



“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawns, and the Daystar arises in your hearts”

(II Peter 1:19)

Greetings once again in the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ,

The Isan people of Northeast Thailand and Thai people in general, no matter what their status or station in life, are fixated on irrational superstitious beliefs and practices. Every little thing that we wouldn't give a second thought becomes an omen either for good or for bad. If someone were to innocently remark, *“what if such-and-such were to happen?”* ...to the Thai person, that is tantamount to wishing a jinx on them. On the positive side, well-wishing someone or pronouncing a blessing upon them is a very positive thing, equivalent to causing it to be so.

For Believers, as the time-honored hymn states, *“Our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' Blood and Righteousness,”* whereas their hope is built on nothing more than chance and happenstance, culminated in a state-ordained, socio-religious system, all based on a highly-revered, yet surreal system of positives and negatives, characterized by a blend of admonitions to do good, and a reliance on dreams, idolatry, and dark arts—with absolutely no knowledge of a Creator or understanding of who Jesus Christ really is—or what He is *not*, i.e., one who came to teach people to do good.

As missionaries to Thailand, our attempts to communicate the Gospel message to the Thai are typically met by their oft-repeated motto: *“All religions are good, because they all teach us to be good... Thus, they're all the same.”* Now, that would be fine “if” there were no Creator God, and therefore no ultimate truth.

But, there is! Praise His Holy Name—our all-good, all-knowing, all-powerful, and all-intelligent eternal Living God is characterized by holiness, righteousness, and justice, equally offset by a heart of mercy, grace, and loving-kindness. And how do we know this? God has revealed Himself through Creation and His written Word, expressly personified in the Person, Name, and Work of His only begotten Son, our Creator and Savior, The Lord Jesus Christ. In fact *“...there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved”* (Acts 4:12)!!

That being said, wouldn't it be wonderful if one could merely state the Gospel and the Thai would eagerly grasp at its truth, like a parched person clasp for a cool drink of thirst-quenching water? ...such as often occurs with other people-groups? Unfortunately, however, it's not that way with the Thai. Their beloved Buddhism is truly the “opiate” of their souls, lulling them into a sleepy stupor, blinding them from their need for Christ, who graciously sacrificed Himself to save them from sin and death.

One doesn't have to work with the Thai very long before realizing the impossible wall of spiritual darkness and passive resistance he or she is facing. It becomes clearly evident that these precious people have been living under fear, bondage and the influence of Satan, the Enemy of their souls, and his dark minions for untold centuries—the one who, according to God's Word, can transform himself into *“an Angel of Light,”* i.e., false light (2 Corinthians 11:14). So much so that typical witnessing methods are met with a knowing smile and the matter-of-fact statement above: *“All religions are good, because they all teach us to be good...”* etc.

Yet, Christ said, *“If I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto me”* (John 12:32). God, in His wisdom, blesses the ministry of all who communicate in a way that exalts Christ, while taking the Thais' lack of understanding into consideration... that Jesus Christ is, in fact, their eternal Creator, as well as Savior—and not merely “religion” or the foreigner's Buddha. Then, when these people stop long enough to truly “hear,” instead of falling back on their ingrained presuppositions, they open the closed door of their hearts wide enough to become excited and interested. From that point of newly-discovered revelation, it's usually not too long before they receive Christ, that *Daystar* Who arises in their hearts as they rejoice in their new-found Creator, Savior and Lord.

By God's Grace and For His Glory,



Ron and Cheryl Myers
God's Word For Isan
www.IsanBible.org

I hope this helps you pray more effectively, as you understand more fully some of the challenges we as missionaries face while working with the Thai. Meanwhile, God is continually opening new avenues for us to expand our ministry, spreading and clarifying the Gospel of God's amazing Grace among these people, seeing many serve the Lord full-time. Thank you for your faithful support as the review of the completed Isan New Testament continues.

Praise the Lord! We are now in communication with the owner of the facility we mentioned before, which we feel God has laid on our hearts as a Bible-centered education center. Please continue to pray that God will lead and abundantly supply for this need. Gifts towards this project can be specified as “Bible training center” and sent to the address below.