

# THE ACCIDENT ( II )

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*Bonnie Melt*

The thirty days, as it turned out, were only the beginning. After that, and more x-rays, we could clearly see the bone was broken all the way across. This time twenty more days was the set time.

This thirty-day x-ray had been the subject of much prayer regarding healing, and the additional twenty days were a grievous disappointment. We had so many obvious misunderstandings interpretation — if we could only speak to a doctor in English! But, not knowing the answer to our medical questions, we were afraid to take any action.

Going any place by plane required a long, bumpy journey to the airport, plus climbing the steps up into the down from the plane. Still we would be another plane ride away from Hong Kong, so our many questions remained unanswered. We awaited the results of the fifty-day x-rays. It was two days later that the doctors were ready to "read" the x-rays. Jim, looking at the film over the doctor's shoulder noticed a second bone was fractured! When mentioning this to the doctor, he readily confirmed that had been the case all along! The conclusion: still not healed enough for me to get up. When Jim asked how much longer did they think I would need to stay in bed, their reply was very "Chinese," "How much longer would you like us to say?"

The doctor's consultation occurred about 5:30 pm on a rainy, early December day. We had already decided if this were the outcome, perhaps Jim should at least attempt to take the x-rays to Hong Kong to consult an orthopedic specialist. When Jim

mentioned this possibility, the doctor readily agreed to give him the x-rays. Thus, the first of many hurdles was overcome--no "loss of face" evidenced by the doctor.

Jim decided to go to the airport to try for space available, even though our Chinese authorities insisted this was impossible.

So, he and our interpreter set off for the airport, along with the driver, in our school van. When they arrived at the airport, not only were there no tickets available, but seventeen others were there ahead of him hoping to purchase a ticket on a 48-passenger plane. When all the 48 passengers had cleared into the security area and all hope of securing a ticket was dashed, Jim returned with his suitcase to the van. The van was parked a considerable distance from the terminal, hidden from view by some trees.

When the driver tried to start the van, however, nothing happened. Chinese drivers are also their own mechanics for routine repairs, so he lifted the hood and began checking for a solution. After ten or fifteen minutes, Jim, the erstwhile mechanic, got out to see it he could help. After a total time-lapse of one-half hour and still no spark from the engine, an airline official came running up to the van. How he knew it was still there, we don't know. We do know that by then, all seventeen other would-be passengers had departed. Anyone who has had dealings with CAAC will concur, the greater miracle is that the official bothered! God had intervened. There was now a ticket available!

That evening our interpreter came to tell me how "lucky" Jim was. When he told me the incredible story, my heart leaped with faith. I assured him it wasn't luck, but an answer to prayer. I even had the audacity to say, "If he returns on Friday night just as we prayed, will you believe it was an answer to prayer and not luck?"

The miracles go on. Every need was met--Hong Kong money, a friend's apartment was empty to stay in, the doctor's appointment which was scheduled for early the next day (Thursday) was completed even before the appointment time. An English-speaking doctor and no charge for the consultation were just added blessings.

Meanwhile, lying in bed for 54 days had given me opportunities to develop friendships and share with people I'd never have had otherwise. The Chinese love to visit, and since I had nothing but time, they felt free to come often and stay long!

One of the on-going questions I've grappled with has been that of unanswered prayer. The promises in the Scripture seem to be so simple and clear, and yet the specific consequences do not always occur as requested. For example, we prayed in faith during the first 30 days for my healing. It didn't occur. We continued to pray for 20 more days. Still no affirmative answer.

From this experience I feel I learned an important lesson about unanswered prayer. Even before the accident, as well as throughout the recuperation, we had also prayed for God to use us to make Him Known for God to be glorified in us. But for God to have healed supernaturally immediately, or even naturally through the 30 day or 50 day periods, the Hong Kong trip experience would not have occurred. Yet we learned much later that God had used that event to touch many people with the evidence of His power.

## ～徵求1993年導向之友～

一位財主說：上帝給你們的恩賜是寫～用筆傳道：上帝給我們的恩賜是賺錢，我要奉獻金錢，支持你們的工作，彼此配搭，把福音傳到地極。這財主的話，說得好，叫我們大受激勵。

親愛的讀友，你樂意參加1993年導向之友嗎？我們熱烈等候你投入，用心合力，廣傳福音，把福音帶進每個家庭。

導向之友每年美金 100 元，加幣 140 元。

本會已獲美國及加拿大國稅局批准，一切捐款可作免稅扣除。

台幣 3500 元，港幣 800 元。