2772 Port Republic Road Harrisonburg, VA 22801 December 1, 2006

Dear Friends and Co-Laborers,

It seems impossible that December is here. Just yesterday it was shirtsleeve weather, and today we are hearing of the big storm spreading snow, ice, and blizzard conditions across the middle of the country. With things changing so fast, maybe it is not surprising we have trouble realizing that summer and fall have become past history, and we are just weeks away from another year. At least let us pause and savor the joy and blessedness of Christmas before it is past.

The world will not mourn the passing of Christmas because the world does not know Him "whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Paul in Romans 1 tells us that man for the most part has made a choice to turn away from God. It was not that man could not know God for "God hath showed it unto them." Instead "they did not like to retain God in their knowledge" [and] God gave them over to a reprobate mind to do those things which are not convenient." From that point, the remainder of Romans 1 reads like the current newspaper and T.V. news. For the saved, the wonderful part is that we have read the last chapter and know how it will culminate. God is still Sovereign and is on His throne. He will not be late even as He was not late when in the fullness of time He sent forth His Son.

In the last months since our September letter, we have been in Christian colleges and seminaries and have had opportunity to visit with lots of students and present to them the challenge of missions to the multitudes who still sit in darkness. Some of these students are now only exploring possibilities for some time in the future after school, while others are facing graduation this year and are already settled as to the Lord's direction and destination for them. It is gratifying to see people (not always younger) who are willing to step out in faith, believing with Hudson Taylor that "God alone is sufficient for God's own work."

Monday we begin a trip to Pennsylvania where we will be speaking to the students in Faith Baptist School of Theology. For the remainder of the week we will be in a church near Buffalo, New York, preaching at their regular services and their Christmas banquet. I told the pastor to be ready for anything because we came out of Detroit, Michigan, in a snowstorm earlier this month; and then two weeks ago in Pensacola, Florida, the school was locked down temporarily because of a tornado watch. The pastor replied that it was O.K because they are already expecting snow next week.

Another change in our itinerary is on the horizon for 2007. You may recall we were in Grenada the first half of this year. Well, the checkerboard is out again. We expect to be in British Columbia for about seven months to replace a missionary who needs to come back to the U.S. for a furlough. More later on this! Needless to say, it will be quite a change from the tropics to Western Canada and from an island to the west side of the Rockies.

Until then may you all have a blessed celebration of our Saviour's birth and a joyous New Year. HERE, THERE, OR IN THE AIR!

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