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Hectic Whiz Round Half The World

After a wonderful evening ministering at the Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship International meeting on the 24th of July, I got ready to travel with my friend,



Derek Tripp to India. We had ministered together with Dr Ratna Rao in South India in 2000 and 2001, but we were now slated to visit the North of India.

After a long day of travel on the 27th of August, we both arrived almost simultaneously, having journeyed on different routes, well after midnight. We had to make do with very little sleep, and began our first meeting, ministering on the 28th of August to an ecumenical group of ministers in the Indian capital (New Delhi) headed up by an Anglican Bishop and a



Baptist Bishop. Working with Dr Ratna Rao was Pastor Ajay Singh, who had done much ground-work preparing for our visit. While Derek led worship and prophesied, I taught at two sessions to ministers, and ministered at a healing/deliverance service in the evening. This pattern was

repeated at another location in the Delhi area the next day (29th August) and they were mightily blessed occasions. Souls were saved and there was healing and baptism with the Holy Spirit.

Hardly recovering from the journey to the next state, Haryana, Pastor Raj received us in Panipat. Following the same pattern as in Delhi, the glory of the Lord came down as we ministered salvation and healing/deliverance at Panipat. We moved from there to the border to Pakistan in Punjab State. Even though we had gone through a hard day, we ministered at Ferozpur in Punjab State that evening, 31st of August. Again, we taught two sessions to ministers, with Derek leading worship and giving prophetic insights on the next day, the 1st of September.

We set out on the longest of our Indian journeys, crossing from Punjab through Haryana to get to Shimla. It took all day and it was hazardous in some areas. I was woken up to a stupendous view at the foot of the Himalayas on my 74th birthday. At the end of our ministering, Pastor Olive Singh wonderfully gave me an impromptu



party (baked a cake), to celebrate the glorious things God had done in their midst. We travelled back to Delhi all day on the 4th, and flew overnight to arrive in England on the 5th of September.

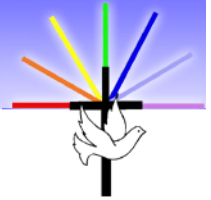
One of our two host pastors at Abuja, capital of Nigeria Pastor Dan Okeme, was already at my home when I returned to the UK, and he stayed for two months. He ministered at our Sunday morning fellowship meetings, counseled several individuals and couples and also preached in some meetings in London, which included the Francophile satellite groups of Kensington Temple alongside of Dr (Mrs) Kemi Ajayi. We also participated together in the prayer meeting at Great Snoring, Norfolk hosted by Richard and Nick Jones.

There was a wonderful outing to St Andrew's Church in Oakington, Cambridge on the 21st of September, where the Reverend James Alexander marked the end of his 36th year at that church and his attainment of the age of 65 years. His excellent time of service there, which will DV continue until he is called home to glory, was wonderfully celebrated by a bumper crowd and I was invited to pay a tribute. All this filled in the gap before Bridget and I travelled to the United States of America for two weeks.

Very late on the night of the 27th of October, I arrived in Bangor, Maine in the USA. The journey there was studded with interesting experiences sharing tales of my Christian journey through life with various fellow travelers. Perhaps the most interesting was an impromptu prayer time with Esteban Anthonio, a well-known concert guitarist, who has experienced miraculous healing from the effects of a terrible accident and gives his testimony with guitar recitals internationally.

I spent a lovely week with my second daughter, Dr(Mrs) Ayo Olugbemi, broken by a quick trip to Toronto, Canada, to pray with my grandson, John Badmus, who was

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having a bone marrow transplant operation.

I spoke for quarter of an hour at my daughter's church in Maine in the tense atmosphere before the 2008 Presidential Election on Sunday, November 2, 2008. I was privileged to bring a prophetic warning about a shaking, from Hebrews 12: 26-29 and to counsel rest from the Lord Jesus, offered in Matthew 11: 28.

I joined my wife in Chandler (near Phoenix), Arizona on the 3rd of November to welcome another grandson, Judah, into the family



on the 7th of November. His father (Dr Akinbode Isaacs-Sodeye), and his Mum, Omowunmi, worship with a Pentecostal Fellowship in Phoenix, where I shared the Word on the 6th of November at a well-attended Men's Fellowship. My nephew, Dele Aluko, also works as a Chartered Accountant in Phoenix, where a mutual friend of ours, Pastor Yato Adeyemi, graciously invited me to preach the following Sunday, the 9th of November. Bridget and I arrived

home together, even though we had travelled separately, after a very eventful trip on the 11th of November.

The run up to Christmas was taken up with catching up with local ministrations. The previous Christmas was a little too busy in our household, and Bridget decided to have a quiet one this time. We found a quiet Travel Lodge accommodation in the Suffolk countryside, and disappeared from public view from the 22nd to the 26th of December. The one exception to our seclusion entailed going to the Baikies (Soji, Toyin and their children) to mingle



with their guests for Christmas dinner on the 25th.

After Christmas, every one had to get back to normalcy before the start of 2009. As I took stock of the passing year, it seemed that I specially needed to seek the face of God for directions for the coming year. I had several challenges in the previous twelve months, not least of which were dental and other health problems, as well as relational situations. I therefore decided to still my heart, so that I could hear the Lord better, before hurling myself into the hurly-burly of life in the New Year.

I was off again on the 2nd of January. My wife saw me off at Heathrow, and I arrived in Lagos, Nigeria early on the 3rd of January. After I had settled some family concerns and visited my 82-year-old sister (Mrs Ogunlaja), I was faithfully accompanied on all journeys by Pas-

tor Pius Ohue-our other host Pastor in Nigeria, and I began to minister. Pastor Kemi Raji and his wife, Pastor Taiye Raji, visited me at Senna Hotel in Ikeja, Lagos on the afternoon of the 3rd of January. He had made me his mentor and he felt he needed an impartation. His prayers were answered, because an incredible anointing came down and the presence of the Lord was mightily felt.

On the morning of the first Sunday of 2009, I was preaching at Pastor Sam Ayodele's Parish of the Redeemed Church of God Mission. The rest of the day was consumed with one on one counseling sessions. We set out on Monday the 5th, to our next destination, Ibadan, after lunch, but stopped at the Redeemed University to pray with Sister Remi Tomori, the wife of the Vice-Chancellor. Getting to Pastor Funso's house after dark, I was put up in an air-conditioned room. The next day, I had dinner with Dr Sam Omokhodion and his wife, Dr Sade Omokhodion, because she was travelling the following day to take up a position as Visiting Professor of Occupational Medicine in Alberta, Canada during her sabbatical year.

I was also given lunch by Dr Fatumbi, (World Health Organization) along with Pastor and Mrs Funso Adekola and Pastor Pius Ohue. After filling the week with counseling sessions and prayer meetings with the pastors of the Assembly of Christ Church, and preaching at the midweek service, the weekend was specially blessed. I combined preaching at the Assembly of Christ at Odo-Ona on Sunday the 11th, with ministering at the Chapel of University College Hospital, where my ministry had started in 1974. Pastor Funso Adekola really put himself out to arrange everything to my comfort, and the visit to University College Hospital, Ibadan was really the

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icing on the cake of my time in



Ibadan. Pastor Pius and I travelled by road and air, both highly facilitated by Pastor Sam Ayodele, and we arrived in Abuja on the afternoon of Monday the 12th of January.

The time in Abuja was a busy one. After announcing my arrival through a series of telephone contacts on Tuesday 13th of January, I visited ICPC (Independent Corrupt Practices Commission) the next day. The Chairman, Mr Justice Yinka Ayoola, a friend from my days at Oxford University carved out time from a crowded schedule to update me on current affairs in Nigeria. Mr and Mrs Kajo travelled from Makurdi to discuss possibilities of future collaboration in the work of our ministry in Nigeria. The days passed quickly with various meetings with friends of longstanding for prayer. Perhaps the visit of Venerable Obi



Onwuzurumba, the State House Chaplain, with Pastor Chris Kalunta from Port Harcourt, which coincided with that of Mrs Letitia Akinlami, the Director-General in charge of Legal Aid in Nigeria on Friday the 16th of January was the most significant. I gave the Word

at the offices of the Witness Ministries at Jikoyi that same evening, speaking from Jn 10: 10 and Jn 7: 37-39 on life more abundant in the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

On Saturday, the 17th of January, I took part in a medical and legal-aid outreach organized by the Witness Ministries, followed by an evening meeting of the same Fellowship in Asokoro, Abuja, where I again brought the Word of God. I preached at Dominion Church, Gwagwalada the next day Sunday) and at the evening meeting in Pastor Pius Ohue's house. I also had the added pleasure of relaxing with my daughter, Bukkie and her little daughter, Ayo, visiting from Jos. After speaking to my wife on her birthday, 19th, I went with Pastor Ogbuoji to pray with Sister Marie Nenge and have lunch, prepared by Mrs Maureen Ogbuoji.

In the run-up to my departure from Lagos, Nigeria on the 23rd, I was constantly overwhelmed by the kindness of Pastor Pius Ohue and my Lagos host, Pastor Sam Ayodele, with his wife, Mary. My visit ended with a brief call at the home of Ambassador and Mrs Gbite Oshodi for a time of prayer and the late rendezvous with Brother Gbenga Oladimeji, who sacrificially waited up to pray with me.

The last two months give us as a family a lot of justification for praising the Lord. In spite of the global credit crunch, and the loss of jobs in the family, God has been very gracious to us. While the events seemed to show a series of hard knocks, by way of illness etc., the Lord has mightily encouraged us by offsetting each setback with double blessings. We had the privilege of hosting Pastor Ogbuoji of Open Christian Fellowship International, Abuja in our home for a month (February 13th to March 13th), and the Lord blessed his visit in every way.

We have a number of prayer needs, but most of them center round restoration. We rejoice with our friends who had major occasions to celebrate recently – Claire Henderson became Mrs. Richard Moody; Mr Peter Stanyer turned 69 years; and Mr and Mrs Peter Manwell had their first son, Samuel. We ask the Lord's mighty blessings on these families, who have stood long and steadily by us through thick and thin. Please continue to pray for comfort for the family of Pastor Pius Ohue, whose father went home to be with the Lord recently and for God's directions for our ministry.