

**Oct. 14, 1997, very early A.M.**

**Greetings, ya'll,**

**This letter is a call to prayer.**

**As the harvest of the year is upon us, it brings many joys and apprehensions. We have all weathered a hot, toiling Summer, but thank God for the rain! This Summer has been especially hard for this household because of all the Uncertainties and struggles that have come with battling MS, major ranch reorganizations, and empty nest. Kandy has had to carry the load of a sick husband and a very sick mother as well. The only certainty that has proven itself again and again is that we belong to Jesus and that "the one thing" is absolute Surrender to Him. He is absolutely Faithful and Able to do what he has promised. And He could have done His bidding without binding Himself to a promise, but He chose to comfort us first. My prayer lately has been to the tune written by Don Moen "Be It unto Me according to Your Word, according to Your promises, I can stand secure. Carve upon my heart the truth that sets me free..... According To Your Word, O Lord, be it unto me."**

**While in the hospital in parts of May and June, God gave me 3 promises: "I will restore you to health", "Your labor will be rewarded", and "your children Will return from the land of the enemy". I have been unable to find those passages Again ( except to bump onto parts at a time, when needed desperately) until about 12 hours ago, and as I read them this time, the context of these verses seemed Especially helpful as well. The underlined is the main promises and the ()'s share New applications.**

**Jer 30:16-22**

**16 "But all who devour you will be devoured; all your enemies will go into exile.**

**Those who plunder you will be plundered; all who makes spoil of you I will despoil.**

**17 But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds, ' declares the LORD,**

**'because you are called an outcast, Zion for whom no one cares.'**

18 "This is what the LORD says: "I will restore the fortunes of Jacob's tents (there's plenty of finances here) and have compassion on his dwellings (Kandy will like that); the city will be rebuilt on her ruins, and the palace will stand in its proper place (King Jesus, take Your throne).

19 From them will come songs of Thanksgiving and the sound of rejoicing. (God has been restoring His praise to my life) I will add to their numbers, and they will not be decreased (what a blessing!); I will bring them honor, and they will not be disdained.

20 Their children will be as in days of old (our children are important enough to God for Him to repeat Himself), and their community will be established before me (the Lord has promised at another time to restore my position that was lost); I will punish all who oppress them.

21 Their leader will be one of their own; their ruler will arise from among them. I will bring him near and he will come close to me, for who is he who will devote himself to be close to me?" (I do and will) declares the LORD.

22 "So you will be my people, and I will be your God."

#### **Jer 31:16-17**

16 This is what the LORD says: "Restrain your voice from weeping and your eyes from tears, (telling me to keep my head up) for your work will be rewarded." (this promise let me know there was work to be done and the strength to do it) declares the LORD. "They will return from the land of the enemy.

17 So there is hope for your future, "(this promise alone could have been enough) declares the LORD. "Your children will return to their own land.

As I was being blessed by these verses, I found a marginal note that reminded me that R.W. Hampton had prayed with me about this ranching situation and God had brought these verses home on 07/15/1996:

#### **Jer 31:27-30**

27 "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will plant the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the offsprings of men and of animals.

(I am trying to renegotiate a stocking contract now and our Excel business has taken a major turn for the better recently as God is bringing them from the north, south, east and west)

28 Just as I watched over them to uproot and tear down, and to overthrow, destroy and bring Disaster, so I will watch over them (God, You're the only One who knows what is really happening Behind the scenes and You are committed to our well-being) to build and to plant, “ declares the LORD.

29 “In those days people will no longer say, “The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the Children’s teeth are set on edge.”

The circumstance of the day had so nearly overwhelmed me that I was unable to sleep, so I decided to call for your prayers of agreement. As I recorded this moment, God is giving me peace and confidence to sleep. May I not falter in unbelief, but remain steadfast, clinging to our Savior and His faithfulness.

This letter is going out only to those that I believe will stand with us, upholding Us in prayer. It feels real naked to put out something like this, but maybe the devil will remember this and not want to keep me awake next time.

Thanks and God bless,

Jack