



# CROSS CURRENTS INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

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Our dear Prayer Supporter,

**W**ill the year 2009 be “business as usual” or will it be a year of “unusual business?” The answer to these questions will be found in the answer to another question: Who will do the work?

If I do the work it will be another year “as usual.” But, if the Lord Jesus does the work through me, it will be a most “unusual” year. Yes, in His loving wisdom and grace, Jesus can transform every circumstance we may face to be one of redemptive activity!

But, before this letter reaches you, or shortly thereafter, critical events could transpire in the Middle East. That be as it may, we realize that we are living in very critical days. According to political pundits and economic prognosticators, the future of this old world is far from rosy.

However, the child of God knows much better! Reading God’s Word, we have an eternal perspective. So, as we reflect upon the following verses; by faith we anticipate that His full purposes of blessing will be accomplished through our available lives.

Four phrases found in the following verses are those which will encourage us as we start the New Year.

- \* *Know what is in thine heart.*
- \* *That I might learn Thy statutes.*
- \* *Riseth up again.*
- \* *A land of brooks and water.*

### **Remember:**

*“Thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep His commandments or no”*

DEUTERONOMY 8:2.

As we remember the past, two thoughts emerge in our thinking. First: The unwavering faithfulness of God and His provision for our basic daily needs—even though it may not have been our “wants.” For this we praise Him. Second: All circumstances in our lives were allowed of God to reveal what we really are in our innermost hearts. We can hide our true self in the cover-up of cozy Christian fellowship but the self-life is exposed in a desert experience, or in the intimacy of family life, or by our being fascinated by the lure of this world. Two examples of reaction to difficult situations come to mind.

Dorothy and I remember hearing how on Christmas Eve a beautiful home, containing a lifetime’s collection of antiques, caught fire. All the cherished and valuable artifacts were completely destroyed. Before that devastating night, the lady who owned the house appeared to be a happy Christian. However, after the fire, she sadly became resentful and bitter towards God.

In contrast we also remember Jeremiah! As the eldest son of a large Kenya family he was to inherit the two acre family holding—just enough land to provide meager food for his family. However, the next oldest brother, who, knowing that Jeremiah

would have to sign the Title Deeds to legally procure the property, attacked his brother while asleep and chopped off Jeremiah’s arms. Such was the avaricious cruelty of his African brother. This cruel act made it impossible for Jeremiah to sign the Title Deeds and thus his inheritance was forfeited.

However, Dorothy and I will never forget the day when Jeremiah triumphantly raised the iron claws that replaced his arms and exclaimed: “I praise the Lord that He loved me enough to allow me to lose my arms. As a result I found

the Lord Jesus as my personal Savior. Now, instead of being a tiller of land, I can go to the African bush, where no missionaries have ever been, and preach Christ to my people.” It was after this that Jeremiah expressed his deep thanks for the multiple CCIM books we had given him in his missionary outreach.

### **Relearn:**

*“It is good for me that I have been afflicted that I might learn Thy statutes”* PSALM 119:71.

The late Dr. Graham Scroggie wrote: “It is quite likely that Ezra wrote Psalm 119.” So, when Ezra penned this verse, could the afflictions of which he wrote be the slave march from Jerusalem to Babylon? Ezra, as a young teenager, endured the inhumane cruelty of that long forced march. *“It was good”* he wrote *“that I was afflicted, that I might learn His statutes.”*

Many believers who love the Lord would never have chosen the valley through which they have trod—the pain; the grief; the financial reversal; or the family heartache. On looking back, however, Dorothy and I testify that we would not have missed the difficult days for anything. Surely, it was there that the Lord Jesus unveiled His face of love and grace in abundant measure. Such memories cause praise to well up in our hearts!

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transform every  
circumstance we  
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of redemptive  
activity!*

## Rebound:

*“For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again”* PROVERBS 24:16.

Just think of it, if we have been genuinely humbled in the wilderness experience, we can rebound at the Mercy Seat to a life of faith, obedience and usefulness. It is only by unfeigned faith and unfeigned love that we can respond to the words of the Lord Jesus Who said: *“If ye love me keep my commandments.”*

Yes! God has promised rebound. He did not put Moses aside when he murdered an Egyptian. Neither did David’s ministry cease in spite of his adultery and murder. It was because of his heart-broken repentance and confession that God restored the joy of his salvation, Consequently, the epitaph that God wrote over his life was: David was *“a man after mine own heart”* ACTS 13:22.

So, as we cross the threshold into the year 2009, let us *“rise up”* and enter into the fullness of all that God has provided for us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## Renewal:

*“Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, to walk in His ways, and to fear Him. For the Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills”* DEUTERONOMY 8:6,7.

After the Children of Israel had been humbled in the wilderness for forty years, the Lord God promised them the *“Good Land.”* Likewise, the year 2009 heralds many bounteous blessings for those who leave the stones of the self-life submerged in the river Jordan and press on into the *“Good Land.”* For the Israelites, this good land was to be *“brooks of water, and fountains that spring out of the valleys and hills.”*

Today, however, the Lord Jesus has promised His children Living Water to quench the spiritually thirsty with overflowing Life. To the woman of Samaria who came to a well to draw water, the Lord Jesus said, *“Whosoever, shall drink of this water shall thirst again; but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him, shall never thirst, but the water that I shall give him shall be a well of water springing up unto everlasting life”* JOHN 4:13,14.

And, again, on the last great day of the Feast, the Lord Jesus *“stood and cried, if any man thirst, let him come to Me and drink, he that believeth on Me, as the scripture hath said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.”* Such is the constant spiritual provision for you and me. All because of the *“finished work”* of our Lord Jesus Christ. Marvelous!

May God give you a fruitful and blessed New Year. We thank God for what your fellowship in Christ means to us. What a blessing to know that we are not taking this journey of faith alone! Every prayer and gift through CCIM, by God’s grace, makes a vital impact on lives being reached on many continents. Thank you so much.

In His love,



## Kenya Bible Projects

Praise the Lord that the container full of Bibles finally reached Nairobi in December. Now an aggressive outreach is underway to place the Bibles in the hands of spiritually and physically deprived Kenyans. Thank you for your part through prayer and gift in this timely assistance to a country that is facing severe challenges.

Dorothy and I praise the Lord that over the past 25 years God has released well over 100,000 Bibles for the precious people of Kenya.

## Kenya Radio and Literature Projects

As the Lord so leads, please be strong in prayer for the ongoing radio and literature outreach. Although recently the cost of paper and printing has risen exponentially, CCIM has taken another step of faith to print 5,000 more copies of *Your Quest for God* and *Food for Faith* in both English and Swahili languages: A total of 20,000 books. Also, to print 5,000 *“Hope for the Hopeless”* tracts in both English and Swahili.

With these 30,000 further *“missionaries in paper covers”* for Kenya, we rejoice to share how the *“Dorothy’s Daily Devotional”* programs have been extended from Kenya Broadcasting Corporation to also include the new TWR FM station in Voi. This new radio station in South East of Kenya is key to reaching many unsaved in a predominantly muslim region.

## From TWR Audience Relations, South Africa

*“Over the past three months, ‘Quest’ and ‘Food’ have been distributed as radio follow-up in the countries of Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.”*

Then the following explanation accompanied the letter: *“Sotho and English are the two languages most spoken in Lesotho.”*

## South Africa - Lesotho

*“I thank God always for you and your program because they have brought great blessing in my life. Thank you very much for the book you sent me, Food for Faith. I particularly liked the chapter “Together Time” with God as it brings a new dimension as how to be with God and to be in step with Him! Thank you very much. Although the language used is very complicated and difficult to translate, the Holy Spirit interpreted it for me so that I could make an audio cassette in the Lesotho language for my mother as she is still a baby in Christ. I am waiting for her response after she listens to the cassette I made for her. God bless you and may He give you the desires of your heart. Yours faithfully, NM.”*