

GAIL RIPLINGER, PROPHETESS OF KJVO-VPP, EXPOSED

By Lim Seng Hoo based on research findings by Shari Mills¹

Gail Riplinger is a leading writer for the KJVO-VPP (King James Version Only/Verbal Plenary Preservation) movement, which has sown division and confusion among bible-believing churches in America and elsewhere. She has earned lavish praise from Dr & Mrs D A Waite of the Dean Burgon Society (a society of which John William Burgon, if alive today, would not be able to be a part of), and her books are sold at Waite's "The Bible for Today" site and at the FEBC Book Room, and more recently, also at Calvary Pandan's Tabernacle Book Room.

In her writings, Riplinger often makes extreme, wild and untrue claims. In her "New Age Bible Versions" for example, she gave her name as G. A. Riplinger. When later interviewed about this in the "The End Times Victorious Living Prophecy Newspaper", she said,

"Daily during the six years in this investigation, the Lord miraculously brought to me the materials and resources much like the ravens fed Elijah. Each discovery was not the result of effort on my part, but of the directed hand of God so much so that I hesitated to even put my name on the book. Consequently I used G A Riplinger, which signifies to me God and Riplinger - God as Author and Riplinger as Secretary."

In addition to claiming inspired status for her book, she claims to be God's Secretary! Riplinger also displays megalomaniacal tendencies and takes it upon herself to disparage her fellow KJVO proponents. "New Age Bible Versions" for example included attacks on Rev David Cloud, who in turn, reviewed the book and concluded that it was "full of problems", "misquoting and poor documentation", "errors of facts", "faulty logic", "unproven statements", "Mrs Riplinger's amazing statements", "endorsements which are not endorsements" and finally, "a divorced woman preacher." See <http://www.wayoflife.org> for more details.

Credit for this expose on Riplinger's double-life goes to Mrs Shari Mills, who has done extensive research and documentation of proofs of the facts here presented. I would recommend visiting Sister Shari's website www.avpublications.org where you may download all of these documents and read her comprehensive article "Reasons for exposing Gail Riplinger". We give praise to Almighty God and our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for Sister Shari's endeavours.

TWO DIVORCES AND THREE MARRIAGES

"Such is the way of an adulterous woman; she eateth, and wipeth her mouth, and saith, I have done no wickedness." (Prov 30:20)

Riplinger shares traits in common with Dr Peter Ruckman, a promoter of paranormal views including "Ruckmanism", which holds the KJV English as being of advanced revelation and more authentic than the Hebrew-Aramaic-Greek manuscripts. (Incredibly, Dr Jeffrey Khoo argued similarly in respect of 2 Sam 8:4 - see "Lim Seng Hoo Vs Jeffrey Khoo Perfect KJV-VPP Written Debate"). Dr Ruckman's two divorces and three marriages are well documented, and he is largely rejected among conservative circles. Even FEBC rejects Ruckman.

Like Ruckman, Riplinger is twice divorced and thrice married. Whereas Ruckman has been open and defiant about his past, Riplinger has concealed hers. At a King James Bible Conference on 10-11 January 2008 at Straightway Baptist Church, Princeton, New Jersey, with

¹ Shari Mills is a pen name.

Internet broadcast, Dr D A Waite was asked if Riplinger is divorced. He replied that his wife recently spoke with Riplinger and she denied she was ever divorced, saying to Mrs. Waite that she has been “married to the same man for all these years.” Either Riplinger lied to Mrs Waite or Dr Waite was not being truthful. After the Conference, Waite received full documents of Riplinger’s divorces but to date has not made any corrections or taken any stand on these facts.

OUR LORD’S TEACHING ON DIVORCE AND RE-MARRIAGE

The Word of God teaches the sanctity and permanence of marriage and does not easily sanction divorce with re-marriage. Our Lord Jesus Christ spoke unequivocally about this in the Gospels,

“But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.” (Matt 5:32)

“The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause? And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away? He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so. And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery. (Matt 19:3-9)

“And he saith unto them, Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her. And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery.” (Mark 10:11-12)

(Emphasis Added)

It should be noted that our Lord recognised only one ground for divorce, which is “fornication” (Greek: πορνεία (porneia) or “uncleanness”, from which the word “pornography” is derived).

Secondly, our Lord differentiated between *an act of adultery*, i.e. an occasion or occasions of marital infidelity and *a state of adultery*, which a person who divorces, except for fornication, and re-marries, commits or falls into (Mt 5:32, 19:9, Mk 10:11-12, Luke 16:18).

The Apostles Paul and John, by the Holy Spirit, wrote concerning fornicators and adulterers,

“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind.” (1Cor 6:9)

“For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.” (Rev 22:15)

These are hard sayings. Our hearts are with all who may encounter marital difficulties. While our Lord has clear requirements of those who follow Him, we should be careful not to judge a person unfairly for a past divorce per se, but to have understanding of the grounds for their divorce and who initiated the same. The following documents facts about Riplinger’s divorces.

DOCUMENTS OF RIPLINGER'S 2 DIVORCES AND 3 MARRIAGES

Riplinger was born Gail Anne Ludwig on 10 October 1947 at Mount Carmel Hospital, Columbus, Ohio, the first and only child of Wilson Ludwig and Helen Frech (Mrs Ludwig).

First Marriage on 7 June 1969

Documents show Gail Anne Ludwig (occupation: group counsellor) 21 yrs on 10 Oct 1968 and Latessa (occupation: labourer), 22 yrs on 10 Oct 1968, apply for a marriage license on 2 June 1969. The marriage was solemnised by Rev Richard Marciangelo, Asst Pastor of Mt Carmel, in Trumbull County, Ohio on 7 June 1969.

First Divorce on 12 February 1975

Documents show Gail Latessa initiated divorce proceedings against her husband in the County of Mahoning, Ohio, on the grounds of "extreme cruelty", one of 12 recognised grounds in the State of Ohio for divorce, and a convenient divorce ground that can amount to something as small as a spouse raising their voice or telling them to do the dishes. It is certainly not the only one allowed ground in the Scriptures, which is "fornication" (see above).

The divorce documents called for a payment of \$14,000 to Mrs Helen Ludwig, which was advanced to the parties as a down-payment for their marital home, from the proceeds of its sale.

The Court record states, "*The defendant was not present in person nor was he represented by counsel*". Her husband did not initiate the proceedings, and perhaps did not want the divorce but did not want to make things difficult for Gail. In the absence of a defense, the Court granted the divorce on the Plaintiff's stated grounds on 12 February 1975 and restored her maiden name. They were married for about 5 years and 8 months, and they had no children.

Note: Riplinger claimed in her video lectures that she was "saved" at the age of 26, but yet filed for divorce when she was 27. As a Christian, did she not care to obey the Scriptures?

"And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband: But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife. But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away. And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him." (1 Cor 7:10-13)

Second Marriage on 5 November 1976

Documents show Gail Anne Ludwig (occupation: student) 29 yrs on 10 Oct 1976 and Kaleda (occupation: Retail Manager), 27 yrs on 2 December 1975, apply for a marriage license on 1 November 1976. The marriage was solemnised by Rev Richard Gordon in Portage County, Warren, Ohio. This union also yielded no children.

Note: Riplinger met her second husband, who is 14 months younger than she, at Kent State University and their marriage took place about 1 year and 9 months after her first divorce. This marriage placed both Riplinger and her second husband in a state of adultery as long as it lasted (Mt 5:32, 19:9, Mk 10:11-12, Luke 16:18).

Second Divorce on 23 July 1984

Documents show Gail initiated the divorce proceedings against her second husband as Defendant in Portage County, Ohio (Case 84CV 0652), again on non-Scriptural grounds of “gross neglect of duty” and “extreme cruelty” towards her. The second husband however filed a sworn Answer and Counterclaim on 28 June 1984, which states, *inter alia* that: -

“...he has always fulfilled his marital obligations during the parties’ marriage, but that the Plaintiff had not been a dutiful wife and has been guilty of gross neglect of duty and extreme cruelty towards the Defendant;”

“...the Plaintiff has a good professional position with Kent State University as a professor earning at least \$20,000 per year;”

“...the Defendant is presently unemployed and unemployable because of severe emotional problems brought on by the wilful acts of the Plaintiff-Wife – that said Defendant is without funds and is presently on welfare;”

However, 5 days later, on 3 July 1984, her husband’s lawyer, Michael L McGowan, wrote to the Honourable Joseph R Kainrad Judge (excerpts) as follows: -

“Dear Judge Kainrad:

I am enclosing herewith Order of Withdrawal and Cancellation in the above subject case which is self-explanatory – myself withdrawing as attorney and the Defendant, Kaleda, desiring to have his Answer and Counterclaim withdrawn or dismissed.

I have discussed this matter with William F. Calhoun, attorney for the Plaintiff, and advised him of my concern regarding this matter.

Mr. Kaleda, in my opinion, does not appear to have all his wits about him. He is under psychiatric care and operating on heavy medication.

I am also enclosing herewith a written statement from Mr. Kaleda wherein he states that he wishes to withdraw his Answer and Counterclaim in case No 84 CV 0652 for personal reasons – he wishes to be married to his wife, Gail Kaleda and that neither his wife nor he wish to contest this matter further.

I do not think this is true that his wife does not wish to contest the matter. His wife insisted on accompanying him into my office and staying with him during our office conference. I asked if she was going to contest this matter further and she said it was none of my business.”

We see Riplinger able to manipulate her second husband, right into his lawyer’s office, to withdraw his Answer & Counter Claim, while having no intention at all to stop her divorce proceedings. Clearly, her husband did not want to divorce, but Riplinger is not one to heed the Lord’s command (1Cor 7:10-13). With the Defendant not contesting, the Court awarded the divorce to the Plaintiff on her grounds and restored her to her maiden name, Gail Ludwig, on 23 July 1984. Following no objections from her husband, judgment was entered on 6 August 1984.

Third Marriage on 27 October 1984

Documents show Gail Anne Ludwig (occupation: Professor) 36 yrs on 10 October 1983 and Michael Domnick Riplinger (occupation: serviceman), 34 yrs on 28 April 1984 applied for a license to marry in Summit County, Ohio, on 4 September 1984. This marriage was solemnised by Judge Pike on 27 October 1984.

Note: 28 days after the judgement entry, when the ink had barely dried on her last divorce, Gail and Michael (18 months younger than her), apply for a marriage license! 1 month and 23 days later, this marriage was solemnised by a secular judge, despite Riplinger's claims to be a believer. Mrs Shari Mills traced Gail's background through records at the university where she taught and found that Michael's sister and Gail obtained degrees in Art at the same college around the same time. If she had divorced Kaleda in order to marry Michael, the Riplingers are today living in a state of adultery (Mt 5:32, 19:9, Mk 10:11-12, Luke 16:18).

CONCLUSION

Our Lord Jesus Christ said of false teachers, that we shall know them by their fruits,

“Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. (Matt 7:15-18)

One who consistently does not obey the Holy Scriptures and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-23) is a corrupt tree; and a corrupt tree cannot bear forth good fruit. Riplinger's fruits show that she is not a good tree. As a professed teacher of fanciful and misleading “doctrines”, she is a false prophetess, who dresses in sheep's clothing but inwardly is a ravening she-wolf. David Cloud correctly points out that Riplinger as a woman preacher, is unscriptural,

“Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.” (1 Cor 14:34-35)

We have nothing personally towards Gail Riplinger other than compassion, wishing to “save with fear, pulling out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.” (Jude 22-23) She however is a teacher of false doctrines and must be exposed for the sake of those whom she has misled over the years. May the Lord be pleased to use the truth about her double life, to open the eyes of many, who have been deceived into the heresy of KJVO-VPP through her misleading claims! This we pray in the Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.

Singapore, 22 October 2008