

EDITORIAL

All articles have been provided by the Christian Leaders' Training College. Two articles are by Marilyn Rowsome. She wrote these articles in 1982, but never published them. Both articles discuss traditional Melanesian ways, ways that have changed since the articles were written. We decided to print the articles now, because they capture, in writing, dying traditions.

Joshua Daimoi reveals the mindset of Melanesians. He shows the importance of the spiritual world, and the concept of community, to Melanesians. Joshua stresses that missionaries must understand this mindset, to effectively reach Melanesians for Christ.

Marilyn Rowsome describes the traditional Papua New Guinea Highland's wedding ceremony. From personal experience, she paints a colourful picture of the activities surrounding the ceremony: from a steam bath to the bridal march. She concludes with recommendations for Papua New Guinea Christians to adapt cultural practices to Christian principles.

Marilyn Rowsome compares Melanesian traditional religion and Christianity. She discusses the meaning of Melanesian terms, which are at the core of Melanesian traditional religion. She compares four approaches Christianity could have towards Melanesian traditional religion, and concludes that contextualisation is needed. "The result will be a relevant, meaningful Melanesian theology."

Wayne Kendi examines the link between mission and suffering. Wayne argues that the two concepts are often seen working together in the Old Testament, as well as in the life of the New Testament church, so it should be no surprise to us that, in the contemporary church, the same dynamic is at work.

David Hodgens examines Paul's theological teaching on the nature of the resurrection body in an exegetical essay on 1 Cor 15:42-49. Paul writes to a church, which is confused about the nature of the post-resurrection body, debunking their wrong thinking about the current

body, correcting their misunderstandings about the post-resurrection body, and laying out his own eschatological understanding of the nature of the believer's new body.

Not everyone will agree with the conclusions reached by the authors. However, we hope that, as you wrestle through these issues, 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.