

## Year End Thoughts

I thought it wise to place my year end thoughts in this bulletin due to next week's bulletin containing a daily Bible reading schedule for 2020. Some of the thoughts of this article are intended not just for those at Lilac Road but also those on Facebook. So here it goes.

We received a lot of Christmas cards, some had pictures of the family and or grandchildren. Some family pictures were the card itself. Regena and I enjoyed all of those cards. I know we have been blessed with good family and friends.

We have been blessed many ways in 2019. Our children continue to amaze us as they grow in their service to the Lord. Eli and Laura moved to a bigger house in Louisville. Both are active with the Expressway congregation in Louisville. Hope continued her school work and just recently completed her classes at Elizabethtown Community College. She started working for a company just south of Louisville. I don't know how much longer she will be with us on the farm due to the drive being around an hour and half. She attends a small congregation in Morgantown. Jon, Noah, and Thomas see us about every week during the year. Jon and Noah are actively taking part in the classes at the West End congregation in Bowling Green. Thomas has continued to allow his Papaw and Marmee to spoil him.

It seems like the last few years have been filled with more challenges than the previous ones. Mike, Sharon, and I got to thinking the next year will have to be easier. But I don't think they will. Each stage of life has its own blessings and trials. Some of the blessings are mentioned in the previous paragraph but 2019 had its low points as well.

In January, we had two family members with surgeries. Regena got hurt at work as the tip of a finger was cut off. Surgery was performed to repair the finger and was successful. My brother in-law, Dale Nabours, at the same time had radical cancer surgery. Their aim was not to remove all the cancer but the biggest tumors and treat him with radiation. At the time of this writing,

he is not doing well losing a lot of weight, and undergoing a new type of treatment.

July and the early part of August was hard as we lost my brother, Mike. For over twenty years he dealt with MS. Besides the disease he had back surgeries, rotator cuff surgery, and a stroke. He amazed me with his ability to deal with pain and push his body to regain what it had lost. But in July he fell and hit his head. This caused bleeding on the brain. Despite the efforts of family, the doctors, and prayers of the saints, he passed away.

I continue to have my health issues but have been blessed to be able to continue to preach and do things around the farm. I do not ask for God to take away our trials in 2020 but for those trials to make us rely on Him and become more useful in His service for the future. -- Dennis Tucker