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Dear Christian Friends:

Just about the time we feel “all is well” in our world, things happen to change that feeling at times, but at other times, events work out okay. Our planned return trip from Africa went well and we landed at the Knoxville Airport safely on the 23rd of October. We told folks a few days ago that “*we left home to come home.*” We are thankful to be HOME to see family and good friends in the USA once again after working for the Lord the past eight months in South Africa.

The last day of the *Southern Africa Bible College* Lectureship, around 3:00AM Thursday morning, Ann woke me up breathing very hard. I waited a few moments to see if it would clear. But it continued and actually got worse. I woke her up and it was evident that something was wrong. She could hardly talk and with little energy. I did hear her say, “*I need to go to the restroom.*” I was able to get her on her feet and supported her until she got to the restroom. I tried, but was not successful getting her back up on her feet. I was sure she was having another stroke. One of our visiting American visitors to the Lectureship was next door and I called for him to come and help me maneuver Ann back to the bed. When he came, we tried to help Ann but it was evident that she needed to get to the hospital. We got her into an office chair with wheels and rolled her down the long hallway & out to our van. Then, with the help of several SABC students, we got her into the van and off we went to the local emergency room. The first thing they did was to check her blood pressure and it was very high. Then, upon learning she was a diabetic, they checked her sugar level and it was extremely high. They later confirmed that she had not experienced another stroke....and that was good news. After checking a number of things, they believed the whole situation was a direct result of her diabetic problem. They admitted her into the hospital and there she stayed until the following Thursday...a full week. They did a series of tests and found yet another problem...a serious bladder infection. With the care in the hospital and medicine they gave her, she recovered to the point that she was able to make the trip to the States within a few days. AND FOR THAT WE WERE EXTREMELY THANKFUL. She really gave me a scare that night, but after a few days with professional care, she is now okay.

The Lord watched over us these last several months, and blessed our efforts there in South Africa abundantly. It was wonderful being with the students at the Bible College in Benoni, South Africa. About the middle of July, during the Bible College’s mid-year “break,” some of our students organized a series of visits in areas around Benoni. These students took one of the school’s busses and preached to a host of individuals. Upon returning, the students reported 60+ baptisms. After school started back, it was so encouraging to hear our students talk about the success of their preaching in the different places. For weeks when one of the students spoke in chapel they related positive details of many they had taught and baptized during the school break. Praise the Lord for these new ones being added to the Lord’s church! It was so encouraging to hear their stories.

We look forward to visiting with you and reporting to the congregation about the effective work in training God’s people to preach and teach God’s word. With God’s involvement in our students’ lives, we are very confident that the church will continue to grow and develop for years to come, long after we have received our blessed reward in the Eternal abode. Please continue to pray for us and the work in South Africa.

In His Service,

Jerry V. Hogg

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Faculty & Lectureship Director

SABC – Southern Africa Bible College

P. S. Please send all contributions to: **Sunset Church of Christ, SIBI Finance Office, 3723 34th Street, Lubbock, TX 79410, Attn: African Fund/Jerry Hogg**