



For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, ...

July 2011

Volume 2 Number 6

Eph 6:12

## A Glimpse of the Dark Side

*"I knew a lady who had professed to believe in Jesus. A spirit kept coming to her in a dream. This lady believed it was the spirit of her daughter who had died. Even when I explained to her that spirits are fallen angels whose intent is to deceive she would not accept this as true. She eventually left off believing because this belief in the spirit calling her actually bound her so that she could not carry on trusting in Jesus."*

The above story was told to us by a Thai pastor who has had first-hand experience of the spirit world, personally and in his family. The following is a summary of some of the things he told us.

Belief in spirits is rooted deeply in the world-view of the Thai people. Nearly all Thais think that spirits are the spirits of people that have died and they cannot accept the Christian explanation that spirits are in fact fallen angels in league with Satan himself.

As a result of their belief in the origin of spirits, they feel compelled to care for them, placate and appease them. They "know" that the spirits are more powerful than people and as a result it is important to actively ally themselves with the most powerful spirit they can find. House spirits have greater potency than roving spirits so every house in Thailand has a place where the spirit of the house is revered and honoured. Every city and town has a spirit also, so when Thai people travel or visit somewhere away

from home it is common to go and pay homage to the main shrine (spirit) of that town so that no harm befalls them while they are visiting that place.

Thai Buddhism is closely connected to spirit worship because it is the vehicle whereby people connect with the spirit world. Most people who are Buddhists will have either a tattoo, token, amulet or some combination of things to protect them from spirits when they are away from their own home.

**"The Truth will  
set you free"  
John 8:32**

Because of the Buddhist teachings about karma and the circle of existence, spirits are part of the circle. Therefore, making merit and doing good are necessary in their relationship to the spirits. Buddhism does not teach victory over the spirits it just talks about how to appease them

As Christians we need to be aware of these things and also that these people are in bondage to something they do not understand and which ultimately has the power to destroy their lives. The message of the gospel is freedom. Jesus said he is the Truth (John 14:6) and he also said that if you know the truth (Himself) then the truth will set you free (John 8:32).

Please pray for the liberation of the Thai people from their bondage to the spirit world.

## Praise and Prayer

### Praise for :

- Continued progress in Language study.
- Visit to the local technical college on 1 July
- Observation of some Thai cultural events (2 funerals - Christian & Buddhist- and a Christian wedding)
- Answered prayer for Christian colleagues
- Opportunity to attend OMF day of prayer 21 July.

**Personal contact information**  
Email—[miller.rod.anne@gmail.com](mailto:miller.rod.anne@gmail.com)  
Or  
PO Box 58 Lopburi 15000 Thailand

### Prayer Needs:

- The political situation is still not stable even after an apparent decisive election outcome
  - A refreshing week away in the beginning of August
  - Our children:
    - Alistair Jenn & Esme
    - Andrew
    - Erin and Graham
    - Graham
- and our families in Canada

### OMF INTERNATIONAL CANADA

21-5155 Spectrum Way  
Mississauga, ON, L4W 5A1,  
CANADA  
1-888-657-8010  
[omfcanada@omf.ca](mailto:omfcanada@omf.ca)  
[www.omf.ca](http://www.omf.ca)