

Beloved Actress Patricia Routledge Dead at 96: What She Said About the Bible

Dame Patricia Routledge, best known worldwide as the indomitable Hyacinth Bucket in the BBC comedy “Keeping Up Appearances,” passed away peacefully at the age of 96. While millions remember her sharp comedic timing and her award-winning career on stage and screen, Routledge also spoke openly of her deep appreciation for the language and power of the King James Bible.

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In a 2011 interview with The Guardian, Routledge described the text with unmistakable admiration: “The King James Bible has great cadences,” she said. “There’s music there, you know.” Her love for the Scripture’s poetic strength was not confined to private reflection. That same year, she participated in public Bible readings at the National Theatre to mark the 400-year anniversary of the King James translation.

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Routledge, who never married and often kept her personal life out of the spotlight, did not frequently speak about her spiritual practices. Yet, her reverence for the Bible’s language reflected a lifelong appreciation for the richness of words, history and truth. Her selective approach to modern

projects and her love of great literature echoed this same respect for depth and meaning.

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Though audiences will forever treasure her portrayals of eccentric, larger-than-life characters, her reflections on the Bible remind us that anyone who picks up the Word of God can see the vast beauty of how it was crafted and written.

Prepared by Charisma Media Staff.