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“And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly,” (Exodus 19:18)

Dear Praying Friends:

I wonder how often we judge the people we read about in the Bible, thinking we surely would have done better than they did. The Israelites initially trembled at the manifestation of God on Sinai. But not long after, when Moses delayed coming down from the mount, they demanded that Aaron make them a god, and then sacrificed to it—with the smoking mountain in full sight. How could they do that? But then I remember how often I have come to God at the end of the day and confessed that He, my redeemer and strength, has not been in my thoughts very often.

Political leaders may admit God exists, but then act as though they are not accountable to Him. That can lead to all kinds of problems. There have been major disturbances in Haiti since February 7, including riots, roadblocks, theft and murder. There are probably many causes for the unrest, but rapidly rising costs and government policies are the ones most often given. Corruption at all levels has been a problem since before I went to Haiti in 1987. People are taking things into their own hands in their frustration or their opportunism. More than public policy changes, Haitians need to see who they are in relation to God and submit to Him.

How many people claim to lead “good” lives, but do not (or will not) see that the standard of “good” is God, not themselves? I have prayed for months, even years, for people such as Mr. & Mrs. S.L., Mr. “Ham”, R.J. and P.J.—that they would see themselves as they are before a holy God and realize that what they do is worthless to obtain salvation. They need to place their faith in Jesus Christ.

Praise The hip pinning failed, which meant a total hip replacement on January 16. This surgery was successful, and all the therapy I did before has helped recovery. At the time of my first visit three weeks after surgery, I was able to walk without a walker or cane and started driving again. I had some tingling in the fourth and fifth fingers of both hands along with weakness of the small hand muscles, a result of using a walker for nearly four months. That is improving, which is a big help when typing! I smile to think how many times I have thanked God for simple things like being able to stand up or to tie my shoes. I am still doing physical therapy to get in the best shape possible before returning to Haiti.

Prayer The situation in Haiti needs much prayer. There are threats of more strikes, which not only are violent, but also close schools and businesses and make people afraid to go outdoors. There have been reports of robberies and murders in our area. Please pray for a peaceful and just solution.

I need wisdom for my return to Haiti and how to use the time between now and then. I have already moved the date back to April 23, but it may not be wise to return until May or even June.

We may not think of God, but He always remembers us and calls us to Himself. Because of what Jesus did in His death and resurrection, we can come to Him and invite others as well. What a privilege!

In our Lord’s service,

Dr. Anne

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.” (Ephesians 2:8)
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