is the Apostle Paul, a Turkish born man who ministered to the barbarians on the Island of Malta, and knew how to live amongst the Greeks. This was their preparation for their uttermost parts of the earth.

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

Two distinct and irrefutable truths are set forth by our Lord Jesus in His last moments on earth preceding his ascension. The first is that the Apostles themselves were to begin this evangelization in the center of Jewish civilization, Jerusalem. The second truth is for those of us who find ourselves at the end of the Church Age. We will, by the prophecy of the Lord Jesus, find power to evangelize those in the uttermost part of the earth.

I believe in the Lord's preparation not only of myself as a Missionary, but of the senders. We must be prepared for what it means to go to the end of the earth. In my perspective we must be prepared for the longest distances on the planet. That would mean 12,000 miles as the crow flies or farther by air and shipping lanes. Our Lord expects and prepares us to go to those distances. Here in Cambodia, we are exactly 12 time zones from our Illinois USA base which makes this pretty much the uttermost part of the earth by distance.

Other things we would expect to encounter on the other side of the earth involve different foods, people of different facial appearance, language, and traditions. It is my experience that the sending Church can clearly identify with those characteristics which are visual since we can show pictures. But some traits are impossible to convey. And they accumulate one upon another. We just experienced about 40 consecutive days with extreme heat all day long and no air conditioning. The men worked with me to repair the leaking water tank which needed immediate attention. On top of this are the long motorcycle trips to the villages on dangerous highways with Brahman cattle on the road, overloaded vans, and high speed Government SUV convoys flying by treacherously close to the motorcycle. The final trek to the Village over bridges without railings and across roads which have been pulverized to a powder reveals that we are now in the place Jesus told us about. This is, at least for us, the uttermost part of the earth. So we find ourselves precisely where Jesus prophesied that we would be, with power to evangelize those in the uttermost part of the earth.

God bless your faithfulness, love, gifts, and understanding as we seek to do all that the Lord has called us to do here in the villages of Cambodia.

Glenn and Saveun Colley