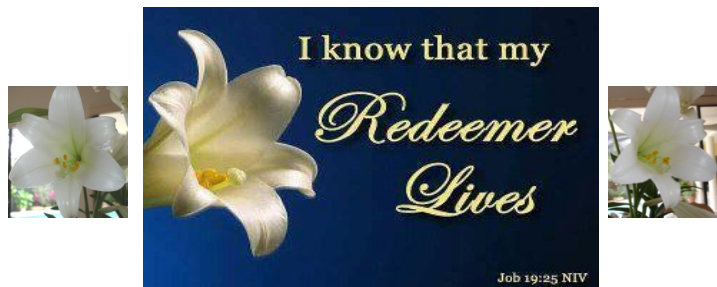


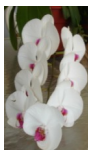


The Bridge Report

Happy Easter! Celebrating Life – A Personal Testimony



He was born in an obscure village
The child of a peasant woman
He grew up in another obscure village
Where he worked in a carpenter shop
Until he was thirty



He never wrote a book
He never held an office
He never went to college
He never visited a big city
He never travelled more than two hundred miles



From the place where he was born
He did none of the things
Usually associated with greatness
He had no credentials but himself



He was only thirty three

His friends ran away
One of them denied him
He was turned over to his enemies
And went through the mockery of a trial
He was nailed to a cross between two thieves
While dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing
The only property he had on earth



When he was dead
He was laid in a borrowed grave
Through the pity of a friend



Nineteen centuries have come and gone
Today **Jesus** is the central figure of the human race
And the leader of mankind's progress
All the armies that have ever marched
All the navies that have ever sailed
All the parliaments that have ever sat
All the kings that ever reigned put together
Have not affected the life of mankind on earth
As powerfully as that **one solitary life**



MARCH 20

Alert!! At this time, I am asking for personal prayer on behalf of our family. To our utter surprise, my husband, Steve, has just been diagnosed with aggressive prostate cancer, needing immediate surgery. Without intervention (spiritual or medical) the medical prognoses is grim: he may only live a few months.

Steve is asking that your prayers be directed towards his **hearing, trusting, obeying, and waiting on God**. He has experienced physical healing many times in the past by different means, by supernatural miracles, doctors and medicine, vigorous physical exercise with heavy weight lifting, change of diet. God works His will to His glory in all of the above; **He is our ultimate healer!** He is not upset, bitter, angry, sad, worried, aggravated, or fearful, but enveloped in the peace of God, waiting on Him! **His deepest desire in this is to glorify God and edify the saints !**

MARCH 22

We have had an overwhelmingly positive response to my prayer request for Steve regarding his recently diagnosed prostate cancer; all your comments and greetings of love and affirmation have blessed us both! THANKS to all of you who are praying!

As he was praying for confirmation on which direction to take, we received an amazing intervention: A friend of ours lives close by, but works in Washington DC where she spends six weeks at a time, and then intermittently a week with her family down here. A few days ago, I received a phone call from her; she was in town, could we meet for lunch? Of course —

I am her prayer partner, so we always have meaningful times together. The first words from her as we sat down to eat, were, "Last week, I woke up from a dream in which the Lord told me that Steve has deadly prostate cancer, but God will give him a way out; he needs to have surgery immediately." Needless to say, I was stunned — our friend had no way of knowing! I asked her to call Steve and tell him this.

This confirmed to Steve his direction to rather quickly have laparoscopic surgery to remove his cancer-infested prostate. The option was to do it right away or wait three months to re-check his PSA level; Steve chose the first option. The surgery will take place tomorrow morning, March 23 at 8:30 am at Cleveland Clinic Hospital in Weston, FL. An experienced lady oncologist surgeon will be doing the surgery. **Our prayer request is that every cancer cell will be identified and removed, and that none of the nerves in that area will be damaged. Steve is expecting full healing; he is going into this surgery with faith that he shall see the goodness of God in the land of the living!**

MARCH 23

I have just come home from visiting Steve in the recovery room at the hospital. He was in the operating room eight hours — from 9:00am till 5:00pm - quite a length of time, which gave me some concern during that time that there might have been complications. But, the first thing the surgeon exclaimed when I saw her after the surgery was, "He did fantastic, everything went very well!" The prostate and lymph-nodes were removed and look healthy, but the final conclusion will be on April 10 when the pa-

thology results will be completed. The surrounding tissue and nerves were spared, which was good news. Steve is staying in the hospital for a couple of days. I will stay with him during that time.

A funny side-note: Our surgeon is a brilliant, younger woman who is ready to give birth to her first child, which is due on April 6. Steve's surgery was to be the last before she takes three months maternity leave. During a prior doctor visit, she had warned us that if the baby were to come early, one of her colleagues would have had to do the surgery. Steve, however, favored Dr. Ercole over the other surgeons, so he prayed in front of her that the baby would stay put in the womb till after the surgery. Today, she said: "You must have a special connection with the "guy" up there (pointing to heaven), he listens to your prayers! My baby has not even dropped, yet. Would you please reverse your prayers, and ask all those other people who are praying to do the same! I want my baby to be born soon and quickly!" This was a great opportunity for Steve to share with her about his faith and the goodness and grace of our living God! Let's pray that Dr. Ercole's baby will be born soon and that mother and child will be healthy.

It turned out that the anesthesiologist is a Christian. **He prayed with Steve before the surgery that Jesus would be in the operating room with them! Thanks to all of you who prayed — you released God's grace and power!**

MARCH 25

Finally - we got home from the hospital today at 3:00pm! We are

both exhausted (two nights sleeping in a chair beside Steve's bed is not exactly restful), so we fell in bed and had a few hours of sound, restful sleep. Steve is doing well... he is tired, but thankful and blessed! Your words of encouragement have been very uplifting! Here is the tough part - he is ordered not to lift anything heavier than TEN POUNDS FOR EIGHT WEEKS!! That will be a challenge. The gym is very important to him... up till now, he has counted his weights in the hundreds and his reps in the thousands! Steve must seek to find another hobby for a while!

MARCH 29

Things are progressing step by step for Steve in his recovery from the surgery last Friday — we are on the road towards the eight weeks till full recovery! He is getting a little stronger every day, and is in good spirits. Again, we thank each one of you who have stood by us in prayer and sent us encouraging words — **we are surrounded by and enveloped in the peace of God!** The next significant date is April 10 when we will receive the result of the lymph nodes pathology! We'll keep you informed!

MARCH 29

WHAT AN AMAZING DAY!

This morning we received a phone call from the office of Steve's surgeon. Could we come in for an appointment today instead of April 10? We were surprised — Dr. Ercole was supposed to be on maternity leave already; this must be very important; frankly, I was a little jittery and eager to learn what was up. When we came to her office, Dr. Ercole, still full pregnant, *Cont on p. 4*

Happy Easter to our family, friends and co-workers around the world with the poem, *One Solitary Life*, written in 1926 by James Allen Francis. It brings a fresh view of the life of Jesus from today's perspective!

Steve and I are sharing a personal testimony step by step with you, trusting it will edify you! Thank you for your love and prayers!

Cont. from page 3

was all smiles — yes, thank you, her baby had dropped and is ready to be born. Then came the really GOOD NEWS — the pathology results were available early: **NO CANCER in Steve's lymph nodes, NO CANCER in his bones, NO CANCER in the rest of his body's tissue!** However, a large, aggressive cancerous tumor had been growing inside his removed prostate!

Then she said, "You definitely have a direct connection with him upstairs (again pointing upward). While I was cutting out the prostate, my hand was clearly directed against my better judgment to cut out some tissue in a particular place outside the organ itself. I considered it a mistake till I saw the pathology report — without knowing, in that exact place, the tumor had broken out of

the prostate and infected the outside tissue with cancer. **Someone bigger than me moved my hand to remove that cancerous tissue! We got it all, barring that no undetectable microscopic cancer cell has escaped into the rest of your body. Steve — you need no further therapy!**"

This means NO RADIATION, NO CHEMOTHERAPY, NO HORMONE THERAPY! The doctor listened intently as Steve shared his faith and presented the Gospel in relevant words! We told about the scores of people who are praying for Steve's healing. She was moved and nodded — yes — this was definitely an intervention by a higher power!

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE BEEN PRAYING FOR US — YOU ARE PART OF THIS JOURNEY! The verses in Psalm 91: 9-16 keep echoing in my heart (by the way, the whole Psalm is amazing), "Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name. He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. **With long life I will satisfy him, and show him my salvation.**"

EASTER: Today, we celebrate the **resurrection life** of Jesus Christ, **new life** of Dr. Ercole's beautiful baby girl (everything went well), and **sustained life** of my beloved Steve! Our 25th wedding anniversary is on April 18!



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