

GOD'S METHOD OF COMMUNICATION As an English medical doctor in Africa for 30 years, Helen Rosavere saw her country develop and face some of the problems that other developing nations in Africa were facing. There began to be trouble from insurgents who came from other countries in order to develop a rebel movement. As the movement began to reach its peak, some rebels, who were high on drugs, attacked the village where Helen was staying. They took over the hospital and seized Helen and held her as hostage.

Helen was now in her 50's. She had never been married. She had given her life to these people. The rebels repeatedly raped Helen. In the midst of it all, at the blackest moment of the violent incident, Helen cried out to the Lord, "Why, Lord? How can you let this happen?" But the Lord answered quickly. "Thank you Helen for giving me your body years ago. You see, Helen, they aren't raping you. They are raping ME!" At that moment, out of God's grace, Helen felt peace, knowing that it was God who was being defiled and not herself. Now, this doesn't mean that the whole ordeal didn't bother her. She still had to deal with the horrifying memories, but the realization that they had done it to Christ and not to herself helped Helen realize that long ago God had called her to Himself. She had died to self. In other words, Helen didn't belong to Helen any longer. She belonged to Christ. It was Christ who was alive in Helen not Helen herself. In this way God's purpose could be carried out.

After a few months, Helen found herself in the United States about to address some medical students at a university. When she was introduced, she walked up to the podium and noticed a couple of girls sitting in the front row on the left hand side. Helen noticed that both of these girls were way too young to be medical students. One of the girls was staring straight at her, just boring a hole right through Helen. Well, Helen began her address and God told Helen to tell the audience what had happened to her in Africa. Helen resisted God because it had nothing to do with her delivery, but again He told her to relate the story of herself when she was raped.

Helen began to tell of the incident as if it was part of her presentation. Then she finished her lecture.

When the lecture was over, Helen went back on the podium and noticed the two girls on the left side. One approached Helen and said, "Doctor, I'm sorry to have to bother you, but my 15-year-old sister over there was raped five weeks ago and hasn't said a word or made a sound since then. She has seen ministers, psychologists, and none have helped. Could you talk to her for a couple of minutes?" Helen looked up and walked toward the 15 year old girl. When she was about half way, the girl stood up and ran towards Helen. When they reached each other, they embraced so hard that they both crashed to the floor, crying. After an hour of crying, the girl talked non-stop for two hours. It was two hours of pure catharsis, because for the first time the young girl found someone who could identify with her own hurt and shame, just as Christ had identified with Helen's.

God cares for us. He suffered the deepest kind of degradation as a part of his pain. He identifies with our deepest need, our most profound hurts. He welcomes us to run to his arms and find surcease.