



Tascla

Transforming Tasmania with Jesus for Eternity

JULY 2024

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

Pr Rick Hergenhan

Tasmanian society has a rich Christian history. Churches, even if now largely empty, still dot the landscape. Christian morals and ethics, although outwardly ignored, still underpin many of our laws and institutions.

Amid all the challenges that Christianity faces, there are still bible verses that the average Tasmanian can recognise. This includes verses like John 3:16 and Psalms like Psalm 23.

It is often during challenging times that people turn to a well-known Psalm looking for peace and comfort and I would like you to take a minute to read through the 23rd Psalm once again.

Psalms 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

This Psalm was written by David the son of Jesse, one of the kings of Israel. Not only was he a poet and musician but also a great warrior and fighter, a skill set that rarely goes together. In his early years of life, he was a fulltime shepherd and would have lived for extended periods of time with the sheep. His sole responsibility would have been to care for the sheep day and night and make sure all their needs were filled.

While looking after the sheep I imagine that he had a lot of time to enjoy the nature by which he was surrounded but to also contemplate the creator Himself. This I believe is reflected in Psalm 23. Notice the wording in verse 1.

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.”

The underlined pronouns indicate to me that this is personal, this is something that David has experienced for himself. The Shepherd he is talking about here is a friend, someone who is known to him personally and we, the reader, get insights into that relationship through this Psalm. This personal relationship gives him peace that the Good Shepherd will provide for his needs today. The friendship also gives him the courage to face hard times and it gives him a hope for a better future to come.

Living like this is something I believe we can experience today as well. We may not spend our days looking after sheep, but we can still spend time contemplating the words and works of the Creator and as we do our lives will be changed. Regarding this idea, Ellen White wrote these inspired words.

“If the thoughts are right, then as a result the words will be right; the actions will be of that character to bring gladness and comfort and rest to souls.”

For this reason, I want to encourage you to spend time with Jesus every day. Make this your priority and further to this I want to encourage you to lead others to do the same. Start right where you are in your home and with your family. True change in a society will only happen when individuals are changed. So, behold Jesus and that is what you will become (2 Corinthians 3:18).





PNG FOR CHRIST, NUWOK - MANUS ISLAND

By Pastor David Maxwell

It was an exciting experience being called to preach and teach in PNG this past April and May. From the very start, it was obvious it was going to be a spiritually charged event. We were welcomed like royalty, as there have been years of preparation that have gone into this program.

From the very first night, with over 700 spiritually hungry people attending the Nuwok church on Manus Island, people flocked to listen, be challenged, and inevitably respond to Christ's call on their lives.

The Church members and leaders had set up three outdoor sites around the Lorengau area, with a stage, screens and a prayer room at each site. There was one site in Nuwok, one in Lorengau town, and another just east of the town. Each site was packed out every night of the program, and decisions were made nightly at the sites.

It was clear the churches were excited to be involved, and happily assisted

the international speakers in any way possible. There was much prayer each night, and God kept the rain away for each of the sites and each of the programs, sometimes from just before and until just after the program had finished. His hand of grace was evident in this to everyone present.

There were opportunities to visit members, friends of members, and those making decisions, which was much appreciated by those visited. In Nuwok, I also took advantage of an opportunity to share worships with the children of the Adventist Primary School, and in return was mightily blessed by their singing and their appreciation of the visits.

Of course, the baptisms from decisions made was a major delight of the trip and it also strengthened my own faith. We baptised 205 people over two Sabbath's at the Nuwok site, and altogether there were well over 700 baptised across the seven sites on Manus Island.

With over 400,000 people baptised

across the length and breadth of PNG and over 150,000 yet to be baptised, I left Nuwok with a degree of sadness for leaving this spiritually hungry place. However, I was also joyful at having met some wonderful brothers and sisters in Christ, whom I could now call friends forever. Our site alone left over 70 yet to be baptised, which will in total, grow the Nuwok Church membership by 50 percent, with nearly 300 new members.

At the end of the program, it became clear to me that there would be a need to assist this region with a Fly and Build program, to allow them to house all the new members, or better assist their current ones. Please watch out for news on this, as we hopefully pull the plans together for 2025.

Please also pray with me, that our hearts here in Tasmania will be touched with generosity for our sister conference of the Madang Manus Mission, and they will be blessed by whatever we can offer, in both financial and practical assistance in the very near future.



HOBART REGIONAL

On Sabbath June 1, a regional for the Hobart area was held at Glenorchy Church. Pastor Rick Hergenhan gave an inspiring message to encourage us to persevere. Examples of perseverance were given from the early Christian Church in Acts, and the early Adventist Church after the Great Disappointment. He shared how the first Adventist missionaries in PNG had a slow beginning, but through perseverance were able to grow slowly and then hold a recent evangelistic program that baptised over 400,000 new Christians. Pastor Hergenhan shared stories of God's hand working in various sites throughout the PNG for Christ program.

An afternoon meeting was conducted by Pastor David Leo. Pastor Leo spoke on the significance of the Elijah Message (Malachi 4:6) and how the understanding of family relationships is the central core to our three angels' message. He presented an interesting McCrindle study and the significant differences between the last four generations. Pr Leo emphasised that it is vital we work together to invest in each other as there may be changes in generations, but the gospel remains the same. In the end, we are all family.

Thank you to Glenorchy for hosting the regional and for the wonderful fellowship lunch.



Persevere



**TO VIEW PASTOR RICK'S
INSPIRING SERMON
PLEASE VISIT THE
TASMANIAN CONFERENCE
YOUTUBE PAGE**



@tasmanianadventists

LAUNCESTON REGIONAL



On Sabbath June 8, a northern regional was held at Launceston Church. Pastor Terry Johnson presented a sermon titled “Unified through Christ, the *Ego Immi*”.

In the afternoon Pastor Johnson shared inspiring stories of how the gospel is being preached and reaching people in areas throughout the AUC and SPD, including PNG, New Caledonia and Western Australia.

He gave an account of his experience preaching to thousands at PNG for Christ. Pastor Johnson was the main presenter in his location at Lae, however he could not speak the language and was not assigned a translator. The local church organisers challenged Pastor Johnson to trust that God would provide. When Pastor Johnson started speaking on stage the locals could not understand him, but when he started to preach, the locals experienced a rushing sound in their ears, and they could suddenly understand what Pastor Johnson was saying.

Thank you to Launceston Church for hosting the regional and for a wonderful fellowship lunch.

YOUTH
CAMP

August 23-25
 Spring Beach Youth Camp

more info @ tas.adventist.org.au/events

TASSIE YOUTH EVENTS

Master Guides Training

On March 2 six of our Master Guides were sent to Sydney to complete a training course to assist in fulfilling their requirements. Our Master Guides have been instrumental in leading our younger Pathfinders. Huge thanks to Angelo Bocchino and Luke Spaulding for being our chaperone. I appeal to our churches to assist in training up our Master Guides as they show huge potential in leadership in our church communities.



assisted families with much needed yard work which was neglected because the owners were in poor health. Evenings were for free time and fun.

The StormCo group was split into three teams and were put on a roster. This involved morning and evening devotions, preparing and cleaning up after meals, shopping for food for their meals with a limited budget for the week, among other duties that were required.

The week finished on a high with one of our youngest volunteers Hannah Ashton being baptised as a demonstration of how much StormCo means to her in serving Christ. StormCo is one our best intensive programs to teach children the significance of serving others, learning to work as a team, and discovering their God-given gifts and talents.

Massive thank you to Vicki and Ken Knight and the Scottsdale Church for hosting us for the week, as well as our adult volunteers, Sonya Ashton, Alex Bobongie and Grace Reynolds.



StormCo

At the start of Sunday April 14, a group of young people converged at Scottsdale for StormCo. This is the third consecutive year that young Tasmanians have visited Scottsdale for StormCo, and the locals are starting to become more familiar with who we are and what we are about.

Every morning from 10am-12pm we conducted a kids' program that involved games, crafts, songs, snacks and puppets, which was a big hit. Our team showed their talent in script writing and performance. In the afternoons, we





YOUNG ADULTS RALLY

On Friday night May 10 we had the privilege of having our former youth director Pastor Daniel Matteo join us for the weekend at Launceston Church. Pastor Daniel encouraged our youth to take on the challenge of discovering our calling, and the importance of this process taking place in our church communities.

Coming together is always a joy because of fellowship, food, and worship in music and discussion together. It is my prayer that we as a wider community of churches will pray over, bless and empower our young people as they navigate how they will serve God and their community.



NW YOUTH RALLY

Pastor Roger Afele from South NSW was our guest speaker on the theme "Family Matters". We looked at Hebrews 10:24-25 and we were challenged to make the effort to meet regularly in communities in person, to serve and to understand our place in the wider church family. Young people are sometimes finding themselves unintentionally disconnected from family, and we were encouraged to be intentional in fellowship and service.

As always, fellowship is always fun with our crew and the food was good. Not only do we pray together, but we also played basketball and volleyball together at the East Devonport Recreation Centre.

P.S. Check the Tas Youth Facebook and Instagram pages for some of our awkward family photo moments.



4WD Camp

I had no idea how much fun driving a car on sand dunes would be. But now I know! A group of us met at Diana's Basin on Friday Night. On Sabbath morning, we drove our 4WD's to the Peron Sand dunes, and got stuck, unstuck, traversed some challenging courses and had a nice lunch together on the beach. Our theme was 'Donkeys and Horses'. We talked about our Donkeys and Horses (our 4WD's) and we discussed how Jesus came first riding on a donkey and will return as a King, and how a lamb was used to redeem a donkey (Exodus 13:13)



Winter Expedition

On Friday June 7, around 32 Pathfinders and 15 Directors and adult volunteers descended into the furthest point of Northeast Tasmania at Mt William National Park. We all braved the cold as we spent the king's birthday weekend camping in tents, but we did have a fire going every evening.

The advanced group covered about 31km, and the intermediate group covered around 26km over the Sabbath and Sunday. Our beginners group did a variety of short walks as they learned the basics of carrying a backpack, setting up a tent and cooking their meals.

Although it was fresh, we praise God that the weekend wasn't too cold. It never rained while we were there and there was sunshine! The Pathfinders reported on how much they enjoyed the hike, and we were injury free, and mosquito bite free (compared to last year's expedition).

Our theme this year was "Shore to be Sure" and the Pathfinder Directors led our morning and evening worships on stories of the Bible by the beach. Thank you to all our Pathfinders, leaders, parents and adult volunteers that made this weekend another awesome weekend in the memory banks.



 @TasSDAYouth

 @tassdayouth

NEWS

ADRA Smithton op shop closure

Proverbs 3:6 'In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths'.

After operating for two years, the decision to close the ADRA Smithton op shop had been made and with very sad hearts. Our ADRA Smithton team worked tirelessly to sell, pack and distribute the remaining items in the op shop. The manager Heather and her amazing team of volunteers worked very hard to successfully support the Smithton community. However, as a result of ongoing staffing shortages and unpredictable income the decision to close rather than renew the lease was prayerfully decided. In faith the ADRA Smithton team are prayerfully considering where God will send them to be a light for His Kingdom.



ADRA Thanks you all for your Fundraising events

On Sunday May 26 the ADRA Ulverstone op shop manager Carol and her amazing volunteers held a garage sale to raise funds for Cystic Fibrosis. God blessed the day and the total funds raised was \$1250.00.

On Monday June 3, North West Christian School held a special string concert, featuring Junior and Senior NWCS strings playing the violin, viola and cello.

The concert had special performances from Sara Scheermeijer and TSO cellist Martin Penicka. God blessed the performers and the concert successfully raised \$668.00 to support ADRA's response to the recent disaster in Papua New Guinea.



Margate Food Pantry

On Wednesday June 19, Margate Church opened its community food pantry for the first time. After 6+ months of planning and promotion, eleven volunteers from the church and community were excited to see all the planning take effect.

The Margate Food Pantry is a community service which provides low-priced food for people in need. It also aims to provide a place where people can come and have a hot drink and spend time chatting.

Thank you to the North West Churches and ADRA op shops supporting the drought affected King Island community

1 Peter 4:10 'As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold of God'

Generously the Burnie, Wynyard and Smithton churches along with Ulverstone and Smithton ADRA op shops have been supporting Lesley Irvine and Pastor Daryl Groves in response to the drought affected farmers and community on King Island. The main response has been with provision of gift cards that enable King Island residents to purchase everyday essentials for their families during these hard times.

It is open **every Wednesday from 10:30am - 12:00pm**. The food pantry is grateful to Glenorchy ADRA Op Shop for supporting them in their set up.



NEWS

Margate

Social 'P' Night

Margate Church recently held a fun 'P' party event. Amongst the guests were princesses, policemen and even Peter from the Bible. For dinner the table was filled with pizza, pasta, and potatoes. Throughout the evening games were played and musical items were shared. It was a fun night for all.



Mother's Day Flowers

After church on Sabbath May 11, church members from Margate walked the streets near the church to share Mother's Day flowers with people in their community. Many of the people who were given flowers showed a deep appreciation and surprise at this free and thoughtful gift. The following week, someone from the community left a letter at the church, sharing their gratitude for the kind gift.



Glenorchy

Reach Up, Reach Out, Reach Across

This year our personal ministries team at Glenorchy, along with support from our elders, have been promoting "Reach UP, Reach Out, Reach Across" as a framework for our church activities.

Some of our activities have been: Join in January, Fone a Friend February, Meet Up March (between 4 and 8 people met for lunch or a drink at a local food court to chat and fellowship together each Wednesday afternoon) Aware April and Movement May. Our hope is that a balance of reaching up for God's wisdom, strength and direction, reaching across to love and support our church family and reaching out to our community will give us the best opportunity to grow God's Kingdom in our sphere of influence.

Food Table

As part of Reach Across, a food table was set up in January in the church foyer right at the front door. Each member was

encouraged to bring one item of food each week to place on the table. Any members or guests were invited to take items as they left if they were in need. Each week items were taken and the next week they were always replaced. Praise the Lord. After a few months the idea was expanded, and 400 flyers were distributed to our church neighbours inviting them to come and take up to ten items for free if they were in need. Several families have taken up the invitation and our lovely deaconess team have helped them pack a bag of food to help with their needs. Some people who received the flyer in their mailbox have uploaded it on their community Facebook page, which is also a blessing.

Mother's Day Flowers

On Friday night May 10, the youth and young adults from Glenorchy Church came together for dinner. Together they prepared flowers and cards to be shared with the community for Mother's Day. After church on Sabbath, church members of all ages wandered the streets and door-knocked the homes

surrounding Glenorchy church. "The flowers were very well received by everyone we met" one of the church volunteers stated. "People couldn't believe we were giving a gift from the kindness of our hearts for nothing in return. There were a lot of big smiles and happy hearts." Some people even sent a text message, saying how much they appreciated the kind gift. Some flowers were also taken to Hobart hospital for patients and staff.



NEWS



Take A Book Box

Our church library team came across the idea of a 'Take A Book Box' after some church members saw one outside a church in Europe and sent back a photo. After prayerful consideration they decided to implement this idea on the front fence of the church. The box was installed and dedicated to God's glory on June 4. The library team is praying that those passing by will take a book and that it will lead them to seeking a connection with the God they love.



Our Story

This year, the worship team at Glenorchy church have included a new weekly segment in the main service, called 'Our Story'. During this segment, individuals, families or ministries in the church have had the opportunity to share testimonies on what God is doing in their lives. It has been a wonderful way of learning more about each other. It has been encouraging to see, in a very real way, God's love and power constantly at work.

JETS SS Class

On Easter Sabbath, Glenorchy JETS Sabbath School door-knocked our church neighbours and gave away handmade cards as a way of reminding our community of the incredible love and value God has for each person. The JETS enjoyed the experience and the neighbours expressed appreciation for the thoughtful gift.



On Sabbath afternoon June 22, the JETS Sabbath School leaders invited their Sabbath School class to attend a special event where they discussed the Old Testament meaning of the Passover feast and the New Testament institution of the Lord's Supper, or communion service.



The JETS took turns reading from the Bible and asking questions about the symbolism.

Afterwards they experienced the foot washing ceremony. Donna, JETS leader, gave each of the participants a pack which contained symbolic reminders of their experience and discussion.



Cuppa for Cancer

A Cuppa for Cancer lunch was held at the Scottsdale Church in May. \$850 was raised to support the Cancer Council in Tasmania. Many of the people who attended the lunch have been affected by cancer or have close connections with a family member or close friend who has or had cancer.

Every dollar raised in Tasmania stays in Tasmania, funding life-saving research, prevention programs and support services for anyone affected by cancer.

The support of the community was amazing. We look forward to helping progress the research of a cure for cancer in Tasmania.



NEWS

Bibles Needed in Madang, PNG

Having had the joy of presenting 'Revelation of Hope' at the Madang Teacher's College recently, I came back to Tasmania recognising that we are blessed in so many ways, but in different ways to our wantoks in Papua New Guinea. They have the major blessing of the Holy Spirit working within their people groups, and that is the biggest and best blessing that any Christian can experience. However, we do experience the Holy Spirit working here, but not to the same extent as they are currently experiencing.

We consider ourselves blessed by what the Lord provides for us; spiritual blessings as well as temporal blessings, as most of us have had employment over many years. However, that is not true of our northern neighbours. Most of our PNG brothers and sisters are subsistence farmers and they are faced with the reality that they live hand to mouth from week to week.

The majority of those recently baptised do not have the means to purchase a Bible that would help them to 'grow in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ'. The 'World Changers Bible' costs them 10 Kina (a lot), which to us is about \$4, or less than a regular cup of hot chocolate.



Pastor Luke Frank, the District Director for the Madang township, tells me that they have a need for 1500 Bibles in Madang and a further 500 Bibles at Yamba Village, a close neighbouring village. The spread of the gospel is continuing within their wantok communities, with a further harvesting program planned for August, further exacerbating the need for Bibles.

How can we help our Brothers and Sisters?

Remember that for less than a hot drink, we can sponsor a Bible that will plant their feet on solid ground. The theme for the PNG FOR CHRIST program was "If it's in the Bible, I believe it: If its not in the Bible, it's not for me." Sound advice of eternal value!

If you use the 'eGiving' app to financially

support the work of the Lord, there has been a new category included which is called 'Madang Bibles'. A designated amount given will go specifically to our sister Conference/Mission for the purchase of Bibles, as will a tithe envelope put into the offering bag with a heading "Madang Bibles" written on the front. A visit in person to the Conference Office will also achieve the same purpose.

Whatever your situation, as we count our blessings, we come to recognise that 'God is good'! A sharing of some of our financial blessings will enable our wantoks in PNG to experience Jesus Christ in a fuller way by their personal reading of God's love letter to them.

*Blessings in abundance,
Stuart Barons*



NORTH WEST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Celebrating Excellence at North West Christian School: Student Receives Tasmania's first AMEB Gold Award



We are thrilled to share the remarkable achievement of one of our talented students, Alaska Scheermeijer, who was recently presented with the AMEB Gold Award, marking a historic milestone not only for her but also for Tasmania. Alaska's dedication to her craft and unwavering commitment to music have culminated in this prestigious recognition, making her the very first recipient of this honour in our State.

The AMEB Gold Award stands as a testament to Alaska's years of hard work and passion for the violin. It represents a milestone in her musical journey, requiring a comprehensive demonstration of skill, dedication, and community involvement. Let's take a closer look at the rigorous requirements that Alaska successfully fulfilled to attain this esteemed accolade:

1. Mastery of the Violin: Alaska undertook the challenge of completing at least a Grade 7 comprehensive AMEB violin exam, accompanied by

the Theory exam component. Her dedication to mastering her instrument laid the foundation for her journey towards excellence.

- 2. Performance Excellence:** Alaska showcased her musical prowess through four captivating performances in front of substantial audiences, including a mesmerizing recital and a triumphant victory at the Eisteddfod, where she claimed the top spot. These performances not only highlighted her technical skill but also her ability to connect with her audience on an emotional level.
- 3. Community Contribution:** In addition to her musical performances, Alaska actively contributed to her community through various projects and initiatives. From mentoring aspiring musicians to volunteering at the Nova Muse Festival, she demonstrated a deep commitment to giving back and enriching the lives of others through music.

Alaska's journey towards excellence was also supported by the vibrant Strings program led by Sarah Scheermeijer, at North West Christian School. This program not only provided students with the opportunity to learn string instruments but also fostered a nurturing environment where their talents could flourish. Through Sarah's guidance and mentorship, students like Alaska are able to develop their

musical skills and discover their passion for music.

Alaska's reflections on her journey toward the AMEB Gold Award offer profound insights into the transformative power of music and service. Through her experiences, she discovered the joy of teaching, the importance of leadership, and the privilege of using her talents to glorify God and uplift others.

Her dedication to playing for her church's worship service reflects an understanding of the spiritual dimension of music, echoing the sentiments of Johann Sebastian Bach: "the aim and final end of all music should be none other than the Glory of God and the refreshment of the soul." Alaska's commitment to using her musical gifts as a form of worship exemplifies the profound impact that music can have on both individuals and communities.

"Through the gold award experience, I learnt more about my big responsibilities to serve others, lead and give. This experience has given me even more enjoyment from music. Completing the gold award gave me an excellent opportunity to learn to become more proactive, and work even harder at the abilities God gave."

As we celebrate Alaska's remarkable achievement, let us also be inspired by her example to pursue excellence in our own endeavors and to use our talents to glorify God and make a positive difference in the world around us. Congratulations, Alaska, on this well-deserved honour, and may your journey continue to inspire and uplift others for years to come.

HILLIARD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Elizabeth Chaplin - Principal

Week of Worship: A Transformative Experience at Hilliard Christian School



In May, Hilliard Christian School hosted its first-ever Week of Worship on campus, an event that has left a lasting impact on students, staff, and families. Organised by the school chaplain. Pastor Ben Ashby, the event featured guest speaker Pastor Sarah Redman and was centred around the theme “*Stay Salty and Lit*,” inspired by Matthew 5:13-16.

The theme drew from the biblical passage where Jesus calls believers to be the “salt of the earth” and the “light of the world.” Pastor Redman’s presentations beautifully wove this theme into the stories of David, engaging students in a dynamic and interactive way. Her approach not only made the stories relatable but also emphasised the importance of maintaining one’s faith and integrity in everyday life.

The week-long event was meticulously planned, with a stunning set that added to the overall atmosphere of reverence and inspiration. Students were deeply moved by the presentations, which were crafted to be both educational and spiritually uplifting. The continuity of the theme throughout the week helped reinforce the messages, making them resonate more profoundly with the attendees.

One of the highlights of the week was the Sabbath celebration held at Hilliard, which saw an attendance of approximately 60 people, including students, their families, and staff. The day began with a shared breakfast prepared by the Parents and



Friends Committee, fostering a sense of community and fellowship. The warmth and camaraderie experienced during this meal set the tone for a day of worship and reflection.

The impact of the Week of Worship was evident as many students expressed a renewed commitment to their faith, with many signing up for Bible study and ready to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. The event’s success was seen as a true answer to prayer, highlighting the power of collective faith and the importance of nurturing the spiritual lives of young people.

The overwhelmingly positive response from students and the broader school community underscores the importance of such events in fostering a strong, faith-based school culture. The Week of Worship at Hilliard Christian School has not only strengthened the faith of those who attended but also set a precedent for



future events, promising continued spiritual growth and community building within the school.

The first Week of Worship at Hilliard Christian School was a resounding success, deeply enriching the spiritual lives of students and staff. It served as a powerful reminder of the importance of staying “salty and lit” in faith, and it has laid a strong foundation for future worship events at the school.

THE GENUINE ARTICLE

Pr Mark Falconer

Misinformation, disinformation, forgeries, scams, counterfeits and not to mention fake news and false prophecies – are all in our face today. So, in all this confusion, it can be difficult to navigate the minefield to find the genuine article. Such is the challenge for the Bank of Canada when guarding the integrity of the Canadian dollar. How do they do it? How they do it can help us discern Biblical truth and error.

To find out, Tim Challis went through the long process to arrange an interview with the Bank of Canada. In an obscure building behind substantial security, Tim Challis finally met Monica, an expert on currency. Following polite introductions,

the button was pressed on the recorder and Tim was asked about his interest in counterfeit currency. Satisfied, Monica proceeded to provide a basic outline of how forgeries are detected. Simply put the slogan goes like this – touch, tilt, look at, look through. This simple procedure

“know the good stick well”

exposes the many security features embedded in the notes. Fascinating you might say, but so what? It is how they are trained to detect forgeries that is striking.

When trained, how many forgeries do they examine? None! They only study the

genuine. Surprised I was. In my younger days I chased every deception and conspiracy theory until a pastor said to me one day – and I have never forgotten it – know the good stick well – i.e. know your Bible well.

This is good advice for us today, but we should ask ourselves, “How are we going with that?” We can know that Satan is behind the many faces of deception, but it is not necessary to identify every face. Knowing the truth means opening the Word, reading, learning, thinking, pondering meditating on the Word with a humble teachable attitude. This will allow the Holy Spirit to imbue and transform our souls.



HOPE STUDIOS
PRESENTS



WHEN ALL WAS LOST, SHE FOUND HOPE.

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