

ELWOOD AND DORIS HURST

WORLD WIDE NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST MISSIONS

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Dear Precious Friends in Jesus Christ,

I pray this letter finds you enjoying the very best of our Lord's blessings and being blessed with much fruit.

This letter is a little late on my schedule due to an event that happened. It seems we have no lack of events in this family.

Doris is doing well as can be expected with her Alzheimer's. She is still wheelchair-bound and very dependent for all her needs but still smiling.

The new event is mine. Earlier this month, I found time to get out in the yard to do some tree trimming and other work. The tree trimming went well, even on the ladder. I finished, got off the ladder, and started walking away from the tree. I tripped over one of the tools left lying on the ground and fell, striking my head on a brick wall. It was evident that there was more of a problem besides the little skin scrapes on my forehead. My son, Glen, came to help, and we went to the hospital for further examination. I have two fractured vertebrae: C1 and C2. Needless to say, there was some pain to go with it. In the process, my blood pressure went up quite high. This led to a four-day stay in the hospital with CT scans and an MRI. Thankfully, I had no injury to my spinal cord or brain bleed. The neurologist has seen us twice now, and we are now waiting to see if there will be enough growth to heal the break on C2 or if they will do surgery. Our next visit is in August. In the meantime, I wear a brace (I call it a bucket). It is awkward, but not extremely so. I am still mobile and doing most of my work.

Throughout this experience, we have had many blessings. First, I am still alive and able to take care of Doris. I thank God for my family. They stepped in and took care of my needs and Doris's as well. Linda, our daughter, took good care of Doris. Glen has been a big help in overseeing my needs. Our beloved church came to our aid with much love, prayers, food, and visits. Everybody, including our faithful pastor, demonstrated genuine and abundant love and concern. I also want to thank those of you who have stood faithfully by us through these difficult events. Above all, I want to thank our Savior, Jesus Christ, Who not only preserved my life but also fulfilled His promise to "never leave nor forsake us."

Recently, we have been blessed to have the pastor of Lighthouse stop by for a visit while he was here on the mainland. We also had a visit from the Henderson family, who is ministering in our last work on Guam, Gospel Light Baptist Church. They had a short furlough while one of the sons kept the work going with the help of another missionary on the island. I frequently get messages from some of the folks on Majuro in the Marshall Islands and island missionaries. A few nights ago, I received a phone call from the state of Georgia. When I answered, the calling party said, "Hello, Pastor Hurst." I found out it was a lady I had the blessing of leading to the Lord on the island of Guam. What a blessing to be remembered and to enjoy the folks with whom God allowed us to work. The Hendersons had an island girl with them. It was a real blessing to see that little lady. I praise our Lord Jesus Christ for all of His blessings and His watch care. He sure is good to His children. I also thank Him for folks like you who hold us up in prayer and materially.

Again, thank you for the blessing of serving our Lord Jesus Christ with you. Our daily prayers are with you as we thank God for your willingness to serve with us. We will keep you informed as events develop and pray that we can soon be more productive.

God bless you richly with much fruit as you serve in your field.

Because of Christ,

Elwood and Doris Hurst