

## What are the probabilities?

Jay Orvis revised March 2012. Original 1/27/2005

As we finished lunch at Burger King after church, Pastor Willard and I observed 3 Oriental people outside, walking and pulling suitcases in the sub-zero wind. This is quite unusual in our somewhat rural area because of the severe cold, and most people who take the bus do not have suitcases with them. As we headed back to church we saw the three (father, mother and son) freezing at a nearby bus stop, and asked if they needed any help? The mother asked if we could take them to the nearest subway station, which we gladly did. It turns out she is a student in Ohio, he had come to the US with their 9 year old son for two months to visit her, and they were in D.C. to visit a friend in our area. It pays to have Chinese tracts in the car! The pastor located 3, and passed them to our friends. We briefly shared a few words in Chinese (*Shang-di tsu-fu ni* = God bless you), had only a moment to show practical compassion, and left them with something to read and think about. Returning to the church we wondered aloud, "What is the probability that we would be able to serve and give tracts to a Chinese PhD candidate from Ohio, and her visiting family, on a freezing January day, in Oxon Hill, Maryland?" Please pray for this family to read and absorb the materials given, and that they would come to Christ.

What are the probabilities - # 2?

"Amazing" is all one can say about God's grace! Two days after meeting the Chinese, a deacon in the church and I went to lunch at the same BK. In line, behind us, stood a man who looked Central American (many are in this area). We said "*Dios te bendiga*" (God bless you) to him, and he merely grunted. When we took our seats he sat alone, two or three tables away. The Lord sent the idea to invite him to join us to eat, and upon getting up to ask, it seemed so presumptuous that I nearly sat down again. But the Lord's urging was great and I asked if he would like to join us. He fairly jumped to his feet and moved his tray right away to our table. Upon asking where he comes from, he replied "Egypt!" WELL!! Because we have been ministering to an Egyptian Muslim back-ground believer (mbb), this opened up all sorts of discussion. An orthodox Copt, he does not like his church, and occasionally has visited a Catholic church but likes to watch some televangelists. We prayed for him, exchanged telephone numbers and invited him to the weekly Bible study for internationals in Arlington, VA, about 20 minutes' drive from where he lives. He eagerly accepted the offer, and even had a friend who lived in the very apartment house where we meet. Pray for Isaac to come to know his savior in a personal way.

What are the probabilities, if an omniscient God does not exist?