December 14, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ at Gilead Bible Church¹,

I bring you greetings from New Jersey. Today is a really cold day around here; it was about 20 degree last night with about an inch of snow. It's our last winter here as we will be traveling to warm San Ramon, CA. We look forward to making our home there next year!

We thank you for your prayers! It has sustained us in packing and getting our home ready for sale. God even healed my neck muscle strain and shoulder pain that I sustained from lifting very heavy appliances. I was in a lot of pain for a week. Thanks so much!

This is a reminder to me of all the changes and challenges you face and we face every single day of the year. All of you have endured health, family, church, and job changes and challenges during this past year. I am sure it was not easy. I am hopeful that things will be better for us as we enter into 2011, but there will always be new changes and challenges.

With this mind, I am reminded of who Jesus is. The writer of Hebrews reminds us in Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." We are reminded that because Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever, we can count on Jesus when we face the changes and challenges of life.

There may be times when it seems like we are facing changes and challenges all by ourselves. That's only an illusion. The reality is that we are not alone; Jesus is always there for and with us.

There are other times when it seems like God is changing all the time or that he is different from when we first knew him. The Bible is clear. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ at Gilead Bible Church, we can count on Jesus in 2011, because he is the same yesterday and today and forever!

Until we meet again, may God bless you continually with his love and goodness!

Pastor David and Helen Moy

¹ Jan 2011 Pastoral Letter to the Gilead Families. Chinese translation follows.

親愛的基列教會弟兄姊妹,

我從新澤西州帶給你們的問候。今天這裡天氣非常寒冷;昨夜下了大約一 时的雪,氣溫降至20度。這是我們在這裡過的最後一個冬天.因為我們將要遷往 溫暖的加州聖拉蒙市,期待明年我們在那裡建立我們的家園。

我們感謝你們的代禱! 禱告支撐著我們的收拾及整理房子預備出售 。神 更奇妙地醫冶好我因搬抬重大的家具而引至頸及肩部的痛楚。足足痛了一星期。再 一次多謝你們!

這正好提醒我們每一天所要面對的改變及挑戰。在過去一年,你們都己克服 健康,家庭,教會,工作的變更及挑戰。我知道這並不容易。我盼望當我們踏進 2011年時,各樣事情都會有更好的出路,但新的改變和挑戰是總會有的.

想到這裏,提醒了我耶穌是誰。希伯來書的作者在希伯來書 13:8 提醒我們, "耶穌基督,昨日今日一直到永遠是一樣的。" 因為耶穌基督永不改變,那麼,當 我們面臨改變和挑戰時,我們可以依靠住耶穌.

有些時候,我們好像單獨地去面對改變和挑戰。其實這是一個幻覺而矣。真 相是我們並不孤單,耶穌一直與我們同在.

又有些時候,神好像不斷地在改變或與我們起初對祂的認識有所不同。但 聖經非常清楚,耶穌基督,昨日今日一直到永遠是一樣的。

我親愛主內的基列教會弟兄姊妹,在 2011 年我們能夠倚靠著耶穌基督。因為祂昨日今日一直到永遠是一樣的

願神繼續以祂的愛和美善賜福給你們,直到我們再見面!

梅建邦牧師及師母