



## THE OLIVE TREE MESSAGE!

**NEWSLETTER**

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We Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem! Psalm 122:6

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Shalom,

Do you remember the term “rice Christians”? Haven’t seen it in print lately, but those are people who are “willing to be Christians” as long as there are material benefits to go along with it! That about sums up our trip to Thailand last December, except for the 300+ tracts in Hebrew we gave out to many Israeli backpackers in Bangkok! Our email contact is a young evangelist with a good heart, not connected with those churches in NE Thailand. He was initially given some misleading information to pass on to us. Instead of the several days Bible Conference that we came for, the few church leaders that met with us had “only a few hours to spare.” It turned out that the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventists have gotten to them with lots of money, even though these church leaders know that the teachings of the SDA are wrong! We wonder what kind of Bible foundation the missionary pioneer gave these Thailanders?

In contrast, we present to you the congregations in the BIBAK Bible Fellowship. We pioneered these from 1971 to 1990. The original church is BBCBC (see their Newsletter.) This “mother church” in the heart of Baguio City, Philippines has served as the **Bible Training Center** for the whole mountain region with its many languages. It is patterned after the “School of Tyrannus” in Acts 19:8-10, with similar results. We with others evangelized and disciplined students in Baguio City and THEY carried the Gospel to their home areas. “The love of Christ” motivated them, and still motivates them! We gave no money to any of them. In fact BBCBC continues with their self-supporting Elders and Deacons who coordinate the ministry of this part of the Body of The Messiah. The only ones paid are the laborers on the construction of their building. The civil engineer in charge is a very busy volunteer, and Elder, who teaches at a college in Baguio. The faculty for the full Bible curriculum will be volunteers, also.

To maximize the ministry with the thousands of tribal college students in Baguio, we and BIBAK have had to be content with rented facilities. We never had enough money to buy, although we did put up a lean-to chapel on one building with a 10 year lease. After the 10 years, the owner wanted the building back. Finally BIBAK has been able to buy a lot in the center of town and begin building their own permanent **BIBLE TRAINING CENTER/“School of Tyrannus.”** School starts in June, as well as the rainy season. They are eager to get the building finished by June so that they can begin the full Bible curriculum like before and fill the dorms. To do this, they have given beyond their ability, as they feel the urgency of the times in which we are living. There are no “rice Christians” in BIBAK!

BIBAK has been founded on biblical indigenous principles. You know that we rarely mention money, either for us or for others, but in the Body of Messiah we can help each other at special times like these. If you or your church would like to give a gift for their building (and we hope you do), please send a check to us made out to: **BIBAK Bible Church of Baguio City.** We will carry the checks to them (as Paul did) when we leave for the Philippines **April 14.** You will get an official receipt from the treasurer of BBCBC. If you need a tax-deductible receipt, have your church send it to us, made out the same. If you want to be anonymous, make the check to me and we will carry the cash to them. Your receipt will be “from anonymous.” (We want to avoid the legitimate handling fee charged by every organization.)

We will be in the Philippines until June 1, to assist in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bible Conference of the APMF May 20-24, in Baguio City. We expect many from more countries of the Asia Pacific region this time. **Thank you** for your prayers and faithfulness to God and to us! Roger might teach in Japan this Fall.

With our love,

Roger & Naomi Walkwitz

(BIBAK= the mountain tribes people from Benguet, Ifugao, Bontoc, Apayao, and Kalinga areas.)