

ELWOOD AND DORIS HURST

WORLD WIDE NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST MISSIONS

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Dear precious friends and fellow laborers,

We send greetings in the precious name of Jesus Christ. We are about to enter the season in which we remember the incarnation of our Savior, Jesus Christ. This is a demonstration of the greatest love that has ever existed. For God SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON. It is a love so great it is capable of saving the whole human race. We thank and praise Him, who came and paid our sin debt and gave us the promise of eternal life.

As we draw near to the end of another year, we want to, first of all, thank and praise the Lord Jesus Christ. We thank Him for all of you who have stood with us and supported us in prayer and financially. It has been a challenging year but a blessed time of seeing our Lord provide and give strength and grace through some difficult times. He has always been there to help an old man and an invalid lady through the tough times. We sincerely thank God for each of you and all the churches that have been faithful friends. We could not have survived without you.

If we tarry here until the twenty-seventh of December Doris and I will reach our 65th year of marriage. To God be the glory. As you all know, Doris has a terminal disease, Alzheimer's. It is still producing many problems. Though her vital measurements are staying pretty steady, since this is a brain disease, the other functions of her body are all out of order. She rarely says a word anymore - no verbal communication. She is totally dependent on others for all of her functions. She has to be bathed, fed, her teeth brushed, dressed, and all the personal body needs. In recent months, she has started refusing her food. There are some days she will eat lightly, and there have been days in which she refuses even water all day. The longest has been two days. Despite all of these challenges, she still has the sweet smiles and has never been the violent type as some are with this disease. Again, it is a demonstration of God's grace. Praise His holy Name!

As for the old missionary, I am very grateful to God for the measure of health He has blessed me with. God has allowed me to be Doris' caretaker. Though I long to be back on the field with the folks that we dream about and communicate with, I must fulfill my responsibility to care for my wife until death we part. It is a blessing to communicate with the folks in the islands. I thank God for some that we communicate with are faithfully serving God. It is a blessing to have churches like you that stand with us through this time of duties to my wife. We do have the opportunity to witness to the medical personnel that come to visit Doris. Also, we have the blessing of being a testimony to the neighbors. We get to witness and pray with the workers. We thank the Lord for every opportunity.

It is our prayer that God will bless each of you as a church and individually with the most blessed time ever of observing the Incarnation of the Savior. We thank God for each of you and pray for you regularly. We sincerely thank God for you and pray He will bless you richly.

Because of Christ,
Elwood and Doris Hurst

