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Prayer Letter

UPDATE ON SURGERY

Dear Co-laborers in Christ:

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior the Lord Jesus Christ.

—How many times we have used this verse , *Be still and know that I am God: Psalms 46:10* , and yet we still keep forging ahead. *Hebrews 10:36, For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.* Praise our Heavenly Father for His patience and abounding grace. Although we looked at our cancelled trip to Germany as a set back, the Lord used it to show us His ever present grace step by step. During the pre-op, operation and after the operation, He gave me continued peace. There is no doubt in our minds that everyone involved was chosen by the Lord. We want to thank you for the many cards and prayers that were a constant encouragement to us. We know that because of the prayers of our Brothers and Sisters in Christ, the Lord proved Himself faithful in answering your prayers. Thank you for your thoughtfulness, concern and prayers for us during this time of tribulation. As Pastor Steadman challenged me before the operation, from II Corth. 1:1-4, it gave a whole new meaning and comfort for the reason of my illness. What a blessing it was to have Pastor by my side before the operation.

Well, because of the many prayers the operation was a success and the doctors believe all the cancer was removed and there is no further treatment needed . They had to take out 15% of the lower lobe of the left lung which proved to cancerous. Then they checked the lymph node for cancer and found it was benign but felt it was necessary to remove it anyway. The Lung doctor gave a good report on my first visit with him and wants to see me in December for a CT scan to make sure the lungs are still clear of cancer. The surgeon, on my first visit to him, stated clearly that it is now time to let the body heal inwardly. The incision and hole for the drainage tube are just about healed up. I cannot push, pull or lift anything heavier than a 1/2 gallon of milk for the next three months. After that period of time, I will be able to do light to medium duty work. So, that puts us back to waiting! As I was having devotions in Habakkuk a week or so ago, I came across some notes on "Bible Waiters". The Lord used this to show me that we were in preeetty good company.

Noah waited for God's timing before leaving the ark — Gen. 8:10,12

Moses waited on God on the mountain — Ex. 24:12

Job waited for God's answer — 14:14

Isaiah waited for God to work in Israel — Isaiah 8:17, 25:9, 26:8, 30:18, 33:2, 40:31, 49:23, 59:9

Jeremiah understood the need to wait quietly for God's salvation — Lam. 3:25

Hosea warned the people to return to God and wait for Him to work — 12:6

Micah waited for the God of his salvation — 7:7

Habakkuk warned the people to hold on to their hope and to wait because it would surely come — 2:3

Zephaniah explained that the Lord wanted His people to wait for Him — 3:8

Joseph of Arimathea was waiting for God's Kingdom — Luke 23:51

The disciples were ordered by Jesus to wait in Jerusalem for the coming of the Holy Spirit — Acts 1:4

Believers are called to wait for heaven, for the promise is sure — Ro. 8:23,25, Gal. 5:5, I Thess. 1:10

We will be looking for light duty ministries stateside until we can get back into missions full swing.

Please pray that:

Healing will be quick and complete.

We will be able to minister locally during recuperation.

Doors will open for us when healing is complete.

I will be able to be a comfort to others.

Thank you for your continued support both prayerfully and financially. May our Heavenly Father continue to bless each of you abundantly.

Under His Wings,

Chick And Renee Atkins