

The Bible to All Nations



Let's read the Bible

1 John 3:9-12
Revelation 3:7-13
20:11-21:4

We consider together

Papa God, You are the Father of all people and all nations. You know their name. Please let all people in all nations know You know them by their name. Thank you for the eternal life we live together with you!



Wycliffe Canada wants to see the revival of the Canadian Church through Bible engagement, not only by their reading but also praying and living it out in their life, while they bless those people groups who do not have the Bible by prayers and offerings, a cent per verse or 10 cents per chapter. Please contact us if you want to join.

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When a baby is born, he or she is given a name. Normally the meaning of the name comes from the wishes of the parents or community, and sometimes a story about how the baby is born is put into their name. Names that are made in this way will show what kind of person the baby will become. The Israeli culture that Jesus was born in was like this as well. Jesus was given his name even before he was born. He was to be someone who saved God's people.

I wonder, what meaning do the names of the northern Papua New Guinea's Sepik-Iwam people have?

Ronny could not go back to his village after hunting in the deep jungle. He tried climbing trees to find a river nearby, but he could not see anything. In his village, his people played the drums all night in hopes that he could hear it and return home.

Ronny tried not to fall asleep all night. He was scared that his dog would be eaten by a big snake. The next morning he tried to go up a tree again but he could not find the river. He prayed to God again, and after he prayed he could finally hear the sounds of his friend's horn.

As soon as Ronny was back, Marilyn, a missionary who had prayed with the village people, was overjoyed. Ronny then told her how he had prayed.

"O Adi Komi (Papa God). I am so lost. Please show me the way back to the river... I was terrified that I would lose my name!"

Marilyn asked him what he meant.

"If someone loses his name, it is finished. It's done. It's all over for him."

At that very moment Marilyn discovered the Sepik-Iwam word for 'soul'. For the last seven years the Bible translation team did not know how to translate the word 'soul'. God taught them this word through Ronny's experience of getting lost.

Marilyn placed this word into Matthew 16:26. "And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own 'name' (soul)? Is anything worth more than your 'name' (soul)?"

There is another story about names. The Sepik-Iwam people had one worry on their minds. When people from other tribes called the names of the Sepik-Iwam people, they would have trouble pronouncing them and would not be able to say them correctly. So the Sepik-Iwam people were worried that God would pronounce their names wrong and write them wrong in His Book of Life. "And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire." (Revelations 20:15) Because of this Bible verse, Marilyn had to tell the Sepik-Iwam people that God does not make any mistakes with their names. (pp. 93-98, *Mission Possible*, by Marilyn Laszlo)

Not only each person but also nations! All countries in this world will become Christ's Kingdom (Revelation 11:15) and all nations will walk under God's glory and Christ's light in the Holy City, the New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:24-26). All nations will clearly know this when the Bible, God's Promise is given to them in their heart language.

Maranata, Amen, Christ shall come!