

INTRODUCTION:

Uganda, why did I choose Uganda for the EVA? Actually Uganda chose me. My wife and I were spending 5 weeks in Indonesia to see if that was a place for us for full time service. During our time there we did not feel the *peace* of God. Though it was very difficult for my wife to lay down. This particular ministry's focus was living with the poor incarnationally, a dream that my wife has had since college.

When we came back to America we were learning to let things go. We met some friends who were planning on going over seas with another mission organization. I knew of this organization very well, in fact when I was just out of college (years ago) this was the organization I wanted to go with. The Lord had me lay that one down. So maybe it was time to resurrect it! But I felt like I was trying to force something. This was confirmed when I talked to my wife about it. Not only did she not want to pursue that particular organization, she didn't want to pursue any organization. With not staying in Indonesia she felt the Lord calling her to lay down her dream, so she needed time to rest. This was during our first week back from Indonesia.

The second week we were back from Indonesia, in America I received an e-mail about an orphanage in Uganda. The e-mail stated the need of a teacher who loves to be "in the river". I was very excited about it, but wanted to also be sensitive to my wife. When she read it she felt really excited (compared to how she felt about the previous organization I had just proposed to her). So we got in contact with the individual who had sent me the email and, as soon as we talked, we both felt the *peace* of God! I asked a couple of questions, but it got to the point where it was useless to ask any more. It felt like if we did we would be grieving that peace we were both feeling. He finally said, "just come: the door is wide open. Just come."

So we committed to going; we just needed to figure out when. At that point, we were having trouble finding someone to rent our place while we would be gone. Since we would be leaving our jobs, it would have made finances extremely tight without renters. So it would have made more sense to wait an extra six months to secure our renters and have some more money saved up. Yet we felt an urgency to go for it, so we did and bought the tickets. After we bought the tickets, we sent in our notices to leave our jobs. Within a couple of weeks, God provided renters and they are still renting from us to this day. Little did we know that this step of faith was also strategic with going to Uganda.

We didn't know much about Uganda, we were just obeying God. This particular orphanage had been around for 6 years and was ministering to those children who lost their parents either to war or to AIDs. We stayed there for two months. During the first 3 weeks, a Pastor from Montana helped us. He left and another leader helped us for another two weeks. The final two weeks we were left to direct the orphanage. The village consisted of 225 people, 170 were orphans. The rest were teachers, mammas, cooks, gate keepers and other workers to keep a village like this running. All of a sudden we found ourselves in charge. I didn't know then what I know now, that many crisis events can happen at an orphanage. God was so faithful to give us what we could handle.

During our stay a massive spiritual cleansing took place. Most of the kids were not orphans, but actually had parents who had lied about their relationship to their children, teaching their children to do the same. When the director found out about it, he had to send these ones home and the orphanage went from 170 children down to about 100. Many of these kids spent 5 or 6 years together, and now had to say final good byes. It was a very difficult time for all involved, especially the children who stayed behind.

I praise God that He allowed my wife and I to be there for the remnant of children during this difficult time. My wife and I continued to have Bible studies with 8 to 15 of the more spiritually mature students. They were pretty much the same kids who had been attending before many of their peers had been asked to leave. During our first month, we would spend an hour or two with them in the afternoon. During the next month they were on school break and so we spent morning and afternoons with them. Usually, before or after the Bible teaching, my wife would also teach them Christmas and worship songs. We would be pouring into them 3 to 5 hours a day!

With this group of 15 kids we were able to lead them through a time of inner healing. We took them back to when they heard the news for the first time that their friends had to leave. I had them close their eyes and asked them what they felt. I then asked them to fix their eyes on Jesus and asked them what He was doing? The presence of God was so powerful that day. I believe they were having an encounter with God.

At that time we were going through Matthew 18 and teaching on forgiveness. The Ugandan mother's taught me something during this time. We as westerners will take the verse, "to become like a child" to mean faith. We even have changed the verse to mean faith like a child and have Christian songs that say faith like a child¹. That is probably because of the enlightenment that permeates our culture and as we grow older we have to try to lose all this useless information so we can have some faith. However, in African culture the verse is taken to mean that, to become like children, one must forgive. They feel that children will forgive others very easily. It actually makes more sense in the context of Matthew 18, which ends with a parable on forgiveness.

While we were in Uganda, the Lord gave me a dream within the first couple weeks of being there. The dream was directing us to stay for a slice of time, then to come back for another slice of time in the near future. Then, after the second slice of time had been "taken" in the dream, a plate broke, signifying when our time at least with that particular ministry would come to end. This interpretation comes from Jeremiah 22:28, which talks about something coming to an end through the analogy of a broken pot. With this dream in mind, we headed home and prepared to come back a second time.

BETWEEN THE SEASONS:

Between our trips to Uganda was when I started to do research. It was during this time that I was able to read about the history of Uganda and the difficulties many Ugandans faced. This research caused me to review many of the conversations and situations we had encountered in Uganda with a new perspective. For instance, when once going to the village center to buy a rolex (Spanish omelet on bread without the cheese), the cook asked me what I thought about the condition of his country. I thought that, just like many of the local kids we would meet on our way into town, that maybe he was trying to make me feel sorry for him before asking for money. However, I came to see his question in a new light as I began researching Uganda and have found myself asking that question to myself many times over ever since.

During these trips we didn't realize that God was directing our timing there regarding the rainy seasons. I didn't even catch this till the writing of this paper.² The rainy seasons go from generally March to May and October to November.³ Our first time was from mid October to mid December. Our second time was from March to May. We didn't plan this at all, but God did. Joel 2:23 says, "Be glad, O children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God, for He has given the early rain for your vindication; He has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the latter rain, as before." I believe God was able to use my wife and I to bring spiritual rain in each season to the children while

1 Faith like a child, Jars of Clay.

2 August 17, 2013.

3 Cultures of the World, Uganda; pg. 8.

we were in Uganda, specifically in the area of teaching the Lord's *rhema* words to the children. Isaiah compares God's *rhema* word in Isaiah 55:10,11 as rain and snow. Though we didn't have any snow while in Uganda, we were able to see some hail from time to time.

SEASON II:

My wife and I decided to go back to Uganda right away for the second season. We knew we would either go back within 2 or 6 months. After discussing it we both felt an urgency in our hearts to go back in 2 months.

The last night we were with our church family another couple brought something for us to take along. It was a book bag full of school supplies for their Compassion child, what a surprise! God was giving us another mission to accomplish for our second journey to Africa.

During our first week back we started a fast to see breakthrough at the orphanage, that God would raise up spiritual fathers. We also invited others to pray and fast with us. During one of our prayer times I saw in vision different ones standing with us. By the end of the fast, 3 of our teachers tried to steal our head teacher's computer before leaving for another month long school break. We ended up getting the police involved and went on a midnight chase. When it was all over, we lost four of our teachers, which was quite a blow as the orphanage's school was already understaffed. As a result, all the missionaries became substitute teachers. We were allowed to teach on anything we wanted, so I mostly taught Religious education (RE). Most of the time we just had to "flow", as nothing was prepared.

Most of our ministry outside the class room was enforcing discipline with the kids, who by this time some how felt like our kids. We bonded with them very much and for the first time in my life I felt like a spiritual father. My favorite times were just sitting with the kids at night and discussing our plans for their bike riding the next day. To them it was the main business of the day, so the discussions of bike riding would be very serious. Not every child would have his or her own bike so they had to share with one another.

We also had a tragedy when one of our children had his head split open. Blood was pouring out so fast I didn't think he would survive. We drove as fast as we could to the hospital. When the doctor saw him, it seemed to be no big deal to him. So we took our child to the surgery center, they threw in a couple stitches and that was that. Within a couple days he was out pumping water like nothing ever even happened to him.

During the end of our stay we were able to spend two weekends with another ministry called Advancing the Kingdom⁴ in the city of Iganga, the most Muslim populated area of Uganda. Iganga is in the region called Busoga. Though most of my research was on the country of Uganda, I also did research on the region of Busoga.

ATK is really the only ministry that has been able to plant and grow churches in the villages surrounding Iganga, Busoga. Even though I only spent a total of 4 – 5 days with them, my life is forever changed: they have a base there and minister to 20 villages around the area; we would drive out into the jungle and hold meetings in various villages; we would pray for the sick and cast out demons. This is what I long for. It was like the book of Acts every day. I have never seen so many deliverances at one time. Either has my wife, who wants to get some more training and impartation before we go back.⁵ Once the release has come, we will go.

One particular morning I was leading the service and God interrupted what I was planning to preach by giving me words of knowledge. Because of being trained at Global Awakening's school of supernatural ministry I felt comfortable to first do Sovereign healings then pray for the sick. I remember just surrendering to God's sovereignty and letting the Spirit flow. Many people got healed

⁴ <http://advancingthekingdom.org/>

⁵ How to Hear God's Voice, Counseled by God, 7 Prayers that Heal the Heart.

that day.

I was told that there are three ways someone will get healed in Uganda: the medical doctor, the witch doctor, or the pastor. Many of these people had been to a witch doctor so it was time for a demonstration of the Spirit. The people can tell a witch doctor what their sickness is, but the pastor, through words of knowledge, can tell them their sickness and heal them on the spot. It was a clear Elijah and prophets of Baal moment: where will you go to get healed?

I praise God that through the power of the Holy Spirit many received their healing and felt the presence of God. Many felt the heat of the Lord, others felt His electricity. As for me, I felt the grace to keep on praying till mid afternoon! Afterwards I did not feel tired, but energized. The Lord was showing me how to minister through His Sovereignty and not become tired.

We would also go to the worship times with the children. I specifically remember dancing in the dirt with the kids as we worshiped the Lord together. It was an amazing time.

UGANDA IN THE BIBLE:

Uganda is not directly named in the Bible. However there was a group of people called the Cushites in the land of Cush. Because of how it is grouped together with Egypt, it's location is probably just south of Egypt between the 4th and 6th cataract.⁶ This would be in modern day Sudan. Sudan is bordered to south by the country of Southern Sudan, which in turn is bordered by Uganda.

Cushites have long had influence in the Busoga region of Uganda.⁷ Removing of teeth from the jawbone of the dead to identify clans was practiced with the Busoga clans and the cushitic speakers of western Kenya and southern Ethiopia. In the eastern part of Uganda, Mount Elgon has a number of cultural features suggestive of extensive contact with the cushitic world: the ritual of killing cattle, circumcision, sacrifice, evulsion of teeth, lip plugs, and dress. It is from these connections we can see the influence of the ancient cushites on the areas of Uganda. There are also many promises in the Bible about the Cushites, and if they have influenced Uganda by there practices, I will take that which was promised to them to influence Uganda as well.

We continue to see the influence of ancient ethnic groups in the people of Nubia whose location would still be around the land of Sudan this time around the 2nd and 4th cataract of the Nile River. Encyclopedias will interchange Nubia with Cush.⁸ Nubia takes it's name from a group called the Nubians who speak languages of the Nubian family. The difference between Cush and Nubia is that Cush was was a specific empire of Northern Sudan, whereas Nubia is an ethnic group. There are 10,000 Ugandans of Sudanese descent who are classified as Nubians, tracing there origins from the Nuba mountains in Sudan.⁹ They were descendants of the Sudanese military recruits who entered Uganda in the late 19th century. They were part of a colonial army and were employed to deal with any uprisings. Many spoke a variant of Arabic and practiced Islam. They would raise cotton for their uniforms and were paid salaries through the protectorate years. Most of them settled in the northern Buganda area. This region is next to the Busoga region and would be around Lake Victoria. The Nubians would try to avoid Western education. Most spoke Swahili and were unskilled laborers.¹⁰

In the ESV cush or cushite appear 40 times. In 2 Kings 19:8 we have the most famous of Cushite kings named Tirhakah. Who was also king of Egypt. His crown would have two snakes, one referring to being king over Egypt, the other being king of Cush. The kings of Cush ruled bothy Egypt and Cush between 727 BC to 653 BC. The Bible Knowledge Commentary states that Tirhakah was an

6 NIV Study Bible, pg. 74. Map of Cush.

7 Historical Tradition of Busoga, see pages 95 – 102.

8 New Encyclopedia fo Africa Volume 4, pgs. 76-78.

9 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 61.

10 Uganda, A Country Study, pg. 69.

ally of Hezekiah¹¹ During the time of Hezekiah, the army of Sennacherib left Jerusalem temporarily to fight at the battle of Lachish against Tirhakah. I believe once again we can pray that God would raise up partners in the gospel to fight against a world conquerer. It was after that diversion that made Sennacherib write his mocking letter, that led Hezekiah to go before the Lord and pray.

Journaling: Father, we ask that just as Tirhakah took his place as king, God that you would be raising up others in that same region of the world who would be royalty. Who would be seated with Christ on His throne. That they would no longer be orphans, but sons of the king who keep your commands and discover the knowledge (epignosis) of God.

Yes, son, it is my will to raise up many sons and daughters for royalty. Even as the soil of Uganda is rich in minerals, so I have a harvest there rich for you. For the soil of your own land has been diluted and tainted with chemicals, man made agendas. And the soil of this land has been diluted by its injustice and power struggle. Yet I have a harvest there for you says the LORD.

The prophecy of Isaiah 18:1-7 fits well with the story of 2 Kings 19:8. In Isaiah 18:1, Isaiah or the Lord through Isaiah is telling messengers to go to the land of Cush. If we were to interpret Isaiah 18 with 2 Kings 19 we see that what these messengers were to tell the people of the land of Cush was not to form an alliance with the southern kingdom of Judah. The reason being that God was going to take care of the enemy Himself, and as a result the people of Cush would give gifts to the people of God, because of the greatness of their God.

God in Isaiah 18:4 compares His waiting to destroy the Assyrians like the heat of sunshine, and like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest. Showing us that there is a waiting for there destruction. It was when Sennacherib defied the Lord that he became ripe for the Lord's destruction. Or as Isaiah 18:5, cuts off the shoots with pruning hooks. Which goes well with the prophecy concerning Sennacherib in 2 Kings 19:28- I will put my hook in your nose. Just as God cuts off the shoots of ripening grapes with pruning hooks, so He uses a hook to put in Sennacherib's nose to take back to Assyria.

In Isaiah 18:6 it says that the birds of prey will summer on them and the beasts of the earth will winter on them. This happened in 2 Kings 19:35 after the Angel of the Lord came and killed 185,000 of the Assyrians. There were bodies everywhere, and the birds of prey feasted on them in summer and the beasts of the field feasted on them in the winter.

Since the Cushites were saved from a meaningless battle, homage was paid to the God of Israel. How many meaningless battles are fought around the Cushite influenced countries of East Africa today? Think of the Rwanda Genocide, LRA, Holy Spirit Movement, just to name of few. Cushites, the battle has already been won! Turn your weapons of war into tools of harvest (Isaiah 2) and prepare yourselves for the coming of the LORD!

At the end of Isaiah 20 there is a promise to Egypt and Assyria as being the people of God along with Israel. There will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria. They will both be worshiping the Lord together. Just as the ancient Cushite kings ruled Egypt for a century, I believe God is raising up a people from East Africa who will rule and reign in the authority of the spirit and conquering the enemies of God. They will participate in the Back to Jerusalem movement bringing the gospel through Egypt back to Jerusalem. The Lord is raising up this movement out of places like China, where Dennis Balcombe says the underground church is raising up groups of missionaries to travel through all the countries leading back to Israel. Heidi Baker is also raising up missionaries from Mozambique to go through all the nations back to Jerusalem.

Uganda has a history of a colonial officer by the name of Major Martyr¹² who was called to go up the Nile River and create peace treaties. I believe that God is calling Ugandans to fulfill this

¹¹ Bible Knowledge Commentary: 2 Kings 19:8.

¹² A Political History of Uganda, pg. 111, 112.

spiritually. To have a group of people who will be in the Lord's army and be martyrs for Him and who will travel up the Nile River and create peace through God's Word and fulfill Isaiah 20 in harmony with the international back to Jerusalem Movement.

The Ugandan military during World War II worked as a military labor force for Egypt.¹³ I pray God would raise up Ugandans to go up the Nile once more to Egypt and be laborers for the Lord.

Yes my Son it is a fantastic time to be alive. The revival that came before to that land only brought revelation inside the Church: my next wave of revival will bring the vision that I have given you.

In Psalm 68:31, Cush will hasten to spread out her hands to God. Spreading out of the hands is something that God did in Exodus to demonstrate His judgment (Exodus 3:20, 7:5). Moses and Aaron also stretched out their hands to exercise God's judgment (Exodus 8:6, 9:22). In Joshua, the stretching out of the hands has to do with warfare (Joshua 8:18,19,26). In Matthew 8:3 Jesus stretches out His hand and heals. In Matthew 12:13, Jesus tells the man with a withered hand to stretch it out, and it was healed. Jesus tells Peter in John 21:18 that he will stretch out his hands and carry him to a place he doesn't want to go. In Acts 4:30 the disciples ask the Lord to stretch out your hand so that many signs and wonders would be performed. The stretching out of hands is used in many aspects but all of them come back to worship. That is what Cush will do one day, they will come back to their one true Father and spread out their hands to God and worship Him. I believe for Cush to come back to the Father like the prodigal son in Luke 15, with the Father looking and waiting for his son, his own hands spread out for his son.

Journaling: Yes son, as you can see part of worshiping is being a warrior. And I have trained these people to fight, and you can see in their worship, that they are warriors.

Father I ask for the people of Uganda to spread out their hands and worship you. I pray that it won't just be one hand, and have the other in worshiping other false gods, but instead both hands ready to be a living sacrifice for their true king. In Jesus name I pray, Amen!

Psalm 68 has further implications though. According to the NIV Study Bible text notes, it was a Psalm that the early church used to declare what Christ did from verses 1 – 19, and what the Church does from verses 20 - 35. Verse 1 says, “Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered.” Jesus did rise from the dead and the enemies of sin, sickness and disease scattered. The Greek word in the LXX for “rise” is “*anistamai*.” It is the same word in John 6:39 where Jesus says, “that I should loose nothing of all that He has given me, but **raise** it up on the last day.” The first section of the Psalm is coming with a close in verse 18, which is quoted in Ephesians 4:8- “When he ascended on high, he led a host of captives, and gave gifts to men.” From there, Paul shares a little commentary on the verse than explains to us what these gifts were. They were apostles, prophets, evangelists and pastor/teachers. This group would have us to reach the “*epignosis uios tou theou*”: the experiential/advanced/perfect knowledge of the Son of God. When we know that, we are ready to fulfill the rest of Psalm 68.

Psalm 68:28 says, “O God command your power, empower oh God that which you have made ready in us.” The word for “made ready” is the same word in Ephesians 6:13- “Therefore take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, **and having done all**, to stand.” God is empowering His church to stand strong and victorious in battle (Psalm 68:23). Psalm 65:35- “God is wonderful in His Holy Ones” (cf. Ephesians 1:1-To the Holy Ones of Ephesus).

In Acts 8 we have the story of Philip, who was later called Philip the evangelist (Acts 21:8). The gift of the evangelist was a result of Christ's resurrection in Psalm 68:18. Philip goes and ministers

¹³ Uganda, A Country Study, pg. 199.

to the Ethiopian Eunuch who commands his chariot to stop and gets baptized. Fulfilling Psalm 68:31- Ethiopia shall hasten to stretch out her hand readily to God (LXX). Ethiopia in the Bible is ancient Cush, which is modern day Sudan. According to Eusebius's "Ecclesiastical History" (2.1.13-14), written in the early fourth century A.D.:

Traditions says that he [the Ethiopian Eunuch], who was the first of the Gentiles to receive from Philip by revelation the mysteries of the divine word, and was the first fruits of the faithful through the world, was also the first to return to his native land and preach the gospel of the knowledge of the God of the universe and the sojourn of our Savior which gives life to men, so that by him was actually fulfilled the prophecy which says, "Ethiopia shall stretch out her hand to God" [Psalm. 68:31].

We as the church will continue this out of Christ's resurrection, those of the ancestry of Cush worshiping Jesus.

Yes Son, that is my desire, but few have found this and know this, I am calling you out to those, to speak forth this revelation and see a people come to know me that I have declared in my word. Do you remember that one in Ethiopia? I may blow you that way. Do not be alarmed at this, my calling on and for your life is coming.

I really appreciated reading the book, "Africa and the Bible." On page 161, Yamauchi discusses the Ethiopian Eunuch. He says, "As a historian of the ancient world, I find that many New Testament scholars are confined to tunnel vision to the immediate context, with little awareness of its broader background." He goes on to share how some scholars from today's country of Ethiopia insist that their country is in the exact same location of Ethiopia of Biblical times. They refuse to research any archaeological evidence but only confine the Bible to mean one thing and one thing only. Yet the root word for Ethiopian is *Aitiops* and it simply means sun burnt face. The LXX and the Hebrew word interchange Cush with Ethiopia, so the Ethiopia in the Bible is really modern day Sudan where ancient Cush was.

It was also later that I heard a sermon by Dr. Michael Brown about the Hebrides revival. In it he shares that the Holy Spirit took a Bible verse out of its original context and used it for the revival of the day. It was Isaiah 44:3-For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants. In context this verse was talking about the children of Israel returning to the land of Israel. But the Holy Spirit took that verse and applied it to a major revival!

The Holy Spirit did the same thing for us in Uganda. Late at night a demon possessed 16 year old came to our base. The Pastors took him back to his home and found witchcraft. They burned it, the young man was instantly delivered. The whole household got saved, a Bible study was started in the home. On Sunday the father of the young man who was delivered about his new salvation, and being born again or as we say "balokole." He quoted from James 5. James 5 in context is talking about gathering elders together and having them pray for those who are on their sick bed. Even though the context was not perfectly the same, the results were!

The book "Africa and the Bible," hearing Dr. Brown's sermon about the Hebrides revival, and the testimony of this young man...The Lord was taking me into a place to not tunnel vision His word to others personal view of the immediate context, but to let the Holy Spirit use God's word however He seems fit.

Well done my Son, as you can see, how a lined up these events, every last one, including today and including now so that you can see my hand leading you and guiding you, even with the

interruption of your scholarly paper:~) By the way isn't scholarly, knowing me and being able to teach others what you know about me??~ Spend hours knowing me and not textbook information that only leads to heart ache.

Yes Father, I will learn from Ecclesiastes 12:12 so that I won't have much study that produces weariness of flesh, but instead be filled with your Spirit, which produces whatever you want.

--Just a note, I see a direct correlation of the talk/debate of James 5 and the word for weariness(gk kamno). Debating/studying the original meaning of the word 'weariness' will only produce the weariness of the flesh talked about in Eccl. 12:12. Thank you Jesus.--

Isaiah 11:11 talks about a remnant coming from Cush. The language is as a second Exodus when God will extend His hand a second time to recover the remnant of His people. Just as Cush will stretch their hands to God in Psalm 68, so God will extend His hand to them.

In Isaiah 18:1 and Zephaniah 3:10 the Bible talks about a land beyond the rivers of Cush. The rivers would be the Nile river. Beyond the rivers maybe beyond the source of the Nile, which is lake Victoria...in Uganda. These people are tall and smooth skinned, and would pay tribute to the LORD. These people beyond the rivers will also sacrifice and worship the Lord. For the Lord will change their speech and give them pure speech.

Yes Father, change the speech of these people so that they can speak the tongues of angels, give them pure speech, that they may worship you and offer their lives to you, in Jesus Name.

Yes Son, that is my will to turn their tongues from sinning to serving, from Satan to sonship, from bondage to ageless freedom in me and my Son.

In Isaiah 20 God warns us not to put our hope in Cush, because He is going to take them into captivity. Instead we are to put our hope in the Lord. In fact, God uses Cush in Isaiah 43:3 by putting them in bondage, to get His covenant people back.

Isaiah 45:14 is a powerful promise about the Cushites, when God's people are in their proper covenant. We will have the Cushites come, bring their merchandise and say, "Surely God is in you, and there is no other, no other god besides him." Just by walking in our God given authority they will come to us and declare God's glory. That is what I want in Uganda, I want to see the witch doctors and muslims come and declare Jesus is Lord and that there is no other.

Yes my child it is well said. Haven't I said this in my word? Stay connected with those who won't loose touch and bring you to the fullness of my spirit and you will see in your life the fullness of my Word.

In Numbers 12:1 we have the Moses marrying a cushite women. Miriam and Aaron were both using this as an excuse to show there jealousy and envy. Yet God never said the children of Israel could never marry the cushites (Exodus 34:11,16).¹⁴

In Job 28:19 it says how the Topaz of Cush cannot compare with wisdom. LXX calls Cush, Ethiopia. During the history of Cush gold was transported from that place up to Egypt.¹⁵ It would also seem according to the Bible that topaz was as well. Yet the wisdom of God which is the Fear of the LORD far surpasses even the most amazing jewels of the East African Region. Even Uganda is called the pearl of Africa by Winston Churchill in 1907 after his visit. Yet these precious people and land, cannot be compared to the fear of the Lord.

Yes son that is it, it is a release from personal to extravagant wealth, be free from this my child!

¹⁴ Bible Knowledge Commentary, Numbers 12:1.

¹⁵ Africa and the Bible.

THE GEOGRAPHY OF UGANDA and REGION OF BUSOGA:

Uganda is located in East Africa. It is surrounded by the countries of Southern Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and Democratic Republic of the Congo. Most of these countries have the same VISA requirements of a three month VISA. My wife and I haven't needed to get more than a three month VISA yet, but if you choose to stay longer than 3 months, you would just simply drive to Kenya, buy a VISA there, then drive back into Uganda for another 3 months, repeating the process as needed.

The major lakes are Lake Albert and Lake Victoria. Almost 20% of Uganda is water.¹⁶ Lake Victoria is the second largest fresh water lake in the world, just under Lake Superior in North America. Lake Victoria is also the source of the Nile River. At the source of the Nile River is the town called Jinja. As the orphanage we were working at in Kamuli town was only an hour and a half's drive from Jinja, my wife and I would stay there when we needed a day or two or rest.

The geography of Uganda, at least where we were, was nothing but farm land. In fact, they have harvest all year round, because there are only two seasons: wet and dry. 80% of Uganda's populations works in agriculture¹⁷. The soil is so amazingly lush there, I have never seen soil quite like it. Much of Uganda is a plateau.¹⁸ It's elevation declines from 4,300 feet above sea level in the south to 2,460 feet in the north. Mountain chains nearly encircle the country's land borders. The mountains that border Congo are called the Rwenzori Mountains and run about 50 miles. Uganda is separated from Rwanda by the volcanic Virungu Mountains. The border with Kenya is also with mountains, including Mt. Elgon. When Uganda used to border Sudan it was with Mt. Langia. Now the border in the north is with Souther Sudan.

Once you leave out of the major cities you see mostly farmers still using traditional farming methods. I was amazed to see no western style fast food restaurants in the country. When we would drive on the dirt road we had to look out for cows on the road, everywhere. Over 80% of Uganda's roads are not paved.¹⁹

The capital city of Kampala has 1.6 million people. It is surrounded by seven hills that are each known for something. The hill of Kasubi is where the tombs of the previous kings²⁰ (kabaka) of Buganda are located. Mengo hill is where the Bugandan king has his court²¹ and palace. Kibuli hill has the Kibuli Mosque. Namirembe Hill has the Namirembe Anglican Cathedral, Lubaga hill has the Catholic Cathedral, and Nsambya hill has the Nsambya hospital. Kampala hill used to have Lugard's fort, who was a British mercenary during the 1890's, but due to a conflict between the Historic Buildings Conservation Trust (HBCT) and the Uganda Muslims Supreme Council (UMSC), it no longer does. The Muslims wanted to build a Mosque on that hill, so in 2003 the fort was moved, and in 2007 the Mosque was build. Colonel Mwammar Gaddafi of Libya built the Mosque as a gift to Uganda and benefit to the Muslim population. It holds 15,000 people. This mosque actually fulfills plans begun over 30 years ago in the 1970's under Idi Amin, who had begun to build a Mosque on Kampala hill but was never able to complete it.

In Uganda, almost every day the weather is 81 degrees. While we were there, we would pump our own water and use our hands to wash our clothes. There were no washers/dryer machines. Everyday the sun would dry it. It was amazing to see how much having the same weather everyday simplified our lifestyle. Usually once or twice a week it would rain. Uganda is directly on the equator, $\frac{1}{4}$ south of it and $\frac{3}{4}$ about it. Days and nights are equal lengths throughout the year.

16 Ugand in Pictures, pg. 13.

17 <http://www.un.org/special-rep/ohrls/ldc/MTR/Uganda.pdf>

18 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 10.

19 Uganda, Enchantment of the World, pg. 82.

20 Previous kings being Mutesa I, Maranga II, Daudi Chua, Mutesa II.

21 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 16.

The region of Busoga has Lake Kyoga to the north and Lake Victoria to the south. The Victorian Nile is to the west and Mpologoma river is to the east. The bordering regions are Buganda to the east, Teso to the north and Bukedi to the west.

The Major cities of the Busoga region are Kamuli, Jinja and Iganga. For the past year there have been major road construction from Jinja to Kamuli. Travel time on the dirt road was usually two hours, so long as your tire didn't burst, as ours did once. Since the road work is progressively coming to completion, travel time is down to an hour and 15 minutes. In contrast, the road from Jinja to Iganga is amazingly smooth!

Busoga's totally population is 2.1 million people. The total land mass of the region is 7,100 square miles. While the total population of Uganda as a whole is 34.5 million. The total land mass of the country of Uganda is 91,100 square miles. There are 271 people per square mile in Uganda.²² This is basically twice the size of Pennsylvania. In Uganda 12% of the population live in the city. It is estimated that by 2025 Uganda will have 47 million people and that by 2050, 82 million people will live in Uganda. Currently there are 1.6 million IDP's (internally displaced persons) living in northern Uganda.²³

Today Uganda would be considered a nation with a young population. In 2003 half of Ugandans were under the age of 14. Furthermore, in 2005 the recorded life expectancy of your typical Ugandan male was 43 and 45 for female.²⁴ Yet another book written in 2000 but updated in 2010 says the average life expectancy for males was then 51.7 years for males and 53.8 for females.²⁵ Poverty being the main reason for such low life expectancy.

THE LANGUAGE AND ETHNICITY OF THE REGION:

There are 56 different tribes in Uganda²⁶. When I asked one of our locals he told me that there were 52 different tribes. Each tribe has its own history. There are at least 42 languages, though because of British colonialism, English is the national language.

You can divide the country into four different groups based on their languages: the Bantu, Luo, Nilo-Hamitic and Sudanic. Bantu is by far the largest, representing 50% of the population. The ethnic groups in the Bantu language category are Buganda, Busoga, Bagwe, Basiso, Banyole, Basomis and Kenyi. You can tell these are from the same category by most of them beginning with a "ba" or "bu".²⁷ The Bantu groups were mostly known as being hunters and gatherers. Besides the Bantu category of tribes, some of the other well known tribes are Ankole, Acholi, and Iteso.

Besides tribal distinction, the country is divided into ten provinces and 56 districts by the national government of Uganda. For the Busoga Kingdom, you would have the districts of Kamuli, Jinja, Iganga, Bugiri and Mayuge. In the Busoga region, the main language is Lasoga, though mostly everybody can speak English there too, though the style of English is quite different from American English. There was many times when we would speak and have to repeat the same thing for others to understand our style of English. It is actually called Ugandan English.²⁸ Our favorite term that we got used to was, "some how," which is what you would say if something was not good, but either just "okay" or "bad", which you would never actually say directly as it would probably insult someone.

HISTORY OF UGANDA/BUSOGA:

22 Uganda in Pictures, pg. 271.

23 Uganda in Pictures, pg. 38.

24 Welcome to Uganda, pg. 23.

25 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 59.

26 http://www.whereisuganda.com/page.php?tb=ug_facts&id=10

27 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 58.

28 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ugandan_English

The History of Uganda and Busoga are difficult to trace. In fact, all of east Africa's history is difficult to trace. Compared to West Africa, there are not many historical records and written evidence goes back only 180 – 200 years. We know that Arab traders first arrived in the 1840's and that, in 1875, King Mutesa I of the Buganda kingdom wrote a letter to Queen Victoria that was published in the London Daily Telegram saying that he wanted to be-friend the white people.²⁹ Recorded events prior to these dates, however, is scarce.

What most history books seem to agree on is that sometime between 500 BC and 1000 AD Bantu speakers came to the area of Uganda.³⁰ It was around 1300 AD that different kingdoms were established. Bunyoro, Buganda and Ankole were formed. Bunyoro was the largest, but later Buganda become the largest. The rock paintings of Nyero³¹ in South West Uganda date back to the iron age confirming the years of Uganda's existence.

For Busoga specifically we have much history passed down through stories. Most of the stories point back to Kintu and Mukama, the founders and gods of Busoga. Many of the stories that point to Kintu are from southern Busoga. Many of the stories that come from northern Busoga come from Mukama. So the history of Busoga is intricately tied into ancestral worship.

Most people of the territory of Busoga before the Europeans arrived were farmers and kept cattle, sheep, goats, and gardens for domestic use. Women cared for most of the staple food of bananas, millet, cassava and sweet potatoes. Men would take care of cash crops, coffee, cotton, peanuts and corn. The people of Busoga would not have one king over them, but many kings over small kingdoms. The most important principal would be who you descended from. It would be traced by the male. Who you descended from would determine your marriage choices, inheritance rights and obligations to your ancestors.³²

Each tribe is further broken down into different clans. In Busoga each clan has a different totem. A totem was what was used to identify the clan and usually was symbolized through an animal. For example, some clans were the lion or fish clan. Each clan also had its own drum beat and accompanying slogan. The drum beat slogan of the abaiseNgobi clan was, "I have no child"³³. When we visited Iganga, we saw that other towns and villages were named after other negative things like, "place of no food," "place of the vulture," and "place of the skull." Kintu the founder of Busoga was thought to be the distributor of the clans. It is believed there are 220 clans in Busoga. Around 100 of these clans migrated into the Busoga region.

The Busoga flag is represented by three colors: blue, yellow and brown. Blue represented water, the source of life. The blue specifically represented water bodies of the River Nile, Lake Victoria, River Mpologoma in the West and Lake Kyoga that surround the region. They were considered as the unbeatable natural resource endowments that define the economic activity of Busoga. Yellow represents the warm and sunny weather experienced in Busoga throughout the year. Brown represents the fertile brown alluvial soils found in this Victoria Crescent zone.³⁴

The national flag of Uganda has 6 strips with the colors of black, yellow and red. Black stands for the Ugandans, yellow stands for the sunshine and red stands for the brotherhood of Ugandans.³⁵ As we will see later, that red strip needs to go deep into the heart of Ugandans. In the middle of the flag is the crested crane, which is the national emblem and national bird, similar to how the bald eagle is to America.

Busoga Emblem consists of the royal coat of arms and the tricolored flag. The royal coat of

29 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 19.

30 Welcome to Uganda, pg. 10.

31 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 18.

32 Uganda, A Country Study, pg. 54.

33 Historical Tradition of Busoga, pg. 174.

34 <http://www.crwflags.com/fotw/flags/ug%7Dbus.html>

35 Welcome to Uganda, pg. 5.

arms is composed of many items and symbols. The Kob (*Empongo*) represents the rich wild life of Busoga. The Empongo is also the totem of the Balangira (Royal family). There are two drums on the coat of arms, which, as in many other societies in Africa, are instruments used in communication. It is also a symbol of culture. Two Spears, on the coat of arms are war weapons and are a symbol of power and are here used to confirm the leadership role of defending the people. The coat of arms' shield is used to represent the states role to protect the property and life of the people.

The Motto of Busoga, written in the Lusoga language, is "*Busoga okwisania na Maani*," translated in English to mean that "Unity is Strength" or, "Strength is derived from Unity." It speaks about the togetherness of the Busoga people at all times of crisis and happiness. The pillars present in the shield represent the 11 principalities that are the foundation of Busoga Kingdom. These are the families of Gabula, Zibondo, Ngobi, Menha, Luba, Wakooli, Ntembe, Tabingwa, Kisiki, Nkono, and Nanhumba. Five long pillars in the middle represent the five Princes from which the Kyabazinga (king of Busoga) is elected. They include: Gabula, Ngobi, Tabingwa, Zibondo and Nkono. The Knot in the center of the shield represents the Kyabazinga Isebantu as the fulcrum of authority and the chief binding factor of Busoga.

RELIGION OF BUSOGA BEFORE COLONIALISM:

Before colonialism, there was trade from the areas of Uganda with the outside world. It was called the African Great Lakes region which would then go out of East Africa by the Indian Ocean. It was also called the Empire of Kitara and Bachwezi Empire. The Bachwezi are considered mystical and others come to where they were believed to live and worship them.³⁶

The Busoga believed that the banana came from their founder and god Kintu who brought it from the east. Kintu was known as depending on what story you were told as God, son of God, father of all people, founder of the clans, distributor of the totems, first statesman or founder of kingdoms. The Nkuni were believed to be the first clan to arrive in Busoga and are worshipped as the creators of the clan. The whole of Busoga is covered with these Nkuni worship sites. Offerings were especially made to these sites during times of war.

The religion of Busoga and most of Africa points back to ancestral worship. The mizimu are ancestral spirits. The spirit was thought to remain alive where the flesh of that person died. They were believed to affect the lives of their descendants. It was very important to give them a proper burial so you would be treated well.

There were also the royal mizimu, or the spirits of the deceased rulers. They were worshiped and consulted as state figures, which showed how the people had a deep concern for the preservation of the state.

The misambura were spirits of people who lived on earth and displayed supernatural power. They are thought to have more power than the mizimu and were associated with fertility and death, birth and marriage. The two most prominent as mentioned earlier were Kintu and Mukama. Sacrifices would be taken to their shrines that were found all over Busoga. The people would make these sacrifices during critical moments of their life.

When one settles in to buy land, before the house goes up a tree is planted known as a "omugaire gaire gwa Kintu." Which would then be dedicated to Kintu. Just think, after a thousand years of such faith and practice, of how many of the many trees in Busoga have been planted under such a premise. Any blemish on a new born baby would be thought to be the work of the Mukama spirit. Mukama is referred to being light skinned. When my wife and I would share at different villages some of the children would be scarred of us and run away, maybe because they thought we were Mukama.

36 Tracing the mystical people of in Uganda-Chwezi, NTV Uganda.

There were spirits in stones, trees, wells, rivers and hills. Some were stationary but others moved along rivers with reptiles. There were spirits in the canoes that were in the tree that was cut down. The canoe would be named after these spirits. When the canoe would come to the other side of a lake and would rot, they believed another tree would grow from it. Keep in mind that the lake was Lake Victoria and would be an amazing journey in a canoe!

According to the Busoga, you could communicate with the spirits. You were able to be possessed by ancestral spirits without the aid of a medium. If you wanted to be possessed by more important spirits you needed a medium. Outranking a medium was a professional medium who could also diagnose specific troubles and suggest remedies to placate a particular bothersome spirit. Someone who is possessed is referred to as a basweezi. When someone who was skilled in divination would see someone possessed, they would teach that person the skill of divination. Even with the adherence to Christianity and Islam, the ancestors continue to be revered.³⁷

When we would minister in villages in teams, we would see many demon possessed. When the prayer time would begin we would pray for God to bless them. Every time we would pray, somebody would be manifesting a demon. Most of the time these manifestations would continue off and on until they would be completely delivered. We talked with one of the members of the ministry who used to be the town alcoholic and even after conversion it took about a month of deliverances till he was totally set free.

UGANDA/BUSOGA AFTER COLONIALISM TO INDEPENDANCE:

The country of Uganda has had a major shift in the past 150 years. In the book, “The Race to Fashoda,” there is a map and it has Africa in 1870 with some pockets of colonial influence here and there. However, over the next 30 years, that is to say that by 1900, most of the continent had been colonized by Europe. It is also during this time that many missionaries came from Europe to Africa to preach the gospel.

The British first began to influence Uganda in 1862³⁸ British explorer John Hanning Speke became the first European to reach the source of the Nile in Jinja. Speke and James Augustus Grant become the first Europeans to reach Buganda. Our Ugandan friends would joke with us about their “discovery” of the source of the Nile, as if the people there didn't already know about it.

Colonialism is a tricky subject, because before Europe colonized Uganda, there were already inter tribal tensions. In fact, different tribes in Uganda were already colonizing one another and fighting, as they did at the battle of horn bill.^{39 40} What also makes colonization complicated is that the traditional territory of the tribes often differs from the current geo-political markings of the modern nation states in Africa. The Acholi tribe, for instance, has members living in Uganda but also has another 45,000 of there tribe who live in South Sudan. These pre-existing tribal tensions explain why, when the British came to colonize Uganda, tribes would work with them to go after other tribes. The British would mainly work with the Buganda tribe. The British would give them more favor at the expense of some of the other tribes. This type of favor would usually be governmental authority over the other tribes.

Also in Uganda History comes the story of Christians who were persecuted for their faith. In 1885, the King of Buganda named Kabaka Mwanga ordered the torture and murder of Bishop James Hannington (1847 – 1885) and many local Christians. This group is known as the Uganda Martyrs. There is a museum in their honor in Kampala as well as a national holiday on June 3rd called Martyrs'

37 The Bantu Bureaucracy, pg. 92.

38 Culture and Customs of Uganda, pages xv, xvi.

39 Historical Tradition of Busoga, pg 119.

40 Ibid. pg 55.

Day.⁴¹ On October 18, 1964, Pope Paul VI even canonized 22 of the Ugandan Martyrs.⁴²

John A. Rowe points out in the book “Uganda Now”, that there are many similarities between the Uganda Martyrs and the murder of Protestant Archbishop Luwum in February 1977.⁴³ Luwum being murdered by Idi Amin. The result of both was that what the enemy meant for evil God turned into good and the advancement of His kingdom.

It was in 1894 that the tribe of Buganda was officially declared a British Protectorate. In 1896 the tribal regions of Busoga, Bunyoro, Toro, and Ankole become under Britain's control. From that time until Uganda's independence in 1962 there was a political fight between Protestants, Catholics, Muslims and the Kabaka (King of Buganda).

In 1919 the Isebantu Kyabazinga office was established for the king of the Busoga, paralleling the rule and authority held by the Kabaka (king) of Buganda. Ezekieri Wako was appointed the first Isebantu Kyabazinga. This was all new for the kingdom of Busoga as they had never really had a king and until 1919 had been organized into principalities by the sovereignty of the Bunyoro tribe and later by the Buganda tribe. Before 1919, they wouldn't have one king, but many small kingdoms.

It was during 1815 – 1914 that the British Empire had their Pax Britannica (the time of British peace).⁴⁴ Great Britain became the largest empire in the history of the world. Wars were brought under control. When the British expanded to Uganda they had a structure of counties, sub-counties, parishes and sub-parishes that they instituted.

In 1914, World War I began. Great Britain and France fought Germany and Austria-Hungry. Uganda had a well trained military, mostly from the northern part of the country, that was part of East Africa known as “the King's African Rifles”. During World War I, this force grew to 16,000 members. There was also 178,000 Ugandans that worked as laborers for the carrier corps.⁴⁵ The war in Europe also was going on in Africa. The British and Germans fought in the area known as Tanganyika in modern day Tanzania, which at that point was a German colony. When Germany lost in World War I, the area of Tanganyika was put under control of Great Britain.⁴⁶ There were 225 deaths in battle or resulting from injuries as well as 1,164 deaths from disease and 760 who were wounded. The British government decorated 155 soldiers.

When World War II came in 1939, Uganda was directly involved, with over 75,000 troops being recruited for the war. They fought in Madagascar and helped defeat Italians in Ethiopia. They also helped build a defense in Kenya and once again were rewarded with various medals from the British empire. After the war, the troops remained in the military and were used to put down rebellions in Kenya and suppress any uprisings in Uganda.⁴⁷

UGANDA/BUSOGA AFTER 1962:

In 1962, Milton Obote became Uganda's first prime minister. However because of tensions between the different tribes in the country of Uganda, a king of one of the tribes took over the following year. His name was King Mutesa II, or the kabaka, king over the Buganda region. Yet with him as the President of all of Uganda, how would the other tribes be treated? Not good at all.

This lasted for three years. Then in 1966 Milton Obote sent troops to take over the palace of the kabaka. The troops were led by Idi Amin. It was a success and King Mutesa II was deported to England. This did not last long either, because in 1971 Idi Amin forced Milton Obote out. The reason

41 <http://www.buganda.com/martyrs.htm>

42 Uganda in Pictures, pg. 49.

43 Uganda Now, pg. 268.

44 East Africa Handbook, pg. 531.

45 Uganda, A Country Study, pg. 198.

46 Uganda, Enchantment of the World, pg. 53.

47 Uganda, Enchantment of the World, pg. 55.

for this was because Idi Amin heard that Obote was going to fire him from being General in the Ugandan army. Obote was concerned of Idi Amin's growing popularity.

Idi Amin was an evil dictator. He was from the Kakwa tribe in North Western Uganda.⁴⁸ When some of our Ugandan friends at the orphanage shared with my wife the history of Uganda, they would just cry. Under Idi Amin, 300,000 Ugandans were killed. At the beginning of the autobiographical documentary on Idi Amin, you see different ones being shot and killed and dragged away. We saw him interviewing his cabinet and the story of some of them being killed shortly afterwards, being thrown in the Nile river to be eaten by the crocodiles. At the end of the documentary, the director says that, "You see that you have the face of Uganda represented in Amin looking back at you," as he represented all the pain and struggle that the country has gone through.

Idi Amin called himself "big daddy". He declared himself to be the last king of Scotland because, as a young man, he was a soldier in the Scottish regiment in East Africa. Amin admired the scots for their independent attitude toward the English. He would have his personal guard play Scottish bag pipes and wear Scottish kilts. He also created for himself the longer title, "His Excellency, President for Life, Field Marshal, Al Hadj, Doctor, Idi Amin Dada, VC, DSO, MC, Lord of all the beasts of the earth and fishes of the sea and conqueror of the British Empire in Africa in General and Uganda in Particular". He was an evil man. He televised the beheading of Ugandans, and made them wear white to make sure they viewers could see the blood.⁴⁹

On July 4, 1976 the Entebbe, Uganda airport became known all over the world when the airplane Air France Flight 139 flying from Athens, Greece was hijacked by terrorists (some Arabs, some German freedom fighters) and redirected there, where it was welcomed by Idi Amin welcomed them. Many of the passengers were Jews. The terrorists separated the Jews from everybody else and eventually let everybody else go but the Jews. They were holding them hostage until Israel, Kenya, France and West Germany released 53 prisoners who were associated with the terrorists.

The Israeli Army came to the rescue to save the hostages through Operation Thunderbolt, which inspired several movies.⁵⁰ It was also called Operation Jonathon, named after Lt. Col. Yonatan Netanyahu who was killed during the mission who was also the older brother of the then prime minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu. After the rescue, Idi Amin had several hundred Kenyans who were in Uganda slaughtered in retaliation. During the hostage one of the Israeli women was taken to the hospital in Kampala. After the rescue mission, Idi Amin had her killed and all the doctors who were treating her.

As mentioned earlier in 1977 Amin had the Arch Bishop Janani Luwum of Uganda murdered. Luwum was an out spoken voice against Amin. Amin had Luwum and three other cabinet ministers arrested. Amin accused them of being an agent of the former exiled president Obote. The next day following the Uganda radio reported that all three men were killed by a car accident. That they tried to escape while being in a car and as a result the driver lost control and crashed. Yet when the bodies were given to the family they were filled with bullet holes. Janani Luwum is recognized as a martyr by the Church of England and the Anglican Communion. His statue is among the Twentieth Century Martyrs on the front of Westminster Abbey in London.

Amin's years as president of Uganda were finally over after the Uganda-Tanzania war. Amin wanted to take the Kagera province of Tanzania and claim it for Uganda. Tanzania counter attacked. Tanzania was also aided by the Uganda National Liberation Force during the war. Idi Amin fled the country in 1979 and ended up in Saudi Arabia where he died in 2003.

After Amin, Obote took power once again in 1980. This lasted for 5 years until Tito Okello took power in 1985. Okello only served for one year until finally Yoweri Museveni in 1986 took power. Museveni is still the president of Uganda today.

48 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 25.

49 Uganda in Pictures, pg. 31.

50 Operation Thunderbolt, 1977.

Museveni was born in 1944. Museveni was involved in the war that helped get rid of Idi Amin. He is part of the Banyankole ethnic group. He became a born again Christian in secondary school. When Amin became president in 1971, Museveni fled to Tanzania. Museveni has brought the most stability to the country since it became a country despite the wars of the north. However, according to the Soldier Child Documentary,⁵¹ Museveni has not taken initiative in stopping the recruitment of child soldiers in the northern part of the country.

The use of child soldiers stemmed from a group that emerged in 1986 and 1987 led Alice Auma Lakwena through a rebellion called the Holy Spirit movement. She convinced the soldiers who had no weapons that no bullet could touch them because of the oil she rubbed on them. When all of her soldiers were either killed or captured, Alice escaped to Kenya and died in 2007.

In 1947, Southern Sudan and Northern Sudan were joined together as one country. Yet during the colonial era they were treated as two separate colonies. This was because of the different religious and ethnic backgrounds. Northern Sudan was Arabic and Muslim while southern Sudan was Black African and Christian. In 1995, conflicts arose between Sudan and Uganda, causing Uganda to stop having any kind of diplomatic relations with Sudan. Uganda felt Sudan was the greatest threat to their security because they thought Sudan was helping to support the Lord's Resistance Army. Meanwhile, Sudan felt that Uganda was supporting the Sudan's People Liberation Army, which was the army used to liberate Southern Sudan from Sudan. Southern Sudan became a country in 2011.

One can see how Britain's somewhat arbitrary political organization of these different tribal groups has led to many conflicts in the post-colonial era. Indeed, once the years of Amin's rule were over, a civil war broke out between northern and southern Uganda that lasted for 20 years. A similar civil war that eventually split Sudan in two also lasted for 22 years.

In Uganda the north was led by Joseph Kony of the Acholi tribe. His army was called the Lord's Resistance Army. It was supposedly based off of the 10 commandments with the aim of replace Uganda's government. He would take children and make them become soldiers. One such soldier was at our orphanage⁵². It was amazing to see this young man worship during our services, and the transformation in his life. This war lasted mainly for 20 years, from 1986 to 2006. Uganda's government forced 1.7 million people to live together as closely as possible in refugee camps to make it more difficult for the Lord's Resistance army to abduct the children for soldiers.⁵³

In the documentary Soldier Child we hear in detail what happens to these precious kids. They are kidnapped from their parents and taken to what is now called Southern Sudan, but what was then called Sudan. Many would die on the way from exhaustion or lack of water. They would then be tied to a soldier so they wouldn't escape and be brainwashed for war. They were told if they escaped that the president of Uganda would kill them. They were even forced to kill their own family members or teachers. During the documentary, some children, after they were made to kill someone, were to sit on top of the dead person, or rip out their intestine and rap it around their neck.

Most of the LRA is made up of children soldiers. According to Soldier Child International more than 8,000 children have been abducted since the start of the LRA.⁵⁴ If these children do manage to escape, the healing process has just begun. For many of them, it is difficult to open up about their past experiences.

GUSCO is a rehabilitation center in Northern Uganda for the child soldiers. When they receive a child who has been rescued from or escaped the LRA, one of the first things they would want the child to do is to draw pictures about how they are feeling. These pictures would all portray stories of being shot, crossing a river at gun point, or similar things. At different times at this center, children will find other children that killed their brother or sister. For most, forgiveness takes time. Many of the

51 Soldier Child, Neil Abramson, 1998.

52 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WbD3yR6gtTY>

53 War Dance, documentary.

54 http://www.soldierchild.info/about_us.html

children when they first come will be very malnourished in their eyes because of lack of proper nutrition. Some of the children are possessed by spirits and go to local witch doctors for deliverance where they will sprinkle water on the children if some of their physical wounds do not heal. We as the Church must be the answer for them. When the leaders of GUSCO know that there are evil spirits in the children, their first idea is to go to the child's original culture, not to the church. Many of them will see the spirit of the kids they have killed in dreams telling them that they are dead. They may also see children that they have killed running around as miniature people saying, "Kill us, kills us!"

In 2008 a renewed conflict began with the LRA because they were getting more weapons. In 2010 Barak Obama signed the Lord's Resistance Army Disarmament and Northern Uganda Recovery Act. The US deployed 100 soldiers to aid anti LRA groups. On May 12, 2012 a senior leader in the LRA was captured. On June 6 of 2012 the United Nations released a report concerning the LRA covering from 2009 to 2012. The report stated that 591 children had been abducted by the LRA, 268 of them being girls. Currently there are between 300 – 500 fighters in this army. Many of them have been killed or captured. Half of these fighters are women.

LRA Crisis Tracker is an excellent group that keeps track of abducted men, women and children. It tells you how many reports have been shared in a particular week. If you go to the website it gives a map of where all the reports have come from so for the first time the entire world can pin point exactly where the LRA is operating at. Currently the LRA is operating just below the northern border of the Democratic Republic of Congo, and in the Central African Republic.

GOVERNMENT:

The government of Uganda is a republic. The citizens elect the leaders. All adults 18 or older have the right to vote. The government of Uganda has three branches: the executive, judicial, and legislative branches. The executive branch is run by the president. The Judicial is run by the high court. The legislative is run by the national assembly.

In 1995 a new constitution was developed that limited the president to two terms. However the current president changed it so he could be re-elected. As a result, different European countries lifted some of their aid to Uganda. Museveni is now in his fourth term.

Though the whole nation shares this structure on the Federal level, each tribe has its own completely different structure. It is like you have the traditional and western cultures represented in the government of the same country. In the villages they would make most of their decisions through the chiefs and their families as the main political leaders. Only a few other major cities practice more fully practice a Western style government. I remember sitting in on a western style government meeting in Kamuli and passing by a traditional style village meeting outside of Iganga. They seemed to be complete opposites of each other in how they functioned.

REVIVAL IN EAST AFRICA:

The history of war is a great challenge in East Africa. The reason being that in the early 1920's a man by the name of Joe Church, a missionary from the Anglican church came to East Africa. It was through him that Uganda and many of the countries surrounding Uganda were touched by a great revival.

Those who were born again were called the Balokole, which literally means, the "born agains". That is what we were called when we were in Iganga, Busoga, where the effects of the revival are still evident. Yet the Pentecostal/Charismatic group I was with was a different form of the Balokole. The original Balokole themselves would not call us that as there was an uneasy relationship between the those behind the original so called Balokole movement and the Pentecostal/Charismatic church from

the start.⁵⁵ Still others say that the Anglican East African revival from the 1920's is still a powerful force in Uganda, now represented by the Pentecostal movement.⁵⁶ In fact, Pentecostalism is the fastest growing religion in Uganda.⁵⁷

First we will define the original Balokale movement, then mark the difference between it and Pentecostalism. The Balokale first came from the Keswick tradition which had a deep impact, leading people to a deeper experience of salvation.⁵⁸ After this experience, the people would confess all their sins. Some other churches felt it went too far, and that they shouldn't be confessing things so personal. Others regarded the balokale as social rebels, because they turned their backs on the old tribal tradition.⁵⁹ Joe Church personally felt that a major fruit of the revival was deep oneness between black and white Christians. In 1933 Joe Church stood as a representative for all whites, repenting and asking for forgiveness for prejudice and white superiority, leading many into a new realm of relationship with others of other races.

Many wonderful books and documentaries have been made about the East Africa Revival.⁶⁰ But with all this so called revival, why so much war? How far has the gospel been penetrating into East African culture? How could Idi Amin could still take power? How could the Acholi civil war, cruelly eliciting children in its guerrilla warfare, be allowed to rage on for 20 years take place? How could the Rwandan Genocide in Uganda's South-Western neighbor have occurred? These are questions that must be asked. In light of this question on revival, the example above that has presented the greatest paradox for me has been the Genocide in Rwanda. I watched a documentary in which I saw one of the Hutus that killed the Tutsis was a Pentecostal Pastor.⁶¹

Even though wikipedia will say that 85% of Uganda is Christian, many can become Christians for personal gain. Church membership has favorably influenced opportunities for education, employment, and social advancement.⁶²

It seems to me that as amazing as revival and public confession of personal sins is, there must be a "loving your neighbor as yourself" that follows. These Africans would not deal with ~~there~~ their tribalism, a stronghold that runs deep in the African soil. As mentioned earlier, the red strip on Uganda's flag stands for the brotherhood of all Ugandans. We need that red strip on that flag to go deep into their hearts, deeper than the tribalism that is in their land. We must pray that the people of Uganda would become one, as Jesus and the Father are one (John 17:21).

I believe the Holy Spirit is showing me something about the connection between personal holiness and loving our neighbor in true revival. After learning more about East Africa's revival and paradoxical history of wars and bloodshed, when ministering at a camp while in America, I gave an altar call, but I had everyone who was struggling with sin pray for the person on their right and left to be delivered like it was their own personal sin. It was loving your neighbor as you love your self.

While ministering at the orphanage in Uganda⁶³ tribalism was one of the major strongholds between the children which amounted to there being a severe lack of loving your neighbor as yourself. One of the young ladies had so much hatred towards some of the other young ladies that we had to ask her to leave. While at the orphanage she would have all her school fees paid for, a huge privilege in Uganda! Yet she submitted herself to that tribalism spirit and not the love of the Father.

I see this issue in the Bible. In Acts 1:8 Jesus tells His disciples to wait in Jerusalem until they receive power to be His witnesses. He then tells them where they will minister to. First in Jerusalem,

55 East Africa Revival, pg. 196.

56 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg.89.

57 Uganda, The Enchantment of the World, pg. 95.

58 Global Awakening, pg. 108.

59 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 89.

60 East Africa Revival Documentary.

61 In the Name of God, Documentary.

62 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 87.

63 <http://www.ugandaorphans.com/>

in their own city. After that they will go to Judea and Samaria. The Greek text reads, “all of Judea and Samaria and until the end of the earth.” Judea and Samaria being linked together, why? There was historic prejudice between the two, and Jesus wanted the prejudice of that particular nation to be cleansed before they went out to the nations to preach share the good news.

1 John 4:20 says that if anyone loves God yet hates his brother, He is a liar. Instead God wants us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves (Matt. 22:39). That is to be one aspect of any true witness. Loving one's neighbor also means to be able to love a tribe or nation that we originally had prejudice against. I would have never seen that aspect unless I would have gotten out of my home culture in the suburbs of America and gone into the inner city followed by East Africa. I would have only seen revival as the personal deliverance of sin, and not the fellowship of all believers.

Thank you Father for this revelation, I pray it goes deep into my Spirit so I can take it deep into the soil of Africa.

Yes son this is my calling, and don't think the fellowship at House Church was a petty thing but I am taking you deeper and deeper into revival of the hearing, that brings revival of the soil, that will continue to bring revival, so that the world might know. Until then child...they won't.

Persecution of Christians still exists today in Uganda. In “The Voice of the Martyrs,” June 2013, newsletter, there was a story of a young girl by the name of Susan being persecuted by her father because of her Christian faith.⁶⁴ The article also shared about the rising threat of Islam in East Africa, as Muslims from Somalia and the Middle East continue pouring resources into the region. The result has been three years of growing persecution.

ISLAM IN UGANDA:

Currently 10% of the population of Uganda says that they are Muslim. Muslims and Christians have been fighting for Uganda ever since the colonial days. Islam was first introduced to Uganda by various Arab traders. Sometimes the Kabaka would convert to Islam, but mostly it was just for politics.

Near our orphanage there was a Muslim school. For our kids to take secondary tests, they had to go to this school to take them. Not all secondary test centers were Muslim, it's just that the one closest to where we just happened to be one. When we would come there, my wife and I were treated with extreme hospitality. The children would come and bow to us out of honor. They would give us soda, chicken and sweet potatoes, which were all delicacies.

Our other children at the orphanage did not have to go to the Muslim school to take the test but were able to take it on our base. When they would take various tests they would have the choice to answer the test from a Christian or Muslim perspective for their Religious Education test. Amazingly it was just these two perspectives they could choose from. Though, there are still many ancient religious practices going on all around them. For instance, all of our kids have heard of the witch doctors.

The Iganga area has the highest population of Muslims. It is in the Busoga kingdom. When we were there, we noticed many non African visitors who were from the middle east, wearing the traditional Muslim garments. When Dr. Cliff (apostolic leader of ATK) would share the gospel with them he would challenge them on their personal holiness. He would challenge them on going to the witch doctor, which “good Muslims” supposedly would never do. He would then ask them that if they are unable to live out the holiness that their religion requires for salvation, then why practice it? He would then share on the power of the Holy Spirit and our ability to truly live in the holiness that God intends for us to walk in.

⁶⁴ http://www.persecution.com/public/media.aspx?mediapage_ID=NTc3

CURRENT EVENTS IN UGANDA:

We continue to see this tension between revival breaking out and yet the continuing presence of so much sin in Uganda. In the documentary, “Child Sacrifice: Uganda”⁶⁵ we see how much witchcraft is still going on there. When in various parts of Uganda, I was told that the kings of Uganda will still practice animal sacrifice and child sacrifice. In the monitor.com.ug, a story is told of Atukwase who got kidnapped. The kidnappers called out his name and put him in a car to take him to a witch doctor. He was going to be sacrificed, but because he was circumcised the witch doctor could not do it. Many children are taken and abducted and sacrificed yet nobody seems to know anything about the situation. It is a subject that tends to be avoided in Uganda.

In the “Transformations II Movie”, Uganda is given a part in the movie. It shows how many of the political leaders, are Christian. Also an anti-dominion theology website talks about Uganda's Christian political realm.⁶⁶ Two controversial topics in Uganda's legislation are about how it is illegal to have abortions or to be homosexual. Andrew Wommack has been one of the few evangelicals to publicly support the bill against homosexuality.⁶⁷ Many of the churches disagree with this bill, including Uganda's Catholic Archbishop, Roman Catholic Church, Anglican Church of Canada, and Exodus International, just to name a few. Exodus International, a once prominent evangelical group that is no longer in existence, sent a letter to the President of Uganda telling him that the Christian Church must be permitted to extend the love and compassion of Christ.⁶⁸

The Anglican Church in Africa has stood against homosexuality while the American and European Anglican has gotten more and more liberal with it. Even one of our Pastors in America had to leave the American Anglican Church and submit to the African Diocese because of totally opposite views on homosexuality. He now is a Pastor at nondenominational church in Xenia, Ohio.

The homosexual community in Uganda does have a gay pride march, which has gotten media attention⁶⁹. This would be considered illegal in Uganda. Even though there are laws against such things as abortion and homosexuality in Uganda, these sins of sexual immorality and murder simply show up in the form of polygamy and child sacrifice.

There is still much corruption in the government. As we drove through Uganda, it would be pointed out to us that most of the sugar cane and tea leaves are owned by Indian businessmen and their large corporations. In fact, most of the cash crops and stores are owned by them. It is customary for Uganda's government to sell land to other countries and kick their own people off the land, just so they can get the money. Furthermore, not only have Uganda's natural resources been sold to other countries, but even their banks! Case and point: “Uganda commercial bank” has been sold to Malaysian Bank. No area of commerce is exempt from this trend, as with Uganda's Spinning mills that have been sold to a Belgian company.⁷⁰

I once spent time talking with one of the girls from our orphanage, who was in a college to learn about agriculture. Her hope upon graduating would be to work for one of the Indians who owns the plantation. Note how it wasn't for her to start her own company, but to get an education so that she could work for the Indians who own her country's land, and take her land's profits back to their country.

The “Transformations II” movie also shared how AIDS is on the decrease, but an article in the New York Times says that Uganda is one of two African countries (the other country Chad) where AIDS is on the rise⁷¹.

65 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IlQA5CLf7cQ>

66 <http://www.narwatch.com/2011/08/18/what-is-it-about-uganda-bachmann-campaign-faith-based-organizer-arrested-there-in-2006/>

67 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andrew_Wommack

68 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uganda_Anti-Homosexuality_Bill

69 <http://www.voanews.com/content/second-annual-gay-pride-parade-held-in-uganda/1723313.html>

70 East Africa Handbook, pg. 539.

71 http://www.nytimes.com/2012/08/03/world/africa/in-uganda-an-aids-success-story-comes-undone.html?_r=0

However, there have been major changes in the last 20 years.⁷² World trumpet.com, a prayer ministry, gives testimony of the power of prayer, sharing how Ugandans during the times of Idi Amin would go into the bush to pray for the nation. They would go deep into travail. Dr. John W. Mulinde says that this travail is one of the redemptive gifts that God has given his church in Uganda.

I have seen this gift personally in Uganda. My wife and I have both seen and felt the power of these prayers. It was not of an asking of God for something, but instead a declaring of who God is and what His will is in this situation.

Those from World Trumpet ministries go on to talk about the time of Milton Obote was even worse the Amin's. Therefore, they feel that when Museveni got elected that it was an answer to prayer. It is pretty refreshing to see Uganda's president in the transformation videos and to see that he dedicated the country to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. All that being said, some Ugandans think it is time for him to go.⁷³

In regards to health, there are some exciting new developments in malaria prevention, a sickness which, according to the World Health Organization, kills 3000 African children every day and is in fact the number 1 killer disease in Uganda.^{74 75} The skin patch, Kite, has recently been developed to keep mosquitos away in a simple, non-toxic way.⁷⁶ According to the product's Chief Scientist Michele Brown, the patch uses non-toxic compounds to block a mosquito's ability to find people through carbon dioxide. Mosquitoes use the CO2 in the breath of a human to track and feed on them. The Kite Patch found a non-toxic way to block this particular ability of the insect; counteracting nature with natural ingredients rather than harsh sprays. There is also a trail run being done on a Malaria vaccination.⁷⁷

These breakthroughs are very important to me because I have had Malaria twice while in Uganda. The first time I went to the local hospital⁷⁸ During the time at the hospital I did hear of children dying for malaria. The drug I took was called Coartem. A very common drug in Africa. Many of our children at the orphanage have had Malaria many times. They seemed to build up some kind of tolerance to it, so that the fatigue and symptoms of it aren't as severe while they are taking the medicine.

My total treatment cost at the local Ugandan clinic was \$5.00 (of course plus the cost of suffering through two days of symptoms plus the risk of contracting a particularly lethal and quick killing strain). However, if it would have been in 2008, the cost would have been \$12.50 since the exchange rate for the Ugandan schilling has gone way down. Today the exchange rate is 2,572 schillings per \$1.⁷⁹ In 2008 it was 1,000 schillings per \$1. This illustrates, On the one hand, how the Uganda schilling is loosing its value, but On the other how far our US dollar can go.

The second time I had Malaria was when I got infected in Africa but was back in the US when the symptoms came. The total cost while in America was \$10,000. It would have been cheaper for me to fly back to Africa and get seen at one of the offices there and fly back, then go to the Hospital in America. \$5 or \$10,000. Yet I did not have a choice: I needed to go to the ER. While in the ER I almost went into Cardiac Arrest, and even worse. There I took the drug called Malarone.

I say all this because God has answers prayers. Some Ugandans will drink Tonic Water every day. The reason why they drink this is because small amounts of Quinine is found in it. Quinine prevents Malaria, and those that would drink a bottle of tonic water a day would never get Malaria.

Just as God has found answers with the kite patch, so is there with Quinine. The Jesuit brother Agostino Salumbrino (1561–1642) saw the Peruvians mix ground bark of the cinchona trees with

72 <http://www.worldtrumpet.com/>

73 <http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2013/may/29/yoweri-museveni-ugandan-president>

74 <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2003/pr33/en/>

75 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 81.

76 <https://www.facebook.com/kitepatch>

77 <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/264610.php>

78 <http://kamulimissionhospital.org/home.html>

79 <http://finance.yahoo.com/q/bc?s=USDUGX=X&t=5y&l=on&z=m&q=l&c=>

sweetened water to produce tonic water. This was used to halt shivering temperatures. They tried it in Rome on Malaria, and it worked! It was first used in 1631, and was the cure for malaria until the 1940's and it still can be used.

Even though many countries are taking resources from East Africa, still others are investing in the region. China will be spending 5 billion dollars in Kenya to create a railway system from the borders of Uganda to the Indian Ocean.⁸⁰ The money will also go towards new projects in energy, infrastructure, and wild life protection. Over a century ago, British pioneers tried to do the same thing, but many died from malaria and man eating lions. There are different places where we would drive while in Uganda where there were railroad tracks, but never did we see a train.

Uganda is also trying to pass a bill on anti-pornography⁸¹. Many church leaders are in support of this. The bill was created because of the rise of erotic behavior in the country. Those who are wanting the bill to pass say that if a women wears a skirt above the knee they will be arrested. While we were in Uganda I do not remember seeing any women wearing any high shorts or skirts. The women would always wear longer skirt. Now I know why. Yet there we times I would see some of the young boys with pornographic materials especially when we would go into the town of Jinja where there were also a lot of boot legged movies for sale that would also have erotic behavior in them.

AFRICAN VS WESTERN CULTURE:

There is a huge culture shock going from America to Africa and back. When I worked at a homeless shelter in America I saw a huge difference in culture between Black Americans and White Americans. This difference does not compare to the difference between Americans and Africans, no matter what skin color you are.

Most of our diet in Africa was beans and posho. Meat was one day a week, and soda was twice a year for holidays. If they wanted juice they would take a mango and soak it in water, so they would hardly have any sugars to cause cavities. My first time there it was hard for me to eat their diet, but after my second time I adjusted. I also feel that Lord was preparing my wife and I because since then we have been doing the Genesis diet. It was easy for me to do the Genesis diet because I already became like my friends from Africa.

When the mama's at our orphanage would go sort and clean the beans they would lift them up and pour them out. When my mom came to visit us for a week she was wondering why they just didn't put them in water. But that was what the Ugandans were doing for thousands of years, so my mom just left it alone. For us water is easy access, for them water is much more difficult. Most of the time we would be either getting our water in the morning or in the evening. During the late mornings and afternoons we would never see anyone at the wells.

We also take bucket showers and have to pump our own water. If we would just eat the Genesis diet like the Africans, pump our water and gain strength like the Africans, and sit on the floor and obtain flexibility like the Indonesians we would be the most healthy people on the planet.

In Uganda, if there was a criminal offense, the families would get involved. If you were to steal, you would not only be responsible but your whole family would be shamed. Your family would stand before the other family and from there your punishment would be determined. It makes law breaking and punishment way more personal. An example of this was when, one day in our orphanage, I saw two boys fighting, the one being much larger than the other. When the younger boy brought his case to the elder, he had them both kneel. From there he let the younger boy take a stick and beat the older boy who was disturbing him. Yet in America we get a lawyer, stand before a judge, and get a jury. Everything now becomes objective instead of subjective.⁸² I think we have much to learn from

80 <http://www.csmonitor.com/World/2013/0820/From-Indian-Ocean-to-Uganda-China-will-build-Kenya-s-new-rail-line>

81 All Africa.com

82 Uganda Now, pg. 342.

African criminal affairs.

During our stay at Kasozi, an issue came up where we we needed justice we went to the police. The police chief thought because we were Mzungu (rich, white person), he wanted to work hard for us. After the situation he was expecting us to give him some money yet we didn't. Then if we wanted to get the court system involved there would be more bribery. Yet when it is through family there is no bribery. While we probably don't have quite the same stronghold of bribery in the U.S., think of all the billions of dollars we could save if we, also, did family arbitration more often than jumping right into legal litigation?

In Africa there is the phrase, "Westerners have the watch, but Africans have the time." I saw that as being so true when I was there. I miss the culture so much because when I was there would just let the day come to me, instead of trying to organize things. I saw that as I did this the Spirit was able to move and I ended up getting more accomplished! I would sometimes take an hour just to eat my breakfast. So when we would plan to meet with someone it would never be at exactly that time. If it was fifteen minutes late, it was no problem. In our culture if you don't have a full schedule of things to do you can be considered less than and lazy.

African's do not separate the spiritual from the natural like we westerners do. I particularly remember coming back from Africa and talking with someone over some verses in the Bible on the topic of healing. I was amazed how I could see his Western culture talking through him, and how much we as westerners try to separate the natural from the supernatural. To the African, physical healing is the same as spiritual healing, and the two go hand in hand. Africans will interpret the Apostle Thomas differently than us. We westerners would call him doubting Thomas. They would see him as being faithful. In John 20, Jesus appears to 11 of His disciples on resurrection morning not including Thomas. The 11 disciples go and tell Thomas that they have seen the Lord. Thomas than replies to them saying, "unless I put my finger in his side and the holes through his hands I will not believe." The reason we call it unbelief is because Thomas didn't believe the disciples and wanted proof. The reason the African calls it faith is because of their culture.

In the African culture, after someone dies, it is believed that their spirit would still be around the body and even appear to people for up to three days. This is the same reason why in Acts 12:15 the disciples thought they saw Peter's angel that sounded exactly like him: they thought Peter was dead and his spirit was roaming around till it went up to heaven! Thomas wanted to make sure that what the other disciples saw was not just His spirit, but was indeed the resurrected Lord. Jesus honored that request and seven days later, after He appeared to His disciples, He appeared to Thomas and had Thomas touch His flesh to show them that He indeed was resurrected. I guess it shows that we westerners don't know as much as we think we know about the Scriptures after all.

SPORTS IN UGANDA:

As in all countries outside of the US, soccer, or football, as they call it, dominates. That would be mostly what our kids at the orphanage would be playing. If they didn't have a ball, they would take banana leaves or trash bags and make their own. If they weren't playing it, they were listening to it. Of course we didn't have tv's for them to watch regularly, but they did somehow get radios. The Ugandans we worked with would mostly follow England's teams. In fact they were more interested in this team called Manchester than any other team. It seems that while in colonial days England dominated the world with its navy, today it dominates through football. No matter where you go hundreds of millions of people from all over the world are following the England soccer/football leagues.

There are some other stick games, where they hit sticks and try to catch them. But football dominates. Even one of the major cell phone companies in Uganda has the national soccer team as there sponsors, the Crested Cranes. This phone service is called MTN. Though MTN is not a Ugandan telephone company, its base is in South Africa.

The most recent Olympic gold medalist is Stephen Kiprotich. You will see his picture everywhere in Uganda, especially with advertisements for a particular brand of bottled water. He was the first ever Ugandan Olympic marathon gold medal winner.

Golf is also in Uganda, but it is only the tourists mostly who can afford it. There is a rule in many of the golf courses that if the ball falls into the foot print of a rhinoceros, the player may remove the ball without penalty. The reason for this rule is because rhinos weigh several tons and can leave a deep print.⁸³

EDUCATION:

The traditional education of Uganda had no pencils or chalk boards brought in by the westerners. It had stories, tales and riddles. The mothers or grandmothers would alert children of what society expected. The fathers would through proverbs, stories and direct instruction teach young sons their expected role. Education was not confined to discipline but considered an all around process that catered to all facets of the individual. Everything that was taught was directed toward the creation of the ideal individual.⁸⁴

Currently in Uganda you have the primary school of P1 to P7. P1,2 were only half days but the others were full days. Every Ugandan student would have school uniforms. You had to buy the uniform, but otherwise public education was supposed to be free. Still some cannot afford the school uniforms. At our orphanage supplies for school were all provided for.

Those who would graduate from Primary school, passing their P7 exams, would go to secondary school. These are not free, many of our kids had sponsors back in the states. This would be equivalent to our High school. This would go from S1 to S4. After that you had S5 and S6 that would prepare you for university. Many of these schools were boarding schools where you would live. One of the main reasons that many of the children had been encouraged to lie by their parents about being orphans to be able to stay at the orphanage (as mentioned at the beginning of the paper) was for the free education that we offered.

The major University in Uganda is Makerere. Before the Imin years it was considered the most prestigious University in all of East Africa. It is also the oldest university in all of East Africa⁸⁵ and began in 1922 as a technical school. It has now been slowly getting back into that position. Makerere currently has 30,000 students. There is also Uganda Christian College which is between Kampala and Jinja in a town called Mukono. I have friends who have gone to Mukono as a study abroad program as part of their degree program in America.

ECONOMY:

Several factors keep the nation in poverty. About ½ of the country's export revenue is coffee, which has a tendency to fluctuate, not bringing stability. Uganda is Africa's second biggest coffee producer. Other factors causing poverty is Uganda's rapid growing population their many refugees, rebel anti government groups like the LRA that cause instability of all kinds, and lastly, the epidemic of the AIDS virus. An estimated 2 million children have lost their parents to war and disease.⁸⁶ That's basically one out of every 15 people in Uganda who don't have parents.

Uganda is a rich land, with only an estimated 1/3 being used as cultivated land.⁸⁷ The economic level is just now getting back to what it was before Idi Amin, with tourism and better stability in the

83 Uganda in Pictures, pg. 57.

84 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 77,78.

85 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 17.

86 Uganda, Enchantment of the World, pg. 93.

87 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 36.

government offices. Also allowing many Asians, a vital force of Uganda's merchant class, to come back in to the country after being exiled by Amin has helped boost the economy.

Uganda is a land locked country and has 7,000 barrels of oil a day are imported from Kenyan refineries in Mombasa, which in turn are imported from abroad.⁸⁸ However, oil has been discovered in the Western part of Uganda, giving Uganda the potential to rank among the top 50 oil producers in the world.⁸⁹ Uganda mostly trades with the European Union and Kenya.

Uganda is a member of the African Economic community, which is a 26 country membered, multi-economic development offering free trade areas, customs unions, acknowledgement of other currencies from within the community, and a central bank. Also, In October 22, 2008, Uganda became part of the African Free Trade Zone.⁹⁰ The economic benefits of Uganda's biological resources are \$741 million annually. Uganda is the second largest banana producer in the world, trailing only to India.⁹¹

TOURISM:

Tourism is a huge income producer in Uganda. Uganda is one of the few countries in the world that has mountain gorillas, which many people come to see. There are amazing white water rapids on the Nile River, as well as huge water falls at Sipi fall on Mt. Elgon.

One of the most beautiful places I ever stayed at was The Haven. It is a resort hotel along the Nile River offering a breath taking view of some of the first rapids along the Nile River. There is also a place called Two Friends in Jinja which is a restaurant and hotel that is very nice. Both are run by Europeans and cater to tourists.

FAMILY LIFE:

Polygamous relationships are still considered normal in Uganda. Well, at least by the men. Our Ugandan friend would be told by male police officers that polygamy was okay, especially when wanting to make advances towards her while being married. But as for her and other women they did not feel comfortable with it.

In Uganda, you are considered wealthy by how many children you have. Men and women are considered in complete until they get married. More and more marriages are becoming inter tribal. Once married, the Ugandan women is expected to give birth to children within a year. If they do not give birth within a reasonable time, the man can divorce her to get another wife. The Ugandan family is large and sometimes 3 to 4 generations live together. Men would clear the land, while women would till the land.

Still today many Ugandans live in traditional, round houses. They have wooden frames, mud walls and grass roofs. Once you get out of the cities of Uganda, they are everywhere. Each tribe would have its own marriage and death traditions. For the Busoga tribe the chief would be buried in the hut of his first wife. For the head of the family the grave was dug in his own hut, garden or courtyard. Another heir would be appointed during the time of the burial. A childless man was despised in society and his name was not given to any children in the clan. A married women was traditionally buried in a banana plantation. The relatives of the deceased were obligated to bring another unmarried girl for the widower. She became the heiress and took over the functions and property of the dead women.⁹²

In some tribal traditions, the parents won't directly name the child. Instead, an ancestral spirit

88 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 40.

89 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 5.

90 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 42.

91 Uganda, Enchantment of the World, pg. 76.

92 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 75.

appears in a dream and dictates the name of the child.⁹³ This draws an interesting parallel to the New Testament and the Gabriel naming John the baptist in Luke 1:13,19 as well as to Gabriel telling Mary to name her child Jesus in Luke 1:31.

THE NEXT SEASON:

At the conclusion of this paper, my wife and I are waiting to return to Uganda. I am very thankful for the information and revelation as a result of this research paper. I feel that by doing this paper I have a model on how to research and prepare myself to any nation that God would be calling us to.

We have been waiting on both of us to have the peace of God before we go back. In the meantime some of the people from one of the churches my wife and I are involved with here in America are going through the course "How to Hear God's Voice". I have been asked to co-lead the class with my wife attending. From there we hope to go on to Counselled by God and 7 Prayers that Heal the Heart. Eventually we hope to go back to Uganda or India or Ghana as we have been connecting with people from these countries.

We are seeing that there are millions of doors to minister to the poor. As we wait on the Lord, He opens up more and more doors. Though I am not limiting God to take us back to Uganda only, it would be great to minister along with Dr. Cliff in Advancing the Kingdom Ministries.

Yes my child this is my will for you, for X marks the spot and you have found it. Well done on your journey, for I am calling you out, then up. For you have been wondering some things about direction, but I am in all directions...t, come out and flow with me. And see what I am doing in this next season, I know you feel alone right now, but trust in me and see my fruition to my plan for your life.

93 Cultures of the World, Uganda, pg. 72.