



South Africa

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Dear Brethren,

We greet all of you across the country in the name of Jesus Christ. I trust this letter finds you all enjoying victory in Christ.

When we returned to the states in early April, we were somewhat distressed and worn out from the last couple of tours on the field. I was thinking that perhaps we were coming to the last few years of ministry overseas. The furlough we have had thus far has reversed my discouraged attitude and given me a new "vision" of continued ministry over in Africa. We have been blessed beyond words with our visits to the churches around the country. So far we have been to the following states: ND, MN, IA, IL, IN, KY, TN, NC, VA, MD, PA, NJ, NY, (several New England states), OH, WV, MI and MO. We did not go to churches in all of these states. Some were visited to see family and to investigate ministry helps (such as a Creation Museum). We have enjoyed seeing the countryside, including some historic places. What a blessed land this is! Clearly God has blessed America in ways that most people around the world cannot imagine, and in ways that many nations envy. How tragic it is that our country's leadership persists in forsaking the God Who should be credited with its greatness. Truly our nation needs revival.

I must say that I never thought I would feel the affinity with New York that I did. I even bought an "I love NY" necktie! As we drove through the state for the first time this furlough, my heart began to go out for the general population, and more greatly for those who are there ministering to the people. May God bless those of you who faithfully minister to those folks day after day, year after year.

As enjoyable as the sights of America have been, it has been a far greater blessing to see the faithful churches across the land. It has been a blessed experience to see old friends, catch up with family, and have fellowship with all of the churches that have hosted us. In all of this travel and reporting, God has been dealing with our hearts, preparing us for our return to South Africa and Lesotho. As I mentioned earlier, I was uncertain about how much of a future we could expect in Africa. Now I am more encouraged about the possibilities there. Please pray for us that God would accomplish all of His will in our hearts and lives during this visit in the states.

As you know, we lived in the NW Province of S. Africa for almost 17 years. Most of the work we have done in Africa was focused on that area. When we moved from there in April 2008 to Bloemfontein in the Free State Province, we continued to stay in contact with the churches in the northwest. We visited there every two months or so, especially to encourage each of the church leaders and their wives, and we stayed in touch by phone on a weekly basis. For us to be away for six months makes this furlough a very significant one. It is kind of a test as to how they will stand on their own. From time to time we receive word from them, and we hear news about good services, visitors, etc. We praise the Lord for their faithfulness. I know they would appreciate your continued prayers for them.

The church in Bloemfontein continues to meet faithfully. We are able to communicate with those folks through text messages and e-mails. During the recent Soccer World Cup, they distributed a lot of literature. Also, they have had some visitors. We are thankful for the proof of their love for God. God has done a work there, and we hope to see it continue to grow.

