September 1, 1993

Dear Friends of Christian Medical Foundation,

Recently I have been blessed through reading the Coverdale Bible. When we were at Yale University several years ago I was thrilled to find a copy of the Coverdale Bible in an early 1800 Facsimile edition. It is surprising to see how similar this book is to the King James version. Doubtless, Coverdale had much to do with the development of the Geneva and the great Bibles which preceded the King James.

Myles Coverdale was a contemporary of both William Tyndale and Thomas Cranmer. It is of great interest that in the early 1500's there must have been a great outpouring of God's Holy Spirit - not in phenomena and huge meetings but in the study and the writing of great Christian works. It was the time of the fracture of England from Roman Catholicism and the advent of the English Bible being placed with the Vulgate in the churches of England through regal order.

It is of interest here that Cranmer, Tyndale, along with many others paid with their lives for their standing for Jesus Christ and His Holy Word. Coverdale was banished from England. When one reads the Bible of Tyndale or Coverdale and the prayer book of 1545, there is a particular anointing of God upon the reading. This is in contradiction to the effect upon ones spirit as he reads the new Episcopal prayer book and the paraphrases of God's Word commonly available today. It could be said that if one is going to pay with his life for what he writes, that person so privileged will write what is acceptable to God rather than what is acceptable to man. In our era, the writings of Solzhenitzyn and the samisad writers in the Soviet Union have been in the category of the writers of truth rather than political or economic expediency.

The product of the surging Spiritual life in England in the 1500's, when man was given the Bible in his own language, produced in that century and the century to follow such writers as Shakespeare, George Herbert and Frances Guarles, among many other poets and writers of fantastic spiritual depth. What a contrast with the present era of American poetry and writing in general. An American Indian priest in North Dakota said regarding the new Episcopal Book of Common Prayer, "There are no poets in the land today. " It is like the contrast musically between rap music and Handel's Messiah. Somehow it has to do with the orientation of society to the highest and best or to the vulgar and common, to the kingdom of God or to the cosmos.

Christian Medical Foundation in its thirty-one years of existence has stood for the highest and best in Medicine. Since we are Christians as well as intellectual and spiritual, we have shied away from those aspects of the medical profession which have produced so often what St. Paul terms "the works of the flesh" (Gal 5:19). By contrast, we have endeavored to emphasize the fruit of the Holy Spirit, especially love and joy, so rare in today's social milieu.

As we approach our 21st Annual International Conference, the question comes forth, "Have we accomplished our goals in Medicine and in the Body of Christ in our quarter century of endeavor?" There are physicians who have come to Christ through C.M.F. There are those who have been filled with the Holy Spirit. Some marriages have been saved. Believing in spiritual healing as well as medical healing, we have, through Christ's resurrection power, "healed the sick, raised the dead and cleansed the lepers" as Jesus has told us to do. We have given a new hope to medicine, surgery and psychiatry as well as to the church itself. C.M.F. has given the inspiration to the Christian Ophthalmologic Society and we have been a helping hand to the Christian Medical and Dental Society, Caring Professions Concern (in England), and the Hospital Christian Fellowship in the U.S.A. and abroad. Christian Medical Foundation cooperating with Missionary Ventures has sent physicians and nurses to Guatemala, Nicaragua, the Bahamas, Romania, Russia and the Ukraine. We have also been active in the Camp's Farthest Out and the Order of St. Luke both of which emphasize Christian Healing. The efforts of C.M.F. established the first hospital emphasizing Christian healing in America in Medford, Oregon in 1964 and sowed the seeds of hope eventuating in the Oral Roberts Medical School and City of Faith Hospital. Although these great institutions failed through the lack of the unity of Godly love in America the inspiration

"For with God Nothing Shall Be Impossible"—Luke 1:37
persists. Most recently this truth is evidenced by the establishment of the Emmanuel Unit at St. Francis-St. George Hospital in Cincinnati, a medical surgical unit which will emphasize the spiritual aspect of patient consideration as well as the psycho soma.

Should Christian Medical Foundation continue on? To do so support is needed. For over two years the financial support of the Foundation has faltered as the national economy has deteriorated. As a result, the center at Tampa has been put on the market for sale. To this point God has not allowed a sale to occur. How long we can continue in our present status is a most serious question. If those who give would increase their giving by a third and if those who do not contribute would begin to help, our problem would be solved. Beyond this a number of larger contributions are needed to meet the debt accumulated during the past two difficult years amounting to $150,000. Somehow I have, as always, great optimism that these objectives will be accomplished. We do need the prayerful support of those who love this Christian effort in Medicine and the church. We have resolved to continue on in patient continuance in well-doing. We thank all of those who have been so loyal to our work for the past thirty-four years, since the first embryonic meetings at St. Stephens Philadelphia in 1959. God bless us all and may God abundantly reward those who have caught the vision. We have the message. Let us carry it forward in this day when traditional materialist Medicine is faltering and the Church seems confused. Thanks be to God who has given us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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