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"For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ

May 2020

Dear Pastors, Fellow Laborers and Co-investors in the City of the Great King,

I want to give praise to God for **192** saved and **15** baptized for the months of March and April. Our church, like so many others, has been on lockdown because of the coronavirus. We had to close because of government regulation. We have been closed since the beginning of April and our government is keeping the lockdown until the first week of June. It has been very hard on us and especially our church people. Many are without jobs and a steady income.

Now please allow me to say something about the times in which we live. Before I begin, I want to thank God for the many wonderful, faithful servants and saints of God. However, many people are spiritually asleep in our churches, even in the best of churches. The Scriptures admonish that "It is high time to awake out of sleep...the night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light."-see Rom. 13:11-12. Who would have thought that we would live to see global draconian events, biblical end-time scenarios as spoken about in the Bible, play out before our very eyes? And yet I believe most of the world and the church are still asleep! The causes for this spiritual stupor are many, but I believe Lk. 8:14 sheds light on it. You can read it for yourself later. This reminds me of the bed of ease on which the bride in Song of Solomon 3:1; 5:3, 6 is lying. The bride there represents the Bride of Christ, the church. I honestly don't know what it will take to wake her up - persecution perhaps. I know in many parts of the world believers have been persecuted and killed for a long time, but western Christians have been lying on the proverbial bed of ease. By the way, I am an old-fashioned, soul winning Baptist who believes in the pre-tribulation, pre-millennial return of Christ, a round earth, and the old King James Bible. If that gets me in trouble, what can I say? It comes with the territory. I do believe what I Thess.5:4 tells us, "But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief." In other words, believers who are living according to the Word of God and in the power of the Spirit of God do not have to be in the dark concerning these things. We don't have to live in fear. Psalms 118:9 says, "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes."

Thank you for your tremendous effort to support us and all of your missionaries. We know this is not easy for you. Many of you have been hard-hit by the effects of the coronavirus. I, myself, lost one of my beloved brothers who lived in NYC to the virus. Praise the Lord he was saved. In the wake of all of this I have led my oldest brother, my oldest sister and her son to Christ on the phone. I have prayed for 35 years or more for their salvation as well as others in my family. All of my siblings and most of their children have re-confirmed their salvation experiences recently with me. My 84-year-old lovely mother who lives in NYC and attends a solid, independent Baptist church is recovering from the virus. She was the first one to get saved in our family about 44 years ago. I was the second and God used her to bring me to Christ in 1978. Mom and Dad had eight children and I am the fifth. Thank you for holding the ropes for us as we battle for the lost souls of men in some of the hottest fronts of this war. These are brands plucked from the fire – see Zech.3:1-4. Your care for us shows very much. May God bless you, dear brethren, may God bless you.

In His triumphant love and resurrection (Ps.25:5; I Thess.2:4),

Noel Shriman

The Shrivnauth family

Noel, Charlene, Rydal, Gretel, Elsie and Nolan

for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:" Romans 9:3