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“Giving thanks unto the Father...Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In who we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins” (Colossians 1:12-14).

Dear Praying Friends:

There are many kinds of darkness in Haiti. It gets very dark on a moonless, cloudy night since we do not have streetlights or even public electricity. But that is not the only darkness we face here.

There is darkness due to lack of information. Madame Rose-Carmelle came with advanced breast cancer. Evidently no one told her about the seriousness of her problem when she had surgery two years ago, so she could not understand why she was so tired and short of breath and had another mass. We told her that she needed to prepare for eternity without delay, and then Pastor Thelamour talked with her again. She had heard the Gospel from her family, but had not yet come out of darkness. Jean-Mary had climbed avocado trees many times, but the last time he fell and broke his back. He has a little feeling at the hips and none in his legs. No one told the family about important things like frequent turning and elevation of the legs. The bedsores over his hips and sacrum go to the bone, and there is not enough healthy tissue to do reconstruction, even if that were available here. The man is a Christian, and his family is supportive. He is concerned about being unable to care for his wife and six children.



Sometimes we deal with the activities of spiritual darkness. Madame Iphaël had serious problems after an illness four years ago. She went to a *bokor* (witch doctor/voodoo priest), and he stuck a needle into her right arm. She has not been able to bend her elbow without pain since then. She came to Christ in faith, and then wanted whatever the *bokor* had put in her arm removed. I suggested an x-ray, and, sure enough, there was a sewing needle in her arm. It was in the muscle and stuck to the tissue because of rusting. I had to take the needle out in pieces. Two weeks later she was



happy to show me how well she could use her arm, strong and pain-free for the first time in years.

Emam was brought home from the Dominican Republic to his mother. Madame Julienne fell on her knees in her courtyard wailing because she was sure he would die. This *mambo* (witch/voodoo priestess), who lives three doors from the clinic, could not do anything for her son, nor could the *bokors* she consulted. A church member was able to persuade the lady to bring her son to us right away. He was very sick indeed. We were blessed to have the needed medications, and Emam responded to treatment. His mother has been listening to the Gospel. Emam says he is saved, but he has not been living for the Lord he claims to serve.



Many people here think they are saved because of family ties, church membership, or good works. This may be the worst kind of spiritual darkness, because these people think they are fine just as they are. Wilcy told me he was saved because he was “born into the Gospel” (i.e. a believing family). I talked to him about his need to be born again. Pastor Thelamour talked to him again later on while several people listened in. Another day there was a spirited discussion going on outside my door at the clinic. Odiel got my attention when he said, “I’m Catholic, I’m not in the Gospel.” What he meant was that he did not attend an evangelical church. Over the years, he has said that his church membership is enough to get him to heaven. Once again, we reminded him that he needs to have a relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ to truly be a part of His kingdom.

Political kingdoms claim much of our time and attention. The big news here in early April was that we finally have a president after many delays. We were grateful that the run-off election in March was peaceful and the voting process appeared to be fair. Michel Martelly was provisionally announced as president. He has many challenges before him and certainly needs prayer.

I plan to return to the US on April 19, our Lord willing. There will be much travel as I attend the second Orientation Week for Baptist World Mission, visit supporting churches, and present the ministry to new churches. Thank you for praying for my safety in the air and on the roads.

Praise The mission office sent a note at the end of February saying I now have full support.

I will be able to attend the medical school graduation for Nate Copeland, one of our former summer interns. This will be a special time of rejoicing in God’s goodness.

Prayer We have talked to many people about their spiritual condition. Please pray that we will hear of fruit for those labors.

Please pray for wisdom as we consider the needs for the future of this ministry.

There are many things for which we can give thanks, but there should be special gratitude for being delivered, rescued from the power of darkness, and then placed in the kingdom of God’s Son. Thank you for praying for us as we tell Haitians the good news of freedom in Christ.

Have a blessed Easter—our Lord’s Resurrection Day!

Dr. Anne

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M. & Mme. Iphaël Agénor