



PO Box 1765, Grass Valley, CA 95945  
530-272-8170

[www.piministries.info](http://www.piministries.info) [okpimusa@gmail.com](mailto:okpimusa@gmail.com)

November 2016

Dear Co-worker:

One of the verses that has disturbed me during my missionary years is Jeremiah 48:10:

*Cursed is he who does the work of the Lord with slackness. And cursed is he who keeps back his sword from bloodshed.*

I well accept the first part of the verse. It helps one to be diligent in His service, and I will say more about it later. It's the second part that's been puzzling. But in a more reasoned and mature approach I've come to believe that the latter helps to answer some difficult questions. It's a summation of biblical civil law. There are many examples in history where men of war have wielded their sword with ferocity and they lived through the dangers of war to tell about it. They support the thesis that if one is going to fight in war, he should do so aggressively because the Almighty has His purpose that involves His justice. Specific examples are Alexander the Great, George Washington, Audie Murphy, Pappy Boyington, the WW I hero Alvin York, and then there's Lieutenant Commander "Mush" Morten of the US Submarine *Wahoo* who was active in the South Pacific War in 1942-1944.



Rev. Eric Schering preaching at the Wewak prison. Imprisonment causes many of the incarcerated to reconsider their life course.

I mention the latter because of the commander's daring exploit that took place at Wewak where PIM members have been active as missionaries for 55 years. Wrecks of sunken Japanese ships are still seen in the Wewak harbor. Some would say that Morten's actions bordered on recklessness. However, he had great success in chasing down enemy ships and sinking them that fits well with using the sword to incur bloodshed.

After his sub had been refitted for service and sailed from Australia, Morten was given orders to "go to Wewak and, if possible, to permit daylight reconnaissance." He interpreted the order as "find enemy ships and sink them." After locating Wewak he slowly maneuvered around to gain his bearings and then decided to move into Wewak harbor. Moving along at three knots he noticed an antenna rising above the trees in a backdrop of distance hills. On moving ahead, he saw that the antenna belong to a large destroyer tending several small submarines.

But the destroyer must have spotted Morton's periscope because it started moving and was soon clipping along at 20 to 25 knots. Morton ordered the release of three torpedoes but none scored because his executive officer, peering through the periscope, evidently misjudged the destroyer's speed. Having only two torpedoes left in his forward tubes, the captain released another, but it also missed. The crew worried. With only one fish remaining, Morton waited until the destroyer was closing in at more than 30 knots and now at 750 yards. He released the last torpedo. Those in the sub waited. Then they heard the explosion and "an immense tearing sound" along with the crackling that comes from a ship having been torpedoed and sinking into the sea.

Morton's action fits with the commands given to the kings of Israel to annihilate their enemies. However, they did not always obey. King Saul was ordered to completely eliminate the Amalekites but he spared King Agag along with many animals. So the Lord said, "I repent that I have made Saul king. For he has turned back from following me, and has not performed my commandments."

Biblical civil law as given in 1 Kings Chapter 2, where King David advises son Solomon how to secure the kingdom under his hand, also supports using the sword. Our God is the God of mercy, love, and forgiveness, but His other side which often lacks due consideration, is one of justice, revenge, and punishment. Nations and those in authority that deal wickedly must be fought and the evil destroyed. There's a place for just war, biblically.

Regarding the first part of the verse, I'm told it's easy to neglect one's assignment and do the work of the Lord with slackness. Enthusiasm, diligence, and taking risks in the Lord's calling, surely, is very much in order. Leadership in the kingdom is demanding and requires hearts that are determined to proclaim the truth no matter how it might offend those who hear it. In the 55 years in which the Lord has called me to proclaim the truth, I have learned that He is faithful in every way to protect, lead, and provide when we're faithful.

The verse also generates thanksgiving to you who faithfully support PIM. Your diligence in supporting and praying is absolutely necessary and very much appreciated, and we believe that your faithfulness to us comes from our attitude that we must forcefully and faithfully proclaim the truth in every way we can. The results are plainly seen, and I think you will appreciate the thoughts of David Kasen in his latest communication who has been active in PIM national leadership for many, many years.

*Last year in my report I mentioned Neal's vision for 70,000 souls to become disciples of Christ; it's my conviction this is coming to fruition. Each year we enroll about 1500 students who go on to the primary schools. These students move into high school and college and are engaged in parliament work and other significant jobs in PNG. My question now is: Has this prophetic word of papa Neal who spoke to us in the leadership courses and repeated in his book 70 Principles for Living and Leadership been reached? Over 41 years thousands of students have graduated who have become pastors, Sunday school teachers, health workers, and involved in other work, all having benefitted from those courses.*

Rejoice with us that your participation produces disciple-makers. May the Lord richly bless your endeavors to promote His kingdom of righteousness.

In His grace,



Orneal Kooyers  
Format by Michelle Hawkins



The family of Clinton and Matilda with visiting children watch the latest PIM video. Clinton is increasingly involved with management in the PIM office. His wife teaches at PIM's Ambunti School.