

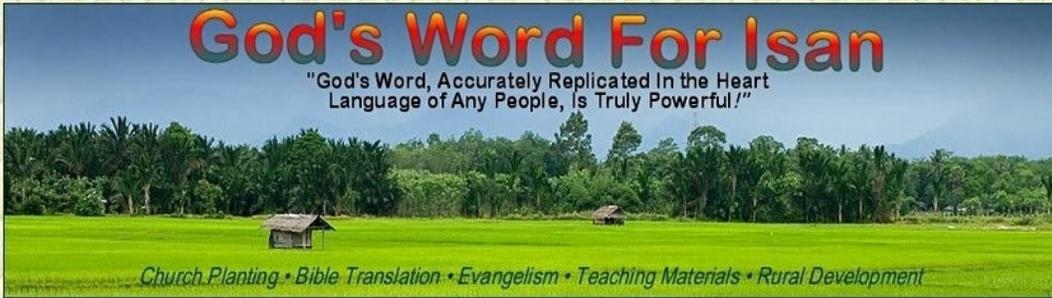
RON & CHERYL MYERS



Going Into All the World
With the Gospel
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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

Oct, 2019

A Faith-based Ministry Sustained Through the Prayers and Partnership of God's People

Baaw Ter's Faith Remains Strong, Despite...

"I Have God Now – I'm At Peace"

By Ron Myers

Dear Praying Friends,



In my September newsletter, I asked you to pray for Baaw Ter's pending court appearance in Bangkok, all concerning his cosigning a check in good faith to help a friend starting a travel business. Later, the check bounced due to diminishing funds. Since then, he has been drawn into court. Recently, Baaw Ter received a registered letter from the Civil Court of Bangkok, laying out the various aspects of the case. It named the plaintiff and defendants, and him as an accomplice. He is to appear October 24, to hear the decision, if any, against him. We are committed to praying for him more than ever now. Because, if he is not absolved from this encumbrance, he may have to serve time and pay a sizable fine – all of which would greatly hinder his life, ministry and the Isan audio narration.

Meanwhile, the check owners are out of the country, living next door in neighboring Laos and Vietnam, as they try to raise the funds needed to correct the situation. Through all this, Baaw Ter's faith is unwavering. When he sent me a copy of the court order, he added, "I have God now – I'm at peace." This man has undergone numerous trials and testings since I first met and began to mentor him, two years ago, when he first set out to narrate the audio version of the Isan New Testament. On a positive note, Baaw Ter's son and their only child, D.J., has been accepted at a special school for gifted students. He sent me photos but I don't have any details.



D.J., Now in Special School

All the while, his Buddhist wife Joo's actions weigh heavily on his heart. Due to their new-found faith, she left him and D.J. almost immediately. She's recently been saying she wants to get back together and start anew, but she keeps wavering. His main source of income as an FM radio talk show host was canceled by the station's new manager. Although Baaw Ter has been able to transition to another FM station, *Esan Radio*, However, due to government regulations, their broadcasting tower is not as high and far-reaching as that of his former station, lessening his broadcasting area coverage. Which, in turn, has caused many of his paying sponsors to drop him and invest their advertising funds elsewhere. Some even owe him for past months, which they haven't paid yet. These things are all burdens; and yet, his faith remains amazingly stalwart.

Concerning Joo, I mentioned that she is of Buddhist persuasion, following the Theravada sect, or way of the Elders—the strictest form of Buddhism, which is practiced in Southeast Asia. People don't worship Buddha and a supreme being, but revere and hold him in high esteem as the *Enlightened One* who established a works-based religious system, consisting of what is known as the eight-fold path of good works. Essentially maintaining right thoughts, right actions, right motives, right speech, etc., etc. Upon doing so, one builds up one's bank of merit or *boon*. Negative boon is called *gum* (or Karma) There are also things one must avoid: not unlike the Ten Commandments minus the first ones concerning God, since they have no concept of a Supreme Being—"don't get drunk, don't steal, don't cut off life."

If one builds up enough *boon* and avoids *gum* or *baap* (sin) over a series of recurring lifetimes, that person has earned the right to go on into a state of non-existence called *nipan* or *Nirvana*. This means that person has successfully escaped the reincarnation cycle, or having to be reborn back into this life of pain and sorrow. This, to the Buddhist mind, is salvation. *Nirvana* (*niphan*) is not to be thought of as God's Heaven (*suwan*), which they believe in as a place where the angelic beings (*like Greek gods*) reside. It's a place where one goes temporarily if having gained enough *boon*. Heaven is on a lower plane than *Nirvana*, where one's entity as a person melts back into the cosmic gene pool, as I call it, and is no more. That way, there is nothing to get reincarnated and salvation is achieved. That is the state the Buddha is in now, having escaped the pull of reincarnation through practicing the eight-fold path of good works. This is a very basic explanation of Theravada Buddhism, the most orthodox branch. For a fuller explanation, visit my website <www.IsanBible.org> and click on the green menu bar on top under "Buddhism."

Now for the scary part. One of the *entities* present when the Buddha was meditating and attained enlightenment was **The Serpent**; called *naak* or Naga, according to Buddhist legend. Everyone ordained into the Buddhist priesthood must go through a ceremony called "Serpent Ordination" where they **Enter the Serpent!** A legend, believed by people in the provinces along the banks of the Mekong River is that this same powerful *naak*, a seven headed serpent, created the Mekong River. They now worship this *entity*; to which they have built large statues. Scriptures speak of this same serpent, who deceived Eve: **Satan**. Joo is also heavily involved in this. **Pray** that she will be delivered. **See Photos Below:**

God Answers Prayer,

Ron & Cheryl Myers
God's Word for Isan

Baaw Ter and Joo During Better Times



The *Great Seven-Headed Serpent* (called *Pha-ya-naak*) overlooking Mekong River at Nakhon Phanom Province in Northeast Thailand – where our ministry headquarters are located. Notice the huge crowds of Buddhist worshipers milling around beneath the giant image. **Joo is likely somewhere amidst these crowds.** “Phayanak” (พญานาค) is the word used throughout the *Book of Revelation* in both the Thai and Isan New Testaments to describe **The Great Dragon!**

Artist’s depictions of the great seven-headed “Phayanak” that is said to now inhabit the waters of the Mekong River (Not unlike the Loch Ness Monster)

