BFT UPDATE/DEC '09-JAN '10

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## **A FEW THOUGHTS ON TRUTH!**

# THE APOSTLE JOHN REJOICED THAT CHRISTIANS WALKED IN TRUTH

I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in TRUTH, as we have received a commandment from the Father. II John 4.

I HAVE NOT WRITTEN UNTO YOU BECAUSE YE KNOW NOT THE TRUTH, BUT BECAUSE YE KNOW IT, AND THAT NO LIE IS OF THE TRUTH! I John 2:21

My little children, <u>let us not love in word</u>, neither in tongue; <u>but in deed and in TRUTH</u>. And hereby we know that we are of the TRUTH, and shall assure our hearts before him.

For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.

And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments,

and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. I John 3:18-21

We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us.

Hereby know we the spirit of TRUTH, and the spirit of error. I John 4:6

I rejoiced greatly that  $\underline{I}$  found of thy children walking in  $\underline{T}$   $\underline{R}$   $\underline{U}$   $\underline{T}$   $\underline{H}$ ,

as we have received a commandment from the Father. II John 1:4

The elder unto the well beloved Gaius, whom I love in the TRUTH. III John 1:1

For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the  $T\,R\,U\,T\,H$  that is in thee,

even as thou walkest in the TRUTH.

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth. III John 1:3-4
We therefore ought to receive such, that we might be fellowhelpers to the TRUTH. III John 1:8
Demetrius hath good report of all men, and of the TRUTH itself:

yea, and we also bear record; and ye know that our record is true. III John 1:12

#### THE NECESSITY OF TRUTHFULNESS

Of late, I have been impressed AGAIN with the necessity of TRUTHFULNESS. One would not think that Christians would have to be reminded to tell the TRUTH! Because Jesus said that He was THE TRUTH, we assume that a woman who names the Name of Christ would be TRUTHful. Her word should be her "bond"—as they say. Yet, I have been thoroughly dumfounded that GAIL RIPLINGER, researcher and speaker, has proven to be "unTRUTHful"; and that, perhaps, without repentance. Jesus said distinctly, "I am the way, THE TRUTH, and the life..." (John 14:6)

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"I have to live with myself,

And so I want to be fit for myself to know:

I want to be able, as days go by, always to look myself in the eye;

I don't want to stand in the settling sun hating myself for the things I have done." (ANONYMOUS)

## "CURSED BE THAT UNITY FOR WHICH TRUTH MUST BE PUT TO THE STAKE."

(Martin Luther)

# LET'S MEDITATE ON HONESTY IN MARRIAGE! MARY & JOSEPH: AN EXAMPLE IN TRUTH

**LATELY I'VE BEEN THINKING MUCH ABOUT MARY AND JOSEPH.** How difficult it must have been for them those first months of Mary's pregnancy—to say nothing of the thirty years after she gave birth to Jesus, or after he went back to His Heavenly Home. MARY AND JOSEPH WERE GOOD, JUST, AND NOBLE PEOPLE—HONEST AND GODLY; yet entrusted with a "secret" so great that it would affect the whole world!

## HONESTY: THE FIRST TEST IN MARRIAGE

THE FIRST TEST OF THEIR RELATIONSHIP WAS HONESTY! You see, this couple was a "BETROTHED COUPLE." A "betrothal" is much stronger than the "engagement" that we have today. A couple today can break an engagement and it doesn't affect too many people. Usually there is the engagement ring that has to be returned. There are hurt feelings between the couple. There are embarrassing explanations to the families of the "estranged couple" and some close friends; but, that is about all. It is paramount that a couple begin their life together in complete TRUTHfulness with each other and those on the outside.

#### **COLOSSIANS 3:9-10**

<u>LIE NOT ONE TO ANOTHER</u>, SEEING THAT YE HAVE PUT OFF THE OLD MAN WITH HIS DEEDS; AND HAVE PUT ON THE NEW MAN, WHICH IS RENEWED IN KNOWLEDGE AFTER THE IMAGE OF HIM THAT CREATED HIM.

## **BETROTHAL: LEGAL LIKE MARRIAGE**

<u>A BETROTHAL IS A BIT MORE COMPLICATED!</u> We find this practiced in Bible times! When a couple is "betrothed," they-or their legal representative--have gone to the courthouse and signed legal papers. Many times the girl's father finds the husband-to-be for his unmarried daughter. She could be from thirteen-to eighteen-years old or older. (In Bible times people married younger than many do today.) When the girl is chosen, the groom or his father go to the courthouse to make the legal agreements with the parents of the intended bride. Presents are exchanged from the groom or his family to the bride and her family. This is often called "a dowry." A poorer father would not have a sufficient "dowry" for a girl from a family of means. So, the people of certain "classes" would continue in the "poor" class or the "rich" class, depending on the financial ability to give or not to give sumptuous gifts.

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### THE BETROTHAL CELEBRATION

**THE ACT OF "BETROTHAL" WAS CELEBRATED BY A FEAST!** Often a "ring of fidelity" was placed on the bride's finger. This agreement binds them as "husband and wife." If, for any reason, they decide to break the "betrothal," they have to return to the courthouse and get a bill of "divorcement." Perhaps you are surprised at this?

## **BETROTHAL NOT MARRIAGE**

I READ RECENTLY THAT WHEN A WOMAN BECOMES "BETROTHED" TO A MAN--who is called her "husband,"-- she goes to live in the husband's father's house, or the intended groom's house. The couple is looked upon, by the public, as "husband" and "wife." There is one big difference! They do not come together sexually at all. That is not supposed to happen until they are "legally married."

#### THE PRESENT CRISIS

TRUTH FOREVER ON THE SCAFFOLD,
WRONG FOREVER ON THE THRONE
YET THAT SCAFFOLD SWAYS THE FUTURE,
AND BEHIND THE DIM UNKNOWN,
STANDETH GOD WITHIN THE SHADOW,
KEEPING WATCH ABOVE HIS OWN.

(James Russell Lowell)

#### LIVING TOGETHER

#### **WITHOUT MARRIAGE IS WRONG!**

**TODAY, COUPLES ARE "LIVING TOGETHER," THINKING NOTHING OF IT.** Often I ask a girl, in this unmarried arrangement, about her marriage intentions, and <u>without fail</u>, she will tell me, "Oh, we will get married when we can afford it!" Often these young women have a child--many times two or three children. They still tell me, "We will get married when we can afford it!"

I SCRATCH MY HEAD WONDERING HOW EXPENSIVE IS IT TO GET A MARRIAGE LICENSE ANYHOW? What these <u>sinful women</u> really mean is that they want a BIG WEDDING CELEBRATION which means AN EXPENSIVE WEDDING RECEPTION with all the trimmings of the wedding celebrations we read about in magazines. <u>The TRUTH is that it is not the "actual marriage"</u> that is <u>expensive</u>. It is the "celebration" they want which they cannot afford. (Of course, they seem to be able to afford one baby after another!)

#### **JOHN 3:21**

BUT HE THAT DOETH TRUTH COMETH TO THE LIGHT,
THAT HIS DEEDS MAY BE MADE MANIFEST,
THAT THEY ARE WROUGHT IN GOD!

## A BACKWARDS VIEW OF WEDDINGS!

**PEOPLE TODAY HAVE A VERY BACKWARDS VIEW OF A WEDDING!** They do not seem to understand the most important part of the wedding day is not the "celebration" but it is the promises to God that the couple makes when they stand before Him in that ceremony. A bride and groom do not need to pay thousands and thousands of dollars on their wedding day to get married! IT IS THE ACTUAL "VOWS" OF THAT DAY THAT ARE IMPORTANT!

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There is a tide in the affairs of men,
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;
Omitted, all the voyage of their life
Is bound in shallows and In miseries
We must take the current when it serves,
Or lose our ventures.

(Shakespeare)

#### **MARY "WITH CHILD"**

THIS IS WHERE WE FIND MARY AND JOSEPH IN TODAY'S MEDITATION. We find this young couple BETROTHED, "living together"—yet, NOT intimate in the marriage union (Luke 2:5). They were not married! Joseph was called Mary's "husband" before they ever came together (Matthew 1:16). WHEN do you think that Mary told her "betrothed husband" that she was going to have a baby? WHAT do you think she told her parents? —or anyone else, for that matter?

When or how Mary told Joseph that she was "with child," I do not know; but she had to have told him sometime before he had his dream in <u>Matthew 1:20!</u> Whether she waited until after her three-months' visit with her older cousin Elizabeth, I do not know (<u>Luke 1:39-40</u>).

## MARY & THE ANGEL GABRIEL!

I CAN VISUALIZE IT NOW! One day as they may have been walking down a path in their hometown of Nazareth, they could have come to the exact spot where ANGEL GABRIEL stopped Mary with THE UNEXPECTED NEWS. She would be the mother of the Messiah! Or, Mary may have told Joseph the news as they sat in their house. She could have pointed out the exact place on the dirt floor where GABRIEL had surprised Mary with the news. We do not know; but we do know that GABRIEL was sent directly from God to her side (Luke 1:30).

## **JOSEPH'S NIGHTMARES**

**HOW DOES ONE TELL ONE'S HUSBAND-TO-BE THAT SHE IS PREGNANT?** As if that were not bad enough; but, to be told that his "betrothed' was "with child" by the Holy Spirit was a little much for Joseph to swallow. It all seemed far-fetched to him. I am glad that Mary was honest! No wonder Joseph had nightmares! No wonder he was grateful for God's words of assurance to him in the middle of the night.

## MARY TOLD THE TRUTH!

HONESTY PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE MARRIAGE BETWEEN MARY AND JOSEPH. Without it, their whole marriage would have fallen apart before they ever came together as man and wife. But I know that he was extremely disturbed to learn of her condition.

#### **JOHN 17:17**

SANCTIFY THEM THROUGH THY TRUTH:
THY WORD IS TRUTH!

#### **NAZARETH: A VILLAGE OF DISREPUTE**

**JOSEPH REALLY CARED FOR MARY!** I do not know if he knew her well before the betrothal. I do know they were both from Nazareth. They had made their home there–even after returning from their Egyptian flight that spared young Jesus from the wrath of the king. Perhaps the LORD God chose Nazareth because of its bad reputation. Mary would not be the only unmarried mother there! Yes, Nazareth was a village of disrepute, lack of culture, and rude dialect! But it was there that Mary and Joseph, after marriage, raised their family of sons and daughters, as well the Son of God. It was the "God-chosen-area" for Jesus to grow up to manhood! And that He did!

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#### **JOSEPH'S HEART WAS BROKEN**

I DO NOT KNOW IF JOSEPH HAD EVER MET MARY PREVIOUSLY BEFORE THAT LEGAL DOCUMENT OF BETROTHAL HAD BEEN SIGNED. I do know that he cared for her. Thinking she had been unfaithful to him, he still loved her. I feel that his heart was broken. He knew he was not the father, but he did not want to ridicule her publically. Definitely, he did not want Mary to be stoned! Already, he felt that Mary was humiliated! Why humiliate her more? The Bible says that Joseph was unwilling to make her a public example! Therefore, he was inclined to privately divorce her.

#### **JOHN 8:45**

AND BECAUSE I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, YE BELIEVE ME NOT.

#### HONESTY IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE

HONESTY IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE IN EVERY MARRIAGE. It is the first plank laid when a couple becomes engaged. Without HONESTY, the foundation of a couple's lives together is on sinking sand. Why do some couples think they can defraud one another with lies and deception? Such moral behavior causes the immediate destruction of "the trust" they gave one another as they pledged their "troth" on their wedding day.

#### **JOHN 1:17**

FOR THE LAW WAS GIVEN BY MOSES,
BUT GRACE AND TRUTH CAME BY JESUS CHRIST.

## MARY & JOSEPH LIVED UNDER THE LAW

NOW LET'S THINK ABOUT THAT "DIVORCE" JOSEPH WAS CONTEMPLATING! Remember this: JOSEPH AND MARY LIVED IN THE TIME OF MOSES' LAW! HE WAS AN HONEST MAN! They knew nothing of the "grace" that you and I know in this dispensation of GRACE. There was no Calvary. In fact for four hundred years the LORD God had not spoken to His Hebrew people at all. God's voice had been still and silent since the last prophet ceased speaking. This couple still offered animal sacrifices in the temple and listened to explanations of the LAW in their synagogue on the Sabbath day. They did not eat pork or shell fish, or take long walks or work on Saturday. Life was like the Old Testament times for Mary and Joseph and all their relatives and friends. This was the climate of life before Gabriel, out of the blue, spoke to Mary one quiet day in the village of Nazareth.

#### **JOHN 8:32**

AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH,
AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE.

## MOSES' TEACHING ON DIVORCE

THE MATTHEW PASSAGE OF SCRIPTURE IS WHERE JESUS TAUGHT ON "DIVORCE." In Matthew 5:31, we read Jesus' words: "It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement." This was Moses' law! Joseph knew this law. All he had to do was write a divorcement request and he could be free of this Mary whom he felt had committed fornication and ruined their relationship. At least, I believe that is what he thought. After discovering this terrible TRUTH from Mary, he had restless sleep for many nights. Yes, sometimes "TRUTH" is terrible! "What am I supposed to do?" was his puzzling wonderment!

#### **JOHN 8:45**

AND BECAUSE I TELL YOU THE TRUTH,
YE BELIEVE ME NOT.

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# JESUS' TEACHING ON DIVORCE THE "EXCEPTION CLAUSE"

BUT OVER THREE DECADES LATER, JESUS, <u>AS AN ADULT</u>, TAUGHT ON THE SAME SUBJECT THAT HAD DISTRESSED HIS FOSTER FATHER BEFORE HIS BIRTH! Jesus said, "But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, <u>saving for the cause of fornication</u>, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery." (Matthew 5: 32) This teaching is very controversial with people who want to get a divorce. Often it is called "the exception clause."

# NO BILL OF DIVORCEMENT FOR MARY!

THIS "EXCEPTION CLAUSE" WAS TAUGHT BY JESUS TO BE ENACTED ONLY DURING THE "BETROTHAL" PERIOD—before the couple came together as man and wife. If the man discovered that the woman had cheated on him--being with another man as if she were his wife--before the betrothed couple's marriage was consummated, the intended groom could write a "bill of divorcement" and be rid of the sinful woman. (I don't think that it worked the other way around. I may be wrong.) This was what Joseph intended to do! That is—until an ANGEL OF GOD spoke to him in a dream!

#### LESSONS LEARNED

THERE ARE A FEW LESSONS LEARNED FROM TODAY'S MEDITATION. One is that "HONESTY IS THE BEST POLICY." That is a saying I have heard all my life. Today I admire Mary more than I ever have in the past. She was truly blessed by being chosen to be the mother of the Messiah. This was almost every Jewish girl's wish. With this blessing came wagging tongues and unkind words. People thought she was an "unwed mother." In those days it was a reproach! When I was a girl, it was a thing of shame. Unwed pregnant girls were sent far away from home to live in what was called a FOUNDLING HOME. There they would have their babies. Their parents would lie about their daughters whereabouts and what they were doing. No one knew they were having a child. Today, it seems that having a baby without marriage is a thing to brag about. Instead of shame, the unwed mothers walk around with their children as if it is the proper thing to do.

#### **JOHN 1:14**

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and TRUTH.

#### **BECAUSE OF THE HARDNESS OF HEARTS**

ANOTHER LESSON LEARNED TODAY IS THAT DIVORCE DOES NOT HAVE TO BE THE WAY OUT IN A DIFFICULT SITUATION. Joseph was rightfully disturbed over Mary's pregnancy. From all outward appearances, he had every right to be. Jesus said that it was because of the hardness of the hearts of the people in Moses day, that Moses allowed so much divorcing. Today there seems to be much more "hardness of heart" than in Moses' day. There is so much more divorcing. People marry when they are not suited for each other. A dishonest mate does not tell all. When the lie is discovered, they are already married. Affairs are rampant. Conditions in Romans 1 are prevalent on every side. If only people would marry for the right reasons. If only they would think ahead and visualize what their present "love" would be like in fifty years. A groom should look at the girl's mother, for the fiancé will look, and be, like that mother when she grows older. Also the groom's family's response to the brideto-be is a telling sign for the future happiness in a marriage. If only we human beings were not so selfish. If only, if only... If men would love their wives as Christ loved the church! If women would

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#### III JOHN 4

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

## **A LYING AFRICAN**

WHO SWINDLED THE BIBLE FOR TODAY MINISTRY OUT OF OVER \$6,000!! YES-I said SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS! Not only did we suffer the loss of all that money, but we lost thirteen cases of the our medium leather DEFINED KING JAMES BIBLES! You probably wonder HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN? Let me tell you the sad story!

OFTEN MEN FROM NIGERIA ORDER BIBLES! THEY USE STOLEN CREDIT CARDS! It is just a matter of course for this to happen to us. BUT SAMUEL'S CREDIT CARDS WENT THROUGH! "Finally," we said to each other, "FINALLY AN HONEST AFRICAN!!" So the staff got those THIRTEEN CASES OF DKJ BIBLES ready to ship one at a time to this "HONEST AFRICAN"! Having been to WEST Africa three times, we were eager to help them. And wonder of wonders, they were paying!. Usually Africans ask for everything free!

In order for the Bibles to get there safely, we sent them one case per day. We could not insure them. Samuel said he would suffer the loss if a case or two got lost in shipment! (That was big of him!) Then ONE DAY-AFTER THE BIBLES HAD ALL BEEN SENT-THE BANK CALLED. SAMUEL HAD STOLEN THOSE CREDIT CARDS or the credit card numbers. He was just like all the other DISHONEST AFRICANS who had tried to steal from us in the past! HOW DISAPPOINTED WE WERE! We thought we had found an honest African! It made us sick at heart. Now we are not only out \$6,000 but our faith in NIGERIA has once more been destroyed.

#### TWO REQUESTS FROM YOU

- (1). IF YOU CAN HELP US COVER THIS HUGE FINANCIAL LOSS, PLEASE DO. As you know THE BIBLE FOR TODAY is a hand-to-mouth organization. It is from God's hand (through you) to our mouths. We just received a 6,500 DKJ Bible shipment from our Korean printer on September 21<sup>st</sup>.
- `` (2) PLEASE PRAY THAT GOD WILL USE THOSE THIRTEEN CASES --<u>156 GENUINE</u> LEATHER BIBLES-FOR HIS GLORY IN SPITE OF SAMUEL'S DISHONESTY!

## RIPLINGER'S GROSS LYING ERRORS

#### QUESTIONS ON THE DEFINED KING JAMES BIBLE

#### AS WELL AS D. A. WAITE, JR'S WORD DEFINITIONS

SOMEONE SENT US A TRANSCRIPT OF AN INTERNET/PHONE/RADIO INTERVIEW PROGRAM THAT GAIL RIPLINGER WAS ON A FEW WEEKS AGO. A caller asked a question concerning <u>THE DEFINED</u> <u>KING JAMES BIBLE</u> (BFT#3000 in various styles). This Bible is our Bible which was edited by our oldest son D. A. WAITE, JR. His personal knowledge of the Greek language is excellent. He has had twenty-five class hours or more of undergraduate and graduate Greek courses, receiving all A's in Greek! That's like the equivalent of a GREEK MINOR. I doubt that Mrs. Riplinger has that many class hours of Bible Greek or Hebrew, if any. Languages were not her forte at Kent University. She implied that our son's "definitions" came from Thayer's Greek-English Lexicons, as well as BROWN, DRIVER and BRIGGS Hebrew-English LEXICON. "Was she there, Charlie?" She also said she was "afraid some of the definitions in the DEFINED KING JAMES BIBLE are the exact words of the new versions." LET ME CALM HER FEARS!!

#### I CALLED OUR SON TODAY

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I JUST CALLED OUR SON TO SEE WHAT HE HAD TO SAY ABOUT THIS. He encouraged me to look at page "vii" in the front of the *DKJ Bible* where he lists what he used to "define" the difficult words. He consulted five English dictionaries. Most all the definitions in the Bible are English dictionary definitions. For an occasional definition, the Greek or Hebrew language was used. No name of any of those dictionaries is mentioned, as it was that insignificant. NO MENTION AT ALL OF Thayer or Brown, Driver & Briggs! If those men had great sins that Mrs. Riplinger has discovered, that is too bad. SHE, ALSO, HAS A FEW IN HER LIFE, TOO-SUCH AS THREE MARRIAGES AND TWO DIVORCES, AND HER LYING ABOUT THEM, AS WELL AS OTHER UNTRUTHS THAT SHE HAS WRITTEN. D. A. Waite, Jr. told me now on the phone that he didn't consult one modern version for definitions!! If some of the definitions were the same, it is because the Greek happens to come up with the same word.

#### **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS** LIES

**RECENTLY IT WAS POINTED OUT TO ME ANOTHER GROSS ERROR IN THE** <u>MAZARDOUS MATERIALS</u> BROCHURE. Riplinger's <u>HAZARDOUS MATERIALS</u> book, not only gives false information regarding **D. A. Waite, Jr.'s** "supposedly" claiming "back translation" by Scrivener, when he never said it; but also, the part which mentioned **DR. MAURICE A. ROBINSON'S** name. Somehow, Riplinger makes Robinson the editor of <u>THE INTERLINEAR LITERAL TRANSLATION of THE GREEK NEW TESTAMENT</u>—which title refers to George Ricker Berry's \*1897\* INTERLINEAR, and nothing else! **The TRUTH is that the** <u>only</u> "INTERLINEAR BIBLE" that **Dr. Robinson worked on was JAY GREEN'S** "INTERLINEAR BIBLE—and then, he worked "only" on the OLD **TESTAMENT** portion!

Then, this same person drew an astute conclusion: "Apparently Riplinger has a severe problem in getting her facts correct, and one must wonder whether to believe anything she says, particularly with what appears to be her massive 'conspiracy theory' denigrating any and all resources that deal with the original language texts, lexicons, and study materials!".

I could not have said it better.

#### THINK ABOUT THIS

"The POSTMODERNIST, in his pessimism, will conclude that TRUTH is relative and subjective. There is no such thing as an absolute or subjective TRUTH. TRUTH CAN BE ANYTHING AND ANYWHERE. Whatever claims to be true or TRUTH is met with scepticism. Pragmatism takes over. Whatever works must be right and good! The end justifies the means, even if the means of getting there is morally wrong."

In God's Care,

## Yvonne S. Waite, for Dr. Waite, too DID YOU ORDER OUR DISC ON OUR HOLY LAND TRIP?

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