



LIGHT BEARER NEWS

HOPE FOR THE WORLD INDIA

Vol. 58, January 2009

Dear Friends,

Recently, I read, again, the story about Joan of Arc. What a remarkable, spirit-filled young woman she was! This young woman at the age of 13 had such a heart for God, that one day, the Archangel Michael, leader of God's heavenly armies, delivered a message to her from God. He announced her destiny as a God-appointed deliverer to lead the army of France. He told her to live a pure and virtuous life. She recognized that voice as being an angel's. She said, "It (the voice) guarded me often and I have always understood it; it instructed me to be good and to go to church often." God continued to send heavenly messengers to speak to her often and to prepare her for what he had planned for her to do. He was preparing her to unite the fragmented army of France and to alter the fate and leadership of her nation. In the fullness of time, that is what God led her to do. She journeyed over 300 miles through enemy territory to address Charles VII and to share her vision with him. With the king's approval and cooperation, she then led the French army in defense of a crucial, strategic city by capturing small forts surrounding the city of Orleans and eventually overtaking the English in that city. The victory was swift and sure. At her leadership, other cities were taken back as well. By doing so, she also aided to restore the throne of France to its rightful heir, King Charles VII. It is amazing to me what God was able to do with the surrendered heart and obedience of a teenage girl back in 1429. At the age of 19, she was betrayed by some of her own people, imprisoned, and on May 30, 1431, was persecuted by being burned at the stake. Her only request was for someone to hold the cross in front of her as her body burned. Her final word was, "Jesus!" You see, our enemy, the devil will always try to put us in bondage, will always fight against us, will always steal from us, and will always trick someone into betraying us. The wonderful truth is, that the victory has already been won on Mt. Calvary. We are just called to fight the battles and take back stolen ground, until the devil is finally put in his eternal place of destruction. The members of the French army changed, turned to the Lord, and lived good lives because of the leadership of Joan of Arc. Still today, a surrendered heart and a strong anointing can influence the lives of those around us. God has called us all to influence those around us for His glory. But what He needs is a surrendered heart in a vessel of daily obedience. With that, He can change the fate of this country, the fate of this world. That actually would scare some of us, but oh, the things God would allow us to see if only we would ask Him to let us see with His eyes and hear with spiritual ears. He's speaking. Are we listening? Are we doing what He's telling us to do? Listen closely and continue to reach out and beyond for Him in this coming New Year. One can never underestimate the purpose God has for a child. Let's take back the ground the enemy has stolen here and in India. Have a blessed 2009.

May God Richly Bless You,
Debbie Shelton



**God is restoring broken little lives in India.
Would you like to be a part of that this
year for only \$25.00 a month?**

Prayer Needs

- Pray against the persecution in Orissa and other parts of India.
- We have missionaries who need sponsorship- \$50.00/ month
- The Lord is leading us to start another children's home in South India- For this, there is much need. The land cost is \$75,000.00.
- Please pray for the team leaving for India on January 28 to February 11: Dr. Michael Lee, Riley & Debbie Shelton (Hartwell, GA), Kelly Allums (Griffin, GA), Eric Hoover (McDonough, GA), Lisa Dolan (Columbia, SC), Deborah Pevette (Johnson City, TN)

Praise Report - We Praise God for...

- All who gave to Operation Christmas Hope. The children in the homes of Tamil Nadu and in Orissa had a great Christmas. Thanks to those who gave to our missionaries and their families.
- For keeping our children and missionaries safe from persecution in Orissa.
- The arrival of little Nathaniel Thangkim, son of Mang and Ellis, directors of the children's home in Tamil Nadu



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www.hftwindia.org.*

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