

“Unbind Her and Let Her Go”

Isaiah 25:7 and John 11:44

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By Rebecca Enney

“He will destroy the shroud that is cast over all people. Unbind him and let him go.”

I wonder what a shroud is. I think that it might be something that covers or hides you. It may be something dark and sad and it could be a feeling or it could be something you wear.

This is . . . Elizabeth! And this is Elizabeth’s mother, Mrs. Mawakasunga and this is Mrs. Mawakasunga’s older sister, Aunt Gertrude.



You know sometimes dark sad things can happen. Not to Elizabeth. Elizabeth is a happy little girl with a wonderful life. But to Mrs. Mawakasunga and to Aunt Gertrude, many, many years ago in Tanzania . . . Elizabeth never heard the stories . . . maybe some day when she is much older.

When Aunt Gertrude and Mrs. Mawakasunga were just little girls, first their father died and then their mother died. They were so young to be orphans all alone. That is when the sad dark time came. Because Aunt Gertrude was the older sister, she protected her younger sister, sometimes at great cost to herself. Aunt Gertrude was a wonderful big sister who loved Mrs. Mawakasunga very, very much!



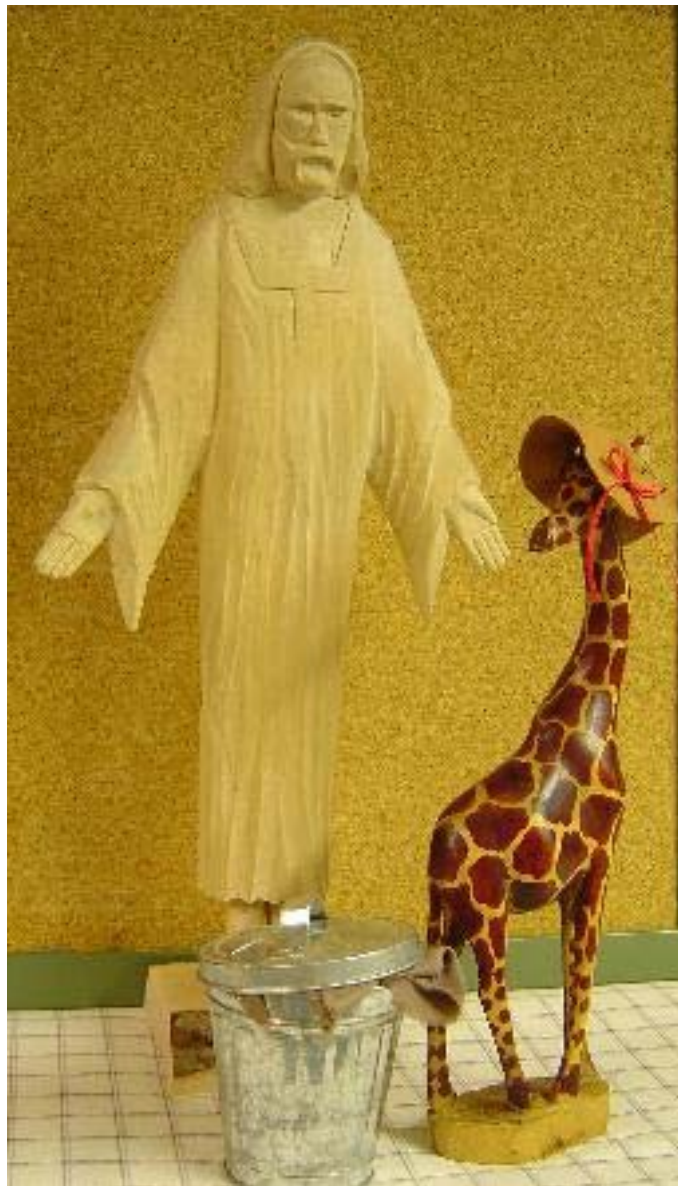
Now that Aunt Gertrude and Mrs. Mawakasunga are all grown up, they never talk about that dark, sad time, partly because they each hope the other one has forgotten about it and partly because, in a way, they HAVE forgotten. Except deep down, they each DO remember.

Some grownups have things they never talk about. It can feel like a shroud that covers them. So it is for Aunt Gertrude.

In today's lessons, we hear the promise that God will lift the shroud that covers all people. In fact, he will MORE than lift it, he will DESTROY it.

So, when I look at the ugly thing on Aunt Gertrude's head, I think it is like a sad, dark shroud that she wears.

Today, Christ says to Aunt Gertrude "UNBIND HER AND LET HER GO! I WILL DESTROY THIS SHROUD THAT HAS BEEN CAST OVER HER."



(Remove the shroud from Aunt Gertrude. Replace with a new hat. Hold up the shroud and look at it closely, then rip it into pieces and place in the little trash can.)

LET US BE GLAD AND REJOICE! THE END