



James Cole-Rous
Christmas & New Year 2018-19



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Hello Friend,

In my previous letter to you, looking back on sixty years of ministry in 17 countries, brought happy memories of adventure and positive change among hundreds of people who came to find Jesus. Now Christmas 2018 and a New Year draws near, it is time to look forward and share vision and hope for 2019.

My future goal is to publish text-books for Bible School students in Africa. The major task ahead right now, is to keep working towards completing the necessary Master of Arts degree. This involves many hours a day of research, reading and writing papers, paying editors to fix writing errors, and then turning the papers in for grading. It is challenging work, as new subjects must be explored and mastered.

In addition to Graduate School studies, the Pastor of Springfield Faith Assembly has requested help to provide a regular weekly Bible study for their adults. The group meets for an hour each Wednesday night, and they may ask questions while the teaching is in progress. This relaxed format allows for others in the class to participate, and everyone benefits from the discussion. This New Year I will begin a series of practical studies on Principles for Christian Living.



Photo: Jim, Sabrina, and Sylvia

Maranatha Village, where I live, is a Christian Retirement center, with accommodation for Independent living residents, as well as an assisted living section for those who cannot fully take care of themselves. There is a nursing home facility on the property for those needing full-time care, with trained nursing staff on duty day and night. After seventeen years as a resident I have great appreciation for the village, and find it a happy place to live. The quiet atmosphere allows me to concentrate on reading and writing, with only an occasional interruption, to help open a medicine bottle for a resident, who cannot get the top open, or to jumpstart a neighbor's car!

My daughter Sylvia often visits me for her tea-break, as she currently works in the nursing home on the property. Her daughter, Sabrina is in college, here in Springfield, and doing well with her studies. Son, John, will be undergoing surgery for a neck/spinal problem, any day now, while Lorina, his wife, is still waiting on a donor heart, for a transplant operation. They live in California, and I have not seen them for two years now. They need prayer as they deal with the problems of logistics and finances to cope with these circumstances.

I plan to add a monthly blog to my website beginning January 2019, with an opinion article on Christian historical events, and the people who made that history. You can see the website address at the top of this newsletter, if you wish to read the monthly article. Many people have responded positively to my published books. Now I have decided to share some of my thoughts on a regular basis on my blog.

As you gather with your family and friends, please know I am thinking of you this Christmas, and wish you a wonderful happy New Year.

In Calvary's Bonds,

Jim Cole-Rous

