

FROM THE STUDY

If you measure time by minutes, hours, days, weeks, months and years then you will be aware that I have been with you one year from the first of this month. I prefer to measure time by what it has meant to me.

The passing of time is one thing that we cannot control. All we can do is use what is given to us, and any time that is not used, is lost forever. At this Christmas time comes, the many questions that filled my mind and prayers one year ago have been answered. It has been a year of new experiences and so very much to learn.

More important than the passing of years is the passing of life. It has been my experience this year to pastor families that have lost a loved one. Their loss became my loss, with them the joy, that those who died in the Lord, we will meet again. Because of this the birth of Jesus 1957 years ago was not in vain.

Because He came the first time as He promised. It is the hope of the second coming that makes my year with you here one that has passed so quickly. There is much more that should have been done I know, and with experience I trust, and with His help I will be able to serve you better as we work together.

In the fluster of the season, the last minute shopping, the parties and the get-togethers and the many demands on your time, it is only sensible to stop and think about what you are doing and why you are doing it.

My days and weeks take the same time to pass as yours and before we know it Christmas will have come and gone. Only the memory will remain. The memory is a record of what we did. In my memory I want to make sure there is something points to the real meaning of Christmas.

For this year with you I thank Him who was born in a stable. For the prayers and the co-operation of you who were patient with us, I thank Him. My prayer this Christmas is that together we might serve Him better so that others may share our joy in the Christ of Christmas.

R.L.R.