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Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

Boy, do I have good news for you! "Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years." Revelations 20:6

Let's take a look and see what that thousand years will look like, that you and I will share, in the not too distant future. The Lord will rule the world with fairness and righteousness.

"He will give justice to the poor, and make fair decisions for the exploited. The earth will shake at the force of his word, and one breath from his mouth will destroy the wicked. He will wear righteousness like a belt and truth like an undergarment. In that day the wolf and the lamb will live together; the leopard will lie down with the baby goat. The calf and the yearling will be safe with the lion, and a little child will lead them all. The cow will graze near the bear. The cub and the calf will lie down together. The lion will eat hay like a cow. The baby will play safely near the hole of a cobra. Yes, a little child will put its hand in a nest of deadly snakes without harm. Nothing will hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain, for as the waters fill the sea, so the earth will be filled with people who know the LORD."

Yes, brothers and sisters, The Lord's Prayer will be fulfilled, where Jesus said, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven."

On my last trip up North, I traveled through Minnesota, Wisconsin, Upper Michigan, and Lower Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, and Kansas. I saw a lot of evil during this trip but I also saw Christ's sheep and His lambs. The Lord Jesus told me to focus on the thousand years when we will be reigning upon this Earth with Him. That is what I should share and dwell on in my mind.

The things that the Lord commanded me to share, I'm telling you. We all have the choice to focus on the evil in this world or to focus on the wonderful promises we have in Christ Jesus. Now is the time that we must focus on the light at the end of the tunnel. Yes, we are going to go through some dark times. But, I tell you in the name of Jesus, if you will focus on the day when Jesus will <u>rule</u> and <u>reign</u> on this Earth for a thousand years, you will have a pleasant day, because we will reign with Him as Kings and Priests. It will bring joy to your heart. This is the reality of Heaven. This is the reality of where we need to keep our thoughts and our vision. Be full of joy and hope because of the assurances the Lord has given you. In spite of all the turmoil going on, have a good day. Then those who can only see the hopelessness and negative side of everything, like most of the world is doing right now will see that you have hope and an answer for them. This will draw them to know the hope that we have in Jesus.

If we will all do this, we will be able to bring some joy to their hearts because we walk as happy, joyful people. We can stand tall, with hope, in a world that has lost all hope. We look up and we see what is coming. It is the very thing we all want to see, which is righteousness covering the Earth. Thank God it's not too far away.

We love you in Jesus name. God bless you all for your love, your support, and your prayers in Jesus' name. Amen.

Your servants in Christ Jesus, Larry and Betty Goff

From Vaughn

Dear Body of Christ,

Blessings to you all in the Mighty Name of Jesus. I pray that this letter finds you standing strong in your faith and shining brightly for all to see.

Well, what can be said about the year 2020? It has undoubtedly been a year of trial and tribulation for this world. Even though it has been a little rough, we know that these trials come upon us to test our faith and prove it genuine, as it says in 1 Peter 1:6-7.

Despite some struggles, the Lord has been wonderful to Irene and me this year and has proven His faithfulness over and over. In late February, I became very ill with an upper respiratory condition unlike any I have ever experienced. It lasted for over two weeks. Towards the end, I felt that I might be close to nearing the border of the Promise Land, but the Lord refused to revoke my ambassadorial passport on this earth. So, my time as His ambassador here on earth has been extended. Praise the Lord for His strength and mercy. I am not sure what I had, but I do know that the Lord was with me through it all. I am well now, but it did knock a lot of pep out of my step. I am only now feeling like I am getting some steam back physically.

Our ministry this year has been one of support for the body. Many in the body have suffered major attacks in many areas. Much financial support has been distributed out to those in desperate need this year. I am constantly amazed at how there is always just enough. I truly believe I am seeing the miracle of Elijah and the widow of Zarephath, where the flour was never exhausted, and oil never ran dry. There was always just enough. So it has been for us this year. Each time we have been presented with someone in need, there has always been enough to help them. I stand humbled and in awe of our Lord's faithfulness and provision in these difficult times.

Several years ago, I was a guest speaker on a Christian radio call-in show. A caller called in and asked me this question. "*Why don't we see the same kinds of miracles here in the US as missionaries see on the foreign mission field?*" My answer was quite long, but in synopsis, what I said was, "*In America, we don't look to God for our help as much. In a foreign jungle, if a Christian is in an emergency, they call out to God, for He is the only recourse. In America, we call 911.*"

Why am I telling you this story? Well, it is because, what many see as a horrible time in America, where all the systems that we look to and depend on appear to be failing, I see as a great opportunity. I am excited about it because it is the best opportunity American Christians have had in a long time to see the obvious hand of God come to their aid and rescue. I see this as a time where the confidence in the man made systems of this world will start to be shaken. When all the illusions people have trusted in start to fail, maybe then will they seek the Lord as their source, who is the true protector and provider. This may be a time for Americans to see the great miracles that they have only heard about. It is an exciting time!

I want to share with you a little story that happened to me a while back. I had gone to a small city lake to catch a special kind of little fish to put in my aquarium. I took a small cast net and a 5-gallon bucket with me to put the fish in if I caught any. I began to cast my net, and was not having much success catching the fish I was after, but I was catching some carp in the net, which I was throwing back. It was not too long before a Chinese man approached. He could not speak English, but through hand gestures, I understood that he was asking if he

could keep the carp I was catching. Knowing that carp are a prized fish in China, I was more than happy to comply. On my next cast, I landed a large carp. The man had nothing to carry it in, so I motioned for him to go get a bag, which he did.

He returned shortly with not only one bag, but two, and a wife who also held two bags. They were so excited about each fish I caught. Eventually, I caught the little fish I was after and was now carrying a 5-gallon bucket full of water along with my cast net. I wanted to bless these people by filling their bags with fish, so even though I had my target fish, I kept throwing my net. Soon, more Chinese people began to show up with more bags. Every time I caught a fish, a cheer of joy and excitement could be heard when they saw it. As you might imagine, carrying a heavy bucket of water, a heavy cast net, and throwing that net over and over again can begin to resemble real work after a while. By this point, my shirt was fairly soaked with sweat. But I was enjoying every minute of it.

Out of nowhere, an American man came up and asked if he could carry my bucket for me. I did not question who he was. I was just glad for the help. And so we continued until all bags were completely full, and my arms had long ago fallen off. I looked at the Chinese people, smiled and slouched my arms down to indicate that I could go on no longer. They all smiled and bowed to me as a gesture of gratitude and respect, and I returned the gesture. They all left, and I turned to the American man. I thanked him for his help in carrying my bucket and reached for the bucket, but he asked if he could help some more by carrying my bucket back to my car for me. I thanked him again, and we set off for the long walk back to my car. As we were walking by a park bench, I asked him if it would be okay if we stopped and sat for a while, as I was exhausted. He agreed, and we sat down.

As we sat there, this man asked me a question. He asked, "*Do you know those Chinese people?*" "No," I said, "I have never met them before in my life." The man looked confused, and then asked, "*Then why did you do what you did for those complete strangers? You worked yourself into the ground for them.*" I responded, "I might not know them, but they are not strangers. They are humans created in the image of my Father, God. This makes them family. It gave me great joy to bless them and to show them the love of their Father, who they may not even know." The man still looked confused and said, "*But you could not even talk to them.*" I answered and said, "I may not speak their language, but there is a language that is much deeper than words. That is the language I was speaking to them in."

This man, who I had never met before, began to weep in front of me, and I felt a flood of pain coming from him. Through his tears, he said, "You don't know why I came to the lake today. I came here because I wanted to look at the water one last time. I had decided to kill myself today. I could see nothing but evil in the world. I could not see one good thing left to live for. I just felt like I wanted to look at the water one last time before doing it. So, I came to the lake. As I was looking at the lake, I saw you. I watched you for a while. I saw how hard you were working for those people. I did not understand what was going on, I just felt like I wanted to be a part of it. So, I came and asked to carry your bucket for you. You were so full of joy, even though you were working hard. You did all that for no other reward than the joy of serving people you did not know and could not even talk to. It showed me that there is still some good in this world. Had I not seen the love and kindness you showed today, I would not be alive right now."

As I sat there listening to this man, tears filled my eyes, and I could not believe what I was hearing. I was overwhelmed to my core at what the Lord was doing through me, while I was completely unaware. I looked at this man and said, "Don't you see? I was not alone. You were there with me. You were part of the good that you saw today. Yes, there is a lot of evil in this world, but there still is some good. You have been looking for the good in the wrong place. If you don't see good, then be the good you want to see. That is what you did today. You became the good you wanted to see by choosing to help a crazy stranger that was netting fish for some people who were strangers to him. You didn't understand it, but it felt good to do it.

Do this every day, because this is what God has done for you. I am not here today by my own choice. I was drawn here by God's direction, even though I did not know it. I thought I came here to catch a fish, and I did, but it was not the kind of fish I thought I came here for. I came here today to give you hope and a reason to live. I did not know it, just like you did not know why you wanted to see the water one last time. Do you think it was by mistake that all these Chinese people showed up out of nowhere to keep me here until you came along? Do you think it was of my own strength that I kept going with a desire to see their bags filled? No! Your Father knew exactly what you needed to see. He heard the cry of your heart, and He answered that cry by showing you a living example of what you were longing for."

Dear brothers and sisters, the world is crying out for hope. This story I told you, is not about me being a special person. It is not about me being a powerful preacher. I did not preach to those Chinese people or that man with words of my mouth. The world is full of libraries jam-packed with words of preaching. What the world needs is not more words. They need to see the truth of Christ revealed through each of us. They need to see that there is still some good left in this world. Only we can show them this. Only we have the hope they long for. You may never know who you touch by your actions when you choose to be the good you want to see, and the world needs to see. Now is the time for the world to see Christ through you.

Irene and I are truly blessed beyond measure to have such dear and faithful servants of God that pray for us and support our ministry. We feel so unworthy of such love from all of you. Each time we touch a life, whether it is a man at the lake, or food we buy for the hungry or medicine for the sick. Each time we minister hope to the hopeless, and comfort to the hurting. You are there! You are a part of whatever we do. Just like the man carrying the bucket for me so that I could keep going farther and doing more. You are there in everything the Lord uses us for.

If we can ever pray for you, please let us know. Irene and I lift you all in prayer each day and we lift many up in prayer by name as often as we are asked. Our prayer list has grown quite a bit this year as many in the body are in need. It is our honor to bring their request before our Father, who is faithful to hear our prayers.

In closing, I would like to ask for prayer for Dad as he plans to once again head up North to the border, as God is leading him. His faithfulness to our Lord is beyond measure and his spirit is as strong as ever. His flesh is not as strong as it was, and he struggles some, but he will go where the Lord leads him. Also, please remember Mom in your prayers as well. She also continues to be faithful in her part in service to others, even though her ability to continue to travel is greatly reduced. She is a powerful warrior for the Lord on the phone, as hers is the gift of counseling and the giving of wise advice. Many in the body seek out her Godly wisdom and words of encouragement weekly.

Well, it appears that it is time to bring this letter to an end. I pray that blessings be poured out upon you beyond measure. I pray that the Lord will walk with you every day and strengthen you with His right hand. I pray especially that your light will shine bright for the glory of our Lord so that those in the darkness will be drawn to the light.

Your servants in Christ Jesus, Vaughn, Irene, and Benjamin Ephraim, Kelsey, Charlie, and Annie

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