

Dear friends,

Watching the Inaugural of our new president today was a reminder of how desperately people want to trust in man, rather than trust in the Lord. Among those interviewed on the street, most expressed hope that this man would make a real change for the better in our country. Some expressed doubt, especially among the elderly who had seen many elections. Will this president keep his promises? Could he, even if he intends to?

Aren't you glad that we have a Man in a higher office who can be trusted implicitly? He is the One whose promises never fails. He is the One whose power to fulfill those promises is unlimited. And He is not up for election!

Jesus said, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth." This Jesus is the same "yesterday, today, and forever." He is the only Savior, the only Deliverer, and the only Healer. He is the King of all prime ministers and the Lord of all Presidents. He is the only One worthy of our trust. He is the Hope of the nations, and the Hope of every soul.

It will be great if this new president can bring positive change to our nation. The moral compromise in the land predicts otherwise. It would be pleasant if the Lord permits this nation to continue in peace and prosperity. The opposite is more likely, however. The soul of America is in bankruptcy. Too many are looking for hope in new politics and presidential promises while forsaking the One who is the Lord of nations.

As I watched the hoopla of this inauguration my mind began to wander...far

away from the pomp and circumstance, to the old hymn rooted in the cellar of my soul:

*My hope is built on nothing less than  
Jesus' blood and righteousness.*

*I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

*On Christ the Solid Rock I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.  
All other ground is sinking sand.*

### To the South Pacific...

By God's grace, Jackie and I will return to New Zealand February 13-26, to minister at two YWAM bases. We will teach in a Family Discipleship Training School and a Crossroads DTS on intercession and spiritual warfare. Please **agree with us in faith** for the remainder of our travel money to be provided. (It is needed by Feb. 3!) **Pray** also for the anointing of the Holy Spirit as we minister to students who have dedicated their lives to serve the Lord. Some will carry the gospel to the nations.

### Jackie's Mom...

Jackie is planning to leave ahead of me and spend time with her mother, Alice Mickelson, in California. Alice is a retired pioneer missionary to Irian Jaya and the Philippines. She is now 83, and has been living in her own apartment north of L.A. in the city of Taft. Jackie's oldest brother Bob and his wife Jean have faithfully watched over her for many years. It has become harder for her to be alone; she has fallen on several occasions, and has had some illness. Will you **pray for Alice** — for her peace of mind, and for a renewal of her strength? She may be moving to a senior citizen's manor in L.A.

### A Strategic Meeting...

I will join Jackie in L.A. on February 10, and the next day meet with Dean Sherman and several other YWAM prayer leaders. He has asked me to come to this meeting to help strategize how to mobilize prayer for Youth With A Mission worldwide. Please pray that the Lord will give wisdom in this meeting. On February 12 Jackie and I will fly to New Zealand.

### The "Prayer Missionaries"...

Our project of raising "prayer missionaries" for India, Nepal and Bangladesh has begun, with 125 volunteers. Please **pray** for:

- the people who have begun to intercede for these nations
- finances for us to carry out this ministry
- wisdom on how to continue recruiting more prayer missionaries; 350 are needed.
- effective communication to and from these countries.

### New ministry in churches...

We are waiting on the Lord about a new phase of ministry in local churches. Jackie and I would form a team with another couple and go to a church for several days, ministering to the leaders and the church body. There is a couple presently seeking the Lord about joining us in this vision. The team would work together in preaching, teaching, counseling, healing and deliverance ministries. The vision is to see hurting and bound up Christians set free to be God's warriors! Please pray that we get the clear mind of the Lord, especially His timing.

### Again, Thanks...

We try in every prayer letter to say thank you for praying for us, and for helping us financially. I wish we could say it more often, and in a stronger way. Somehow we know that our very lives and ministry are dependent on your intercession. As Jackie's missionary parents quoted often to their prayer supporters, so we quote to you: "***We live as you stand firm in the Lord.***" (I Thess. 3:8) Your stand of hope and faith in the Lord on our behalf is like a wall of protection around us, and like a battering ram that opens the way before us. Thank you for your love and concern that is expressed in prayer for us. Though it is hidden from human view, the Lord sees it and will reward you (Matt. 6:6). We are also deeply grateful to the Lord for you who help us financially — equally grateful, whether your gift is small or large. Without these gifts, we could not continue to do what the Lord has called us to do. By sowing seeds of prayer and faith with us, in the end we will reap a harvest together.

In closing, here is one of the Lord's magnificent promises:

*"The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord;*

*He is their stronghold in time of trouble.*

*The Lord helps them and delivers them;*

*He delivers them from the wicked and saves them,*

*Because they take refuge in Him."*  
Psalms 37:39,40

Yours in Christ,

*John and Jackie*

**p.s. note the new name for our ministry: Prayer International**

*"Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem" Ps. 122:6*