

MISSION UPDATE

DECEMBER 2016

JOB'S MARRIAGE


BY JAMES RAFFERTY

JOB'S WIFE USUALLY GETS a bad rap. As we read through the story of suffering, we're tempted to view her as an evil character, undermining the faith of her husband. Augustine even named her "the devil's accomplice."

I wonder if this is a misunderstanding that begins with Job himself. Perhaps we've misinterpreted the communication between the couple. The picture presented is that Job coldly rebukes his silly wife for spilling out the natural emotions of a heart broken by the loss of all her children. I think the Bible gives us a different picture; one of a loving relationship that God believed could withstand the severity of the enemy's attacks. Here are the reasons:

1. God called Job a perfect man. I'm sorry, but I just don't see that happening if he had a bad relationship with his wife (Ephesians 5:25-33).
2. God knew they could be severely tested (Job 1:8).
3. Job loved his children. One of the best ways to love your wife is to love her children (Ephesians 6:4).
4. Job was willing to rebuke his wife. Rebuke is an action of love rather than cold indifference (Revelation 3:19; Leviticus 19:17).
5. The Bible says that Job "did not sin with his lips" in this conversation with his wife (Job 2:10). That would not be possible if he had just delivered a cold tongue-lashing.
6. The story ends with all Job's brethren and acquaintances returning to him (Job 42:11). The text doesn't say anything about his wife returning. That's because she never left. She was by Job's side the entire time.
7. The couple had 10 more children together. You don't do that without love glue.
8. Like Job, Christ called His disciples fools, yet He loved them all the while (Luke 24:25).

This is why I believe the Bible gives us a different perspective of Job's marriage. It was a beautiful union that God hoped could withstand the severity of the trials they were facing. Simply put, the story of Job is a tale of two people's united love for God and for each other.

Picture the scene. Job's wife, in utter brokenness, mourns out the words, "Curse God and die." Job tenderly pulls her close and wraps his sore, aching arms around her. Then he whispers in her ear, "You're speaking like the foolish women speak. Shall we receive good from the Lord and not also evil?" Then, in the utter agony of their shared loss, they simply weep together. Amen. 



WHAT GOD HAS WROUGHT!

BY JAMES RAFFERTY

THIS YEAR FLEW BY, but not without heaven making a notable impact on our world through your generous support of Light Bearers. “The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy!” (Psalm 126:3). Here are a few joyful highlights:

PUBLISHING

2016 saw 12 containers of literature (21 million pieces all together) proclaiming the glad tidings of a God named *Desire* to all the world (Haggai 2:7). The requests for literature keep coming in, too (no surprise there). The Bible is clear that the everlasting gospel is to be carried by angels “to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people” (Revelation 14:6).

Angels represent both literal beings as well as literature “messengers,” as noted in the following statements:

“Publications must be multiplied, and scattered like the leaves of autumn. These silent messengers are enlightening and molding the minds of thousands in every country and in every clime” (*Review and Herald*, Nov. 21, 1878).

“I saw that the work of present truth should engage the interest of all. The publication of truth is God’s ordained plan, as a means of warning, comforting, reproving, exhorting, or convicting all to whose notice the silent, voiceless messengers may be brought. Angels of God have a part to act in preparing hearts to be sanctified by the truths published, that they may be prepared for the solemn scenes before them” (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 590).

Our goal is to work in tandem with the angels, printing and distributing “silent messengers” of light.

The following countries have already requested literature for 2017:

- Rwanda (preparation for Ted Wilson's 2018 meetings)
- Uganda (preparation for Ted Wilson's 2018 meetings)
- Tanzania (preparation for Ted Wilson's 2018 meetings)
- Tanzania
- Trinidad and Tobago
- South Africa
- India
- Madagascar

We'd like to invite you to partner with us (and with the angels) to turn these requests into realities. Your prayers and support help spread the light of the gospel throughout the world.

ARISE

This year, ARISE was blessed with 52 students from four continents, and this gathering led to 20 baptisms. Since its humble beginnings in 2003, the ARISE program has continued to make an impact. ARISE is like a modern day "school of the prophets," training students to join the mission of Jesus, spreading life and light throughout the world.

"The school of the prophets was a special school to get the endowment of the Holy Spirit of God and then go forth into the dark places of the earth" (*Loma Linda Messages*, p. 535).

"This school is to be as the school of the prophets. The truths of the Bible are to be earnestly studied, and will be. If rightly brought before the minds, if earnestly studied and dwelt upon, the students will not cultivate an appetite or relish amusements. We are living very near the closing scenes of this earth's history. God's judgments are and have been permitted to come upon the world, and will be more and more pronounced until the end" (*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 8, p. 161).

There is a growing need for committed Bible students from every walk of life to reach our hurting world. Each year, we choose a number of ARISE graduates to stay on

for additional training in our internship program. Both the internship program and our school need financial assistance to support worthy students. Many students don't have funds for tuition or are walking away from jobs and careers to be gospel workers for God. Please pray about how you can help.

MEDIA OUTREACH

Light Bearers presently has a number of programs streaming on the Internet and airing on a variety of television and radio channels. *Table Talk* shakes things up with a fresh, straightforward approach to Bible study. This casual, interactive series allows people to join a conversation of friends exploring important Bible topics from Genesis to Revelation.

Salvation in Symbols and Signs began airing daily on the Dare to Dream of 3ABN. This new program is a detailed, verse-by-verse study through the books of Daniel and Revelation.

Please pray that these programs will continue to make powerful impressions on minds and hearts through the influence of the Holy Spirit.

SUPPORT TEAM

Light Bearers is grateful to have an outstanding support team. Each board member, employee, intern, student, and volunteer plays a vital role in the impact of our ministry.

The final part of this dynamic team is *you*. We don't see you at our office each week. Perhaps you have never attended our Annual Convocation. Yet we sense your presence and prayers. We see your tangible financial support and are grateful. Thank you for collaborating with us to work in harmony with heaven's mission to share the light of God's love in every corner of the earth. Through your prayers and support, you are a light bearer. 🔥



CALLING ALL LIGHT BEARERS

If you've been blessed by the messages of Light Bearers, please consider partnering with us to spread the light!

SPEAKING SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 2-4

Reimagining God Seminar
North Surrey, British Columbia
www.letsmovevancouver.com/events/
604.866.6912
Ty Gibson

DECEMBER 17

Cascade Adventist Church
Bend, OR
www.cascadesda.org / 541.749.9005
James Rafferty

JANUARY 1-2

Nicodemus Society, W3 Witness
Development Acceleration Program,
Houston, TX
nicodemussociety.org/training
Ty Gibson

DECEMBER 3

Cascade Adventist Church
Bend, OR
www.cascadesda.org / 541.749.9005
James Rafferty

DECEMBER 31

Cascade Adventist Church
Bend, OR
www.cascadesda.org / 541.749.9005
James Rafferty

see more events at lightbearers.org

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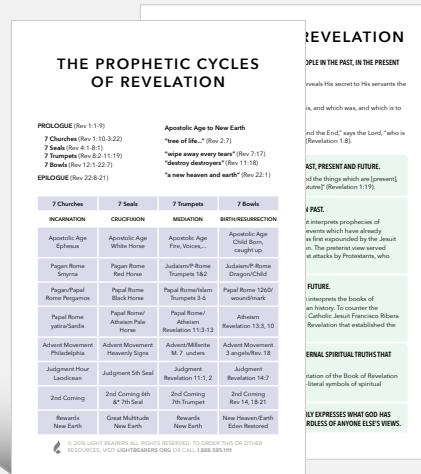


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The book of Revelation is full of visions and symbols, seals and trumpets, beasts and churches. Have you heard of the cycles? Join James Rafferty in uncovering the cycles that act as a roadmap in organizing the book of Revelation.

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