

NEW YEARS DAY

Gen 8:13 "And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth: and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dry."

Sunday I preached on things in the Bible that happened on New Year's day. Above is one of them. I won't give the whole outline lest you become lazy...ha. What a wonderful experience it must have been for Noah and Co...after being in the ark for a full year +. All was clean, fresh, new and the prospects for fruitfulness was limitless. This happens to a Christian every day...when we consider Lam. 3:23. But in another way this is presented to us in the context of Ministry. OK the holidays are over...all parties, fellowships, watch night services, senior Christmas gatherings, and for the Suteks...all weddings are over. WHEW!

Now we can get back to the business of the Lord with all the newness that 2017 presents to all who will serve the soon-coming King.

OFFICIAL BUILDING REPORT

The dust has settled on 2016 concerning our building project and what a grand and glorious outcome. At the beginning of this year we did not even have a focused vision of a missions compound...we only had a dream. In 2016 we found land, bought land, paid for the land (2.7 acres), designed buildings to accommodate the entire ministry, drew blueprints for the buildings, began construction on the land, raised a bit more than \$117,000 for the buildings with still some promises for a bit more in 2017 and now have the shell of a church to seat 150 and layout of the other necessary buildings. Whew, what a year. Here is a photo take in the corner of the church. I truly hope this church can send a photo at the end of 2017 of a congregation overflowing... and the prospect is certainly there. We have found that the city (a million in population now) is moving their headquarters and operations in our direction. There are two very large housing developments which will sandwich our property in the next little while. Businesses are showing interest all over the village of Lumbia where we



will develop even more ministries than we already have. We are praying for the soon return of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ...but in case this is not the fullness of times we are filling our lives with ministry that is guaranteed to yield much fruit and fruit that will remain.

NEW POOL OF STUDENTS FOR IBMP

We put the Bible institute on hold for the past several months because of the construction and my trip to USA. But we begin again Jan. 9, 2017 and we are excited to see students coming from different sources and areas. Please pray for the opportunity I have on January 22. I will be preaching in the First Baptist Church of Manila by invitation.



The pastor heard about our ministry and particularly the Bible Institute. The Institute they have been using is not functioning at the present time and they said, "Why can't we use your Bible Institute? Good Question...so I have been invited to preach and present the ministry of IBMP with good prospect of a new pool of students for IBMP. Notice Beniah James Manalo with his hymnbook...nearly ready to start IBMP.

BEAUTIFUL, GREAT WEDDING

No jokes, puns or intimations...Steve and Mary had a fabulous wedding. They both worked hard at planning every detail of a many detailed wedding and all came off perfectly without one glitch. It rained buckets the day before and some the day after but their OUTDOOR wedding was beautiful. You do realize that in the land "down under" (Australia) it is summer there now... not like Chicago, Maine or Cleveland. The reception was held in another large section of the beautiful part where Mary had set up many lawn games for kids and adults to play and sitting areas where you could just relax, fellowship and take photos. They have a tradition where during the reception the father of the bride (your's truly) and the father of the groom both make a short speech telling some good, or funny stuff about the bride and groom. Everyone enjoyed all. If you prayed for this thank you and if you would still like to get a glimpse of it you can tune into a video at steveandmaryoliver.com . If the video is not quite available just wait a couple days.



HAPPY NEW YEAR! I truly hope that all of you have as lively and hope-filled prospect of 2017 as the Sutek family has. When He comes this year be sure He finds you happily serving the only one who is worth serving...Even so come Lord Jesus!!!
Serving with you but in a foreign foxhole