



Men beginning to assemble for our monthly men's breakfast at 0615 on a Friday morning. 30 men eventually made their way to this venue.

***“And we proclaim Him ...” (Colossians 1:28-29)***

Dear Friends,

February 26, 2024

Warm greetings from the southern hemisphere! While many of you are looking forward to spring, we are facing fall in a few short weeks! And as we face the end of the second month of 2024, I figured I had better send a quick update before we travel any deeper to the new year.

2024 began as 2023 ended, with a fury of busyness. Last week I finished the first Berean Bible Institute course of the year — Exegesis To Exposition. The dozen or so students I had truly benefitted from the lessons learned on how to transform sound interpretations into the practical reality of a sermon manuscript! With that class under my belt, I am now preparing for a quick trip to the US to Shepherd's Conference and attend meetings related to The Master's Academy International out of Grace Church.

Upon returning to Cape Town in the third week of March, I need to begin preparing for teaching beginning Hebrew mid-year as well as working on the first chapter of the PhD dissertation while teaching Fundamentals of the Faith on Sunday evenings and preaching most Sunday mornings. In addition to this, the Berean Bible Institute, along with Everglen Baptist Church, is hosting a Cape Town Shepherd's Conference on May 30 and 31<sup>st</sup>. We have two keynote speakers from the US coming and the lecturers from BBI will contribute with breakout sessions.

Debbie continues to minister in her capacity by leading some of the women's Bible studies and ministering to our ladies through informal times encouragement and discipleship. There is much on the home front that preoccupies her as well. Even though Debbie's mom lives with Debbie's brother 900 miles east of us, Debbie still manages all her mother's financial affairs and investments. So, like me, she has a healthy admin load!

As the pages on the calendar hurriedly turn from one to the next, it is our prayer to be found faithful in the ministry that we began 29 years ago. In March we begin our 30<sup>th</sup> year here in Cape Town. It doesn't seem possible. Well can we identify with the message of Ecclesiastes in that there is time for everything under the sun! There is certainly much work left undone and too many opportunities to avail ourselves too now. The following prayer requests are but representative of what we could ask you to pray for:

1. Please pray for my impending trip to LA. No doubt I will see some of you at Shepherd's Conference. For those in the Vallejo area I will be speaking at Community Bible Church on the morning of March 10<sup>th</sup> as part of their mission's emphasis month! Debbie would also appreciate your prayers in my absence for the three weeks I am away.

2. Pray for our upcoming Cape Town Shepherd's Conference. We have already had three or four meetings and need to tighten up our plans during March. Please pray that there will be a good attendance and that we will be able influence many pastors and church leaders in the greater Cape Town metropolitan area in the right direction. Our theme for the conference is *Shepherding By The Book: Leading God's Flock With God's Word*.

3. Please continue praying for Mike and Rudi in the resort town of Hermanus as they plant what they now call Hermanus Bible Church. Debbie and I had the joy of visiting them for a long weekend 3 weeks ago. We spent a great deal of time with Mike, Rudi, and their respective families while ministering twice on the Sunday. They have a great zeal for Christ and His church! They have taken our last two BBI classes — *Hermeneutics and Exegesis to Exposition* — and testify how much it has helped them as they continue to shed the grave clothes of their extreme charismatic past. We have committed to going there quarterly while meeting them for monthly Zoom meetings to encourage and strengthen them for the work God has called them to in Hermanus.

4. Finally, please pray for South Africa as we head further into what is an election year. As with the US, this will be a pivotal election with great deal of uncertainty given that the ruling African National Congress party has destroyed most of what they have touched over the last 30 years. As a result, people are finally waking up and realize that Santa Clause has run out of toys to give away. For the first time in 30 years, the ANC is facing low polling numbers. As things stand now, South Africa will more than likely have a coalition government of some kind. This will make for more political ructions than already exist. So, we pray for the May 29<sup>th</sup> elections and the outcome which is already known to our all-sovereign God!

May the Lord richly bless and keep each one of you as 2024 continues to unfold.

Yours for the Master's Use

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