

Japanese – A Fuzzy Language

御神輿

I had three books I wished to present as a gift to a Japanese friend. I intended to give them as is without any formal wrapping paper to cover them, but a Japanese co-worker suggested that they be wrapped together in a bundle with decorative wrapping paper. The co-worker had only a couple minutes for the job and it looked rather haphazardly done. “Just tell her you did it!” she suggested.

Japanese people always make allowances for foreigners, and especially for Americans, Canadians, and Europeans.

I replied, “Well, I don’t want to lie and say I wrapped the gift when I didn’t actually wrap it myself!” But then it dawned on me that I could tell my Japanese friend the same thing using the Japanese language and yet **not be lying!**

You may ask, “How is this possible?” It’s because the Japanese language has **no verb conjugation according to person or number** as do most Indo-European languages. Not only does Japanese not have verb conjugation, but it also drops the sentence subject (who is speaking) when it’s supposedly understood! This means I could say in Japanese, “Isoide tsutsumimashita” (was wrapped quickly) which would be interpreted that I wrapped it in a hurry when it could also mean, “he”, “she”, even “they”, wrapped it in a hurry!

Politicians in the West often make what sounds to be statements of fact and yet are not saying anything truly meaningful at all. Just think how even easier it is for a Japanese politician to be ambiguous in a language with no verb conjugation, and which also drops the sentence subject because it’s already *assumed* to be understood!

Japanese is much more specific when you put it in writing. Chinese characters are very specific in meaning. The characters at the top of the page are pronounced omikoshi, the ceremonial box the Japanese carry during the Obon festival. Many people believe the Japanese got that idea from people from Israel who migrated to Japan two centuries ago! It resembles the Ark of the Covenant!

Hitchhike Adventure From Niigata City to Nagano and Tokyo



This is an article I wrote at the end of August 2005. It was on my old website which is no longer on-line and I am therefore re-posting it. After reading it again, I found numerous typos, corrected them, and am therefore re-posting it to the home page.

I hitchhiked from Niigata City to Matsumoto City in Nagano, then to Tokyo, and then back to Niigata in 3 days, a distance of 700 kilometers (440 miles) in 16 vehicles. Among these were 3 trucks and at least one luxury car. Among the people who picked me up were one stock broker, one high school teacher, 4 foreigners, and 2 relatively wealthy men one of whom is a nationwide famous entertainer! Three of the cars had small children, two had women without a male companion, and two had large dogs, one a Labrador and the other a German Shepherd.



Jerry Fujio,
Japanese
entertainer

The highlight of this trip was being picked up by a famous entertainer: Jerry Fujio. You may not have heard of him in your country, but everybody in Japan over 35 years old seems to know him quite well! All my Japanese friends have seen him on TV or in a film. His peak of fame seems to be around the 1960s. I asked him if people hound him for his autograph. "A long time ago" was his reply. Jerry's mother is English and his father is Japanese. His age seemed to be in his early 70s.

Another highlight was a retired man in his 60s from the Meguro area of Tokyo driving an expensive car who appeared to be of upper-class Japanese society. The reason I say this is because he looked like a company president and attended Sumo wrestling matches. Tickets to these events are very expensive! He didn't accept my business card nor even give me his name. He probably didn't want to accept my card because in doing so, he would be obliged to

give me his in keeping with Japanese custom. Nevertheless, he was very friendly, talkative and laughed a lot! I asked him if he is a member of a secret society. He replied he's a member of a golf club. He didn't tell me exactly what his profession was except that it was related to education and government but that he was not a politician. I asked him if he knew that the United States is a secret dictatorship run by the [CFR](#), and he replied in the affirmative. I told him that most Americans don't know that which surprised him. Though not a Christian nor a believer in God, he does acknowledge the possibility that the world could have been created by a Great Designer. He said he doesn't believe in Darwinism and claimed that it is not taught in schools in Japan. I thought it strange he would say that because nearly everyone in Japan believes in Darwinian evolution.

A Chinese couple with a baby took me as far as Kurohime ("Black Princess"), a small mountain town in Nagano Prefecture close to the border of Niigata Prefecture. I didn't know at first that the man was Chinese because his Japanese was so good. He is from Harbin and his mother is Japanese. Harbin is part of Manchuria which the Japanese occupied till the end of WW2. He is very knowledgeable about the world and real motivations in politics. We talked about the [Tienanmen Square massacre of 1989](#). I told him I met a Chinese college student in Southern China back in 1998 who believed that nobody was killed in that tragedy. He replied that thousands of students had probably died! How quickly the world is forgetting that it ever happened. He knows that there is no real democracy or freedom in China, and especially no freedom of religion.

To learn more about China, its history, and the murder of Chinese citizens by their own government on June 4th and 5th, 1989, please see: [The Tiananmen Square Massacre](#)

I never got off the expressway at Kurohime before, and so it was an adventure pioneering how to get back on track. There were few cars so it took me a while to get back on the main road. I did so 3 cars later.



A red Ferrari, \$300,000
of eventual junk

At Kamisato Service Area on the Kan'etsu expressway, a red Ferrari sports car parked right in front of where I stood hitchhiking with my sign. The driver got out and looked at the rear of the Ferrari. His friend from another car walked up and also looked. They looked and looked for the longest time. I thought they were literally worshiping that car! They looked at it from all angles and took photographs. If I ever ended up with such a thing, I wouldn't really own it, it would own me! I probably would be thinking about the Ferrari half of the day if I owned one. I'd get bummed out even if it got the tiniest scratch on its shiny red exterior. Thank God for deliverance from materialism!

I always carry with me Gospel literature and give a copy to every driver. I

try to share some seeds of the Word of God in their hearts, as much as I feel they are ready to hear and receive. Most Japanese are very respectful of Jesus Christ. From my experience, the only ones who don't often are those who belong to a radical sect of Buddhism called Sokkagakai which sprang out of Nichiren Shoshu, a sect which is also intolerant of other faiths. Most Buddhists do respect Jesus and His teachings.

[The Pope – Chief of White Slavers, High Priest of Intrigue](#)



Former Catholic priest Jeremiah J. Crowley exposes the Popes of Rome as evil tyrants whose interest is only money and power over as much of the world as possible.

[Japanese-Vatican Entente During World War II](#)



The Vatican supported Japan in its conquest of China & the Philippines, and even established diplomatic relations with Japan after it bombed Pearl Harbor!

Why Are the Japanese So Slow in Understanding the Gospel?



A lonely lost Japanese woman who needs Jesus

The question in the title of this article is something I wondered about since I first came to Japan in 1972. I was serving in the US Air Force then and was interested in sharing my faith in Jesus Christ with the Japanese when I would meet them outside the military base. I heard from long-time American missionaries in Japan that Japan is known as, “the missionaries graveyard”, meaning most missionaries see very few converts to Christ in spite of years of preaching the Gospel.

In the Philippines, it’s a different story. Filipinos with their Catholic background understand the Gospel quickly. Churches have multiplied in the Philippines.

In October of 1973, I met a group of Christians who invited me to work with them to share the Gospel of Christ with the Japanese. I accepted their offer and became a full-time missionary in February 1974 when I was honorably discharged from my 4-year contract of military service. I continued to live in Japan for 38 more years. Throughout that time, I saw many souls come to

Christ and lives changed into active service for the Lord, but the vast majority of the nation had not changed in spite of the millions of Gospel tracts I and other missionaries distributed on the street.

Only yesterday, May 9th, 2022, I heard something that cast light on why the Japanese are resistant to the Gospel. It was from an interview with Bhumibol Adulyadej who was the King of Thailand from June 9, 1946 to October 13, 2016, the date of his death in his 80s. In the interview, Bhumibol appeared to be yet in his 30s. Thailand is a Buddhist nation, perhaps even more so than Japan, and the King of Thailand is of course a practicing Buddhist. The interviewer asked the King about the concept of sin as understood among the three Abrahamic religions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The King replied, "in Buddhism there is no sin. There is only a striving towards purity."

This is confirmed by a quote on
<https://classroom.synonym.com/buddhist-belief-of-sin-12085556.html>

Buddhism follows a different conceptual framework from the Abrahamic religions, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. As a result, many of the ideas and definitions found in Buddhism differ from those found in other religions. The monotheistic idea of sin found in the Abrahamic religions is a foreign concept to the Buddhist belief system.

It then dawned on me why there is no specific word for "sin" in the Japanese language! Language is always a reflection of the culture. Japanese are slow to understand their need for salvation because their language lacks a specific word for sin! And without understanding all men are sinners, there is no need for a Savior from sin.

The Gospel is summarized in 1 Corinthians 15:3.

For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received,
how that Christ died for **our sins** according to the scriptures;

How can anyone understand why Christ would die for our sins if they don't know what "sin" is? Buddhists say there is no sin! This in my opinion is the crux of the problem: Buddhist culture that influenced the language has robbed the people of a key concept of the Gospel!

I now understand why one of my friends doesn't believe mankind is flawed or sinful. Though his mother is a Catholic, his wife is a Buddhist! I'm sure she influenced his thinking.

In the Japanese translation of the Bible, the word for sin is translated as *tsumi*. It seems contradictory for me to say there is no specific word meaning sin in Japanese and yet there is a word translated for sin in the Japanese Bible. Let me elaborate.

Here's how the Japanese word for sin in the Bible looks in the ideograph.

罪

Tsumi

But this word doesn't have the nuance of breaking God's moral laws. It's actually the same meaning as the word for crime in English. Don't believe me? Check this out:

This is the Chinese-Japanese character for the word to be / is:

有

Aru or yuu

The two characters in combination:

有罪

Yuuzai

Yuuzai is what a Japanese judge says when he convicts a suspect of a crime. It means *guilty*! Yuuzai literally says, "there is crime". The Japanese language is so easy to understand when you know the Chinese ideographs that depict the words. There is no Japanese person, not even an academic scholar

who would disagree with my explanation of the word *yuuzai*. The meaning is crystal clear to any Japanese person raised in Japan.

The Japanese Bible nevertheless uses the word *tsumi* and also translates the word for sinners as “*tsumibito*” which literally means “a person who sins.” But the word also has the meaning of “criminal”. To call a law-abiding Japanese person a criminal is, of course, offensive!

Once I tried to pray the “sinners prayer” of salvation with a man to lead him to receive Christ. I asked him to repeat the prayer after me but he stopped when I got to the part, “Lord, please forgive all my sins.” He then said, “Wait! I’m not a sinner!” What he really meant by that is to say he’s not a criminal but a law-abiding citizen. I learned a lesson not to ask a person to pray that prayer with me unless they understood what they were praying about. From then I defined what I meant by sin to all the Japanese people I shared the Gospel with.

When a Japanese takes time to read and study the Bible, the meaning of sin as breaking God’s moral law becomes clear. I once met a man who came to a true saving knowledge of Jesus Christ by reading the Book of Matthew from a Bible at his bedside in the hospital when he was sick for a month. And all Japanese Christians including Roman Catholics understand the biblical meaning of sin. But there are so few of them that they have no impact on the Japanese culture.

So what did I do? I had to start with Genesis 1:1 to explain the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Japanese. I had to explain that God is the creator of the universe and all life. I had to explain the account of the fall of man in the Garden of Eden. I had to explain the biblical definition of sin as breaking God’s moral law. I told them that God’s laws and man’s law agree on many points such as the crimes of murder, stealing, and lying under oath, but God’s laws are stricter and deeper and call hatred, and any type of lie a sin. And if that is so we are all guilty of sin. And then I had to explain the concept of animal sacrifice and the blood of sheep and goats as a cleansing of sins and that Jesus’ death on the Cross is the ultimate sacrifice and His blood which was shed is the final cleansing of our sins.

Do you see what preachers of the Gospel in Japan are up against? It’s teaching concepts that are totally foreign to their culture.

Japanese who live in other countries are much more open to the Gospel. Many get saved. I know twin sisters one of whom when to Canada and lived with a Christian family who brought her to church. She received the Gospel and Jesus as her savior but after she returned to Japan she admitted that sin is still a nebulous concept for her. She was still young in the Lord and probably hadn’t read or done much personal study of the Bible.

You might ask, “Well, what about the Koreans? Wasn’t Korea also a Buddhist nation before Christian missionaries came?” That’s an excellent question and one I cannot answer for sure. The same can be said for China as well. Why Christianity took hold in those nations faster than in Japan is still a mystery to me. One reason may be because Japan was isolated from the rest of

the world for 200 years. People from other countries were not permitted to enter Japan.

By the way, if you are a foreigner living in Japan, you don't want to offend the police. They will consider you guilty even if you are innocent of a crime. There is a word for "suspect" in Japanese but it seems to mean nothing to law enforcement. People are guilty till proven innocent. Once I got stopped by a policewoman for hitchhiking. She told me it was illegal to hitchhike in Japan. I knew she was dead wrong but I also knew better not to argue with her. I told that story to an off-duty cop who picked me up hitchhiking, and he smiled. He knew if I argued with her she would arrest me and make my life miserable for the next 48 hours! That's how long they can hold you without charging you with a crime.

[New Order of Barbarians – Transcript of tapes I-III exposing the plans of the New World Order](#)



The NWO Agenda

from a 1969 speech

as recalled by
Dr. Lawrence Dunegan

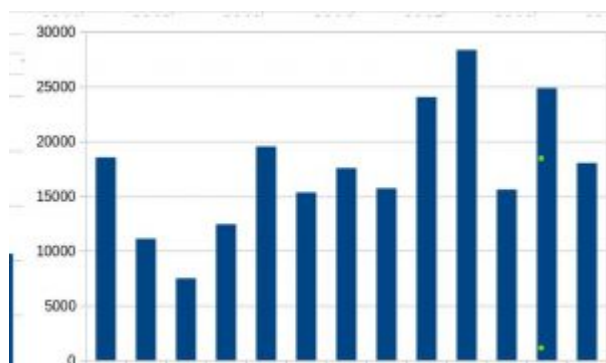
The agenda of the New World Order that is now referred to as the Great Reset.

[Having Fun Fixing Japanese Paper Doors](#)



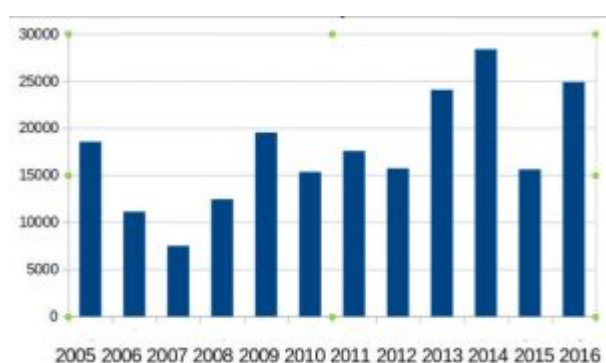
Everything you need to know about Japanese shoji (paper) doors, how easy it is to put holes in them, and a step-by-step explanation of how to fix them.

End of Year 2017 Hitchhike Statistics



Distances I hitchhiked in Japan in 2017.

Distances Hitchhiked Since year 2005 / Sharing Christ with the Japanese



A white American hitchhiked throughout Japan consistently over a 20-year period.

Hitchhike Adventure to Aomori City and Kanto



On September 17th, 2016, I hitchhiked from the crossroads of Route 345 and Route 7 near Gatsugi Station in Murakami City in Niigata Prefecture all the way to Aomori City in a single car! This is a distance of about 400 kilometers or 250 miles. I am 66 years old at the time of this post.

The driver's name is Hiroshi who lives and works in France as a chef of French cuisine. He once was the chef of the Emperor and Empress of Japan and actually met them! He bought me lunch and went way out of his way to take me exactly where I wanted to go, a 5 hour drive from his original destination. Unfortunately Hiroshi wouldn't let me take a photo of him.

Hiroshi needed to go to Yokote City to buy some exotic Japanese cuisine. Normally I would have refused to go with him to Yokote, but he promised me he would take me the rest of the way to Aomori afterwards and I believed him. Yokote is the longer route to Aomori.

The scenes are in Akita Prefecture. The red and white striped pole is to mark the edge of the road after heavy snowfalls, a frequent winter occurrence in this part of northern Japan.



Akita Prefecture, Ani



Two days later my destination is now Sayama city in Saitama Prefecture.

Saitama is one of the prefectures in the Kanto Plain area of Japan. Aomori City is the northern city of Honshu, and Saitama is just north of Tokyo which means I needed to travel 600 kilometers or 400 miles that day in order to make it. I nearly didn't!

After waiting only 30 minutes, a couple going to Furukawa City in Miyagi picked me up. This was a good distance of 200 kilometers, a 1/3 of the distance I needed to go!



The couple who took-me over 200 kilometers-from Aomori City to Miyagi Prefecture

The second driver was on his way to Nagoya and would pass through Niigata. Normally I would have gone with him to Niigata which has been my home till date. But because today I'm going to Saitama, he took me to the Adatara Service Area in Fukushima Prefecture which is just before the Banetsu junction that goes to Niigata.



Masayuki who took me to Fukushima from Miyagi



The third car of my hitchhiking adventure from Aomori City to Sayama City in Saitama was a young couple I met at Adatara service area in Fukushima. They were on their way to Utsunomiya in Tochigi Prefecture and had also picked up a university student who was also hitchhiking from Aomori City! He was on his way to Matsumoto in Nagano which is 3 times further than my destination in Saitama. The couple offered to take us both to the Sano Service Area in Tochigi.

By the time we arrived to Sano, it was dark and raining heavily to the low atmospheric pressure influence of the typhoon in Okinawa. Because it was a holiday, "Senior Citizens Day," the service area was crowded with vehicles and thronged with people. But from experience I knew that was not necessary a good thing. Too many people means the average Japanese thinks someone else will give the poor hitchhiker a ride!

I stood in front of the restrooms out of the rain and showed the paper sign of my destination to everyone. They all knew what I was doing but nearly everyone ignored me and avoided making eye contact. Often a person who makes eye contact is willing to help.

At the service area there were 3 other hitchhikers. One was the university student who came with me from Fukushima, and the other two were highschool students on their way to Hannyu city in Saitama. We were all in the same boat. Nobody was offering them rides either.

After about 45 minutes, a man approached me and gave me a can of hot coffee and a pet bottle of green tea! He couldn't help me but wanted to encourage me.

After an hour I decided to call it quits. I consigned myself to an uncomfortable night camping out in the service area rest facility. There were only hard chairs to lay down on.

I sat down at a crowded table in the midst of other travelers. After a few minutes a young lady sitting on my right started talking to me in English. She was interested in what I was doing but I could tell her male partner wasn't interested in helping me.

After she and her partner left a man sitting at my left started speaking to me in perfect English! He lived in Germany for 4 years and went to an international school in Frankfurt and all that time schooled in a total English environment. He was on his way with his family to an area in Saitama which is relatively close to my final destination! I told him I am facing an unpleasant night unless I can leave the service area and get to a train station and go by train where I needed to go, Sayama City. He talked to his family and they agreed to take me with them! And what a family! It was his parents, his wife and children, and his brother's and sister's spouses and children, at least 20 people in all! And because they all lived in Germany before, most of them speak English! They were traveling in the huge bus you see in the photo.



The bus that took me from Tochigi to Saitama.

In the beginning I spoke to them in English but later switched to Japanese as I shared my faith in the Creator God and true history from the Bible. They listened with interest and one of the men became my Facebook friend.

I am facing a crossroads in my life at this time. Rather than hitchhike several times a month to Aomori just to earn money, I am thinking and praying about moving there. Any financial help or encouragement you can send me is appreciated.

[Japan Rescued Polish Orphans from Siberia at the end of World War One](#)



This is the story of when Japan rescued Polish orphans from Siberia at the end of World War One. I translated it from Japanese to English from the YouTube with the help of my Japanese friend Yoko Ishikawa:

The untold story of why Poland is friends with Japan!

Praise to the non-discriminatory Japanese nurse for her help and support.

This is a heart moving true story.

In 1989, Poland changed significantly due to democratization from the former communist bloc which resulted in its rapid economic growth. In 21 consecutive years, Poland's GNP has the only positive growth in Europe. It has maintained this growth in spite of the euro crisis and the collapse of Lehman Brothers.

Poland has a surprisingly warm friendly relationship with Japan. A popular department of the prestigious University of Warsaw is the Japan Department of Japanese martial arts boom such as kendo.

In 1920, after the First World War, during the civil war of the Russian Revolution, many Polish citizens were detained in Siberia. They could not use the land route of the Trans-Siberian Railway during the war to escape from Russia, and even if they did manage to return to Poland, their house was gone.

The Polish people were dying one after another in a land of extreme cold. Poland in an effort to save just the children who lost their parents, issued a letter, a life-saving petition to the United States and the United Kingdom. The petition asked for transportation and the assistance of orphans, but due to the tension of international relations, the reaction of the nations to Poland's request was indifferent and callous.

Poland then turned to Japan for help as its last hope.

The Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs made a prompt decision toward the relief of the orphans.

In late July, 1920, 56 orphans from Vladivostok arrived in Tokyo via Tsuruga, and were housed in a dormitory. At the time Japan had no formal diplomatic relations with Poland, and moreover, to comply with a request that was a

costly and effort-consuming attempt to aid civilians in Siberia who were separated from their homeland was unusual.

And, from 1920 to 1922, a total of 5 times, 765 orphans from one year old to 16 years old were brought to Japan by ship, and they received a surprisingly warm hospitality. Orphans with lice on their heads or those who suffered from typhus and other bad health conditions and those who were starving were treated immediately after arrival by hard working Japanese Red Cross nurses.

News of the orphans was broadcast throughout Japan. As a result donations, toys, candy etc. were sent to the orphans. Volunteers provided dental treatment, hairdressing, entertainment, and consolation.

Entertaining and comforting the orphans was offered one after another. Also, Japanese children who were brought by adults to visit the Polish orphans, without hesitation gave them the clothes they were wearing and their hair ornaments. In addition, there was also the following episode.

A young Japanese nurse, Ms. Fumi Matsuzawa, who cared for a child with typhoid fever, said she wanted at the very least, for the child to die while holding the child in her arms. She continued to nurse the child without leaving him even for a moment.

Her effort was worth it and the child miraculously recovered, but Ms. Fumi herself was infected with typhoid fever, and eventually died from it. In addition, there is also a similar recollection of another child. "I had been suffering from a terrible skin disease, and medicine was applied all over my body. Then I was wrapped in a white cloth as mummy, and was taken to bed by the nurse.

When the nurse put me on the bed, she smiled and kissed my nose which was the only part of my face out of the cloth. I got the courage to live because of this kiss, and burst into tears.

The orphan children were thus touched by the warm hearts of the Japanese. They were pale skinned and skinny children when they first came to Japan, but by the time they left they were all healthy and became like a different person.

This was of course a wonderful thing, but it also meant that the day was approaching when the children would go back to their homeland.

Everyone was hoping that they would stay in Japan, the nation where the sun is pretty, a nation with beautiful summers, with a sea, where flowers are always in bloom.

When the orphans departed Japan, bananas and sweets were given to them. With sadness of heart, the Japanese who cared for them said goodbye, and the children's eyes were full of tears.

The orphans yelled out from the deck of the ship, "arigato" (thank you) to the Japanese on shore. They also sang Japanese songs and showed much gratitude for the care they received.

The Japanese captain of the ship went to the orphans' quarters every night, and went to each bed, each child, and made sure the child was covered with a blanket up to his neck. He stroked the child's forehead to make sure the child did not have a fever.

Father's hand was surely so big, and warm, the child thought. They waited with half closed eyes for the captain to come around and see them.

After the children returned to Poland, they were housed in an orphanage. They grew up and went about their individual lives, but they knew it was the affection that was poured out to them in a foreign country that gave them the power to live.

This story has been buried in the vortex of history in Japan, and most of the Japanese have forgotten the event with the orphans from Poland. However, the Polish people themselves did not forget.

In 1980, a movement of democratization began in Poland. Mr. Lech Walensa who became the driving force behind it selected Japan for his first foreign visit destination. He visited Japan in May 1981. He found Japan to be a nation of peace and full of great potential. When Mr. Walensa returned home, he made a slogan calling Poland to become the second Japan.

In 1989, Poland was liberated from Communism and became the Republic of Poland.

Mr. Nagao Hyodo who served as the Polish ambassador from 1993, began to wonder why Poland is so pro-Japanese. He decided to determine the cause and spread the reason why.

In October 1995, eight of the Siberia orphans officially visited Japan.

Though the orphans were all older than 80 years old, their memories were still vivid, and they shared their feelings of gratitude. And, Mr. Nagao Hyodo until the last year of his term of office, piled up information of the exchanges with the orphans.

The Vice Chairman of the Far Eastern Commission, Mr Jozef, Yakubukebitchi, sent a thank-you letter to the Japanese government.

Polish nationals are a noble people, a nation that does not forget the kindness showed it. I would like the Japanese people to know that fact about Poland.

The Polish people have the deepest respect, the most warm friendship and affection for Japan. I want to tell the world about this.

An event to prove this took place in 1995. When the people of Poland heard news of the Great Hanshin Earthquake, they moved toward the relief of the affected area as soon as the very next day.

And, children who became orphans after the earthquake were invited to Poland where they received comfort and compassion.

Poland's local governments, companies, wealthy individuals, and artists, sent donations and gave support and aid.

At the end of the second visit, the earthquake orphans had a face-to-face meeting with the original Siberia orphans. They talked about the past and deepened their friendship. In 2006, the last of the Polish orphans, Ms. Antonina Lilo, died at the age of 90.

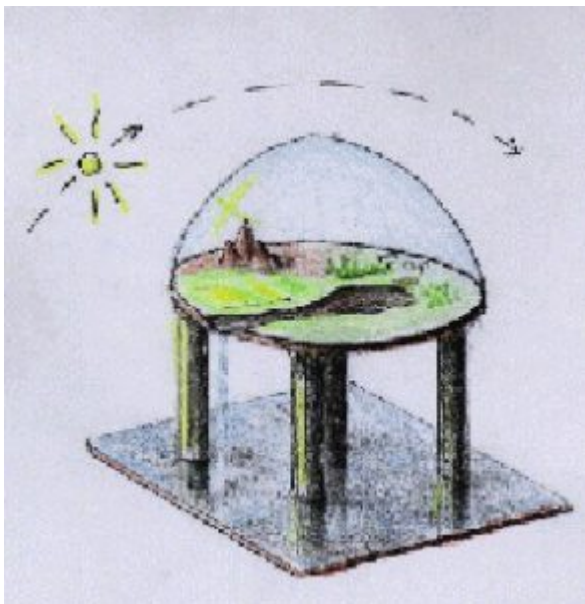
Before she had her last breath, she left a kind word. "Japan was like heaven on earth."

I hope many people will see this video.

If you wish to support this message, it would be greatly appreciated if you would click the like button.

Thank you for viewing this till the end.

[A Conversation with a Flat-Earther](#)



Brother J, do you believe the earth is flat? Some of my friends do. What is your view on it?

Yes I think it's flat

May I ask why you think so?

Mathematically, scientifically, conspiratorially, and biblically. You can pick any one lol

I was raised in the Midwest USA. Please explain why I cannot see the Rocky Mountains with a telescope from a harvested cornfield in the fall.

Because there is still height and depth to the earth.

Yes, there is indeed height and depth. The Rocky Mountains are higher than northern Illinois where I was raised. Why do I not see anything higher than a mole hill from a harvested cornfield? I saw mountains to both east and west from Sacramento California when I was stationed there while serving in the USAF.

YouTube the Bedford level experiment

Giving me a YouTube is not a valid answer IMO. Unless you can explain to me in your own words the answer to my question, it means to me you are not really sure. We are not talking rocket science. We are talking about science an amateur with an elementary school education can validate.

Actually it's best explained by a demonstration but fair enough. It's the fact that you can't look beyond your vantage point. You can't keep scrolling through a telescope to nothing.

Vantage point means the horizon, correct?

Yep

If the earth is flat, the distance to the horizon would be infinity, correct?

Where do u get that idea

Logic

So your saying because your not high enough to see the other side your vantage point is infinite? Dude it's like that on a ball also lol

Yep, that's correct.

Okay. So when you go up in space, you can see distant galaxies from your vantage point

You don't need to go up in space to see distant galaxies. You can see them from earth.

Oh? Your positive that's what you see

Have you read the book of Enoch

Actually Deuteronomy

Your looking at the host of heaven

Right about Deuteronomy.

Do you know how many Jesuits proposed the earth was a ball?

I reject the book of Enoch as God's Word. And just because Jesuits said the earth is a ball doesn't make it false. Is EVERYTHING Satan says a lie? Read the first couple chapters of the book of Job. He does say truth from time to time.

Where's the curvature of the earth

Even yet, where is the scripture that points to the earth being a ball or spinning

So why does the Bible say 3 times the earth doest move? Why did Joshua command the sun to stop spinning and not the earth?

Genesis 1:1-5 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.
And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.
And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.
And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

The way I see it is God, "in the beginning" not only created matter and light on the first day, He created time as well. Is 24 hours dependent on the existence of the sun to be 24 hours? Or is 24 hours dependent on one rotation of the earth? According to my understanding of time and physics, the latter is true. Therefore even without a sun there were 24 hour days because of the rotation of the earth!

Genesis 1:4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

Suddenly verse 4 makes more sense to me than ever! If the sun didn't exist till day 4, how could God divide the light from the darkness? Answer: God Himself was the light source over a rotating earth!

God can override His Laws of physics when He wants to.

That makes no sense. He created light. It says nothing about rotating. Your adding to what it says.

What is one day?

God was the light source. Not a rotating earth.

24 hours

Day is light dude. Jesus says it's 12 hours

Night is night.

Answer why did Joshua command the sun to stop moving?

Twenty four hours is one rotation of the earth, PERIOD!!!

Lol what was it rotating around then?

God?

Movement is relative

Lol!

The earth is set on pillars! It doesn't move!

All scripture is for doctrine

Man cannot move it for sure

And it doesn't move!

Show me the pillars

Fear before him, all the earth: the world also shall be stable, that it be not moved.

1 Chronicles 16:30

Say among the heathen that the Lord reigneth: the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved: he shall judge the people righteously.

Psalms 96:10

He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and he hath set the world upon them.

1 Samuel 2:8

Better check the Hebrew on that one. Cause it's the same word for the pillars samsom tore down which shaketh the earth out of her place, and the pillars thereof tremble;

Job 9:6

The earth and all the inhabitants thereof are dissolved: I bear up the pillars of it. Selah.

Psalms 75:3

Scripture says clearly the earth doesn't move, is set on pillars, has foundations, has ends (28 times) and you get a ball out of that? Take heed that no man deceive you. You don't think it's strange every "astronaut" was a free Mason? NASA is the fruit of operation paperclip? Heliocentricity is a Jesuit doctrine? Come on man wake up. You can't see any curvature of the earth anywhere! People claim they can from a plane then you show weather balloons that read 127,000 ft and they say well the earth is too big?

Do use GPS navigation? Better not or that would make you hypocritical. GPS cannot work without satellites. A satellite has to keep moving to stay in space. If you say there is no space, no satellites and no gravity, I would say there is no sanity in your mind. It's extreme denial to say I am not giving you physics that an elementary school kid can understand and it's extreme hypocrisy to deny science and yet use technology which science produced to preach lies about flat earth!!!! It's a lie probably from NASA to divide the Truth Movement. Yes, I do believe NASA lied about the moon walk. No, I do not believe they lie about satellites. The moon is a satellite!

GPS cannot work? Right. Have you ever considered how your position can be triangulated by cell towers? Radio towers? I'm not going any further until you address the scriptures presented.

Does GPS work over the ocean far from those towers? It does.

*Does the Bible use figurative language? Plenty. Sun moon and stars falling is a collapse of governments. **There is NO Bible teacher I respect that teaches***

flat earth. That is *your* private interpretation. My Bible tells me private interpretations are a no no.

My scientist friend who is a born again Christian who believes a literal 6 days of Creation and exposes Big Bang and Evolution as pseudo science says that GPS works anywhere. He says
Yes. It works over oceans anywhere.

What about satellite phones where there are no Cell towers? They work in deserts.

Besides Cell tower information only can determine which Cell you are in. It can't work for navigation on roads as it is too unprecise.

actually the bible classifies the stars as angels. Just because the bible uses SOME figurative language doesnt mean you can pick and choose what dictates as a figurative language. So what is the figurative language of "ends of the earth" 28 times? Pillars? not moving? encased in a firmament that means VAULT. I hope you realize in doing so, your giving me your interpretation of what the bible means."scientist" really? do you pay any attention to what science is trying to tell us? LOL they claim they are "tackling god" dude, your awake to the jesuits. look it up. its not a conspiracy, its right there. i never said GPS doesnt work, i said prove their are satellites. I really don't care who says what. I care what is found under solid research and questioning.

Thank you for sharing your opinions, brother, but I need some facts before I can believe the earth is flat. I want to know why I can't see land of the State of Michigan from Chicago from Lake Shore Drive looking at Lake Michigan. I can see only a water horizon. I want to know why I can see both the East and West Shore of Lake Michigan from an airplane. I want to know why I cannot see the Chicago skyline from where I was raised in the Chicago city limits 20 miles away. I want to know why I cannot see the tallest mountain, Mt. Fuji from my home or anywhere else in Japan unless I get to a location not much further than 60 miles of it. I want to know how GPS works though you say it doesn't use satellites and satellites don't exist even though they can be seen in a night sky. I want to know why water going down a drain in the Southern Hemisphere spins counter clockwise. I want to know why flying over Alaska is the shortest way from Chicago to Tokyo. I want to know why the higher I go in an airplane the further away the horizon is. Give me facts brother, not theories, opinions or specious arguments.

(Chat Conversation End)

I knew the answer to all my questions above. Only a spherical model of the earth can possibly be the correct answer. So far not a single person who believes the earth is flat has changed his mind. I used the masculine pronoun *his* because so far I only know of one lady who has swallowed the flat-earth fallacy. Why is it that mostly men have fallen for flat-earth nonsense?

Genesis Chapter One Indicates a Spherical Rotating Earth



Stationary GPS satellite over the rotating earth

On March 15th I hitchhiked to the Tokyo area from my home in Niigata City in 4 cars. When sitting in the back seat of one of the cars, the front seat passenger was having a long conversation with the driver. This meant I didn't have to engage in conversation with them and gave me an opportunity to redeem the time and type a message on my Tablet PC. I wanted to reply to a man named Sam who was debating with my friend [Dr. John Gideon Hartnett](#) about when God created the sun. Though the Bible in Genesis 1 clearly says God made the sun on the 4th day of creation, Sam says it must have been on the first day for how can there be 24 hours without the sun? Before we go further, you must know I am writing this for Bible believers who believe in a literal six days of creation of the universe and everything in it, with one day being 24 hours. This is what most Creationists and fundamental Christians and Bible believers hold to be true.

Holding my Tablet PC in my left hand and typing with one finger of my right hand, I suddenly saw things from the first few verses of Genesis one that I never saw before! I wrote Sam things I didn't intend to write him. Have you ever experienced getting revelations from the written Word of God of things you haven't ever heard anybody else teach? I have, and it's thrilling! I think Bible teachers experience this more than those who just read the Bible but don't share with others what they learn. Maybe God showed me something new because He knew I was just about to share it with somebody else! You can read about another revelation I had on [New Viewpoint of the Clay and Iron of Daniel Chapter 2](#)

This is what I wrote Sam:

Your question, "How does one explain Day & Night and "first day" if this is not the creation of the sun?????" is valid in my opinion and something I

wondered about too. The way I see it is God, "in the beginning" not only created matter and light on the first day, He created *time* as well. Is 24 hours dependent on the existence of the sun to be 24 hours? Or is 24 hours dependent on one rotation of the earth? According to my understanding of time and physics, the latter is true. Therefore even without a sun there were 24 hour days because of the rotation of the earth!

Genesis 1:4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

Suddenly verse 4 makes more sense to me than ever! If the sun didn't exist till day 4, how could God divide the light from the darkness? Answer: God Himself was the light source over a rotating earth!

And even if you say all of the above is mere speculation, the Scriptures say clearly in verse 1:16, And God MADE two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.

1:19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

Sam didn't argue against my answer. ☐

Refuting the Flat Earthers

During year 2015, an unusual and crazy phenomenon of people who believe the earth is flat spread around the Internet. Flat Earthers are bound not to like this article. And who bought flat earth foolishness? Every one of them I have encountered so far is an English speaking US American or Canadian. Every one of them is a Bible believing Christian and a conspiracy researcher. I even had to deal with one face to face on March 16th! I visited him without knowing that he had become a flat earther. Do you see a pathern here? I believe Flat Earth is a psyops designed to trip off mostly white North American Christians who are also conspiracy researchers. Not a single Japanese I have ever met believes the earth is flat. They all laugh when I tell them I know people who do.

If the child turned constantly around holding a rope attached to a swinging bucket of water while facing it, this would be akin to how a geostationary satellite orbits the rotating earth while staying over the same area of the earth. The rope between the bucket and the person swinging it is akin to the gravitational force that keeps the satellite in motion from flying away into space. Flat earthers deny the existence of gravitational force, outer space, Newtonian laws of motion, and the existence of communication satellites that make the Internet fast so they can spread their flat earth propaganda easier?! Incredible!

Further Reading:

[The earth is not flat and hangs upon nothing!](#)
[Flat Earth Theory Totally Trashed](#)

First Hitchhiking Adventure of 2016 from Niigata City



On March 4th, 2016 I hitchhiked 100 kilometers or about 60 miles to the city of Tokamachi. It is a city in the midst of hills. The Shinano River which is the longest river in Japan flows through Tokamachi. It's called "Shinano" for that was the old name of Nagano Prefecture which is its source. But in Nagano Prefecture the same river is called Chikuma.



Doctor Masaya

The first driver was a medical doctor by the name of Masaya. He works in a hospital not far from my home. I asked Masaya if he believes the spirit is separate from the physical. He said most doctors do not believe the spirit affects physical health, but he does. I gave him tracts from [Dr. John Gideon Hartnett](#) that expose Evolution, Big Bang, Dark Matter and Dark Energy as pseudo-science. Masaya took me from Niigata city to Sanjo city which is on the Kanetsu / Hokuriku expressway. He could not take me exactly where I wanted to go in Sanjo because he was pressed for time. I walked the rest of the way, about 20 minutes and crossed a bridge over the Shinano River to get to the expressway interchange.



Man who took me to Echigo Kawaguchi

After hitchhiking at the expressway interchange for 15 minutes without success, I decided to take a 190 yen bus ride to get to the Sakae Parking area of the expressway. From there a man on the way to Gunma prefecture took me to Echigo Kawaguchi. "Echigo" is the old name for Niigata before the Meiji

era. Kawaguchi literally means "river's mouth". It has some meaning related to the Shinano River which passes through it. The man was coming from Gosen City on his way back home in Gunma.

Because the man was not getting off the expressway, he dropped me off at a parking area from where I could walk over a bridge to get off the expressway to a regular road. Pedestrians are *not* supposed to be walking on that bridge! One of the expressway workers saw me passing by the toll booth and knew I must have walked over the bridge from the expressway parking area! By the time he saw me I was already in safe territory and there was nothing he could do to stop me from going further. He was only curious as to what I was doing. I was honest with him and told him I was hitchhiking and needed to go to Tokamachi. Because the driver didn't get off the expressway at that point, I had to walk. He told me that was a no no and not to do it again, but he wasn't upset at me at all. He said it only out of a sense of duty to the people he works for.

After that it was only a few minutes wait for the next man to stop. Tokamachi was still too far to walk to. It was a 30 minute drive from Echigo Kawaguchi. The weather was fine that day and the sunset was beautiful over scenic Tokamachi. This city is noted for its heavy snowfalls, but this year the snow wasn't as high as last year.



Tokamachi at dusk

My purpose to go to Tokamachi was to visit my good friends Keiji and Miyoko and family. The next day Keiji had business in Mitsuke city which is going back the way I came. But nevertheless because he would be passing by Ojiya City, I asked him to take me to the Ojiya Interchange. My destination was Sayama City in Saitama Prefecture. From Ojiya it is nearly twice the distance that I traveled the previous day. But I had all day to get there.

Ojiya City is close to the epicenter of a major earthquake in October 2004. About 50 people died. Had an earthquake the same strength occurred in the center of Tokyo, hundreds of thousands would have died! Roads after the earthquake were broken and cars could not pass from Niigata to Tokyo the shortest way possible.

After only a few minutes at the Ojiya Interchange, a man stopped and took me to Echigo Kawaguchi, the expressway service area I had been to the previous day. But this day I needed to go further. It was fine weather and so warm I actually took off my heavy winter coat!

It was about an hour before I finally got a good ride. Just before it a man offered to take me to Muika Machi, but it was too close and would have taken me back off the expressway had I gone with him. The driver and couple were elderly in perhaps their late 70s. They were on the way to Saitama, but would get off the expressway at a point before my destination. I asked them to take me to the Kamisato Service area which is just within the border of Saitama.



Driver and car that took me to Saitama Prefecture



The entrance of the Kanetsu tunnel, the longest car tunnel in Japan.

We passed through the Kanetsu tunnel which is the longest tunnel in Japan for vehicles. It's nearly 11 kilometers long and takes about 10 minutes to pass through at the speed limit of about 100 kilometers per hour. It would take more than 2 hours to walk through it. Gasoline trucks are not allowed through it in case of accident. The tunnel passes through the highest mountains at that point and exits in Gunma Prefecture.



Just inside the Kanetsu Tunnel

At Kamisato Service Area after a relatively short wait, a lady sitting in the passenger side of her car offered me a ride as far as Kawagoe. That was exactly the spot I hoped to get off the expressway at!

The lady was with her husband and their two elementary school children were sitting in the back. They had lived in Singapore for 3 years and could speak English! I suspected that was the reason why they picked me up recognizing me as a foreigner and probable English speaker. But though we spoke in English for a time, suddenly they both switched back to Japanese.



Couple who lived in Singapore who took me to Kawagoe.

From the Kawagoe Interchange it is only a 15 minute walk to Minami Otsuka Station, and from there only 190 yen train fare to my final destination of Sayama City. From Sayama station rather than take a 220 yen bus ride to my friend's house, I decided to hoof it and use the navigation on my Tablet PC for directions. Another 25 minutes later I was at my friend's house just before 6 p.m. the very arrival time I was shooting for.

God is good! My Lord and Savior Jesus Christ provides all my needs!

My First Hitchhiking Adventure of 2016



Father Tsukasa and son Naoto who took me to Miyagi Prefecture from Akita Prefecture.

On January 31, 2016 I hitchhiked from the Hanawa service area in Akita Prefecture on the Tohoku Expressway back home to Niigata city. My friend Keiji who is from Akita Prefecture was amazed that I made the 505 kilometer (316 miles) trip in a single day. To be honest I myself am amazed! It's only because of the good Hand of my Creator Who provides all my needs. His Name is Jesus.

I shaved my one month growth of beard the day before the trip. I shaved it because I wasn't sure whether people would want to pick up a Westerner with a beard. Would you?

The hardest part of hitchhiking from A to B is often the very beginning. Somehow I had to make my way to the Tohoku Expressway if I wanted to return home the same day. Using Google Maps on my Android Tablet, I perceived the Hanawa Service Area is within walking distance from the Kazuno Hanawa train station. Kazuno Hanawa is only two stations away from Towada Minami from was. It was only a 210 yen (1.75 USD) fare for me to get to Kazuno Hanawa,

I have never been to this part of Japan before. But thanks to Google Maps and my Asus Tablet PC, and especially thanks to the Global Positioning System (GPS), I was able to find my way from Towada Minami to the Hanawa Service Area in spite of taking three wrong turns. I estimated the walk would take less than 30 minutes. It took me over an hour!

The weather was clear with a blue sky and the temperature was a few degrees below freezing. I walked over hard and slippery icy and hard packed snow much of the way carrying my or pulling suitcase (it has wheels) with me.

Twice I was puzzled in trying to find the expressway service area. The first

time I misunderstood the navigation directions on my tablet and took a wrong turn which ended in a dead end. For those who have never been to Japan, most areas are not divided into blocks like they are in America. The "go around the block" concept is not common in Japan unless you happen to live in Kyoto or Sapporo. Arriving at a dead end of a road in Japan basically means, "go back the way you came to get back to the turn you should have taken." The other alternatives are either trespassing on private property and / or trying to find a safe way to the road you want to get to which is just below a fairly high and steep hill. I contemplated both. But because the steep hill was covered with deep snow, and because I would rather not walk on property that is obviously not public, I deemed it a no go.

After that and more more wrong turn, I finally walked to the point of visual distance of the Tohoku Expressway. Due to recent poor eyesight, I can mainly tell I'm close only when I hear the traffic of vehicles on the expressway.

The problem I faced then was the navigation led me to follow a road that was filled with snow! I needed to get to the *opposite* side of the expressway. This meant I needed to find an underpass that led under the expressway, or a bridge that led over the expressway. It was clear that no vehicles were taking the road which the navigation showed me to take. There weren't any tire tracks in the snow on the road. I walked back a hundred meters (yards) back to the well travelled road that ran parallel to the expressway and walked a couple hundred meters to the direction I perceived the expressway service area to be. But initially I wasn't even sure I was indeed walking in the right direction! After walking 2 or 3 hundred meters (yards) further, I saw a passageway under the Tohoku Expressway which the snow covered road I previously saw led to. What to do? I turned around to get back point I was a few minutes before, back to the snow covered road. There was a mountain of snow that was created by a snow removal vehicle but I saw just around it were footprints in the snow which were going the direction I needed to go! Would those footprints take me to the underpass to get to the opposite side of the Tohoku Expressway? Can you guess? They didn't. The footprints ended a hundred meters away. It was a small man-made structure of the size that probably no more than two people could be in at the same time! I walked around the hut only to find myself in knee-deep snow! There were no more tracks in the snow that headed in the direction I needed to go. I looked and saw only level (and deep) snow, and a fence that bordered the expressway, but no underpass in sight that led under the expressway to the other side.

What to do? In such a situation I learned from experience there is only one good and effective solution: Go back the way I came.

(To be continued!)

Chart of 10 years of Hitchhiking



The chart shows how many kilometers I hitchhiked every year for the last 10 years. Only the first year of 2005 doesn't show accurately how far I hitchhiked that year for I started keeping records from August 2, 2005. The total distance to date is 223,042 kilometers. over a period of exactly 925 days in 3587 vehicles. The latter two figures should be exact but the distance traveled may have a small percentage of error. I'm trying to be as accurate as possible. I used to use Google Maps to measure distances but now I use an on-line application on <http://www.mapfan.com/routemap/routeset.cgi> which should be more accurate. This is a great app if you live in Japan and can read Japanese well enough to use it.



Last year of 2015 was 12,749 kilometers (7968 miles) less than 2014 which was my record to date of 28,352 kilometers or 17,720 miles. The reason for this is I made far fewer trips to Aomori Prefecture. Will 2016 be a better year for me? I hope so. The number of trips has something to do with not only how much money I save, but how much income I can earn. You can see my income fell last year from the year before.

November 2015 Adventure Hitchhiking to Aomori Prefecture



On November 21, 2015, I hitchhiked in 9 cars from Gatsugi in Murakami City, Niigata Prefecture, to Hirosaki in Aomori, a distance of 330 kilometers of about 206 miles. This trip was so unusual that I feel compelled to document it in this post.

The first car was from Murakami city at the intersection of Route 345 and Route 7. Two ladies with two little boys 3 and 4 years old stopped for me! They were on their way to the Kamo Aquarium in Tsuruoka City, Yamagata Prefecture. It was such fun talking to the boys and the ladies. They are sisters, twins but not identical, and the one sitting on the passenger side is the mother of the two boys.



The ladies dropped me off at a point still far from the center of Tsuruoka. I walked a mile or so to get to a better traffic light where I could hitchhike. On the way I met the goat you see in the photo! He was friendly and let me pet it, but then he put my arm between his horns and twisted his head in such way it hurt my arm! I immediately left. □

Car #2 was a lady who took me to an ideal point in central Tsuruoka. From there many cars would be going to the next city of Sakata.

After only a short wait a man on his way to Sakata picked me up. He plays the viola in a orchestra!

Car #4 was a mother and daughter who took me close to the border of Akita, the town of Yuza.

Car # 5 was a lady from Niigata, Kazuoka Kobayashi, who is from the same remote area of Japan as my friends, the Matsuoka family, and she of course knows them! She was on her way to her home town. I would have gone with her to see my friends but their children were sick with the flu. Even more unusual is that she heard the Gospel when she was little, loves the Words of Jesus, and realized she is a child of God! And because her and I would be returning back the same day two days later, we arranged that I meet her at the closest train station that was convenient for both of us so that we could return to Niigata together. And so we did!

Kazuko took me to an expressway parking area that had only a few cars. Normally I would not choose such a place to hitchhike, and felt a bit worried. However only a few minutes after Kazuoka left a car with a married couple entered the parking area and offered to take me to the next large city of Noshiro. This was perfect for me!

From Noshiro after only a few minutes wait a lady, car #7 pulled up and offered to take me to Futatsui. This is only a relatively short distance but on my way to the next city of Odate.

Car #8 was yet another lady, Keiko Kanako, a piano teacher! And she was playing George Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue which I just heard the previous evening! I introduced her to Emily Bear, a gifted American pianist that some consider to be a child Mozart. See

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=To7EG40KofU>

Did you count the number of cars with only ladies? Six in one day! This is by far my record! Things like this happen only in Japan.

Keiko took me to my favorite hitchhike spot in Odate, from there many cars would be going to Aomori. It was cold and I went to the toilet of the convenience store nearby to put on warmer clothes. It's now after 4 p.m. and getting dark. After 20 or so minutes of no success and getting cold I decided to walk up the road to try to stay warm. After another 10 minutes or so a man offered to take me to Hirosaki train station. This is only 45 kilometers or 30 miles short of my final destination. I took a train the rest of the way.

God is good and answered my prayers in Jesus's Name abundantly!

[Top Ten Quran Verses for Understanding ISIS](#)



I have met many kind Muslims in Japan, people who went out of their way for me and picked me up when I was hitchhiking. Most of them are from Pakistan and a few from Bangladesh, India and Indonesia. I visited a ship from Turkey once and was treated to dinner by the ship's captain who was a Muslim. And I

have a Facebook friend from Bosnia who is Muslim. I certainly don't want to go out of my way to offend them. I love them! But I also feel that most of them know the Quran about as much as most American Christians know the Bible – very little – whose Christianity is basically only going to church once a week. Some Christians say the Bible teaches something (examples: pre-tribulation rapture or that the Temple of Solomon will be rebuilt in the latter days) when they are really only *parroting their preacher* or what some evangelist said the Bible says. But if you challenge them to prove it from the Bible itself, they can't, for the Bible doesn't actually say it!

My local Muslim friends from Bangladesh do not support ISIS and told me that ISIS is not operating according to what the Quran teaches, but today I watched a Youtube that indicates ISIS is following the Quran to the *uttermost*!

And I didn't just take this guy's word that he is quoting from the Quran, I looked up the verses one by one myself from <http://noblequran.com/translation/> Below is a summary of the video in case you don't have time to watch it.

Why ISIS doesn't have much love: Allah loves only obedient Muslims.

Qur'an 3:32. Say (O Muhammad): "Obey Allah and the Messenger (Muhammad)." But if they turn away, then Allah does not like (the Youtube translation was love) the disbelievers.

What the Qur'an teaches a Muslim's attitude should be toward people who reject Islam.

Qur'an 48:29. Muhammad () is the Messenger of Allah, and those who are with him are **severe against disbelievers**, and merciful among themselves.

ISIS believes Muslims are free to rape their female captives, even when they are married women.

Qur'an 23:5. And those who guard their chastity (i.e. private parts, from illegal **sexual acts**)

Qur'an 23:6. Except from **their wives or (the captives and slaves) that their right hands possess**, for then, they are free from blame;

Qur'an 4:24. Also (forbidden are) women already married, **except those (captives and slaves)** whom your right hands possess.

What happens to those who try to stop the Islamic State from instituting Sharia (Muslim Law)

Qur'an 5:33. The recompense of those who wage war against Allah and His Messenger and **do mischief in the land** is only that **they shall be killed or crucified or their hands and their feet be cut off on the opposite sides**, or

be exiled from the land. That is their disgrace in this world, and a great torment is theirs in the Hereafter.

Muslims commanded to slay all idolaters unless they convert to Islam

Qur'an 9:5. Then when the Sacred Months (the 1st, 7th, 11th, and 12th months of the Islamic calendar) have passed, **then kill the Mushrikun** (V.2:105: "the disbelievers in the Oneness of Allah, idolaters, polytheists, pagans, etc.") wherever you find them, and capture them and besiege them, and prepare for them each and every ambush. But if they repent and perform As-Salat (Iqamat-as-Salat), and give Zakat, then leave their way free. Verily, Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

ISIS allows Jews and Christians to live only if they pay a tax

Qur'an 9:29. Fight against those who (1) believe not in Allah, (2) nor in the Last Day, (3) nor forbid that which has been forbidden by Allah and His Messenger (4) and those who acknowledge not the religion of truth (i.e. Islam) among the people of the Scripture (Jews and Christians), **until they pay the Jizyah** (tax on non-Muslims) with willing submission, and feel themselves subdued.

Why ISIS also attacks people who say they are Muslims but are not doing what ISIS thinks they should be doing.

Qur'an 9:73. O Prophet (Muhammad) **Strive hard** (Arabic of the form of the word Jihad) against the disbelievers **and the hypocrites**, and be harsh against them, their abode is Hell, – and worst indeed is that destination.

(The penalty for apostasy is death!)

Peaceful Westernized Muslims condemn killing in the name of Allah, but the Qur'an teaches otherwise.

Qur'an 9:111. Verily, Allah has purchased of the believers their lives and their properties; for the price that theirs shall be the Paradise. They fight in Allah's Cause, so they kill (others) and are killed.

Why ISIS does not seek peace from perceived enemies of Islam

Qur'an 47:35. So be not weak and **ask not for peace** (from the enemies of Islam), **while you are having the upper hand**. Allah is with you, and will never decrease the reward of your good deeds.

Some Muslims say the Qur'an teaches there is no compulsion in religion and condemn ISIS, but ISIS uses a loophole in the Qur'an. Earlier verses get canceled or abrogated by later verses.

Qur'an 2:106. Whatever a Verse (revelation) do We abrogate or cause to be forgotten, We bring a better one or similar to it. Know you not that Allah is

able to do all things?

I consider this to be my first real attempt to learn what the Quran actually teaches. Does it teach what the man in the Youtube is saying or what? You be the judge.

James Japan on another Journey



Dear friends and followers of this website,

On April 6th I left my home in Niigata City and traveled to Noda city in Chiba prefecture which is just to the northeast of Tokyo. It was the first day of an extended trip which will last till the end of April. But only a few days later on May 2th, I'm off again on the road!

The red line starting at the top of the map and going southeast toward Tokyo was the first leg of my journey. The rest continues on to Osaka, and then back to Niigata via the expressway along the Sea of Japan. The blue arrow shows where I am at the time of this post, Shizuoka City.



Some folks have asked to have Skype sessions with me. While on the road it is difficult to arrange such direct sessions. I am not always in a quiet place with time and a good Internet connection. I need all 3 simultaneously! When at home I always have a quite place with Internet, and I can usually arrange making the time, but while on the road, it is very seldom I have all three factors at the same time. And this morning when I did, the person seeking to Skype with me was off line!

For the time being I may not be able to continue much on my project of adding more chapters to "The Two Babylons" article on this site. Maybe I will complete it next month.

Twelve Differences of America Compared to Japan



Me hugging a huge palm street on Hollywood boulevard, Los Angeles California

I've lived in Japan for 36 years at the time of this post – more than half of my life. In 2014 I had an opportunity to go to Los Angeles for a week. You might find my observations of America compared to Japan interesting.

1. People using skateboards for transportation! At least in L.A. they do. I've never seen this in Japan.
2. Exact change needed when riding a city bus! In Japan all buses have a machine by the driver that will break a 1000 yen bill into coins.
3. Some buses don't accept cash, only credit or debit cards! The bus I rode from the airport to L.A. Union station was such a bus. The driver let me ride for free!
4. Toilet technology the same as it was when I was a kid in the 1950s! In Japan, toilets are high-tech! They all have washlets that will wash your bottom just by pressing a button. Some you don't even have to flush manually. The toilet will flush automatically when you leave the toilet seat.
5. Slow service at shops. In Japan, people do not need to wait as long to be served. Lines are much shorter.
6. Trash on the streets. In Japan, some out-of-the-way areas are filled with litter, but not the ones frequented by the public. Ironically America has more public trashcans than Japan does! In Japan, it costs money to get rid of the trash. There are no trashcans in public parks or on the streets.
7. Great pizza and hotdogs! In Japan good pizza is expensive, and hotdogs are not nearly as tasty.
8. Huge variety of food products! The selection in Japan is mostly limited to Japanese food.
9. Great bread! Japanese eat white bread mostly. Good bread is expensive.
10. People bumming money! Twice I was asked for money by strangers. I gave them a dollar each. This doesn't happen in Japan.
11. Crumpled money! Lots of Americans apparently do not use wallets. Japanese do. Paper bills are not nearly as crumpled as American dollars.

12. More outgoing people in public. Japanese on the street are rather shy and inhibited to talk to strangers.