

We Worship *and* Serve *the* Living Savior, Not an Idol, Concept, or Religion

"NOW upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the [Living One] among the dead? He is not here, but is risen ..." (Luke 24:1-6)

Greetings Again In the Name above All Names: The Lord Jesus Christ!

I trust that you enjoyed a memorable and blessed time worshipping "*The Living One*" – *The Great "I AM"* on this most-recent Resurrection Celebration Sunday. As Paul reminds us: "*If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.*" (1 Corinthians 15:19). Many have set about to disprove Biblical Christianity, only to end up being stumped, because they could not find evidence to disprove the fact of the Resurrection—but plenty to support it. Two of these were writer Josh McDowell and journalist Lee Strobel, both of whom turned from atheism to faith, and who wrote some great books, some about their personal conversion to the Living Christ.

I would like to introduce you to Pastor Pitak Upatum and his sweet wife, Sri. Please keep this dear couple in prayer. They are both very faithful in serving their Savior. Pitak (*pea-tuck*) and Sri (*see*), formerly Buddhists, came to faith in Christ and were baptized under our ministry in the 1990s and 1980s, respectively. They have two grown sons, Jans and James, who are both believers and working at careers in Bangkok.

Pitak and Sri sacrificed a parcel of their land to construct a church building (*adjacent to their home village*), which has grown steadily under Pastor Pitak's tutelage. Incidentally, his name means "*Caretaker*" or "*Overseer.*" Besides having a valuable role on the Isan translation team—checking and proofreading—they are both very serious about serving the Lord and expanding their leadership skills and Bible knowledge.



That brings me to the reason for mentioning them here. Cheryl and I had a unique opportunity last year to help support Pastor Pitak and Sri in attending Bangkok Bible College and Seminary's distance learning program. This will be their third term, and they are doing extremely well. If you would like to contribute to furthering their Bible education, the opportunity exists to do so. Funds of any amount to help with their Christian education can be sent through our mission (*address below*), designated for: "Pastor Pitak and Sri's Bible education."

Last month, I had a unique opportunity to assist in coordinating and facilitating a short-term missionary's undertaking to take Bibles, along with various goods and commodities into Communist Laos (*for whom he has a burden*).

He crossed where we minister at Northeast Thailand's Nakhon Panom Province. (*See map and red diamond.*)

Besides helping contact key people for him (*traveling together with his two sons and a friend*), I also supplied two boxes of scriptures for them, i.e., Genesis 1-12, and John-Romans (*including a creation-evangelism booklet*) in the Thai and Isan languages, which can be read and understood by the Lao. Upon his return, he shared with me how well the mission went, and how God blessed all along the way.

Cheryl and I have invested our lives for many years in language and culture learning, rural development, and evangelism, with the overall goal of establishing self-governing, self-sustaining, and self-propagating churches among the Isan people of Northeast Thailand. Now, we are close to completing the Isan New Testament, "*God's Word for Isan,*" in their mother tongue.

FACTS: Presently over 23-million strong, the Isan people comprise 1/3 of Thailand's total population.

They are the largest people group that has *never-yet* had God's Word translated into their heart language—apart from the vital work God's has us doing. Last year, Pastor Pitak and I were able to complete the six smaller books out of the nine remaining to be translated. Now, we are only three books away from completing the Isan New Testament—*Matthew, Mark, and Revelation!!*

I am presently preparing to return to Thailand by mid-May, to work towards finishing these remaining books, starting with Revelation. Revelation might seem difficult, but actually it will be relatively easy (*being mostly straight narrative*), especially when compared to Paul's complex teaching Epistles. I have contacted my LA-based Thai travel agent, who quoted a round-trip promotional price of \$1270, LAX to BKK.

Obviously, we look to the LORD God to supply our needs, yet we know He normally supplies through the gifts of His people. So, we sincerely thank you for your faithful prayers and gifts. If you can help on this special upcoming trip, we would be particularly grateful. With your help we can finish strong, and expedite God's Word into the hands and hearts of the waiting Isan people. Why? Because: "*Faith [among the Isan people] cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God*" (Romans 10:17)

By God's Enabling Grace and for His Eternal Glory;

Ron (and Cheryl) Myers
(Missionaries to Thailand)



Ron and Cheryl: Easter Dinner at Coco's