Imelda Dizon

Pre-Cal 116

January 27, 2006

Extra Credit: Beyond the Gates of Splendor

In watching the documentary Beyond the Gates of Splendor, I was confused with what the whole movie was all about. I didn’t understand if why people were spearing each other or if they were associated by their tribal status, but all I knew in the being, spearing the men were common. As the movie went on, I was shocked that the women was able to lived with the people who had killed their husbands. Me personally, would have hatred to the people for killing my husband and taking away their father to my kids. But later on in the movie, I saw that the American women sympathized with the tribe because of their similar situation of the women’s husband, father, or brother died from the common fate the American women’s husband went through. People with that kind of strength in their hearts and understanding would help a lot with today violence and killings. That if only, people would listen to the other side, there would be less prejudice and violence with racism, society status, and violence between street gangs. I think people should just listen to the other side of a tragedy to release any hate one might have between each other, whether be small or big like an argument with a family member, or like in the documentary, live with people who’ve killed someone they love, this would would be a better place to live in. <-- I agree.
Dear Dusty Wilson,

"Beyond The Gates Splendor (End of the Spear)" was an amazing documentary that really touched me deep in my heart. It was amazing that after so many years, the tribe was just used to killing people that didn’t "smell" or "look" right. I was really touched when the people were just reflecting on their past experiences with having someone in the family be speared.

The main thing that bothered me was that the after the five men: Nate Saint, Roger Youderian, Pete Fleming, Ed McCully, and Jim Elliot got speared, their wives and children continued to effectively show them example that Waodani way of life is incorrect. I really would have predicted that the Waodani people would have killed the rest of the "foreigners" because to them it was like some aliens came and started to teach them about God and try to change their actions in their tribe.

It was rewarding to see a Waodani mans reaction to what we in the United States live like; piles of food in the houses, at the square things they open and give you food, at the cash registers you give them a credit card and they give it back to you. I am sure it was nonsense to the Waodani, just as it was nonsense to us the people of the United States how they take care of problems.

It was fascinating to know that the crime rate in the Waodani went from sixty percent to less then one percent within such a short period. Just as the Waodani tribe crime rate decreased dramatically, our crime rate in the United States is multiplying daily. People in the tribe completely changed their way of life for the better. People in America need Jesus; look around these are the last days before the end. The weather is witnessing the last days, the world around us is witnessing the last days. In 2 Timothy 3:1-5 "But know this, that the last days perilous time will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having form of godliness but denying its power." In the last time all of this is happening. I believe if such change would take place in the United States, the problems that we have now would be resolved. This also supports that part in the Bible that says that all people will hear of God and then the end will come.

Sincerely,

Ilya Doroshenko
Ho Ching, Hung, Kelvin
1/29/06
Math 116
Response of "Beyond the Gates"

That’s really a tragedy happened long time ago! The five young Americans who wanted to contact with the violent tribe had been killed. I feel so sympathize with them, because they were totally innocent, they just explored the tribe but ultimately lost their life, how cruel were the Barbarian!

Following the killing, the wife and young daughter of one of the victims and the sister of another went to live with the tribe’s people; they aim to erase the violence of the tribe’s people, and fortunately they do success, the homicide rate of the Waodani declined more ninety percent.

The interviewing of the family members of the victims seem so sad about losing their beloved, but they didn’t regret how they treat the tribe’s people; I can see the mercy of them through this touching movie.

I hope that I can have more movies like this in the future, because it made me think a lot, especially one word from the movie which is worth to introspect “If telling out story will help your people give up their violent ways, then we are willing.”
Heather Holt  
Math 116  
Beyond the Gates- Response  
January 30, 2006

Wow! It was hard to believe that 6 out of 10 adults in the Waodani tribe would  
die as a result of homicide. That was just their way of life, and they even spoke about  
death by spearing as a common occurrence, as if it was not a big deal. It was this fact  
that led me to think that they were completely savage, brutal, and uncivilized. However,  
when it was mentioned that Nenkiwi and Gimade had a chaperone in order to go out  
together, it seemed like something you would see in America.

After the five men were killed, I was surprised to know that Rachel and Elisabeth  
were invited to visit the tribe. It must have taken a great deal of courage to face their  
husbands’ killers and to trust that their lives would not be taken as well. I was also very  
pleased to know that the missionaries’ beliefs were not forced upon the Waodani tribe. It  
seemed as if they wanted a change and religion had the answer for them. I thought it was  
very selfless for the men to decide against using their guns on the tribesmen. They knew  
they were ready for heaven, but the Waodani people were not, so they let themselves be  
sacrificed for the greater good. It was also wonderful that Rachel and Elisabeth took the  
time to understand the Waodani people. They truly helped bring about the change in the  
Waodani culture.

What really touched me was when the grandson of one of the men killed, called  
the man who killed his grandfather his ‘grandfather.’ He even requested for his  
‘grandfather’ to attend his graduation. There were no hard feelings because the families  
took the time to understand each other.

I am glad that the Waodani tribe allowed their story to be heard. It affected many  
people then, and hopefully through the story, it will now affect people in a positive way.
Lydia Hwang

Math 116- 11 am

01/30/06

Response to *Beyond the Gates of Splendor*

After viewing this documentary, I've learned the message of true love: love endures all, and it forgives all. In the scene, there was a quote about how these Waodanis were not ready for Heaven anymore than they (missionaries) were. These men had weapons, but they never attacked these Waodanis for this very reason. Although the five innocent missionaries were speared to death, the families of those gave these people another chance. After the deaths of these five men, Elisabeth Elliot and Rachel Saint went to live with the Waodani. Without love in their hearts, this journey back to the fearful Waodani would have been impossible. Their faith and courage was a true inspiration to me. Personally, if I were in their position, I would have never had the courage to go back and see these "murderers" of my beloved family. Then there was the move of the son of one of the slain men. The fact that this man actually went back with his family to live with the Waodani family who killed his father was truly amazing. Later, after time passed, the son of the man who moved to Waodani described how his relationship with the Waodani man became almost like a grandfather to grandson relationship. When one of the Waodani men was invited to come over to the states to attend the son's graduation, I really felt their friendship and bond towards one another. I appreciate how these Waodanis were thoughtful enough to let this event be told so that everyone could learn from their mistakes. Although the deaths of the five missionaries were very tragic, their deaths led to the savings of hundreds of the Waodani. The families of these five men continued in the footsteps of the missionaries and finally, their efforts led to the fulfillment of the vision of these brave missionaries.