

August 30, 2023



Dear Supporting Churches and Praying Friends,

Greetings from the Rogue Valley, where smoke from the wildfires in Southern Oregon and Northern California has produced a high level of unhealthy air the last couple of weeks. Recently I preached on the Trumpet Judgments of the Tribulation in which the 1<sup>st</sup> Trumpet pronounces *“the third part of trees burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up”* (Rev. 8:7). Imagine the devastation and the toxic levels of the world-wide smoke! Many will believe on the Lord during the Tribulation; but despite the unfathomable torment, most will reject salvation. John records the sad commentary of people in that day: *“Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts”* (Rev. 9:21). The degree of rebellion is staggering. Brethren, let’s try to reach the lost before it is too late.

**Anniversaries**—August holds a couple of anniversaries for us. August 1 marked our 31<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary. I thank the Lord for my wife, for her love, and for her faithfulness in serving the Lord. Proverbs 31:11 says of the virtuous women: *“The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her.”* And I do. Cathy has been an invaluable helpmeet to me all of these years. I praise the Lord for her and her ministry here in Medford. August 2 marked our second year of being at Jackson County Baptist Church. To date, we have canvassed about half the City, and we continue to go door-to-door evangelizing. This summer has opened up more opportunities to go evangelizing with the men, which has been an encouragement and a good training time for them.

**Travels**—In early July Cathy and I flew to NC to visit two supporting churches: Calvary Baptist Church in Carrboro and Lighthouse Baptist Church in Rolesville. We had a great time of fellowship with Pastors Webb and Byler, along with their church families. A week later, our family, along with the Tapa family, drove to family camp in UT. We praise the Lord for the preaching and teaching on the family as well as the reunion with the folks from our sending church, Bethel Baptist Church.

In mid-August, our family visited Cathy’s parents in SD. My father-in-law (he has lung cancer) has made much improvement following a July 4 hospital stay. We thoroughly enjoyed our time together. From there we drove to a preaching conference in WY. We praise the Lord for what He is doing at Glenrock Baptist Church. What a blessing to spend time with everyone there!

**Growth**—Our church people are growing spiritually. They want to do right, and they are moving forward in obedience. We are thankful for their faithfulness. Pray for us that we would be able to help them in areas needed. Also, please continue to pray for open doors as we evangelize.

Sadly, many people are not as interested in the gospel in the follow-up conversation as they seemed during the initial conversation. The Lord knows.

I was encouraged in my Bible reading yesterday. Jesus sent His disciples to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick (Lk. 9:2). The healing is not for us today, but preaching the gospel is. By God's grace, I can follow that plan. The Lord gives the increase.

Thank you for your prayers and your financial support. May the Lord bless you in your ministries.

Sincerely,

Dave and Cathy Sutton  
Church Planters  
Medford, OR