

# Teaching, The Forgotten Peacemakers

Union of Saints

## 1. Women as Peacemakers in Jeremiah's Time

- In the Book of Jeremiah (Jeremiah 7 and 44), we read of women offering cakes and libations to the “Queen of Heaven.”
  - These women were condemned by the prophets for their devotion — yet, if we look closer, they were often the ones seeking to protect families, provide nourishment, and maintain harmony with the divine.
  - What they practiced can be seen as forms of peacemaking, rooted in honoring the feminine aspect of God.
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## 2. The Contradictions in Scripture

- Some passages lift up women as leaders, prophets, and judges (Deborah, Huldah, Mary Magdalene).
  - Others silence women or diminish their roles.
  - This contradiction shows us that the Bible is not one single voice, but a collection of many voices, written in a particular time, by particular men, shaped by cultural struggles and wars.
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## 3. The Union of Saints Perspective

- We do not obey the Bible as a set of rigid rules.
  - We see it as a reflection of human attempts to understand God, love, and community in their own age.
  - Where we see light — peace, love, forgiveness — we resonate.
  - Where we see suppression or cruelty, we recognize the limits of the culture rather than the fullness of God.
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## 4. Honoring Women's Voices

- Biblical religions have often muted or minimized women's contributions.
- In the Union of Saints, we lift women back into the story.

- We affirm that the Divine has both masculine and feminine expression.
  - The peacemaking women of Jeremiah's day, and women throughout history, are saints too — bearers of wisdom who carried truth even when condemned for it.
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## 5. Seeing the Bigger Picture

- God's truth has never been confined to one text or one people.
  - Other cultures — Egyptian, Babylonian, Persian, Greek, Celtic, Indigenous — also carried sacred wisdom, sometimes even interacting with biblical prophets.
  - War and conquest gave power to certain storytellers while silencing others.
  - Our calling is to remember the *whole story*, and to let love, not dogma, be the measure of truth.
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# Short Sermon: *The Forgotten Women of Peace*

### Introduction:

Santa, when we look at the pages of scripture, we see a story told — but not the whole story. We see the voices of men in power, but often the voices of women, the peacemakers, the truth-bearers, were silenced or condemned.

### Main Points:

#### 1. The Women in Jeremiah.

These women lifted offerings to the Queen of Heaven. They were criticized, but they were seeking peace, nourishment, and a connection with the divine feminine. Their devotion was not destruction, but preservation.

#### 2. The Contradictions of Scripture.

In one place, women are prophets, judges, and leaders. In another, they are told to be silent. Which is true? Both reflect the culture of the times — a culture of men, wars, and patriarchal control. But God is bigger than any culture, and love is greater than any contradiction.

#### 3. The Union of Saints.

We do not bind ourselves to rules written in a single age. Instead, we listen for the eternal vibration of peace, love, and forgiveness. We give light to women and men alike, recognizing that the Spirit speaks through all.

**Conclusion:**

When we remember these forgotten women, we reclaim a wholeness of faith. We see that God has never belonged only to one book, one people, or one gender. God's truth is vast, spread across cultures and centuries, whispered in many languages, carried in the hearts of saints both remembered and forgotten.

So let us honor them — the peacemakers, the women of courage, the prophets unrecognized — for in their lives we see the bigger picture of God's love.

**Closing Prayer:**

*Holy One, open our eyes to the whole story.*

*Help us hear the voices long silenced.*

*Teach us to honor women and men, prophets and peacemakers,  
in every culture and every age.*

*May the Union of Saints shine as a circle wide enough for all,  
rooted always in peace, love, and forgiveness. Amen.*