

When Abram La Rue Put God First

August 28, 2021

AUDIO

Abram La Rue put God first, even when others thought he was too old to be a missionary. What can we learn from Abram La Rue today that will help us put God first in our own lives?

In 1883, Abram La Rue was a 65-year-old shepherd and woodcutter from California. He had the ambition to take the gospel to China. When he wrote to the General Conference, they said that he was too old and didn't have the money to send him. Still determined to go, La Rue negotiated his way onto a ship to work his way to Hong Kong. As he arrived in 1888, he began to work as a colporteur for the next 14 years.

sc. **01**

From 1888 to 1902, Father LaRue, as he was now generally called, stood alone. On February 2, 1902, Brother and Sister J. N. Anderson and Miss Ida Thompson arrived to help him. Soon after, nine people, who had been led into the truth largely through Brother LaRue's efforts, were baptized. The Present Truth was then ready to be taken to China's mainland.

LaRue was a faithful follower of Christ, dedicated to prayer and devotion. He was patient, sympathetic, and constant. His standing for 14 years alone in a distant land, carrying on a self-supporting work, shows that he had the stamina needed in pioneering work. Despite the difficulties, LaRue put God first. A few days before his death, he willed most of the little money he had to the mission in China.

VÍDEO

Images related to text and animation.

AUDIO

sc. 02

Abram La Rue was buried in Hong Kong, where he had worked for 15 years. Although he did not set foot in China as a missionary, his pioneering work played an important role in laying the foundation for the entry of Adventism into this great land of the Orient.

VÍDEO

Images related to text and animation.

sc. 03

Abram La Rue put God first, even when others didn't believe in him. His courage inspires us today. Jesus gave up everything to redeem us, and His love compels us to put His kingdom first in our own lives. As we return the tithe and our Promise offering, we are challenged to put God first.

Text animation.