

Serving with World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions

Stanley and Marvane Cline

"Let thine eyes be on the field that they reap, and go thou after them..." Ruth 2:9

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Dear Friends and Co-Laborers,

Do you ever get the feeling aptly expressed in a poster I saw some years ago – "The hurrieder I go, the behinder I get?" Well, I suppose the only remedy is to not waste more time and get on with this prayer letter or it will be obsolete before it is written and mailed. There is another old saying that goes – "If you don't like the weather, wait five minutes – it will change." Not only does the weather change according to that dictum. So does our schedule!

In a previous letter, we wrote of a planned trip through the Midwest to revisit some small, fundamental Bible colleges to recruit and challenge students concerning missionary service. This year we wanted to broaden our travels into a larger area. We began with contacts to Maranatha Baptist Bible College in Wisconsin and Heartland Baptist Bible College in Oklahoma City. Usually shaping up the most efficient calendar takes considerable juggling of schedules – ours and theirs. Now we are approved at Maranatha and have sent materials to Heartland. We were prepared to work up an itinerary for the trip to take place in this spring semester.

Now comes change #1. One of our missionaries in Myanmar (formerly Burma) is in the United States during March and April. Our president asked if we could help get Abraham Ram Lian Uk some meetings during April. He will be staying with us, and we have lined up meetings for him until early May. This means our trip to the colleges would have to be postponed until the fall semester.

And now for change #2. We have just been approached about the possibility of going to Italy in August for about five or six months to relieve a missionary pastor in Vicenza. Similar to our time in Korea, this is partially a military church near a "Special Forces" base. We are seeking the Lord's direction in this. If we do take that opportunity, then the college circuit will have to be postponed.

If it seems that our schedules are somewhat unsettled, this is indeed "small potatoes" compared to the world. Considering the instability in the Middle East in numerous countries, the world resembles a powder keg. This should not surprise the Bible-believing Christian. This is precisely what we would expect. I was doing some research very recently on the Middle East and found that in twelve nations surrounding Israel, there are (2010 figures) some 395 million people, over 90-99% of whom are Muslims. In another source an additional eleven nations in the same (but wider) area are counted to be 92-100% Muslim. Against this "Goliath-like" population, which sees the existence of Israel as a major problem, stand approximately seven million Israelis. Of these nations, only Jordan and Egypt (as far as I know) have signed recognition of Israel as a legitimate state. Historically and prophetically, God has sworn to protect, preserve, and ultimately exalt His Chosen People. We would certainly not set any dates, but it is certainly true, "It's never been this late before!"

In these last days we are so grateful for you who continue to stand with us in His vineyard.

His and yours for the harvest,

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