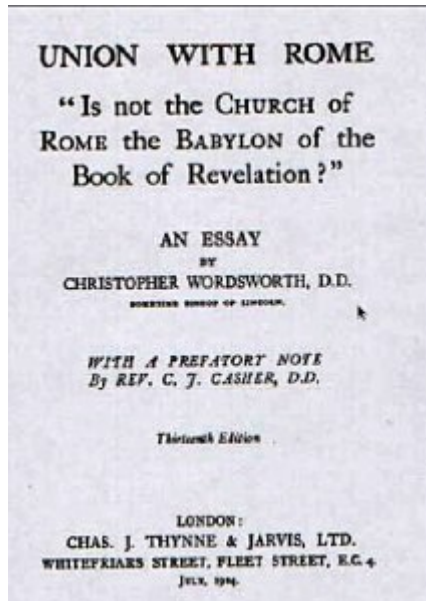


## Union with Rome – Christopher Wordsworth



Is not the Church of Rome the Babylon of the Book of Revelation? 19th-century Bible scholar Christopher Wordsworth offers infallible proof from Holy Scripture and secular history.

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## Japanese Doctors Warn About the Side Effects of the COVID-19 Vaccines



This is a transcript of a press conference called by Japanese physicians. Throughout the decades when I lived in Japan, it's been my observation that most Japanese are honest people and are not easily deceived by the media. When they encounter difficulties, they'll do an honest investigation of the problem and won't be easily swayed by others.

## Transcript

We are the General Incorporated Association of the Vaccine Injuries Study Group. We now have this press conference to report on the results of our study since its establishment. My name is Takeguchi, and I will be moderating the conference.

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to express my condolences to those who have passed away due to health issues after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. Furthermore, I extend my best wishes to those who have suffered health issues and those who are currently struggling with symptoms.

(Next speaker)

A systematic review of the literature has revealed some surprising facts. Thousands of papers have reported side effects after vaccination, which affect every organ without exception, ranging from ophthalmology (the diagnosis and treatment of eye disorders) to general medicine, to psychiatry. We have compiled this information into a paper that was published yesterday.

These documents have been preliminarily investigated by a group of volunteer physicians. They saw how many cases have been reported by Japanese academic societies. This kind of reporting on drug side effects or the like is unprecedented.

As my specialty is cancer, chemotherapy drugs are plagued with side effects, but the patterns are known and predetermined. The patterns of side effects caused by this (COVID-19) vaccine are not determined. They can occur throughout the body. Multiple diseases can occur simultaneously. Doctors have never seen such a thing. This is the candid opinion of the medical profession.

Japanese doctors are also trying hard, but they face various obstructions. There's this sentiment of 'Why report something like vaccine damage?' There are interferences in reporting. Such actions themselves hinder academic freedom, and in some academic departments, censorship is taking place such as in conference presentations and publications of academic papers. This is happening globally. Some journals are effectively practicing censorship.

We are working on a paper that is expected to be published soon. Once published, we will be able to report in detail. For example, the age-adjusted mortality rate for leukemia has increased, and there are significant findings of breast cancer, ovarian cancer, and so on. We will share the relevant information with everyone as we advise and request the government on how to proceed.

Next, Prof. Yasufumi Murakami, the director in charge of the testing method development working group, will explain the progress of the test development and future outlook.

Prof. Yasufumi Murakami: Thank you, everyone. One thing I want to say initially is that it is clear how the adverse effects occur, which is still

having many victims today. **I believe the vaccine should be stopped immediately.**

The mechanism by which adverse effects occur is well understood; **the spike [protein] is toxic.** It's very clear what happens when you administer a toxic gene to a human. Another point is that the Lipid nanoparticles, they are also toxic.

The major problem is that we are injecting two toxic substances into people, one of which is that human cells are producing spike proteins. Since the immune system will attack this, it causes very violent reactions. Some cases occur within one or two weeks after injection, but there are also many cases that appear after one or two years.

Additionally, there is indeed such a thing as good and bad antibodies in humans, and an antibody called IgG4 actually suppresses immunity. Usually with vaccines, if an IgG4 antibody is induced, it is considered a failure. However, with the current messenger-type vaccines, a significant amount of IgG4 is being induced. When this happens, it plays tricks on various immune functions. Therefore, we want to thoroughly investigate what ratio of Japanese people are experiencing this. We aim to carefully examine what level of IgG4 reacts with the spike protein that is present in each individual.

Of course, the problem is, we already understand these factors. Vaccines that have failed are still being administered, and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare recognizes these failed vaccines. So I would like to stop them immediately, but even though I speak out against the vaccine in various places, they don't stop administering them at all. So we will clearly present evidence and publish it in articles one by one.

New speaker: So, we are working with Dr. Fukushima to create this database, and so far, about 201 types of diseases and 3,071 papers on side effects have been reported. **It is unprecedented in human history for a single vaccine to have this much literature out on it.** With this, we plan to present it to the nation and the Japanese government in the form of solid science that no one can dispute.

In the next slide you will find diseases of the heart, kidney, thyroid, diabetes, liver, skin, eyes, blood, nerves, systemic diseases, brain, and lungs, diseases across all medical fields have been reported as Prof. Fukushima states. The characteristic of the side effects of this vaccine is that they occur simultaneously within entire families.

As for the data, when diseases such as those of the heart, kidney, endocrine, and liver occur simultaneously with the range in which they occur, a tremendous number of papers are reported with many pages.

New speaker: Mental disorders, psychiatric symptoms, depression, mania, and anxiety, came up in abundance. It's endless. It's about understanding why this is happening. That's why, actually, with broader keywords, for example, not just COVID-19 vaccines but also SARS-CoV-2, messenger RNA vaccines, and the like, when you separate it out into various keywords, more and more

results come up. So this is just a part of it. Even with what Dr. Inoue introduced earlier, it's just a part of what has been done with the PubMed database. There are things that won't be caught by PubMed. So like "Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD)", it's not caught, next slide.

However, there are such peer-reviewed papers out there from Dr. Montagnier who discovered HIV and received the Nobel Prize. It's a persuasive paper. But it disappeared. He was cautious from the beginning.

About the spike protein sequence, within the genes, you know, he was warning that if there's a prion-like (pathogenic type of misfolded protein) sequence, it could be very dangerous. Many scientists were warning about it. I too said it could be hazardous because of the possibility of prions. I discussed it with prion experts.

So, if you inject the vaccine into the muscle, it will be taken up by the surrounding cells. People who know nothing about medicine and biology don't think about such specific things, which is why they say it's an mRNA vaccine. However, if you know biology and medicine, such specific things don't happen. That is what we call off-target. Out of control beyond the target. It doesn't know where to go. If it goes into the bloodstream, it goes to the brain, liver, and kidneys. What if it went everywhere? That's something people don't think about. This off-target problem hasn't been solved.

And even if that is solved, there are still many problems. Because these nanoparticles, which were inflammatory earlier, are environmental issues, especially plastic nanoparticles, which are the world's number one problem. They enter the brain. However, those who don't know anything say, "It's plastic, so it won't be digested, so it's okay to eat." They pretend to know, but it doesn't get digested. The person has no idea how toxic organic substances are attached to the surface of those plastic nanoparticles. So, with fragments of such knowledge, they exaggerate things and think they can go with this. They say, "I know! This is good!" So, honestly, they need to go back and redo from middle school biology to high school and university entrance exams.

As I mentioned earlier, medicine is still immature. Basically, we don't understand much about the principles of life. Now, this kind of thing has happened, so, turning adversity into fortune, we should learn again here what happens instead of saying, "Go for it, go for it" with the vaccines. Well, it's like, ignorance is bliss. That's what this world is about. **Taking vaccines has become a kind of faith. Vaccines centers, they're like a weird cult. They're now basically fallen into an infinite hell.**

Simply thinking that things can be understood with fragments of knowledge is a mistake.

(End of transcript.)

If you are Japanese or understand the Japanese language, [click here to listen to the press conference](#).

## Sharing the Gospel with a Japanese Man Based on the Meaning of His Own Name!



I hope the title of this article intrigues you to read it article because you won't understand what I mean by the title until I explain it.

Let me start from the beginning. An American friend of mine, Brenda, has a daughter who is dating a Japanese boy named Yoshi. Because I lived in Japan so long and studied the Chinese characters that the Japanese use, I wondered if Yoshi's name is the Chinese character meaning righteousness.

The following is a conversation with Brenda through messenger:

Please ask Yoshi if this is how he writes his name. If it is, I'll tell something surprising about it that even he may not know.

Yes that's his name!! What's that? His name means Justice. I already asked him

His name teaches part of the Gospel! That is the character for RIGHTEOUSNESS, rather than justice. The character is actually a combination of two characters. The top half is the character for sheep. 羊 The bottom half is the character for the personal pronoun, I. 我 The combination of the two is based on the Old Testament blood sacrifice of a sheep or lamb for the sins of the people. Jesus was the final sacrifice for our sins, the Lamb of God. Only through receiving His sacrifice and blood shed for our sins do we become righteous!!! Tell that to Yoshi. It might change his life for him to know the meaning in his name.

That is so awesome!!

Brenda tried to explain to Yoshi what I told her about the meaning of Yoshi's name, but because his understanding of English is not so good he didn't quite get the point. She therefore asked me to write him an explanation in Japanese which I did. And I included two Scriptures.

John 1:29 ¶The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the **Lamb of God**, which taketh away the sin of the world.

1 Corinthians 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and **righteousness**, and sanctification, and redemption:

Brenda sent my Japanese text to Yoshi and he replied:

Thank you so much! I didn't know my name has this meaning. It's really interesting.

Brenda asked:

What did you write?

I wrote much of what I told you in English with two added Bible verses. It seems to me he understood it. He absolutely knows his name is a combination of sheep and the pronoun, I. No Japanese can deny that. It's right in their face!

I explained to Brenda that though the Chinese character of Yoshi's name is in 1 Corinthians 10:30, but it's not pronounced the same way as his name. In the verse it's pronounced "gi", righteousness. For every loan word Japan gets from China, there is at least one Chinese way of saying it, and a Japanese way of saying it. As a general rule, the Japanese way is multisyllabic, and the Chinese way is a single syllable. But no matter how you say it, the meaning of the word remains the same.

Brenda is excited that Yoshi got a witness for Christ based on the meaning of his own name!

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# 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.



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.

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# 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.

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The story of Noah's ark and the Great Flood translated into Japanese. Share it with your non-Christian Japanese friends!

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# The Story of Helen of St. Petersburg, Russia



How life changed for the average Russian after the fall of the Soviet Union.

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## Adventure to Teriberka – A Village in the Russian Arctic



On July 31 1996, Yanek from Belarus, Angela from St. Petersburg and I traveled overland by bus from Murmansk to the remote village of Teriberka. We went to visit our friend Marina who was a student we met in Murmansk. These two areas are circled in red on the map below. The distance is a bit more than 100 KM or 60 miles, but it took **5 hours by bus on dirt roads!** Though it was summer, we could still see patches of snow on the ground! Most of the area in between these two places is tundra. There is nothing growing higher than an inch or so from the ground due to the permafrost just beneath the soil.



In the year 2000 a Russian submarine sank not far from where I lived. The city next to Murmansk called Severomorsk is a Russian Navy base. Only Russian military and the local town's people have permission to enter this city. And believe it or not, even the tiny village of Teriberka is part of a military

restricted zone. I didn't know that before arrival. On the 3rd day border guards came to Marina's apartment and told me I had until the next morning to leave or be incarcerated!

A map showing the relationship of this area to the rest of the world. You're probably thinking, "What's so special about that village anyway?" It's special to me because it probably is the most remote area I've ever been in the world – a place only missionaries and National Geographic people would want to visit!



A view of Teriberka from Marina's apartment! It was the most miserable looking place I have ever been to in the world!



Belarussian Yanek in front of a typical Teriberka dwelling. The blue sign above the door says, "Welcome".



Yakek, Angela and Teriberka resident Marina near her apartment.



Marina's daughter (right) with a friend on a hill overlooking the Barents Sea (part of the Arctic Ocean). It's August 1st but only 13 degrees Celsius (55F) and windy.

There was nobody else on that beach except for the people with me! It was clean with no litter whatsoever which is unlike most Japanese beaches. Parts of it are rocky with very smooth large stones. Even in the summer the water is too cold to swim in without a wet suit.



Me with Yanek and Angela toward the left on that same hill, August 1, 1996.



Yanek, friend Marina and Angela.



Next day August 2! It warmed up to around 18C (70F)!



Yanek on the same day, same area.



Yanek with Marina. There is not a paved road in the entire village.



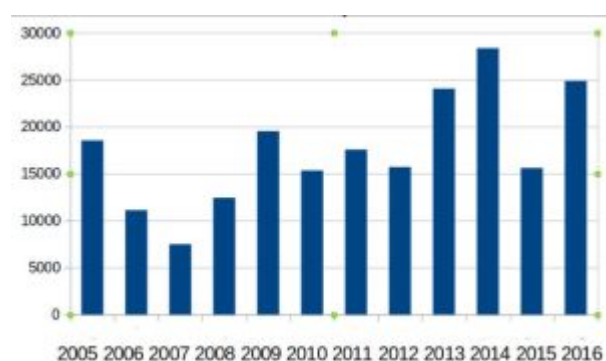
In Marina's apartment. Notice the rug hung on the wall? This is very typical of Russian homes. I think the photo was taken with a timer on the camera.

On the third day, two men who said they were government officials came to Marina's apartment when I was there and asked me if I obtained permission to visit their area. I told them I didn't know I needed permission. Marina told them I am an invited guest. The men said I was in a military area restricted to foreigners (especially Americans!) and that I needed permission. I didn't see a single sign of any military activity at all! They told me to leave at the earliest opportunity and that I may be fined later. But there was no fine and nothing more came of it.

[More photos of Teriberka.](#)

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## [Distances Hitchhiked Since year 2005 / Sharing Christ with the Japanese](#)



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

period.

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## 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.

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**[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."

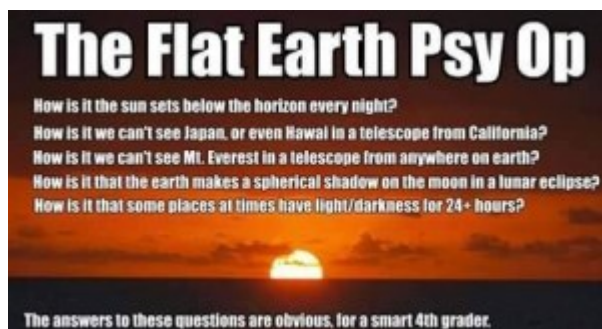
I hope many people will see this video.

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.

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## [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 pattern 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](#)

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## **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.

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## What is “Fukushima”?

福島

fuku shima

It's been my observation that most people who have never been to Japan seem to think of Fukushima as an uninhabitable nuclear wasteland. My Facebook friends are surprised when on some of my posts I wrote that I traveled through Fukushima on my way back home to Niigata. “Why did you go there?” they ask.

Mass media reporters have abbreviated the damaged Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant to a single word, “Fukushima.” Therefore when non-Japanese people hear this word, they automatically think of the nuclear catastrophe in Japan. This is *not* how Japanese think when they hear the name of Fukushima.



Japan divided into Prefectures.

Japan is divided into 47 administrative areas which are called *prefectures*.

Fukushima Prefecture is the area of #7. I live right next to it in area #15, Niigata Prefecture. Because I often travel to Aomori Prefecture, (#2 on the map), if I take the Tohoku Expressway, the route back home to Niigata runs through Fukushima Prefecture. Nobody hesitates for fear of radiation to drive through Fukushima Prefecture.



Here we can see an enlarged map of area #7 that shows Fukushima Prefecture. The damaged nuclear reactor is in a town called Futaba, the area with the red circle drawn around it. The nuclear reactor is right on the Pacific coast. It is mainly the area of Futaba and parts of the areas immediately next to it



which are in the no-go zone! People are living everywhere else in Fukushima Prefecture. Rice is again being planted and harvested in areas not close to the damaged nuclear power plant. You can see that Fukushima Prefecture is a large area and the area infected with radiation is relatively small in comparison.

There is also Fukushima City, the largest city in Fukushima Prefecture. So when I tell a Japanese person I passed through Fukushima, he or she understands that I passed through Fukushima Prefecture unless I specified it was Fukushima City. Nobody, I mean *nobody* would think I meant the Futaba area, the town of the nuclear power plant!

The word prefecture is defined on <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/prefecture> as

noun

1.

the office, jurisdiction, territory, or official residence of a prefect.

The only other countries that use the word prefecture to divide their country into administrative areas are *Roman Catholic nations* such as France and Italy!

Japan was divided into 47 prefectures by the Meiji government in July 1871. The Japanese period of *Meiji* (September 8, 1868 through July 30, 1912) was when Japan was forced to open itself to the West. Interestingly, the Japanese word “Meiji” is composed of two Chinese ideographs meaning “enlightened rule”. Was it because of the influence of the Illuminati (AKA Jesuit order)?

Why did Japan close itself off in the first place? To protect itself from Jesuit influence! The Tokugawa government (the period between 1603 and 1868) in the 17th century with the advice of English Protestant William Adams kicked out all the Roman Catholic **JESUIT** missionaries from Japan. William Adams warned the leader of the government, Tokugawa Ieyasu, that the real purpose of the Jesuit missionaries was not to spread the true faith of Christ to the Japanese, but to colonize Japan for Rome! During the period Japan isolated itself from the West, it’s interesting to note there was still some trade with England and the Netherlands – both *Protestant* countries. You see it was really only Roman Catholic countries, and specifically Portugal, Spain, France and Italy that the Tokugawa government feared. It was the USA which forced Japan to open itself up again to the West. America has been under the influence of the Roman Catholic Church from its very beginning! See [Washington in the Lap of Rome](#).

The Jesuits and Roman Catholic missionaries were expelled from Japan in the 17th century, but they returned in the 19th century during the time of Meiji (Illuminati / Jesuit rule). It’s my conclusion, therefore, dividing Japan into administrative areas called “prefecture” may denote Japan returning back under the control of **Rome**! And by “Rome” I am referring to the Vatican and

the Roman Catholic Church. The word prefecture comes from Latin, the language of the Roman Empire!

By the way, here is Fukushima in Chinese ideographs.



It literally means “fortune island”

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## June 15 Adventure from Niigata to Hirosaki



The scene of Route 7 near Majima station. The sign says Majima Bridge.

June 15, 2012: The day is bright and sunny with thin and wispy cirrus clouds. Again as I did the previous week, I started off from Majima station on Route 345 at 7:35 AM. This time I didn't catch the first ride till 8:25, about 50 minutes later. The driver was a cook on his way to work at a restaurant in Sasagarenagare, a spa and resort area in northern Niigata. His name is Mr. Toki., a very friendly man who was constantly smiling. It may be redundant to call him “friendly” for all who voluntary stop for me are friendly.

The only drivers who are sometimes not friendly nor talkative are the ones who reluctantly picked me because I approached them when they were parked and asked them to. For this reason, unless I'm absolutely desperate for a ride, I don't like to approach drivers sitting in their car. Most of them will only say no. The ones who do say yes are still sometimes reluctant and fearful. I would rather they come to me out of their own volition and offer me a ride. One lady who I approached actually scolded me for not taking the train! It doesn't make for a pleasant journey to have to deal with people like that.

Sasagarenagare is a 15 minute drive from Majima on lonely Route 345 with few cars. I had hoped to get a ride as far as the junction of Route 7 from where

there would be more traffic going north. I walked about a 100 meters further up the road to the end of the shop and hotel area. About 40 minutes later at 9:30 a.m, a car that had just passed turned around and came back for me. The driver's name is Teru and he was on his way to Hokkaido!

Teru has been spending his retirement years traveling and camping around Japan. Though his home is in Amagasaki next to Osaka, he knows the Tohoku and Hokkaido regions very well. He goes from camp ground to camp ground. In the day he rides around the area on a folding bicycle which he carries easily in the back of his car. I suggested to Teru for him to take a free stretch of the expressway to save time, but he was no hurry to go anywhere. Teru preferred to take the slower but scenic coastal road. He took me all the way to Akita city, a good distance of nearly 200 kilometers from Sasagarenagare! In spite of a relatively show start out of Niigata, this ride more than made up for it. I arrived Akita City at 12:30 p.m.



Maiko

At Akita City, I arranged to meet a lady who had picked me up last year, July 29. Her name is Maiko and she's a nurse care who cares for the elderly. I have friends in Akita and encouraged her to visit them. We had lunch together. After about an hour, Maiko took me to a spot on Route 7 near where she first met me. I didn't want Maiko to go too far out of her way for me. The spot where she dropped me off was heavily congested with mostly city traffic.

I had to wait 2 whole hours for the next ride! The next town of Noshiro was 50 kilometers away. Everybody ignored my sign that said "Noshiro". Finally I put it away and just stuck out my thumb. It was about 4 p.m when the next car stopped: Two men on their way to Noshiro! They took the expressway and went a bit out of their way to take me to Futatsui on Route 7 just past Noshiro.



Children walking home from school/

The next major city is Odate, about 40 kilometers further, and it was now around 5 p.m. After waiting only a minute, a man driving a rather expensive looking car saw my Odate sign and stopped. He was an interesting man, a watch retailer, whose hobby is collecting Rolex watches! He has a 40 year old daughter who is still single, a high school teacher. He said his daughter doesn't want to marry because she saw the way he treated her mother, the "teishu-kanpaku" style, meaning, the MAN is the absolute lord over the house and he expects his wife to fulfill his every whim and desire! I don't think his daughter needs to fear such treatment in marriage because the younger generation of Japanese men are not inclined to treat their wives so bossy and discourteously as their father's generation did.



Setting sun over Mr. Iwaki near  
Hirosaki. Mt. Iwaki is an inactive  
volcano.

It was after 6 p.m when I arrived in Odate. I walked a bit up Route 7. The next major city is Hirosaki and my destination, about 40 kilometers further. A young man stopped, a dentist by the name of Shuho. He's from Saitama but is now living in Hirakawa next to Hirosaki. Shuho graciously went a bit further for me to take me to Hirosaki Station. From there the hotel where I spent the night was only a 20 minute walk away.

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## Fun translating text from Japanese to English

One of my jobs is doing text translations on PC from Japanese to English. I use Google translate in the process, but only as a double check to make sure I didn't miss any phrases or words. I found Google does a fairly decent job translating Indo-European languages. I studied Russian and discovered that Google is OK to translate texts such as emails in Russian. An example from Bible text of Matthew 5:9

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children  
of God.

The Russian Bible says:

Блаженны миротворцы, ибо они будут наречены сынами Божиими.

Put that in Google translate and you get:

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Not bad at all!

The Japanese Bible says:

平和な人々は祝福され、彼らは神の子と呼ばれることになる。

Put that in Google translate and you get:

Build a peaceful people, and fortunately, they shall be called sons of God.

Not nearly as good as the Google translation from Russian.

Here's an example of a Japanese Paragraph I worked on today. It's the first paragraph of a friend who is sharing a strange dream she had one night:

[illegible]

Google translation says:

My father was a person who walks of life extraordinary. He has a great impact on her daughter, I grew up with him continues to be enlightened. The person died of liver cancer. The ultimate in epic also a way to die. He seemed to deliberately refuse to endure the pain by his morphine. Many years ago, lost in sorrow and pain of cancer too late to all the world seems to love him forever. My father seemed to share the pain in her right mind to endure the pain until the end of times suffer severe pain from cancer is diagnosed.

My translation:

My father lived an extraordinary life. He had a great influence on me. I grew up enlightened with his wisdom. He died of liver cancer. His death was as extraordinary as his life was. He deliberated refused to take morphine and choose to endure pain instead. Many years ago he also lost his one and true love who died of cancer discovered too late. It seems the sadness and pain of her passing never faded from his heart. Ever since my father was diagnosed to have cancer, he seemed to share my mother's pain and endured severe pain until the very end clinging barely on to his sanity.

Reasons why a machine translator like Google has great difficulty with Japanese sentences:

- Japanese has no verb conjugation and therefore the person speaking cannot be determined by the grammar. It can only be determined by human logic based on the content.
- Japanese is a language of metaphors. Ideas are expressed differently

using different words than would be used in most European languages.

- The subject of a Japanese sentence is often dropped because it is supposed to be already understood by the listener.
- Nouns have no gender and the only two pronouns with gender, kare, kanojo (he, she) are often dropped from the sentence when supposed to be understood. And these two pronouns can even be interpreted by the listener as one's boyfriend or girlfriend according to the context it is used!
- The predicate and main verb of the sentence comes at the very end of the sentence, not immediately after the subject as in English. There may be several clauses in between. A machine translation of a long sentence is often nonsensical.

Back in the mid '90s I once read an article that predicted by the year 2000, voice machine translators would be so good that a voice of a person in Tokyo speaking in Japanese on the phone would come out in English to the other party in America! I cannot foresee that ever happening when even text only translations are still very poorly done.

I often have to add words not present in the original to my translation because I know that is probably what the person meant to say. In other words, a percentage of the translation is really interpreting what the writer means. It's only because I know the author personally that I can interpret the author's text with a good degree of accuracy, something that no machine or software no matter how sophisticated could ever do. Are my translations OK? The author seems to think so. ☐

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## Ten day hitchhike adventure circling central Japan



The red line is the route I

traveled by hitchhiking.

**October 24 to Nov. 3, 2010:** I hitchhiked 1390 kilometers in 18 vehicles to cities in the Kanto plain (Tokyo and vicinity), Osaka, and then returned home by a different route along the Sea of Japan. As you can see from the map, I didn't hitchhike the entire distance. On two occasions friends happened to be going toward my destination and gave me a lift, and several times I had to take trains for expediency sake.



Tokyo Bay  
Aqua-Line

I traveled along the Tokyo Bay Aqua-Line for the very first time, a bridge and tunnel that crosses Tokyo bay. By car this is the fastest way to get from southern Chiba to Kawasaki bypassing the traffic congested Tokyo area and saving 65 kilometers in distance. I had wondered how it could be possible to build a bridge that spans the bay at one point and goes into the bay midway, but as you can see from the photo on the right, the bridge reaches a man made island at the point the tunnel begins.

Because I had to take three trains from Kawasaki after getting off the Aqua line to get back to the expressway at Kokuho parking area on the Tomei, I wondered if I really *did* save time. It was a case of a "bird in the hand is worth two in the bush" because the driver just happened to be going that direction and getting rides through Tokyo was far less certain. I wanted to be in Osaka that evening to avoid the rains of a coming Typhoon, and so spending 770 yen train fare to help speed my journey seemed worth the money.

I met a hitchhiker while heading toward Osaka at the Kohoku parking area on the Tomei expressway, a lady from France who was going to Shimoda, the southern city of the Izu peninsular in Shizuoka Prefecture. It's very rare to see other hitchhikers in Japan, and this is the first time ever to find a female hitchhiking, an older lady at that! She said she's older than me so that would be in her mid 60s. I felt sorry for her because her Japanese is not very good though she says she's lived in Japan already for 10 years, and because her destination was rather hard to get to, mostly by low road. I told her it would be better if we hitchhike together. I found the Japanese are more apt to pick up male/female couples. The first car, a married couple, took us to Ebina service area past Atsugi, and the second driver took her as far as Ashigara near Mt. Fuji.

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# Hitchhiking on a rainy day to Saitama



Hisami and Toshio Yamaguchi. They went out of their way to take me to Sakae PA on the Hokuriku Expressway

**October 15, 2010:** Today was cloudy with light showers from time to time. I needed be in the city of Kumagaya in Saitama Prefecture by 10:30AM the next day for important business. My destination was Noda city in Chiba Prefecture, about 300 kilometers from home. Noda is close to Tokyo to the northeast. From there I would make it in two trains to Kumagaya in plenty of time if I left by 8AM.

The first ride, Mr. and Mrs. Yamaguchi who were heading to Nagaoka City by regular road, went out of their way for me to take me to Sakae Parking area on the Hokuriku expressway. After waiting slightly over an hour at Sakae and getting a bit impatient, a man from the Tohoku Power Co. offered to take me to Muika Machi, nearly a 1/3 of my journey. He took me to the Muika Machi interchange.

After a few minutes it started to rain. I spotted a Jusco department store only a couple hundred meters away and walked to it. By the time I got there, it began raining pretty hard. I was glad to have shelter and eat lunch at the Jusco.

Thirty minutes later the rain stopped and I walked back to the interchange. After about 15 minutes, a Noodle shop man took me to Echigo Yuzawa, about 22 kilometers further. He looked different from most Japanese because of his long sideburns, something uncommon in Japan. There is a Parking Area called Ishiuchi about 6 kilometers before Echigo Yuzawa, but I didn't want to get off there because there were only a dozen cars parked in the area. That might have been a mistake because things did not go according to expectation at Echigo Yuzawa! Half a dozen drivers offered me rides, but they were all going back in the direction I just came from. This is just the opposite of what I experienced at the same place a couple years ago! I was heading home to



Niigata, but all the drivers where going the opposite way toward Tokyo.

After waiting over an hour, it was getting dark just a little after 5PM. I checked the train time with my cell phone's Internet connection and found a train leaving at 5:56PM. This train with its connections would get me to Noda before midnight. The station was about a 20 minute walk from the interchange and I started walking toward it going up route 17 with traffic heading to Saitama and still holding out a paper sign showing my destination in a last ditch effort to catch a ride. It paid off! A kind man who sells Japanese pastries took me as far as Shinmachi Station on the Takasaki line in Saitama Prefecture! This saved me over 2000 yen and at least an hour of time because he took the expressway which is much faster than local trains.

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## Monday adventure from Aomori to Niigata



Mr. Kato who took  
me to Kuroishi on  
the Tohoku  
Expressway

**April 19, 2010:** I had intended to hitchhike back home on Sunday morning but stayed in Aomori city in northern Honshu an extra day to deal with a friend's PC problem. Hitchhiking on a weekend or a holiday is always easier. There are more cars on the road with families traveling longer distances. Weekdays, and especially a **Monday** mean people traveling for business reasons, and they are usually not in a happy mood.

But this morning I had help to get started. Rather than walk to the highway and try to hitchhike 5 kilometers to the Aomori Chuo entrance of the Tohoku expressway, the friend with whom I stayed with offered to drive me there.

This gave me a 30 minute head start. My home in Niigata is 580 kilometers distance via the Tohoku and Ban'etsu expressways and I hoped to return the same day.



The Kitayama  
brothers who took  
me to Hirosaki  
Owani interchange.

The first driver, Mr. Kato, said he would only go as far as Kuroishi, about 20 kilometers down the road. The traffic at Kuroshi was only a tiny fraction of Aomori Chuo, and I wondered if I made a mistake taking the ride from Mr. Kato. I knew the next expressway entrance at Hirosaki Owani would be much better for me, and headed that direction on foot. I knew it was too far to walk all the way, but nevertheless I continued walking down the road until I caught the next ride nearly an hour later. Twin brothers with the family name of Kitayama picked me up! They are highly skilled carpenters who make Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines. One of them said when he was young just after graduating from university, he traveled in Europe for 3 months hitchhiking from place to place. Japanese who have traveled overseas, and the ones who themselves have experienced hitchhiking will usually stop for me.



Former Sumo  
wrestler, Yoshi

The most interesting person to pick me up today was Yoshi, a former Sumo wrestler. He said he lived in a Sumo world from 8 years old till 20, and all he wanted to be in life was a professional sumo. But that dream suddenly ended with an injury to his knee. The doctor told him he couldn't wrestle anymore. In despair he left Japan and moved to San Diego to start a new life. There he grew fond of the local Mexican people, and learned to speak Spanish. He also met a Japanese girl in San Diego with whom he fell in love with and expressed that love. She told him, "Yoshi, you know nothing about real love! Come to church with me tonight and learn about love." So he went with her to a Spanish speaking church in San Diego, heard the Gospel of Jesus for the first time in his life, and was so moved with [the Message](#) he wept with emotion! God came into his life that night and by and by, he felt called to become a missionary to Peru! Yoshi described to me in detail life in Peru, the poverty and the lack of morals. And I thought Japan is tough! The Japanese are hard to sell but they do have a strong sense of morals in their culture. Though they don't know the teachings of the New Testament, many Japanese live by its principles better than Westerners who do know the Bible.

Yoshi took me to the Adatara parking area just before the junction of the

Ban'estu expressway that goes to Niigata. It was 4:30PM and I still had an hour and a half of sunlight left. The previous time standing at Adatara I caught a ride in only 20 minutes, but 3 hours later by 7:30 I still hadn't caught a ride and was standing in the dark unable to even read the license plates until the car was about to pass me. Over 95% of the traffic was heading toward Tokyo, not toward Niigata. I realized rather than wait for cars to come to me, I would have to walk up to drivers in the parking area, the ones that have Niigata license plates. Normally I don't do this because drivers who do give me rides this way are usually not friendly or talkative, but I was in a desperate situation! The first driver I asked did give me a ride, and I was so grateful to know I would be home in two hours and not have to try to figure out how to sleep at Adatara that night. □

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## Picked up by two Nichiren ladies



**November 29, 2009:** While hitchhiking to town I noticed a lady walking toward me from a distance with what appeared to be her car parked by the side of the road behind her. I correctly assumed she was going to offer me a ride. She had another lady friend with her who was the driver. They seemed a bit overly impressed to meet me which caused me to become suspicious.

I asked them, "Do you want to sell me something?"

"No!"

"Are you folks into some kind of religion?"

"No!"

They asked me if I had eaten lunch yet and invited me to a restaurant to talk. I accepted the invitation because I wasn't in any hurry and knew it would give me an opportunity to share my faith with them.

In the restaurant I offered to give them two Activated magazines. As soon as I pulled them out of my briefcase, they turned them down. The only kind of

Japanese who refuses to accept literature from me are people into some type of religion, and sure enough, these two ladies turned out to be [Nichiren Buddhist](#) people, and their intent was to try to convert **me**!

Most Buddhists are very tolerant of other religions, and they have no problem toward Christians in general. The Nichiren sect is the **notifiable exception**. They will flatly tell you to forsake Jesus Christ and pray to their idol using their chant instead. Every time they chanted that horrible chant to me, I started to pray the "Our Father" prayer and told them that prayer works for me. To their credit, they did listen when I told them why Jesus died on the cross, and for what reason, to save all of mankind from sin.

Normally when a Japanese person invites me to a restaurant or coffee bar, they will pick up my tab. I fully expected this to happen but to my embarrassment I walked halfway out of the restaurant and was told I hadn't paid my bill yet! Next time I'll be more wary when a person seems overly interested in talking to me even though we just met. Either they want to convert you or sell you on some network marketing type of product. □