

## Year 2012 Hitchhike Distance Chart



The chart shows the distance travelled by hitch hiking in Japan from 2005 to 2012.

The final trip of the year was to Tokyo on December 26, an unusually cold day with icy streets. It took twice as long as normal to get to the Sakae Parking area on the Hokuriku Expressway, and 3 hours to catch the next ride! I was about to quit when an elementary school teacher from Murakami city came and rescued me.



As you can see, year 2012, was slightly lower than 2010. The distances are in kilometers.

2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
18537	11150	7487	12185	19530	15795	17558	15710

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## Kent Hovind Changes His Position on the Doctrine of Pre-Tribulation Rapture



Dr. Kent Hovind, also known as Dr. Dino, man a who was unjustly put in prison

for a sentence of 10 years, is one of my heroes. Once I heard him saying something like, "Jesus can come any minute." Today I was pleasantly surprised to read on his blog the following:

My long time friend and Pastor, Steve Anderson and THOUSANDS of others (myself included) have come to realize that we "independent, fundamental, temperamental, right wing, radical, chicken eatin', Bible believing Baptists" have been deceived about the rapture for the last 180 years! For 38 years of my Christian life I was taught and believed in the "pre-trib" rapture idea that was made up by a 15 year Scottish old girl in 1830! I just trusted the "prophecy experts" Quote from kenthovindblog.com/?p=1030

Isn't this great news for Bible believers who know the truth about the Great Tribulation? We now have a respected name to drop on those who still believe the false doctrine that believers and receivers of Jesus Christ will be taken to Heaven before great tribulation sweeps the earth in the last days. People who hold this doctrine are willfully ignoring God's Word that promises believers tribulation!

John 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world **ye shall have tribulation**: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Acts 14:22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that **we must through much tribulation** enter into the kingdom of God.

Romans 12:12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in **tribulation**; continuing instant in prayer;

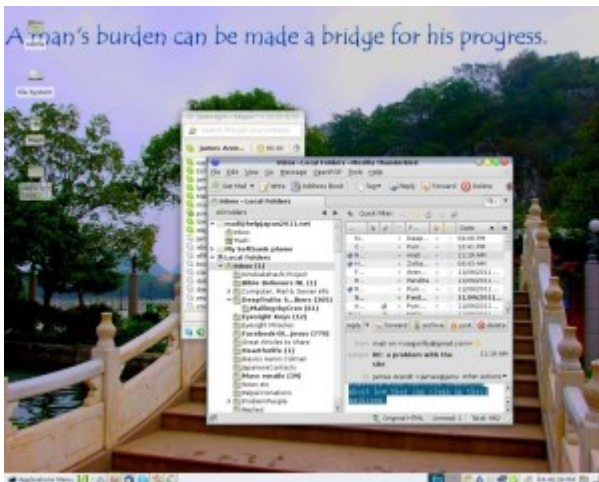
1 Thessalonians 3:4 For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that **we should suffer tribulation**; even as it came to pass, and ye know.

Revelation 7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are **they which came out of great tribulation**, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

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[\*\*Move to Fedora 18 Beta from Linux Mint\*\*](#)

# Debian



Well, I'm back again to my beloved Fedora Linux. Fedora 18 Beta was not easy to install but is working fine after a few hours of tweaking. I started with LXDE as my default desktop environment. LXDE is lacking in some graphic configuration settings, but after logging into Gnome 3 I was able to configure things I could not configure in LXDE. A few days later I installed KDE and now consider it the easiest Linux desktop environment to configure as well as the prettiest with the most eye candy.



My KDE Desktop as it looks like on December 21, 2012.

## Why I left Fedora 17

- Ibus for Japanese input was slow to start.
- Bluefish could not do Find and Replace. It would find what I entered but not replace them with what I wanted.

These have been fixed in Fedora 18!

## Why I left Linux Mint Debian

- Wine and Windows applications in Wine loaded exceedingly slow, maybe 5 seconds or more. Wine and Windows applications in Wine in Fedora loads much faster, less than a second! I only run a couple Windows programs with Wine. I need these programs because there is no comparable Linux application for them.
- PulseAudio Server seemed to be buggy. Music and sounds would always start scratchy.

I wasn't able to install Fedora 18 beta from a DVD, The installation ended in error message of, "Error checking storage configuration." I had to do a clean install of Fedora 17 and then up upgrade from the command line:

```
su -c 'yum update yum'  
su -c 'yum clean all'  
su -c 'rpm --import https://fedoraproject.org/static/DE7F38BD.txt'  
su -c 'yum --releasever=18 --disableplugin=presto distro-sync'
```

**Note:** If you use RPMFusion, you should also import its key for Fedora 18 before you upgrade or you will end up with an error message.

## Preferred Desktop Environment

I switched to the KDE Desktop from Dec. 13 and like it better than ever. I think KDE is the easiest of all the desktop environments to tweak. Apparently Linus Torvalds agrees with me because he too switched to KDE from XFCE.

I never liked XFCE and used LXDE which I recommend for PCs with low resources.

I loved Gnome 2 but the Gnome developers thought they knew better than the users and gave us the hard to use Gnome 3.

Mate Desktop which is supposed to be a replacement for Gnome 2 still seems buggy. If any of you Mate Desktop users recommend it and had success in configuring it to what you like, please tell write your comments about it below. Thank you.

**March 28 UPDATE:** I'm sorry to say though it's been weeks since Fedora 18 has been released, I'm still finding issues with it. Sometimes the default audio device is not found during startup. I've never had this problem with previous versions before. It occurs randomly. A reboot often fixes this problem. Once I had a yum update problem and it took me days to figure out how to fix it. KDE Desktop now locks up after startup so I am back to LXDE (which I like because it's fast). So unless you are a geek and like to figure out technical problems, you might give Fedora 18 a pass. The latest Linux Mint (not the Debian spin) seems promising.

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## [The Washington D.C. – Rome Connection](#)



The Capitol facing the Washington Monument, an obelisk

*"The best place to hide something is out in the open. Nobody ever thinks to look there."* – [Robert Anton Wilson](#)

Did you know that "Capitol" was the name of Jupiter's temple in Rome? Did you know that word "obelisk" literally means "Baal's Shaft" or Baal's organ of reproduction. Baal of course is referring to Satan, the Devil.

Did you also know the Vatican in Rome has an obelisk standing in the middle of St. Peter's Square?



Papal Basilica of Saint Peter facing an obelisk in St. Peter's Square in the Vatican, Rome

## **Quotes from Samuel Morse's book: FOREIGN CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE LIBERTIES OF THE UNITED STATES:**

This Samuel Morse is the same person who invented the telegraph.

"If Papists conquered Rome, why may they not conquer America? Is it so utterly impossible that the next generation should witness the supremacy of Romanism that we can afford to fold our arms in ease? Possessing the balance of power between the two political parties, demanding favorable legislation as the condition of support, and wielding political power in some of our largest cities, **Popery is a foe whose giant strength it is folly to underestimate...**Under the banner of civil liberty Rome may possibly bind upon us the fetters of spiritual despotism."

**"Tyrants, the more effectually to secure power, have ever professed supreme regard for man's highest interests."**

**"That the Roman Church is nothing less than a conspiracy against**

**Liberty**, personal and national, civil and religious, we firmly believe. Being the twin sister to despotism, she ever has been, and is now, most bitterly hostile to freedom of conscience, freedom of press...”

“Nor has Romanism shown less hostility to another principle of our national life, **the separation of Church and State**...Almost every Pope for the last thousand years has pronounced it a ‘**damnable heresy**.’

This post is just a tiny scratch on the surface in the hope you discover the players in the conspiracy to create the New World Order or one world government talked about in the Book of Revelation, chapter 13.

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## [Did God really tell Abraham to Sacrifice Isaac?](#)



The answer is NO! Not according to the 1611 King James version of the English Bible!

Genesis 22:2 And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and **offer** him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

The KJV says only to “offer” Isaac as a sacrifice, not to actually *do* it. Abraham obeyed God and did exactly what He said, He offered Isaac *for* a burnt offering, *for* a sacrifice.

Genesis 22:9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and *laid him on the altar upon the wood*.

Abraham apparently *thought*, meaning *assumed* God meant for him to kill his son also, but that is not exactly what God said. Rather than actually draw a knife on Isaac, He could have told God.

“OK Lord, I offered up Isaac as a sacrifice. Here he is lying tied up on the wood on the altar I made. Now what?”

But according to the New International Version, (NIV), the answer to the question in the title of this article is YES, God commanded Abraham to *sacrifice* Isaac.

Genesis 22:2 Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. **Sacrifice him** there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.” New International Version (NIV)

The NIV is the only translation I found so far that actually says to do it, to sacrifice Isaac. The Good News Bible doesn't say that, not even the RSV says it.

Think this is splitting hairs? Isn't there a difference between merely offering something as a sacrifice, and actually sacrificing it? I think there is.

I'm writing this because the NIV has surpassed the KJV as the most popular English Bible though it is full of **errors!**

## **Examples of errors in the NIV**

In Isaiah 14:12, the NIV omits the name Lucifer and refers to him as “morning star” which is a title the Book of Revelation attributes to Jesus Christ!

How you have fallen from heaven, <b>morning star</b> , son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!	How art thou fallen from heaven, <b>0 Lucifer, son of the morning!</b> how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!
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Revelation 22:16 says that **Jesus** is the morning star!

Revelation 22:16 I **Jesus** have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and **morning star**. -KJV

The NIV advocates striking your body to hurt it.

1 Corinthians 9:27 No, I **strike a blow to my body and make it my slave** so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be

disqualified for the prize.

This is what some cloistered Roman Catholic monks do, and what some Islamic people do. They flagellate themselves thinking this will bring them righteousness. Martin Luther, before God's Word enlightened him about the Grace and Righteousness of Christ, used to also flagellate himself. But does the Bible really tell believers to do that? The same Scripture in the KJV doesn't say so!

1 Corinthians 9:27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway. – KJV

I'm grateful to [Pastor Mike Hoggard](#) for pointing out the difference between the KJV and NIV in Genesis 22:2 and 1 Corinthians 9:27, and for teaching the importance of the KJV as the only trustworthy translation of God's Word in the English language.

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## [November 2012 Adventure to Aomori](#)



Today was cloudy when I started out on my journey to Aomori city, 470 kilometers from home. I wore for the first time this season a warm overcoat. I heard it had been snowing in Aomori, the northernmost prefecture of Honshu.



Mr. Toki who previously picked me up twice.

At 8:05 a.m. after walking 25 minutes on Route 345 from Majime station, the first car of the day stopped for me. It was again Mr. Toki, a cook who picked



me up twice previously!. This time I remembered to take his photo. I'll very likely see him again because he drives to work daily on that road usually the same time in the morning when I hitchhike to Aomori Prefecture.



Lady who took me to Atsumi Onsen

The next car was a lady who had picked me once before this year! That's twice in a row meeting people who had previously picked me up. She's a fish merchant who makes daily trips to Murakami City. It's highly likely to meet her again as well. She took me to Route 7 which is the main road going to Aomori Prefecture.

After that I walked about an hour passing through 3 tunnels further up Route 7 to seek a better spot to hitchhike. At Iwasaki a lady stopped for me. She saw my sign that says, "Atsumi Onsen" and was going there. I thought she was in her 20s but she told me she has a 14 year old daughter!



Coast of Iwasaki, Niigata Prefecture on the Sea of Japan. Notice the hole in the rock which was created by erosion from the ocean.



Truck that took me to Odate City,  
Akita Prefecture

Atsumi Onsen has a large "*michi no eki*" which in English means "road station", a place where cars and trucks stop to rest. I've stood there many times. Usually from Atsumi Onsen the next vehicle will take me to Tsuruoka City, about 30 kilometers further up Route 7, but this time a truck driver from Maizuru City in Kyoto Prefecture took me all the way to Odate city in AKita! He was going to Aomori Prefecture, but a different area, Mutsu City in the Shimokita peninsula, and therefore wouldn't be passing Aomori city. Though it was only 4:45 p.m. when arriving Odate city, it was already dark. And because it was also raining, I took a train the rest of the way to Aomori City.



Rainbow Bridge in Aomori City.

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# Yahiko Shrine's Chrysanthemum Festival



During my cycling trip to the summit of Mt. Yahiko in Niigata Prefecture, I stopped at the Yahiko Shrine which was on the way. I didn't know it before hand, but it was the time of the annual chrysanthemum festival. There were lots of visitors, probably more than usual.





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## Cycling adventure to the summit of Mt. Yahiko



**November 19, 2012:** It was a bright sunny day and I didn't want to spend it indoors in front of a PC screen. Instead I rode my bicycle to a village at the foothills of Mt. Yahiko, about 33 kilometers from home, and walked to the top, the very summit of Yahiko Mountain which is 634 meters above sea level.

It took me 2 hours to ride to Yahiko Village where I spent about a half hour visiting Yahiko Shrine and taking some photographs. After that it took a little over an hour to ride and push my bicycle to the parking lot area near the top. After that I walked 30 minutes further to get to the summit to photograph the view showing the Sea of Japan.



My transportation to Mt. Yahiko



View of Mt. Yahiko an hour bicycle ride from home.



View of Mt. Yahiko approaching Iwamuro Village. The arrow down is pointing to the highest peak and my destination. The peak in the center looks higher only because it's closer.



View about 3/4 of the way up Mt. Yahiko



Sign says, Mt. Yahiko, elevation  
634 meters



Signs on Mt. Yahiko



View of Yahiko Mura, Tsubama and Sanjo cites from near the summit



Visitor at the summit of Mt. Yahiko



Visitor at the summit of Mt. Yahiko



Visitor at the summit of Mt. Yahiko overlooking the Sea of Japan.



Tori Gate at the summit of Mt. Yahiko



Japanese ladies who asked me to take their photo. I first met them only a minute before.



Tori Gate in Tsubame city near Mt. Yahiko. Twenty years ago it was the largest Tori Gate in Japan.



The same Tori Gate facing Mt. Yahiko.

At 3:30 p.m. I left the summit and cycled down the mountain 30 minutes later. It only took me 20 minutes to get to the village below! But home was still 33 kilometers away and now at 4 p.m. it was getting dark. By 4.45 p.m. I got to Tsubame city and photographed the Tori Gate in the photos above. At 6:30 it started to rain but I had an umbrella. I didn't get home till 8 p.m. with my pants soaked from the rain and thoroughly exhausted. I might have made it back earlier but because I took what I hoped was a shortcut, I got lost. After seeing the Shinkansen train tracks twice after 30 minutes, I realized I rode my bicycle in a circle!

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## [An Israeli soldier's testimonial of the occupation of Palestine](#)

Quote from soldier:

"I did enter the army with questions, maybe not the right questions, maybe not all the questions, but I did feel like 'I'm a good Jew', ... that you have to walk around with question marks around your head. So I think I went into the army feeling I have the question marks. And one of the question marks was, 'How will I be a good soldier in a shitty situation?' ... I thought I could be that soldier standing in a checkpoint smiling while cars are passing by, or I could enter a house walking around with candies in my pockets, and conduct a 'moral occupation'. It took me a while but I realized this is a contradiction in terms. And when we started doing our actual service after almost a year and a couple of months in training, we started entering houses on a nightly basis, and searching houses on a nightly bases or going in to arrest people in the middle of the night you realize it's impossible to be moral in an immoral situation.

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## Obama surrounded by Roman Catholic Jesuit Trained Intelligence Leaders



President Barack Obama meets with Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, right (Alma Mater St. Mary's University, Texas), in the Oval Office, Sept. 9, 2010. Also attending are, clockwise from left, Robert Cardillo, DIA deputy Director (and now Director of National intelligence for intelligence integration and schooled at Georgetown), Deputy National Security Adviser Tom Donilon (Donillon attended la Salle Academy, earned a B.A. at: The Catholic University of America in 1977 and is connected personally to the Biden family). Rodney Snyder, Senior Director for Intelligence Program, NSS (Can not find any kind of BIO on him). John Brennan, Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism ( Attended private catholic schools from his youth, is Alma mater at Fordham University and is former CIA), and National Security Advisor Gen. James L. Jones (Alma Mater Georgetown University)

I believe the Vatican and the Jesuits are at the top of the pile of evil in the world today! One man I know called the Vatican, "An old farts club that has lost its power." I think anybody who thinks so is incredibly naive and woefully (or willfully) ignorant of history and the political influence of the Roman Catholic church! Such a person doesn't even know the "Golden Rule," namely, **"He who has the gold, rules."** The Roman Catholic empire had well over 1000 years to fleece Europe and the world of its wealth. Money is power.

Did you know that Washington D.C. used to be called Rome, Maryland, and that Rome was the original community name of Capitol Hill, upon which the United States Capitol Building sits? Ref:  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rome,\\_Maryland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rome,_Maryland)

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# Move from Fedora 17 to Linux Mint Debian



My desktop screen using LXDE with Linux Mint Debian

I may be leaving Fedora Linux for good this time. Fedora 17's added "features" were not a plus for me. Moreover, things that worked fine before became quirky. For example, switching to Japanese input using Ibus required me to press Ctrl + Space 3 or 4 times to make it work. Linux Mint Debian works instantly and gives me the added feature of merely pressing the Hankaku key (on Japanese keyboards).

All the apps I used in Fedora work fine. Wine takes a bit longer to load and the display font was incorrect immediately after installation, but after running from Terminal:

```
sudo apt-get install ttf-liberation
```

Wine works great! The Windows text to voice application, Text Aloud works fine, and it recognizes AT&T Natural Voices!

The default Mate Desktop Environment loaded unusually slow so I installed LXDE and am using it instead. Though LXDE has a few less features than Mate, it's more responsive. And it has one feature Mate doesn't have: LXDE aligns desktop icons automatically next to each other after deleting an icon.

Though I could install Dansguardian in Fedora 17, I couldn't figure out how to get it to filter. The tutorial I wrote on <http://linux.jamesjpn.com/how-to/dansguardian-install.html> didn't work for Fedora 17. Using a tutorial on <http://www.howtoforge.com/dansguardian-content-filtering-with-transparent-pro>

[xy-on-ubuntu-9.10-karmic](#) works on Linux Mint Debian! There was only one command that I had to modify on that tutorial. It was:

```
sudo update-rc.d tproxy enable 5
```

rather than just

```
sudo update-rc.d tproxy
```

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## Nations remaining without a Rothschild central bank



Very few nations today have a central bank that is not owned or controlled by the Rothchild family.

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## America versus Iran in Terms of Aggression





A chart comparing the number of nations the United States of America invaded compared to the number of nations Iran has invaded.

## Autumn Adventure to Saitama



Mother with 2 year old daughter who took me from Echigo Kawaguchi in Niigata to to AkagiKogen in Gunma

It was fine weather when I started out from Niigata City at 10 a.m. My destination was Sayama City in Saitama Prefecture which is just to the north of Tokyo. The distance from home is about 280 kilometers, only half of the 560 kilometers to Osaka which I hitchhiked the previous week. I thought it would be piece of cake not only because the distance to travel was much less, but because it was a Saturday. Weekends are always easier to hitchhike. People are often traveling either to or from their home towns which means

they are going further than they would be on a workday. Normally it gets easier and easier to catch rides the closer I get to my destination. Today was different!

The first driver was an architect who designs homes and buildings. I asked him if he thought that the collapse at near free fall of the World Trade Center buildings was caused by burning jet fuel melting the steel girders. "No way!" he replied. "It was done by an explosive called Termite." I said, "Do you mean Super Termite or Nano-Termite?" The man was surprised I knew of those words. He said that termite is unknowingly being used in building construction. He said Termite's chemical reaction with a combination of steel and aluminum is powerful.

The second driver was a lady, a young mother with her two young daughters, Chika (6) and Mei (3). It's so uncommon for me to be picked up with little kids in the car without the father or an adult man present. Out of 2550 vehicles since keeping records from August of 2003, the total number so far is 45 cars which is 1.67% of the total, a number higher than I thought it would be. I wanted to take their photos but she said no when I said I wanted to post it on the Internet!

The third driver, a man by the name of Hidetoshi, said he just came from Fukushima only 25 kilometers away from the damaged nuclear powerplant. His job is to restore a fossil fuel power plant not far from the damaged nuclear plant. Hedetoshi said he likes America and its freedoms. I told him my experience of getting thrown in jail for 3 hours for passing out Gospel literature on the street at a western suburb of Chicago.

The 4th car was another mother with her child! It is possibly a first ever experience to be picked up by two mothers with little children in a single day! Ladies who pick me up are 15% of the drivers. Drivers with little children in the car are about 6% of the total number of vehicles but the father is usually present. Mothers with little children without their husbands present are possibly less than 0.01% of the total number of cars. The mother in the photo on this post has an older daughter who is 20 years old, just married and is herself about to have a baby! This is a gap of 18 years between bearing children. I asked the mother if she purposely wanted to have a 2nd child after raising one to adulthood, and she said yes! God bless her.

Her home in Fukushima near the border of Ibaragi was destroyed by the March 11, 2011 earthquake which forced her to move. She took me to Akagikogen in Gunman.

After waiting some 30 minutes at the Akagikogen service area, a highway patrol car pulled up and 4 men got out and questioned me. These guys are no police but have the power to ask me to leave. They are often followed up by police.

This time I was able to talk my way out of getting kicked out of the expressway service area! The last time I was stopped like this, they called the cops and I was escorted to a town from where I was told to catch a bus.

But today I asked them if I could stand near the restroom area and ask drivers directly for a ride. After about 10 minutes of waiting and further negotiation, they got the OK from their boss. They made me promise not to step out into the street, a promise I kept.

After another 30 minutes a man offered to take me to the Takasaka service area in Saitama Prefecture. This is just short of where I wanted to get off the Kan'etsu expressway in Kawagoe! His highschool son was in the car and I spoke to him in English, something the father appreciated.

It was after 5 p.m. and dark when I arrived in Takasaka. The service area was crowded with people and cars, but everybody seemed to be in a busy mood. From experience I knew I was in a bad situation. When the service area is too crowded, nobody seems to care about the lone hitchhiker. And because it was dark, it made the situation even worse. I knew there had to be a train line within walking distance from the service area. After 20 minutes of vain efforts asking drivers for rides, I opted to leave the service area out the back way and walked the regular road toward the distant lights of a town toward the east. I knew the train line was in that direction. This paid off and in 30 minutes I arrived at the Kita Sakado train station! From there it was only 570 yen to get to Sayama city.

God is good.

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## Tribulated trip to Osaka



Kana and Rami (the driver) who took me from Kusatsu to Taga in Shiga Prefecture.

It's been about half a year since visiting the Kansai area of Japan. "Kansai" literally means, "Western Barrier" and consists of three main cities, Kyoto,

Osaka and Kobe. You might ask, "Is there an Eastern Barrier? Yes, there is. It's called the Kanto plain with Tokyo being the main city. "Kanto" literally means "Eastern Barrier." This all has to do with Japanese history from the Samurai times of 500 years ago.



Torhu, a university student, who took me from Osaka to Kyoto

Japan is divided into political regions called *ken* in Japanese or Prefecture in English. Prefectures are similar to states of the USA or provinces in Canada. There are 5 prefectures between Niigata Prefecture and Osaka spanning a distance of 500 kilometers or 315 miles.

Thanks to expressways that go that entire distance, it's actually easier for me to make in all the way to Osaka from Niigata in one day, a distance approximately 100 kilometers further than hitchhiking to Aomori city. Now with 2 hours less daylight than in the summer, I often cannot catch the final car before dark and have to take a train the rest of the way.

I left home at 7:00 a.m. took a train to Sanjo city (25 kilometers from home), and got to the Sakae Parking Area on the Hokuriku Expressway around 8:30 a.m. It was a warm and bright sunny day. Three cars took me to the Tokumitsu Parking area just past Kanazawa, about the half way point arriving just after 3:00 p.m. But the weather had changed and it was raining heavily! I stopped for lunch hoping the rain would subside, but it didn't. Even though I had an umbrella, I knew from experience standing near the parking area exit where cars would re-enter the expressway in the middle of the rain would get me nowhere. Drivers have rarely stopped for me in such a case. I stood under a covered area next to the parking area and walked out holding a sign that said either "Fukui" (the next Prefecture" or "Osaka" depending which way I turned the sign. Many of the vehicles had Fukui plates but everyone I asked turned me down.



Two men who took me from Kyoto to Kusatsu Service Area in Shiga

Though I stood under the covering most of the time, my legs and left arm got wet from the rain. An hour and a half past and it began to get dark. If I was going to Aomori city, I would have stopped hitchhiking at this time and opted for the train. But in Ishikawa prefecture, I had no such recourse. I was nowhere near a train station.

I was in a desperate situation but remembering that I've been in worse gave me comfort. I prayed asking God to supply my needs – the need of a driver going to Osaka! It wasn't absolutely imperative that I arrive to my

destination that evening, but I was facing an uncomfortable night if I didn't. There is no long bench to sleep on at the Tokumitsu Parking area like there was at Adatara in Fukushima Prefecture. (another story).

It gets dark early in the Japan in Autumn, Rather than stand in the parking area under heavy rain, I stood next to the entrance of the parking area's restroom and showed my A4 paper sign to all which said "Fukui" the next Prefecture on the way to Osaka. After many rejections, at 5:55 p.m. an man said,

"I'm going to Osaka, not Fukui." I turned my plastic case of A4 signs around, showed him the Osaka sign and replied, "Osaka! Yes, I want to go to Osaka! Would you take me please?"

He replied, "Sure, just wait where you are now till I have some dinner."

I replied as he left toward the restaurant in the parking area, "Don't forsake me!"

The man is a truck driver and true to his word, he took me to Osaka, and quite close to my actual destination! Because of the rain, waiting for rides and the fact the truck driver got off the expressway at Tsuruga and took the regular road along the western shore of Lake Biwa to Kyoto and Osaka, the entire trip took 16 hours.

In contrast the return trip to Niigata on Sunday took only half the time, about 8.5 hours. It was sunny weather and a weekend. Saturdays, Sundays and holidays are always better for me when hitchhiking. People on their day off are more likely to pick me up than those going to work or back. There was little waiting time. An elderly couple took me from Shizugatake in Shiga Prefecture to Nadachihama in Niigata, a good 300 kilometer distance! And I made 3 new Facebook friends!

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## [Former CNN Journalist Reports CNN Controlled by the Government](#)



A friend posted this on Facebook today. Rather than share it only with my

Facebook friends, I thought to share it with the world. Of course it's also posted on numerous other blogs and articles. It's so refreshing to see a person stand up for moral convictions even though it means personal loss!

