

EDITORIAL

The first article is provided by Bob Fergie, of Australia's Bible College of Victoria. A recent graduate, and a current lecturer, from the Christian Leaders' Training College, provide the remaining two articles. The first two articles are specifically related to Papua New Guinea and its culture: church/government relations, and the current state of education. The third article is exegetical, and attempts to identify the woman and the beast, as described in Rev 17.

In the first article, Bob Fergie studies church/government relations in Papua New Guinea, during a period of accelerated socio-political change, from the early 1960s to the mid-1980s. Attention is given to church and government strategies from the mid-1960s, targeting out-of-school and out-of-work young people, neglected by an elitist national education system.

Robin Bazzynu discusses the current state of education in Papua New Guinea in the second article. He identifies methodologies used in biblical and Melanesian traditional learning systems, and compares these systems with today's educational system in Papua New Guinea. He draws out values that might be helpful to today's society, and then presents recommendations.

In the final article, I take a close look at Rev 17. I interpret the passage literally, and identify the woman as Babylon (signifying false religion), and the beast as the Antichrist. The Antichrist will rise to power during the tribulation period, by using false religion. However, in the end, the woman will be destroyed, and the beast will be defeated.

Not everyone will agree with the conclusions reached by the authors. However, we hope that, as you wrestle through these issues, that the thoughts of the authors will help you to grow in your understanding of God's word, and what it may say to your culture.

Doug Hanson