

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Christmas 2019

Dear Partner in Missions:

Well, it is that time of the year again when we enjoy the wonderful holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas, my favorite time of the year. It is a time of worship and thankfulness around the Alverson house.

Some like Thanksgiving most and others favor the Christmas season. I personally love them both but probably prefer the time of Christmas because it is the one time of the year when everyone in the world has to acknowledge that Christ came. They may not accept Him as the Messiah, the Son of God, but they must accept that He came because it is an established fact of history. I'm glad I have accepted Him for **everything** He said that He is – my Savior, my Lord, my King, my Friend and on and on!

We just finished Thanksgiving and we had a wonderful time with family. Anita, Sean and the four boys came from Maryland where Sean is pastoring a church in Darlington. Although Jon had arm surgery on Wednesday and was in much pain, he, Melissa and the girls were able to be with us. It was a sweet time of joyfulness and Thanksgiving as we sat down to a wonderful and delicious meal the ladies had prepared. Joyce was up before 6 AM and cooked for almost 8 hours, but it sure was good! My heart was blessed as the family sat down around the table and I read from 1 Chronicles 16:29 where David said, *O give thanks unto the LORD for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever.* Then each of us had the opportunity to tell of a special blessing for which they were thankful; and then we bowed our heads, lifted our hearts and thanked God for His bountiful blessings on our family and the wonderful meal He had provided. Then...we dug in! It's hard to complain around a 20 pound turkey and all the trimmings, Amen!!! We hope all of you also had a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Of course, the day after Thanksgiving traditionally begins the Christmas season. I have been thinking about a verse that ties both together. Paul says in 2 Corinthians 9:15 *Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift. Thanks unto God (Thanksgiving); for His unspeakable gift (Christmas).* We sure look forward to the *gifts, goodness and glares* of Christmas; but also for the *grace, guidance and glory* of what Christmas really means.

Joyce and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very **Merry Christmas** and a most **Joyous New Year** in Jesus as we continue to serve Him. We want to thank all who have supported this ministry to our Military who are serving in different parts of the world. Many of you have given financially and many have contributed through faithful prayer without which we could not continue. Thank you from the depths of our hearts and may you enjoy Him this season like never before. We love you all and remain....

In Christ's Service,

Jeff & Joyce Alverson
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