

Christmas Greetings from Chic & Nancy Shaver

December, 2016

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Dear Friends and Loved Ones,

At Shanksville, Pennsylvania, on August 16, I saw the crash site of Flight 93 (September 11, 2001). There, Todd Beamer led a heroic group of passengers to attack the terrorists who had taken over the plane. The plane crashed in open field 18 minutes from Washington, D.C. where evil had hoped to hit the capitol, the president, the congress. By Beamer's sacrifice of his life, hundreds or thousands of lives were saved. Beamer had contacted Airfone operator, Lisa Jefferson, to describe what was happening on the hijacked plane. She heard him say, "Recite the Lord's Prayer with me," and "Jesus, help me," and "Let's roll." His words and actions - so monumental, world-changing, heroic, saving.

In a land far away, and years ago, an angel spoke to a peasant girl, Mary: "You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High...his kingdom will never end" (Luke 1:31-33). An event, a person, a plan so monumental, world changing, heroic, saving - even to a far higher degree. That is why we remember the day called Christmas. May its full meaning enfold you and yours.

Nancy and I continue to follow this "Son of the Most High." We still rejoice over our son, Paul's, recovery from the cancer surgery that removed his voice box in October, 2014. Besides his truck driving job, he refereed at an international high school girls' volleyball tournament of 1400 teams in Orlando in June. He refereed 59 games with his electric whistle. He is happy, joyous, and praising God. Rachel and Miriam are the most supportive daughters you could ask for.

Nancy has been very stable this last year, despite her dementia. In recent days, I've heard two heartwarming comments from her - "I think I'm the happiest I've ever been" and "I love you more than ever." Our children, Disciples class, church, neighbors, doctors, and Alzheimer's counselors have all been remarkable resources for us.

Sixteen family members vacationed at our favorite memory-filled spot - Treasure Island, Florida - in June. Nancy travelled with me to a Louisiana revival and sang beautifully in three services. June 1 was our 57th wedding anniversary. We are still sweethearts.

I have preached and taught in 19 cities/places from Florida to Pennsylvania to Kansas. This includes 12 revivals and 13 seminars on witnessing or prayer. My Basic Bible Studies passed 724,000 this past spring and is translated and used around the world.

Daughter Rachel, and husband Kim Rowley sold their Lees Summit home and moved six miles south to a beautiful home in Raymore surrounded by farm animals. In January, Kim had surgery for stage four colon cancer. Now, after 2 surgeries and 12 rounds of chemo, he is undergoing continuing treatment. Rachel is a commercial trainer in the sales training department for Teva, a pharmaceutical company, and has now had over 27 years with the company. Kim's son Kasey, wife Jessica, and children Kaiya and Kayden live nearby in Greenwood, Missouri.

Daughter Miriam, Overland Park, begins her 12th year at "Designers Only," which sells to high-end interior designers. Her husband, Charlie, continues surpassing goals as a freight broker for J & J Driveway. Charlie's daughter Patti, husband Branden, and granddaughter Layla welcomed baby Lucas in June. Stepson Lenny Landrum and his children, Evan and Kaylee, live nearby. All these family members attend Kansas City First Church.

Son Paul, Muncie, Indiana, drives a 6-state territory for First Fleet. His wife, Lori, is major taxi service for children Carly, 17, and Cabron, 14, at their Christian school in Anderson. Daughter Cambry and husband Jonathan Chambless live next door and survived a major auto accident driving home from Florida. They both are doing well now, thank God. Daughter Chelsy, her husband Chad Ray, and children Kcinley, Cayson, and Callan live close by. Paul and his family are active in Harris Chapel Church of the Nazarene.

Nancy has been singing in the choir of Kansas City First Church of the Nazarene, and I teach Disciples Class there when I am in town. It has been our church since 1974. The Chic Shaver Center for Evangelism continues providing resources for Christian leaders, and resources and scholarships for students at Nazarene Seminary and other Christian schools.

Your wishes, thoughts, and prayers mean so much to us, and we are grateful. A blessed Christmas!

Love,
Chic and Nancy Shaver

Hello, Merry Christmas, and Be Ye Glad

Dear friends and family,

Can you believe that Christmas is just a few days away? What can you tell me this year about your life, living near Jesus and following Him? What new thing was revealed to you?

Did you become aware of a new truth, take an exciting trip, fall in love...or did you lose someone precious to you? I look at my sweet mom watching me from a picture on my desk. She has a sweet smile, and she is telling me like she did so many times, "Nan, do that now. Don't put it off." So, today is the day I choose to greet you in the Master's name and ask you...

What do you want? Is life exciting, did you fall in love, make a new friend, buy a new car, graduate, get married, or get engaged? Did you buy a dog or cat, or did you lose one? Did you have a baby or go to some far-away country? Did you get a new job or make a major move? What happened, and what do you want now or next year? Plans, or question marks???

Or, is it hard? Were there losses you can't get over? Did you get really sick? Did you lose someone very precious, and you still don't understand how God could have let that happen?

This Christmas, hear the words of the song, "Be Ye Glad," by M.K. Blanchard...

In these days of confused situations, in these nights of a restless remorse,
When the heart and the soul of the nation lay wounded and cold as a corpse.
From the grave of the innocent Adam comes a song bringing joy to the sad.
Oh your cry has been heard and the ransom has been paid up in full, Be Ye Glad.

(Chorus)

Oh, Be Ye Glad, Be Ye Glad.

Every debt that you ever had has been paid up in full by the grace of the Lord,
Be Ye Glad, Be Ye Glad, Be Ye Glad.

From the dungeon a rumor is stirring. You have heard it again and again.
But this time the cell keys are turning, and outside there are faces of friends.
And though your body lay weary from wasting, and your eyes show the sorrow they've had.
Oh the love that your heart is now tasting has opened the gate, Be Ye Glad.

(Chorus)

So be like lights on the rim of the water, giving hope in a storm sea of night.
Be a refuge amidst the slaughter for these fugitives in their flight.
For you are timeless and part of a puzzle. You are winsome and young as a lad.
And there is no disease or no struggle that can pull you from God, Be Ye Glad.

(Chorus)

This year has been another adventure, and Jesus never failed to bring us through. As the song, "In His Time" by Diane Ball says, "Lord, please show me every day, as You're teaching me Your way, that You do just what You say in Your time."

Merry Christmas, and Be Ye Glad!

Love and prayers,
Nancy Foreal Shaver