People Were Getting Sick.
Women Were Going to Die…

IN THE PAIELA TRIBE, THERE WAS NO DOUBT WHO WAS CAUSING THE SICKNESS.

WOMEN WERE GOING TO DIE. THAT WAS CERTAIN.

People in the Paiela tribe of Papua New Guinea were once more getting sick and dying. With no time to lose, the Paiela men came to a quick conclusion. Certain “possessed” Hewa tribal women were at fault, of course! So why not kill them as usual? Sitting by their smoky fires, they schemed their devilish deeds.

In fear and dread of the impending slaughter, the Hewa tribe pleaded for help. Even now, two government-appointed judges flew through rain-sodden skies in a little mission plane to try to settle the issue. But the idea of revenge killing ran deep in the blood of the judges too! Would they really be a help?

Tribal missionary Jonathan Kopf’s stomach was in knots as he watched the rain pelt the plane’s windscreen. The engine was too noisy to allow for conversation with the judges, but he could pray: “Lord, what should I say? I’m so frustrated and angry and disgusted at the harsh reality of the tribal way of thinking.”

(continued on page 2…)

Kodiaks for Papua New Guinea!!

Right! Kodiaks plural! God provided Kodiak #1 — purchase price paid — in April. Then four months later, God provided Kodiak #2 — purchase price paid! As God has used ministry partners to provide the planes, He will use ministry partners to get these planes to the field. All funds are in hand for Kodiak #1 to arrive in PNG. Kodiak #2 will need about $500,000 to get its full complement of equipment. You can help by going to:

http://usa.ntm.org/projects/kodiak2-for-png
Once the plane lands, I have only 10 minutes before the scattered rain showers … choke out visibility making air travel impossible. I have only this one chance to speak with the judges before I have to [return] with the plane.” The plane made its landing, and sheltered from the rain under the wing of the plane, Jonathan had his chance with the judges.  

“I can tell that you are men who attend church.” They both nodded and I continued. When Jesus saw someone who had an evil spirit, what did He do? Did He tell His disciples to get their axes and murder her? Jesus didn’t kill women or allow them to be killed and nor can you. Even if you think a woman may have an evil spirit, it is your job as court officials to protect them, despite other men accusing them of causing deaths.”

The terrible weather was closing in.  

“I wanted to say more but time did not permit. Instead I climbed into the plane and prayed, ‘Lord, please rescue these accused women. Please [raise] up godly men who will stand for righteousness rather than yield to the brutality of their ancestral belief system.’”

Now the women’s fate was in God’s hands. But the mission airplane and pilot had given Jonathan the vital 10 minutes to speak God’s truth. And it would make the difference between life and death for the Hewa women.

Later at the trials, one judge took his cue from Jonathan’s plane-side talk and chided the people, “You are acting like ignorant heathens. Jesus didn’t kill people who were possessed by spirits and He didn’t tell His disciples to kill them.”

The judge’s words in turn emboldened Hewa believers to stand and speak out for the truth.

Young Faimpat, a former witch doctor student, exhorted, “God gave us missionaries to teach us that if we turn to God we don’t have to be afraid of the spirit realm. [We should crush these accusations] with the truth that we have now heard from God’s book.”

In the end, the Hewa women were spared — this time. But a court document will not change their belief system, and threat of jail will not curb their desire to kill women. God’s Word needs to radically transform their lives.

"NTM is focused on reaching unreached tribal people because their only hope is Jesus. The world thinks that improving their lives by providing health care and education will bring transformational change but nothing in this world can really solve their vicious plight. Jesus is their answer, and as the church we have the privilege of taking the life-transforming gospel to them.”

PAUL WYTON
FORMER NTM MISSIONARY TO PNG

You are a part of transforming many lives when you help provide aviation support to the tribal teams—the only reasonable way to access secluded tribes like the Hewa.

Thank You!
Rainy season is not the time to schedule a huge event in the Philippines. Especially one that requires a lot of flights into a very remote jungle village. But sometimes an event just needs to happen, despite weather, despite the work it will take.

And speaking of work, Bill and Donna Davis started working on this event 30 years ago! That’s when they gave their lives to learn the language and culture of the Southern Palawano people—and to translate and teach the Word of God to this group of people.

“We gave 30 years of our lives to do this translation because we believe that the Word of God is important. It’s vital. It’s alive. It’s powerful and supernatural. It changes lives. And everyone deserves to have the Word of God in their heart language.”

In February 2014, the Southern Palawano New Testament finally went to press in Manila. Celebration time! The NTM Aviation team kicked into high gear. Pilot Josh Dalton prepared for a grueling schedule with the Cessna 185, realizing that the tropical rain could cause crippling delays and thwart all the carefully laid plans. One plane was just not enough to fly all the people and the New Testaments to the dedication ceremony.

Seeing the need, the team started praying. Then one of pilot Joel Davis’s ministry partners offered to pay for Joel to fly a 185 from another island to Palawan to help with the flights! Instant relief of a potentially stressful situation!

“Weeks ago we began staging fuel [i.e., strategically placing drums of avgas for refueling] and planning the intricate logistics that go into flying 25 people over 150 miles into the jungle, and then out again a few days later—all in the middle of rainy season!” writes Josh Dalton.

As he held his brand new Palawano New Testament in his hand and wiped tears from his eyes, Abil, one of the church leaders, testified: “This book is a treasure to us worth more than gold or money. We are so thankful to [the missionary] that God sent to us to bring us God’s Word in our own language so that now we can read it and understand it for ourselves. Now that we have God’s Word we are responsible to be faithful to study it and obey it.”

Your gifts and your prayers are helping make God’s Word come alive in the lives of people across the globe!

Thank you for your partnership!

Far left: a Palawano woman gets her first glance at God’s Word in her own language! Pilot Josh Dalton unloads the very first cases of Palawano New Testaments.
After years of preparation, Brent & Erica Haberchak arrived June 20 in Papua New Guinea to fly with NTM Aviation. They are joining six families already there or arriving soon who are personal friends of theirs.

“[These families] have all committed to spending the next few decades of their lives reaching an unreached tribal group in PNG with the gospel of Jesus Christ,” commented Brent & Erica.

“These [six] are just a few of the families that our family will be supporting through aviation – helping them set up their homes, bringing in their groceries, flying medevacs when needed, and offering spiritual encouragement to press on in their work. We are thrilled to partner with these dear friends in this way.”

And why are all these young families doing this? For the same reason that Brent & Erica are doing it: “Because the last words of our Lord were, ‘Go to the ends of the earth, teach people all I have told you and let them know that reconciliation with a perfect God is now possible because of my sacrificial life and death.’”

Brent & Erica, just as their friends, are choosing careers of eternal value now, while they have their whole lives to give.

Ryan & Chelsea Farran are also not far behind. They finished preparation and arrived October 7 in PNG to fly with NTM Aviation.

God is answering your petitions for more laborers to provide aviation service in PNG!