

2023 — 1st Quarter Prayer Letter

Greetings in the name of our lovely Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!

In the 19th chapter of I Kings, the man of God (Elijah) is in a state of deep depression and is wallowing in self pity (so much so that at one point he requests God to take away his life). In His patient care in dealing with His fragile servant, God asks Elijah on two occasions "What doest thou here, Elijah?"; to which Elijah responds both times "I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away." (I Kings 19:9-14)

Then God reminds Elijah that He has everything under control and He reassures His servant that he is not the only one that is serving God - I Kings 19:18 "Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him."

While it is true that there is still a great need for new, solid, doctrinally sound, independent Baptist Churches to be planted in the western United States of America, we must not forget the Churches that remain and need to be strengthened. I was reminded recently at an annual fellowship meeting just how blessed that I am to have the opportunity to have several sister churches and pastors of like faith and practice to fellowship with and to be encouraged by from time to time... but sadly, there are many that have not such a readily available opportunity.

The west can be very lonely (for the preacher and his family) and this is just one of the reasons that some have called the west a "pastor's grave yard". We need each other plain and simple, so when you pray, please remember to pray for all those who are faithfully serving day after day and year after with very little fellowship and/or encouragement.

Personally, let me just say thank you for your continued support and prayers for me and my family... you have always been such a tremendous source of encouragement and we praise God for each one of you! Serving our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ - partnered together with you - is one of the highest honors and blessings we can have.

With the Love of Christ,

Bro. John McKinney and Family

Contact Information

newmaninjesus@yahoo.com Phone 406.600.9732 Sending Church

Fellowship Baptist Church 1020 Walker Road Maryville, TN 37801 Pastor Tom Hatley Phone 865.681.2823 **Support Address**

MWBM PO Box 519 Braselton, GA 30517 706.654.2818 www.mwbm.org