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*...Serving the Body of Christ by Identifying, Teaching, Training,
Empowering, Mobilizing Intercessors ...*

September 26, 2005

Dear Believer:

May the Mighty God who is the God of all gods, the Sovereign Lord bless you and fill you with the wisdom and knowledge of Christ as you seek His face.

As I was thinking on the recent hurricanes and trying to see the spiritual import of these things, my mind turned toward the verses of Luke 21:25-26:

And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; 26 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. KJV

The obvious references to the sea and waves are there and apply to Katrina and Rita just as they were noted by many in application to the tsunami that occurred less than one year ago. However, it would be easy to overlook some things which I believe are important to note and which I believe directly relate to the way the Lord has orchestrated the monthly focus for prayer this last year.

More and more people who do not know the Lord are living in fear and are looking after (or anticipating) things which are coming. This was exemplified in the news recently. On Sunday September 18, 2005 shortly after Katrina, the Corpus Christi Caller Times ran a story under the headline "The Next Big One." A few days before the newspaper article, a program in the same vein was aired on one of the major networks. Each of the stories dealt with the fearfulness over the next possible disaster. What would happen, where it would happen, and when it would come were questions raised by the stories. As these catastrophes continue to grow closer and more intense, no government or group of governments will be able to keep up with the need.

Only the Church can answer such great need and we are seeing the impact of the Church evidenced greatly. We see it in the way the Church responded to these storms. For example, the first response of an individual city was from Corpus Christi. We sent several tons of needed supplies to the Salvation Army staging area in Baton Rouge. Bay Area Fellowship was able to secure transport for much needed water to be sent from the US Naval Air Station here in Corpus Christi. In the immediate area of Katrina the Churches were open to evacuees so that they might have safe refuge and provision.

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When other countries offered aid, President Bush rightly said that we did not need the aid. We are more than strong enough as a country to absorb such an event. However, I believe there was powerful spiritual significance in the President later saying that we would graciously accept the aid offered by others. It was an opportunity to humble ourselves rather than to stand in arrogance.

I believe that the President accepting the aid is also important because the aid itself is evidence of the ministry of the Church in the earth. Sri Lanka gave \$25,000 US to aid us in this need. India also gave aid. Many other countries as well offered aid. I am convinced that these offers of aid are the result of decades of work that the Church has done; of years of giving that is now being given back. For example the Church is still hard at work in Sri Lanka and other areas that were so hard hit by the tsunami in December 2004.

The scripture referenced above says that the powers of heaven SHALL be shaken. There are powers in places of rulership in the heavenlies that are in rebellion to our Sovereign Lord. For a year we have been asking God to deal with strongholds in our lives and in the heavenlies which are the work of such powers. It is that kind of praying (along with other types) which is dislodging these heavenly powers. I do not suppose that it is only because of our prayers that these powers are being shaken, but then neither do I suppose that we are the only ones praying.

As the Church continues to arise in true, faith-filled, Spirit-led prayer, we will indeed challenge the rebellious rulers of the heavenlies. God will use us to shake all that can be shaken so that all that cannot be shaken will remain.

Let us pray for wisdom, clarity of sight, sharpness of hearing, and hearts set to serve the Lord God in all things. Let us pray that God through His Church exalt Jesus Christ who is His son.

Included with this letter is a prayer calendar for the month of October. We thought this would help give us a daily specific focus as we pray.

Remember to pray for our pastors who are participating in the Pastor's Prayer Retreat this week.

Remember Friday Night Corpus Christi which will be September 30, 2005 at the Concrete Street Amphitheater at 7:30 PM.

Sincerely,
William W. Lumry, II