

Life & Ministry in Bolivia

Bud Rader

Romans 12:14 - 13:7; Ecclesiastes 9:17

Historical Setting

I. Pre-Incan

- A. Tiauanacu
- B. Aymara
- C. Amazonia

II. Incan Empire

- A. Cuzco Valley
- B. System of sustainable conquest
- C. Religion

III. Colonial Dominance

- A. Civil war in the empire
- B. Arrival of Conquistadores
 - 1. Greed and Atahualpa
 - 2. Cerro Rico
 - 3. The Land Lords
 - 4. Introduction and Assimilation of Catholicism

IV. Revolution of 1953

Setting the stage

A. Civil instability

- 1. Incompetent national leadership
- 2. Melgarejo and his antics
- 3. War of the Pacific
- 4. Chaco War
- 5. Life span of the presidents
- 6. Poverty: Inevitable result of tyranny

B. Land reform

More poverty

V. Invasion of 1967

Brief history of Ernesto Guevara

- A. Not so humble beginnings
- B. Envy and hate
- C. Cuba
 - Vietnam
 - Congo
 - Bolivia
 - Activities in Vallegrande region
 - Humiliating end

Current Setting

I. Population

- A. Ethnically
- B. Language
- C. Culture
- D. Geography
- E. Occupation
- F. Age breakdown

II. Politics

***Do not be fooled by a name.

"People's Republic of China"

"GDR--German Democratic Republic"

"Democracy"

- A. Abuses of predecessors
- B. Gas War of 2003
- C. Relationship to the United States
 - 1. How this affects missions
 - a. Anti-Americanism--

b. Anti-Gospel

2. Opportunities

"This may be our best opportunity to exalt the name of Jesus Christ."

Lk 22:42, "Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me:
Nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done."

John 12:27, "Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father,
save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this
hour."

Apl: We seek escape and release from these difficult moments.

Definitive moments in missions:

Decades past John & Betty Stam--China IM--Finest Hour.

1943 Bob and Cecil Dye and 3 others--NTM--Finest Hour.

1956 Harold Hoshbach, George Bacon, Roger Youderian, Nate
Saint, and Jim Elliot--Varied missions--Finest Hour.

Who can deny the impact of the lives of these men and women
for the cause of Christ. By God's grace, hundreds of others have
shined as brightly. They didn't seek martyrdom. They had plans
for the next day, year, etc. They intended to see their children
grow up. But when God called they stood firm in His grace and
answered the call.

Definitive moments--When and how will your's be manifest-
ed? How will you respond?

Options

a. Return home

1-Stateside family

2-Immediate family

3-Home church

4-US government

5-God

b. Set up in neighboring country

c. Stay put

Christians and non Christians have a new respect for survivors.

d. National Christians and foreign born MK's have access to countries

that are difficult for US citizens to enter.

1--

2--

e. Quechua

1-Translation work. Learn the target language.

2-Church planting

f. Deaf Ministry

Vallegrande and Sucre

g. Church Planting

1-Urban

2-Back Country

h. The Contact work

i. Teaching MK's

j. Training Nationals

1-Discipleship

2-Bible Institute

k. Bible Camps

l. Earning your stripes

1-So much as is possible do things yourself.

2-Do not expect the mission to baby you. Parents who spoil their kids handicap them for later life. This is true in missions, too.

IL: Words of Missionary Steve Parker. Tell a bit about Steve, his ministry 2004-08 and then mention his insight about missionaries who are used to having things done for them.

Dcl: Working and struggling through situations will help you understand the people with whom and the culture in which you are ministering.

Conclusion: In reference to Uganda, Africa, Henry Stanely said, "Oh, that some practical missionary would come here! It is the practical Christian...this is the man who is wanted. Such a one, if he can be found, would become the saviour of Africa... Where is there in all the pagan world a more promising field for a mission? Here,

gentlemen, is your opportunity. Embrace it!!! The people upon the shores of the Nyanza call upon you! You have no idea how brave you are until you try!"

What is sought after are men and women who are determined servants of Christ. Determined to serve Him no matter what the cost to self, to those we are responsible for, and to family. Be prudent, be careful and astute, and follow the Lord's leading. If He indicates that you should move on then move on but not before.

Lance, "Bud," is a genuine Yooper, born and raised in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. His family has been involved in "back country" church planting since 1982. The Lord has used the Raders to establish 5 churches in the Bolivian Andes, with a couple more works in progress. In addition to church planting, they are involved in a Bible institute, aviation ministry, orphanage, Bible camp and a hands-on missionary training program. He met his wife, Karen, at Northland Baptist Bible College and God has blessed them with 6 children, several of which are serving the Lord as missionaries.