

John Tefertiller Health Update - 25 June 2010

Dear friends and family,

My stolen vehicle was found relatively unscathed in San Jose after being gone for almost two weeks. The thieves did take anything of remote value- my Bible, electrical connectors for various devices (of which, thankfully, none were in the car!)- and very likely other items I have not had the physical ability to check for behind the seat. They even took the relatively unused mat from the passenger side floor! They also took the \$15 that I kept in what I've always called the "change drawer" and left smelly cigarette butts instead! But after all, I have the car back in the same running condition as before, so prayers were answered and thanks are due to the Lord.

Surgery Scheduled

Things are moving very quickly now that all of the scans, probes and tests have been completed this week. I will have a pre-anesthesia exam on Wednesday, 30 June. Surgery is scheduled for Friday, 2 July. At this time it is not absolutely certain if this will be the final operation or if it will turn out to be an interim procedure requiring another in several weeks. Whatever the case, the light at the end of the tunnel is a bit brighter.

Current State

I have to say that I am looking forward to bodily functions that don't involve attachments and maintenance. While I am still waiting for feeling in my hands and feet to return to normal, the less "medically necessary" daily activity I have to engage in, the better. One critical state at a time, please!

The numbness in my extremities has continued relatively unabated. Sometimes it is very difficult to resist whining to God as I struggle to get a button through a buttonhole, or to operate a zipper pull. Activity requiring use of the hands is a process that has to be approached with thought and concentration rather than being routinely subconscious as before. Walking is its own adventure!

Prayer Requests

1. Pray for the doctors and other personnel involved in the upcoming surgery to be guided by the Great Physician himself.
2. Pray for the numbness in my hands and feet to subside ASAP. It does get old.
3. Pray for the wind-up of this season of life, and renewed direction for whatever follows.

Closing Thoughts

As it appears that life may soon return to something resembling "normal," I am still concerned that God should have the last word. God's stated goal in our lives is that the character of Christ should be formed in us, and that his character should be revealed to all creation through us. We may wonder at that, when we think about the secret corners of our hearts, and what we've attempted to hide there- from everyone, sometimes including ourselves. Right now it "does not yet appear" how it is even possible for the character of the Son of God to be applied to us, but when we are received into the very presence of our God "we shall know, even as we are known," and "we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is." I don't know about you, but I look for that day when the perfect, that is, complete image of Christ is all that will be seen in me.

In the meantime, I am thankful to our glorious God for the many people upon whose hearts he has impressed a desire to pray for me during this time. My circumstances have never been a surprise to him, since he has known the end from the beginning. Yet our "Father of lights" listens intently for the prayers of his children, and he delights to give them "every good and perfect gift" requested in the name of the Only Begotten.

Keep praying, keep trusting, and keep giving thanks for his provision.

With kindest regards,

John T.