

December 24, 2007

Seasons greetings to all! I hope this writing finds all well with each of you and your loved ones enjoying this festive, family season. I am really looking forward to being with all my family soon.

In August, I wrote of my intention to return to East London in January if all went well with my prostate cancer treatments. I am pleased to report that I am doing very well, and it appears God will allow us to continue our ministry in South Africa in 2008 on an alternating three months basis, just as it had been planned for 2007.

For those of you who have continued to support us financially this fall, we thank you very much. This made the whole situation so much better for us. I regret that I was not able to respond to each of you individually after July to thank you and confirm each contribution, as has been my practice. I hope to resume that practice soon, and perhaps catch up on the last 5 months. I thank you all for your prayers for my family and me. Thanks also to those who so willingly offered or helped in some other way.

I must again apologize to the many of you to whom I have not responded individually. I have simply been overwhelmed by the number of emails, phone calls, and cards from all around the world! The outpouring of love and concern shown by so many has reduced this tough old man to tears more than once. I am so blessed to have so many who will take the time and expense to express their love and concern. Though you may not have heard directly from me on an individual basis, please know that your kindnesses have NOT been unappreciated.

Thanks to those of you who plan to continue your financial support in 2008. If anyone else should wish to begin or renew support for us in 2008, that would also be great. Both one time and regular support contributions are appreciated. Please send checks to West End Church of Christ at 8301 E. Walker Springs Road, Knoxville, TN, 37923, and mark them for "Bill Elliott, Acct #997." For any additional information, please call either the church office (865-693-0801) or me (865-335-7222).

I will ever be grateful to Jerry Hogg who persuaded me to visit South Africa the first time in 2001. I will ever be grateful to those who received me so kindly at that first and all the subsequent SABC Lectureships. I will ever be grateful to those who have received me so kindly throughout all South Africa. I will ever be grateful to Roy Lothian who invited me to speak at Keam Road in East London the first time. I will ever be grateful to Adriaan Le Roux who enabled me to begin working there last year. I will ever be grateful to the Leadership and the members, both old and new, at Keam Road who have filled me with so much joy and made me a part of them. I am so eager to get back there.

May God richly bless and keep you through the holidays and the new year. Without many of you, we could not serve the Master in East London, South Africa. Thank you.

Yours in Christ,

*Bill Elliott*