



# ASIA PACIFIC CONFERENCE & MINISTERS MEETINGS

Wow! It was so good I'll even say it backwards, woW!

I am talking about the Asia Pacific Message Conference held over four sunny days in Kerikeri, the Bay of Islands, New Zealand over Labour Weekend 2013. (October 25-28) The convention, and a three day Ministers Meeting held earlier in that week was organised and managed by Shekinah Glory Tabernacle from nearby Moerewa with Pastor Malcolm Wano leading. The convention and ministers meeting was for some an awakening, for others a celebration of the successful missions and outreach within the greater Asia Pacific regions and for others a realisation of a far larger vision. Both the ministers meetings and the convention itself featured two highly experienced ministers, Bro Vin Dyal from Trinidad and Brother Ron Peterson from Arizona, USA. Each gave much advice to the ministers both formally and informally and both preached at the convention.

Other visiting ministers spoke on their experiences and needs too. We heard how the Solomon Islands needs early growth preaching and teaching support, how Papua New Guinea is being changed. We also heard that the spirit of the Muslim religion is that of the law of Persia, "What is written cannot be changed." But we learnt that Muslims can be, and are being, converted. Hindus too were being converted. In the Punjab, for example, in northern India where once there were just a few believers, there are now 200 churches and 50 ministers. Today ministers from the Philippines, once locally focussed, are fully involved in overseas outreach.



Brother Alex, a French speaking brother from Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean is taking the message for the first time into French Polynesia, starting in Papeete on Tahiti. More work needs to be done in Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and a revival is needed in Singapore.

The Asia Pacific region has 61% of the world's population and the harvest is ripe. The need to fulfil the prophecy of Revelation 10 v8-11 is very real. Can that be done when so many New Zealand churches are relatively small?

Well, included in the meetings was the vision of individual churches working together as the body of Christ. This was an extension of Brother Adrian Gray's missions to Vanuatu. His work had received support from many of the churches in New Zealand, not just financially but practically too. The solar panels that now re-power CD players and other equipment in remote islands were set up by Nelson believers, message CDs were also made available. Many churches financially supported the work and several preachers from various churches have visited the islands to preach. Vanuatu is now at a stage where local ministers are taking over the outreach role and plan to visit all inhabited islands in the group. Ministers from Vanuatu attended the meetings as did a representative from Papua New Guinea (PNG) but more work is needed in PNG. "I need you, you need me" was the opening chorus line of a key convention song. That understanding that we need each other's gifts and calling to help us complete our vision can be fulfilled at all sorts of levels and all sorts of ways. Even in the Convention there were technicians from Trinidad and Taranaki working together streaming services live to 1500 connections. At times, representatives from up to four different churches made up the group of musicians on stage and there were also volunteers from five different churches in the kitchen working to prepare and serve the meals.

The body of Christ is not just the local church, but the full number of believers throughout the world. Christ is in this world wide body. He and it are one. This is a move from "synagogue" worship to temple worship, from individual church to the full body of Christ. Instead of each church only achieving what it can do on its own the vision is that by calling on gifts and callings from other churches and working collaboratively to fulfil God's Work much more can be achieved. Every local church retains full sovereignty. The change is in the openness to think in terms of what support can my church give to other churches in their outreach and what gifts and callings do I need from others to fulfil our own local vision. It is often only fear and mistrust that creates political boundaries that can hinder a far greater work being done. Churches in the Book of Acts supported one another; so should we.



In short this convention seemed to me to be another major step forward in Christ being formed in His people. But you don't have to take my word for it. Brother Vin Dyal's Third Exodus Church has photos, sermons, even the ministers meetings on their website [www.thirdexodus.org](http://www.thirdexodus.org) for anyone to view.

Talk about body ministry!

