

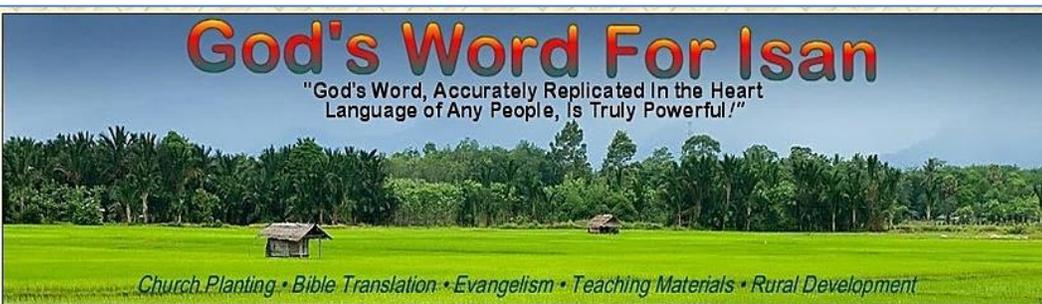
RON & CHERYL MYERS



Going Into All the World  
With the Gospel  
of Jesus Christ

# God's Word For Isan

"God's Word, Accurately Replicated in the Heart  
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Ron & Cheryl Myers

GOD'S WORD FOR ISAN NEWSLETTER

March, 2017

## What Is At The Core Of The Gospel Message? How and Why Is It Undergoing Attack?

By Ron Myers

Greetings Again In Jesus' Name,

We know that the term *Gospel* means "Glad Tidings" or "Good News." Yet, these days it is coming under increasingly vicious attack because some elements deem it as *bad news*; an affront to their integrity. These attacks are from outside sources, i.e., unbelievers who harbor open disdain for God, His word and His people, whom they seek to silence. They take advantage of our legal system to accomplish their unrighteous goals. For instance, there's a Korean War Veterans Memorial that sits high atop a huge hill, overlooking San Diego for all to see. It contains the names and photos of soldiers who died there. Yet, it has come under intense scrutiny over the years by organized atheist groups. They want it gone! Why so? It has a huge white Cross at its center, a reminder of God and His Christ, which they claim "offends" them. These are the same ones who claim to be the champions of tolerance, and accuse believers of being intolerant! All Christians have been deemed *intolerant*, some having suffered the ruination of their businesses because they chose not to help advance unrighteous causes, which have become acceptable and politically correct. Similar scenarios are becoming prevalent around the world.



These *champions of tolerance* also delight in misquoting the First Amendment of the US Constitution in their attempts to squash God and His People out of the picture. As such, they substitute the First Amendment clause; "*shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,*" quoting instead the words "*church and state separate,*" which are not found in the first amendment, but in a letter written by Thomas Jefferson in 1814 to Dr. Thomas Cooper. It's been repeated so often that most everyone now believes this clause in Jefferson's letter to be part of the first amendment, which it is not! Thus, they twist the original positive statement defending religious rights into a negative edict, essentially *forbidding* the free exercise thereof instead of *protecting* it. "*The framers of our Constitution meant we were to have freedom of religion, not freedom from religion,*" Billy Graham. Satan, *the god of this world*, is the real perpetrator behind these things; all the more as his impending doom approaches.

Other attacks on the Gospel come from within, as distortions or omissions. The Apostle Paul gave stern warnings against anyone distorting the timeless Gospel message, saying; "*Let them be accursed.*" (Galatians 1:7-9) Some distortions or omissions are subtle, while others are blatant, as in the teachings of cults. All distortions usually contain some element of truth, confusing the unaware. Nonetheless, most all contain the same heretical themes and common traits. That is, they either add to, or remove scriptural truths in one way or another. They *add* superfluous requirements (*religious works*) to the simple but profound Gospel statement; "*believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.*" (Acts 16:31) Or, they *remove* crucial truths, like the Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, including His virgin conception, sinless life, miracles, substitutionary death and bodily resurrection from the grave, neutering the power of the message altogether. The initial Good News that the angel proclaimed to the disciples was, "*He Is Risen.*" (Mark 16:6) This bedrock of truth remains forever at the very core the Gospel. Without the resurrection of Christ, there would be no Gospel Message! No forgiveness! No Divine Savior! No Living Hope!

Most liberal churches abandon the Gospel message altogether, preferring an attractive, humanistic rendition, rather than the Blood-stained Cross. I grew up in a mainline protestant denomination which was once scripturally sound, but had become liberal before my time. Although it was an influence for good, both socially and morally, I don't remember ever hearing a clear Gospel presentation, because it was entirely missing. No explanation of the Gospel, no mention of the Cross or the Blood of Christ. It seemed as if I was somehow "in the fold," but didn't know how I got there. I distinctly recall that during the traditional confirmation ceremony, I sensed within my spirit that something important was missing, as if we were all just going through the motions. What was missing was Jesus, who was on the outside looking in. At Christmastime the minister would say, "*Jesus, the Savior was Born.*" Yet, I never understood the Savior of what, since the Gospel that provides the free gift of forgiveness and eternal life was not proclaimed there!

God's Word declares that false teachings are actually *Doctrines Of Demons* (1 Timothy 4:1), perpetrated by fallen angels; deceiving spirits who are the minions of their master, Satan, *the god of this world*. So, where does that leave false teachers? These are those who purposely spread false doctrines for their own personal gain, which would come under the general heading of false prophets, false teachers, or false apostles. However, sincere Born-again Christians may disagree about the finer details of Scripture and theology, but are in general agreement on major doctrines. And yet, some would limit the Gospel, claiming that God only plans to save a chosen few, and has declared the rest as candidates for Hell. Truth is, we're *all* Hell-bound unworthy sinners in our natural state, but God, in His grace, sent His Son to save *all* mankind, especially those who believe. (1 Timothy 4:10) Actually, if you don't have Good News *for all*, then you don't have Good News *at all*, and don't really understand the scope of the Gospel, or the exceeding greatness of God's Love. (Ephesians 3:17-19)

All this truth-versus-error can be confusing to the Thai, who can easily be misled where a Judeo-Christian worldview and Christianity are a scarcity. It seems that if a group associates with Jesus in any way, then it must be OK. Unfortunately, that's not always the case. Mr. Paetong, one of my best Isan translation assistants, was drawn into such a group, of Korean origin. They *seemed* friendly and doctrinally sound on the surface, but their secretive and autocratic practices were a giveaway. They would slowly cut those under their influence off from their friends, not allowing any kind of communication, which I realized when my friend Paetong stopped answering my phone calls and emails. However, of recent, he called me back! He was friendly, although he was still involved. He gave me his mailing address and I sent him a personalized copy of the Isan New Testament, of which he had an integral part in.

In closing, we appreciate your faithful prayers and partnership. Please pray for Paetong and the people of Thailand, that God's truth will prevail.

  
Ron & Cheryl Myers  
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[www.IsanBible.org](http://www.IsanBible.org)

Ron's Health: My general health remains good; my primary care physician has me undergo full quarterly checkups. However, my knees are nearly bone-on-bone, requiring a recent Synvisc-One injection in my right knee. I'm also scheduled for further surgery on my left shoulder's rotator cuff. Then, on my right shoulder – *the chickens are coming home to roost*. After I heal from these, I'll be returning to Thailand to oversee recording the Isan NT into audio, do more Scripture translation, etc.