Lord Jesus, could no longer keep those defiled objects. Even though it cost them a great deal, they publicly burned them.

It must be clear, that every object that has been used in witchcraft is an object that has been dedicated to evil spirits and is set apart for destruction.

What shall we do with our Idols?

This is what the people of Israel were instructed by God to do in Deuteronomy 7:5 "This is what you are to do to them: Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones, cut down their Asherah poles and burn their idols in the fire." Notice the verbs that are used "break down" "smash" "cut down" and "burn"; are all words that refer to total destruction. Israel is told not to compromise with the nations around them or their gods.

In Deuteronomy 12:2,3 the people are told "² Destroy completely all the places on the high mountains and on the hills and under every spreading tree where the nations you are dispossessing worship their gods. ³ Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones and burn their Asherah poles in the fire; cut down the idols of their gods and wipe out their names from those places." Again the verbs are "Destroy completely" "Break down" "smash" "burn" "cut down" and "wipe out".

These two passages of scripture show clearly that there can be no compromise, where objects connected to the worship of the enemy are concerned. Isaiah 42:8 "I am the LORD; that is my name! I will not give my glory to another or my praise to idols." What would God have you do to break the cycle of idolatry in your family, hauslain or community?

How to Deal with Idols And Defiled Places

- 1) Confess the sin of idolatry or witchcraft that you or your ancestors were involved in.
- 2) Cut off and renounce any connection to any idol, the powers of darkness or witchcraft.
- 3) Destroy any object used in idolatry or witchcraft in the fire.
- 4) Break any covenant that was made by your ancestors with the powers of darkness and renew your covenant with the Lord your God.
- 5) Take Holy Communion on the sight where worship of false god's, demonic spirits or sacrifices have occurred.

The Aligah Offering

The definition of Aliyah is the return of the Jews to Israel from whatever nations around the world where they have been scattered as the prophets foretold.

The prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel foretold a time when the Jewish people would return to their beloved Israel after centuries of being scattered around the nations of the world. Jeremiah 31:8, 10 "See I will bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the ends of the earth. Among them will be the blind and the lame, expectant mothers and women in labour." ¹⁰ "Hear the word of the LORD, O nations; proclaim it in distant coastlands: 'He who scattered Israel will gather them and will watch over His flock like a shepherd."

Ezekiel 37:21, 22 "This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will gather them from all around and bring them back into their own land. ²² I will make them one nation in the land on the mountains of Israel. There will be one king over all of them …"

Even though Israel became a nation again on May 14, 1948 and many Jews have returned since then, there are still many more Jews that must return to Israel from around the world. Papua New Guinea has been given a **sacred trust** to stand with Israel in this hour and do all we can to help the people make 'Aliyah' to their homeland to fulfil God's end-time purposes.

In the scriptures, when a Solemn Assembly was observed, as in Leviticus 23 and Numbers 29, a freewill offering was given to the Lord. This year on the National Day of Repentance, we will be taking up a national offering to give to the Jewish people who are making Aliyah. Part of this offering will also be given to those who survived the holocaust (the extermination of the Jews in Europe during world war two).

The giving of this offering will be important, first of all to bless the Jewish people, but secondly, as we give sacrificially as an act of worship to our God, we will begin to destroy the grip that the poverty spirit has on our nation.

An account number will be given for people to deposit into until the offering will be officially handed over to the Jewish people by our government.

THE NATIONAL DAY OF REPENTANCE

AUGUST 26, 2015

³ Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones and burn their Asherah poles in the fire; cut down the idols of their gods and wipe out their names from those places." Deuteronomy 12:3



OUR NATIONAL FREEWILL OFFERING FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE

On August 26, 2015 on the National Day of Repentance, we have an extraordinary opportunity to break free from the powers of darkness that have held us for so long, by destroying every object used in idol worship, witchcraft or that has in any way tied us to the powers of darkness.

The Speaker of Parliament, the Honourable Theodore Zurenuoc has a mandate from the Most High to remove objects from Parliament House that are defiling it, that are keeping our nation through its leaders in bondage and that are offensive to the LORD our God. As this begins to take place, the darkness is lifting, the light of the knowledge of the glory of God is beginning to shine, and His favour is being extended to Papua New Guinea.

The LORD our God has great plans for our nation, but one of the major obstacles in seeing these fulfilled in this hour, are the many false gods that litter our nation. We the people, must rise up and do our part to remove the false gods, the idols, the witchcraft objects and everything else that keeps us in bondage to satan's kingdom.

So on August 26, 2015, bring any object that you know does not glorify God and surrender it to be burned in the fire. As each community goes before God in repentance, a fire will be lit to destroy any defiled objects.

This year on the National Day of Repentance, we will be holding normal Repentance services around the country. But in addition to this, we will put our repentance to action by burning all every object used in witchcraft and by taking a national freewill offering.

Idolatry What are idols and What is Idolatry/idol worship?

Idols - The dictionary defines an idol as an icon, representation of a god, image, effigy, statue, figure, figurine, fetish, totem; graven image, false god, or golden calf. The Bible uses a few different words for idol or god or image.

In the Hebrew language there are few different words that are used for the word "Idol". The word "el-eel" simply means "of no value, good for nothing or worthless." The

word "ghil-lool" means "an image, carved or sacred stone for worship". Another word "ter-a-fim" means "a kind of idol used as a household god to worship".

Idolatry - Idolatry then is worshiping, serving, pledging allegiance to, doing acts of reverence to, paying homage to, forming alliances with, making covenants with, seeking power from, or in any other way exalting any supernatural being other than God. The supernatural beings refer to angels, cherubim, seraphim, Satan, principalities, powers, deities, masalai, territorial spirits, goddesses, and demonic beings on any other level.

Hard-core verses Soft-core Idolatry

In the church, we tend to consider anything at all that takes the place of God in our lives, to be idolatry. We may have heard putting your husband/wife/children ahead of God, eating too much food, television/movies, personal pleasures, sports or any number of other things called idolatry. Although we all agree that anything that gets in our way of loving the Most High with all our heart, soul, and strength should be removed, this is not the way the scriptures use the word "idol".

An "idol" in the scriptures is clearly an image or figure that represents a supernatural being whether it be an angel, demon, Satan, principalities, powers, deities, masalai, territorial spirits or goddesses. This is what we will call Hard-Core Idolatry. When the word idolatry is used for any persistent sin which might interfere in our relationship with God or that takes the place of God, it is basically Soft-Core Idolatry.

The Sin that God hates the most.

Although God hates all sin, there are some sins that are worse in his eyes. The first two commandments that God gave His people at Mt. Sinai were;

- 1) You shall have no other god beside me.
- 2) You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in the heavens above, or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

I believe that these two commandments were given first because they deal with **the sins that God hates more than any other.**

We are very well aware in Papua New Guinea that imag-

es such as carvings, masks or items used in witchcraft are connected to unseen spirits that seek to control those who honor them. The carvings are only visible images that represent invisible evil spirits. When respect, worship or honor is given, what is actually taking place behind the scenes is, a spiritual transaction with one or more spirits in the invisible world. Idols, places of worship/sacrifice and covenants made with the powers of darkness are the point of contact between the physical and spiritual world. These give what the Apostle Paul calls in Ephesians 6; the rulers, authorities, powers of this dark world and spiritual forces of evil, the legal authority over certain geographical areas or people groups. This is idolatry and this is what God warned against in His first two commandments.

Witchcraft

Witchcraft is the administrative component of Idolatry. Idolatry is a religious system based on fear and witchcraft is often the means of, first of all manipulating people, intimidating them and then having domination over them. Witchcraft is using the powers of darkness to accomplish the agenda of the false god that is being served.

It is very clear from the Bible that God's people must not have any involvement with any kind of witchcraft (including "glasman"). Deuteronomy 18:10-13 "Let no one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD, and because of these detestable practices the LORD your God will drive out those nations before you."

Acts 19:17 says that during Pauls ministry "¹⁹ A number who had practiced sorcery, brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas." Those

who used to practice witchcraft, when they were confronted with the power of the

Excerpts are from "Tear Down the Idols" which can be obtained from The National Community Transformation Network P.O. Box 621 Kundiawa, Simbu Province