

# Merry Christmas!

*Dear Friends,*

We have so much to be thankful for this time of the year. Had it not been for the birth of Jesus Christ, we could never have been born again and we would still be on the wrong road, heading for destruction. If we are going to be politically correct in public, we can't post the ten commandments; we can't sing "Silent Night"; we can't read the Bible or pray; we can't have a nativity scene and now finally we must not wish others "MERRY CHRISTMAS." This is a Catholic term which I never did agree with anyway. But now, since it is being replaced with "Happy Holidays" I am wishing people **Merry Christmas** more often and more emphatically!

It is with a great deal of joy that I bring you this three-fold report. We have our plate full, so to speak, and we are loving every minute of the ministry opportunities which our wonderful Lord is providing for us.

**NUMBER ONE** – In just a few days Brother Webster and I will travel to the Philippine Islands to help organize the GIBF-PI and to establish a GIBM extension office in Manila. We will be working with Ed Laurena, Pastor of Christian Bible Baptist Church to get this project off of the ground. He will be hosting a Pastor's Conference on January 7, 8 & 9 for the Filipino pastors who wish to fellowship under the banner of the GIBF. You can pray for our good success in getting these pastors to work together to send and support missionaries all over the world. Please pray for Brother Webster. He is in bed now with pneumonia and he is supposed to have an operation on his knee this week.

**NUMBER TWO** – The Lord has chosen to allow us to serve as the interim pastor of First Missionary Baptist Church in Healdton, Oklahoma. My wife and I are enjoying ministering to these wonderful people in this grand old church that has been around longer than I have. There are adults working in the Bus Ministry here who were once children who rode the bus to Sunday School. We are excited to see the love this church has for children and for missionaries and their response to us as we lead the ministry team here. We are driving back and forth from Lewisville to Healdton each week. It is about one hour and a half each way. We stay in our fifth wheel trailer while in Healdton. It is our privilege to be able to do this work. You can pray that we will continue to have health and safety as we attempt to accomplish this work for the Lord.

**NUMBER THREE** – It seems that Ronny George has a real toe hold in Baghdad. We have not had the privilege of seeing him now for over two years. However you will see by the attached letter that he is forging ahead in the same doctrinal pathway that we set him upon in February of 2004. As you read his letter, remember that bombs are still going off all around him and there is a great deal of turmoil in the city. Yet in spite of this deathly challenge, he is determined to win souls, preach the gospel and build the Bible Baptist Church of Baghdad. In February the rent for the church will once again be due. We really do appreciate those of you who have helped us each year to pay the rent. It is \$15,000, and it is all due at one time. It is amazing that the Lord has provided not only the rent these past three years, but He has also provided \$1,000 every month to help with the overwhelming expenses of trying to operate in the war torn country. Pastor George is a faithful man and has been very frugal in his ministry expenses. He has a giant heart filled with determination to bring some peace and relief to as many people as he can. Perhaps you will ask the Lord to give you something that can be applied to the rent for the church. Thank you for praying and giving!

Best wishes always!

*Robert Lewis*

**For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.** Luke 2:11