

EVANGELIST

Thomas Bard

*For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
Ephesians 4:12*

December 2014

Dear Brethren,

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. 1Thess 5:18

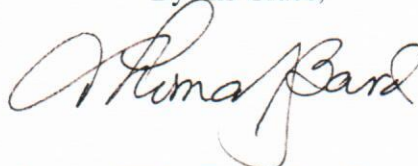
The Season of Thanksgiving and Christmas often bring a time of reflection and especially since they occur at the end of the year. A Christian has much to be thankful for simply because they know Christ, His scripture and have heaven as their final destination. Also, being "in Christ" with all those benefits freely given of God along with the presence and power of God available continually should supply enough joy and peace in any season of the year to overcome the foolish and destructive elements that seem to surround us of late. Reflection can be about what the Lord might have accomplished through us and revelation of His great grace towards us during the previous year with confidence in looking ahead to greater wonders in the year to come. Debbie and I have been supremely blessed to be involved with so many churches this year to encourage the brethren and some pastors that God has not and will not forsake us regardless of either our own foolishness or the circumstances we find around us.

Now that we are looking straight in the face of 2015, it seems all the date setters have given up their quest to determine when the Second Advent of Christ, and therefore the Rapture of the believers, might occur. Nor do we drive flying automobiles or have robots to do our every bidding. Has it occurred to anyone that no one really knows what is coming next? The world view is that of destruction and misery, climate change, war, and famine. The Bible certainly supports some of this in the context of the Great Tribulation. The world wants peace at any price but has great intolerance to that offered by Jesus Christ since they refuse to accept Him as a viable solution to their problems. And the Christian knows that the one who will supposedly bring this "peace" to the world before the Advent of Jesus Christ will also be the Anti-Christ, a great deceiver and destroyer of men both physically and spiritually. Our hope certainly rests in Jesus Christ with no confidence for any deliverance from any other source than Him. For that, we may be very thankful.

We also want to thank all of you who pray for us. From time to time people will come up to us to tell us that they pray for us but we know that there are many who pray continually for us as we can see the results of this prayer in our daily lives and ministry. If there can be anything attributed to this ministry that has value, the credit must be given to the work of God as the result of those who pray.

The last few months since our last prayer letter have seen us covering thousands of miles but ministering mostly in the Northeast. We have been east since June except for a trip to Montana, Oregon and Idaho in September. The Lord has blessed with some good meetings, a couple of folks making professions of faith and the opportunity to be in a couple of churches new to us. We are both recovering from a nasty cold that jumped on us recently for which we can be thankful as it helps us to remember what it feels like to feel well. The Lord has blessed us with good health which makes living on the road a viable possibility at our age. We do not want to appear to take this for granted. I would also like to announce that we now have a web site that has just recently become activated. There remains a lot of work to be done on it but it will always be a work-in-progress anyway. We hope to add things that will be an encouragement to the saved and perhaps a guide to the lost also. The address is www.bardministries.com and will have information about our itinerary along with a statement of faith for those who want to find out what we believe. We are very thankful to be in the service of the Lord Jesus Christ and very much appreciate all those of you who through prayer, financial support and giving us opportunity to minister make this ministry a possibility. May the Lord continue to bless you this coming New Year and may this be the last new year we will see this side of heaven.

By His Grace,



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