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Ethiopia Update: Last month we informed you about the political and tribal unrest in Ethiopia. It really was a grave situation for a few weeks. Today we are happy to report that the situation is now under control and we will be able to continue with ministry as planned. A medical team scheduled or July, and teams scheduled for September and November cancelled, but we have a team from North Carolina that is planning on a mission in November. We will update you on them as the trip progresses.

Haile and Tsedale have safely returned to Ethiopia. Their youngest daughter has ben safely deposited at college, and they are now empty nesters. We had previously asked you to pray for some health concerns for some of the family. While in the States medical and dental care was provided for some of Haile's family members and the medical issues have been resolved. Thanks so much to those medical providers who provided this care for Haile & Tsedale and their family. Once again, God continues to bring people to this ministry just when they are needed the most.

<u>From the Chairman</u>: In II Chronicles we find the story of Asa, third king of Judah. According to the Biblical account Asa was a good and Godly king for 35 years. Then, he found his kingdom under attack from Baasha, king of Israel (the 10 northern tribes). Instead of seeking the Lord's guidance as he had in the past, Asa took matters into his own hands. He took money from the temple treasury and from his personal treasury and he paid the pagan king of Syria to deliver God's people from their dilemma. Judah was delivered, but at great cost. Among other things, the people of God were seen as weak and helpless, having to come to a pagan king to grovel and beg for his help. What a poor witness and an embarrassment to an almighty and powerful God.

God sent Hanani, a prophet, to chastise Asa for his actions. Hanani told Asa that since he had sold out, he had not only sold God short, but he had sold himself short. God had intended not only to give him victory over Baasha but, eventually, also over the king of Syria. In II Chron. 16:9 Hanani told Asa, "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth to show himself mighty on behalf of them whose heart is wholly devoted to him." You see, God wants to do something really amazing in our lives. He wants to use us in ways that are beyond our imaginations, and in ways that will bring glory to Him. How often do we sell God short when we panic and live in fear and we allow the world to see God's people as weak and fearful. The truth is that God is always looking for people in whose lives he can do mighty things.

Blessings,

Bill

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