

Greetings to you and to your loved ones, together with the elders, preacher, deacons and all the saints there.

As to my works in the past 4 weeks:

September 17, 2020 — We had our mid-week bible study.

September 18, 2020 — I visited the Jasaan brethren and preached there.

September 19, 2020 — My niece, Mina Algaba Medallada visited me and we had a bible study here in my house with her co-worker she brought.

September 20, 2020 — We had our Sunday Service, the same rotation as in the past. Morning at Jasaan with Brother Narcing and Sister Cynthia (my daughter), then after lunch brother Narcing and I went to San Antonio, I preached at Chona's resident (my eldest daughter) while brother Narcing preached there at his household with his family and other brethren near him. Around 5 in the afternoon when I arrived at home where my family and 2 more families of brethren were waiting for our Sunday Service here at Longos.

September 25, 2020 — I went to Jasaan to preached there again.

September 26, 2020 — I got caught in an accident near in front of my house, I went to Longos to buy some needs and when I was about to cross using the motorcycle my future son-in-law lend to me, the big motorcycle behind me was driving so fast and overtake on my left and hit me even though there's no other car in the road and there's a big space on the right path where he should've taken. Unfortunately, no one gave us any CCTV fotages, the Baranggay CCTV was also not working that time. To me, it looks intentional. Aside from that, our neighbours were not able to chase that person nor remember the plate number because there were shock.

The same day, I was brought in the Hospital with the help of Paete Rescue Unit and Pakil ambulance. My daughters, Faith and Cynthia were there to assist.

September 27, 2020 — Bro. Venson was the one to preach there at Jasaan since we were not able to travel, while brother Narcing preached here. I thought I couldn't stand due to my accident, but glory to God that I was able to stand and share a message.

September 28, 2020 — We called an ambulance for transportation to Holy Family Hospital for my X-ray on my chest and CT scan on my head where there's a bruised and swollen part, around 8 in the evening when we received the results where it says that the third rib on my back were fractured , plus an old fracture rib from my old accident. The doctor at Holy Family instructed me to consult to a Orthopedic. As for my CT scan, thanks to God, I didn't received any brain injury nor bloodcloth. The doctors prescribed me some pain reliver and antibiotics.

September 30, 2020 — We went to Sta. Cruz to look for Orthopedic at Polymedic Hospital, unfortunately, the doctor was not there and his secretary instructed us to come back the next day instead since that was the doctor schedule.

September 31, 2020 — We went back there at Polymedic Hospital for my consultation. The doctor said I don't need operation but just a whole month of rest and continues medication.

October 4, 2020 — I was able to move around unlike the past week so we went to Jasaan, together with some young brethren here so they could meet the brethren at Jasaan. After our Sunday service we preach within the vicinity.

October 5, 2020 — The song books and other things we requested to brother Ron Halbrook arrived, the brethren were all thankful and excited to use the bibles and songbooks.

October 7, 2020 — My daughter, Faith and I did our signage of CHURCH OF CHRIST so people could easily find us here. In the afternoon, my niece, Mina went and visit me again and we had our bible sharing as well.

October 11, 2020 — We had our Sunday service, the same routine again plus after the Sunday service at Jasaan, we successfully baptized another soul after he heard the gospel and other discussions, the same day.

Brother Jim and brother Gumpad sent money to help me on my medical expenses.

After my accident, I was not able to do a house-to-house preaching other than the brethren here. Daily, brother Mario and his family as well as brother Julius family heard the word of God for their edification. Now, 2 of their friends are my prospect. They are continuesly listening to me. Mr. Willie and Mr. Noel, our neighbours.

I had an almost 3 consecutive days discussions on Facebook regarding 'Hell' which the Universalist believe and stand that it's only an illusion made by people. Brother Chito Perez was the one who introduced me with this group because he was not able to destroy the beliefs of these people. There are 4 from their group who's fighting for the sake of their religion (Universalist). Headed by Haziel Garcia, followed by Leo Lontoc, Mark Anthony and Henry Rubiom Agustin. After a long discussions, they retracted one by one, and totally destroyed.

They believed that all the translations of the bible were all wrong and only the original was accurate. They stand that "Gehenna" or "Gehenna of fire" was originally the valley of Hinnom, south of Jerusalem, where the filth and dead animals of the city were cast out and burned; and believed that its gone now but I used the Thayer definition that Geheena is a fit symbol of the wicked and their future destruction, while Strong's definition Geheena was used as figuratively as a name for the place (or state) of everlasting punishment. Vine's comment that Geheena is a metaphorical discription of irrivocable law and that the tartaro means cast down to hell (2 Pt. 2:4).

On the other hand, they emphasised that Tartaro was just a verb of Geheena for them. That's why, it's impossible for people to suffer at everlasting fire.

I used the Thayer comment which is

1. the name of the subterranean region, doleful and dark, regarded by the ancient Greeks as the abode of the wicked dead, where they suffer punishment for their evil deeds; it answers to Gehenna of the Jews

2. to thrust down to Tartarus, to hold captive in Tartarus

Origin: from Tartaros (the deepest abyss of hell)

My argument was "If tartaro is the deepest abyss of hell (hades) and hades will be cast down in the lake of fire according to Rev. 20:13." I asked them if the Tartaro was not included with Hades to be cast down? I also asked them how did Tartaro became a verb?

I present them the Strong's comment, Tartarōs (the deepest abyss of Hades); to incarcerate in eternal torment: - cast down to hell.

During the mid of our argument, I asked them to produced their liguist finest scholar that in favor to their belief which hell was only an illusions, but they never produced one.

I exposed the verse, Rom 12:16 for interrogation. Do you think we will be the same mind to the written or unwritten doctrine of Christ and in what way do a man became arrogant on their mind, to the written or unwritten doctrine of Christ. In what way do we became humble people of God, to the written or unwritten doctrine of Christ. I told them that since their stand was not in the doctrine of Christ, therefore they are just being wise on their own conceits.

In the end, they retracted one by one.

I told them that they must study and research more. Lot of arguments before we come to this conclusion but all of them retracted. Hopefully, the readers on Facebook as well as my students scattered abroad benefits from this educational and informative debate. Some of them liked some of my comments. Hopefully, some of them obey and follow the truth.

Some of my friends from Bulacan wants to be baptized to this Church of Christ, In God's will, maybe after this pandemic.

You are all kept in our ardent prayers, to keep you all safe in the hands of our loving Father...

Thank you brother for your love and prayers on our behalfs.

In Christ,  
Efren

P. S I apologise for the late email update brother, a low pressure turned into a typhoon and slightly affected our Internet signal. Hopefully, tomorrow the signal will be okay so I could send the photos as well.