

January 2023

Dear Pastor and Church Family,

Greetings in Jesus' precious Name. 2022 has been one of our best ministry years since I went into full-time missionary work in 1999 while at the same time, it has been one of our hardest years personally. I am reminded of Charles Dickens who said "...*these are the best of times and the worst of times.*"

I would say 2022 was one of the **best of times** for us because it's been one of my most productive years. I have raised more money (probably above 1 1/2 million dollars) for Bibles, paper, and printing equipment since the founding of First Bible International in 1999.

2022 was the **best of times** for us because a printing press that was "stolen" from us in India twenty years ago was returned to us and many of our supporting churches got together and gave us \$200.00 for paper!

It has also been the **best of times** for us personally. Both Mary and I have been under doctor's care, Mary in the hospital twice and twice raised up by the Great Physician and I have had back problems and been given healing by the Great Physician.

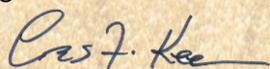
I would say 2022 was "...**the best of times.**" Because God raised up Kelsey. Our 27-year granddaughter was pronounced cancer free, and our son-in-law Doug Van Meter missionary to South Africa was released from the hospital after a 65-day stay and is back in the pulpit.

DID I MENTION 2022 WAS ONE OF THE BEST OF TIMES FOR US BECAUSE MARY AND I CELEBRATED OUR 65th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY in 2022?

I say, for the glory of God, 2022 was **the best of times** for me in my personal spiritual growth! I do not say that for prideful purposes (I am 83 and ashamed of how little I have grown in Christ since October of 1958.) He has led me to some wonderful books and mature brethren who have helped me in my walk.

My prayer is that I will be a *son* well pleasing to his Father and a *missionary* worthy of his supporting churches.

Pastor, I have given my life since I was 24 years, now I am old, 83, TRYING TO MAKE JESUS BETTER KNOWN IN LESSER PLACES, see, *Romans 15:20,21*. Keen James Version (KJV) Thank you for partnering with me on that goal.



Charles, Mary Keen

PS Sorry, no room for the bad things!