

# Casa Bautista de Publicaciones

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DEPARTAMENTO EDITORIAL  
J. E. DAVIS, DIRECTOR

December 31st, 1932

Dr. T. B. Ray,  
Richmond, Va.

Dear Brother Ray:

Some time ago, I wrote you and I received your kind and considerate reply. There was no real need of a reply. What you said was what any one could easily anticipate, yet there was something in the way you said it that in a way helped. I often wish, when I get helpful letters, that mine might be more helpful to those who get them. Often I fear they are not what they should be.

Well, this is the last day of 1932. To me it is rather cold and gloomy. Yet I had plenty to eat and have clothes to wear, and I think there is no question but that all is well and will be well. After all, we have much to thank God for every day. It has been a hard year for us all--hard to make ends meet, hard to plan for the work in the future--but with all the hardness, it might have been much worse. As long as our faith fail not, the supply will be sufficient for us.

The same God that fed Elijah can feed his children today. And He will, should it come to such an extreme. It likely will not come to that. But we trust in His Providence and rest on his grace.

I am thinking of you in your trying situation there. I suppose it will not be the easiest thing in the world to do, to again play "second fiddle" in a way, after years of directing the destinies of the Foreign Mission Board, but with grace sufficient, we can put ourselves under--make ourselves of secondary consideration. After all, I feel that you will not rank any lower in the estimation of the missionaries who have known you and learned to love you as a true yokefellow. For one, I assure you that while I have met and heard Dr. Maddry and esteem him highly, you will always occupy in my heart a very warm corner. I shall never forget how you have manfully stood by the men and women out at the front. I shall never cease to appreciate the kind and encouraging letters you have always written, even when the stress of circumstances must have almost broken your heart.

We are trying to keep our heads above water. Thus far we have survived and with careful management we hope to pull through 1933. We shall leave the results with Him who cares for the little sparrow and who has numbered even the hairs of our heads. Surely all will be well in some way. I am fearful that the end of the depression is not yet in sight, but mayhap I am mistaken. I just happen to know the condition of some of the churches out here in this valley, and it must be typical of others.

I am still in the best of health. The Lord is richly blessing me, enabling me to do almost the impossible in the amount of work I am doing under present stress and strain. And it is a real pleasure to work. Yet it does sometimes seem to be almost useless, since so few are willing to accept the Christ we preach. But things will change.

May the Lord richly bless you during the New Year.

Most cordially yours,

*J. E. Davis*