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*“And Elisha said unto him [Hazeal] ...I know the evil that thou wilt do unto the children of Israel...
The LORD hath shewed me that thou shalt be king over Syria.” (II Kings 8: 10, 13)*

As I was reading II Kings, it occurred to me that I did not really appreciate how long people suffered because of wicked rulers. The main events of each reign are mentioned, so it seems like time hurries by. The people of Israel and Judah probably wished that had been true. Hazeal reigned in Syria more than thirty-five years, and while his repeated warfare and military conquests expanded his kingdom, those also brought terrible suffering to the people of the region along with constant anxiety about when and where he would attack next. But the people still worshipped idols rather than repent and turn to God.

The nine months (and counting) of chaos and violence in Haiti seem short by comparison, but the suffering is happening to people I know in areas where I have lived and worked for more than thirty years. There have been reports in the past few weeks that things are calming down here and there, but that is no guarantee that trouble will not flare up overnight. Many areas are still troubled by gangs and violence.

For years I have asked God to give Haiti political stability and for the corruption to end. That has not happened, and those issues are contributing to the present problems. The love of position, power, money, or anything more than God shows that change is needed at the heart level. Changes in leaders or policies will not solve the problems; people need to change their attitude toward sin, repent, and turn to God through faith in Jesus Christ.

Praise It was great to visit supporting churches and attend the Baptist World Mission Annual Meeting. During September and October, I visited eleven churches, spoke twenty times, and made it home safely after five thousand miles of driving.

Projects Everything continues to be on hold.

Prayer Your prayers have been a huge encouragement to the Haitian people. My staff members express their thanks to you every time I talk with them.

- Please continue to pray that I will have wisdom about when to return to Haiti. Also, I have been asking God since we started the Grace Baptist Clinic to send someone to replace me, but there is no one at this time.
- Please pray for political stability in Haiti. Even if the president leaves, it is not clear who would take charge, and the problem of chronic corruption at various government levels will still be an issue.
- We would like to see an end to the violence and gang activity. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will work in hearts and evil people will repent.
- Please pray that God’s people will display their trust in Him and encourage those around them to place their faith in Jesus Christ. Pray that God will protect His people and meet their needs. There are many who say they are Christians, but are relying on good works or a church to get them to heaven. Pray that God will use this difficult time to show these people that they need to trust in Him alone for salvation.

We will continue to see wickedness and suffering until King Jesus reigns over this world. Meanwhile, let us be faithful to pray both for our brothers and sisters in Christ and for changed hearts for those who are still rebels.

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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