

9-2-2020

「倚靠耶和華的人好像錫安山，永不動搖。眾山怎樣圍繞耶路撒冷，耶和華也照樣圍繞祂的百姓，從今時直到永遠。」（詩篇 125:1-2）

感謝主在過去一週不斷用這經文安慰與勉勵我，讓我家也充滿從主而來的平安與帶領。八月二十三日女兒 Sarah 帶我去見癌科手術醫生要決定哪天動手術，先照了一個 PET scan，在醫生的房間等了很久，最後醫生進來，低聲的對我們說，根據剛才 PET scan 的結果顯示，癌細胞已經到了通往肝臟的血管上。我們沒有辦法為你動手術，師母在電話上問醫生，不作手術的話可以活多久，醫生說可以活二至三年，旁邊的 Sarah 就哭了！我問醫生可不可以介紹其他醫生看看，醫生就推薦我去聖路易華大醫院的一位專科醫生，這是美中最大的醫院，有專治胃癌的部門。第二天，靈修時主就用詩篇 125:1-2 讓我再次想到，主的手是層層不斷的保守看顧屬祂的人，祂的話使我心平靜安穩，感謝主的同在。這天教會的醫生弟兄就為我與華大 Barnes-Jewish Hospital 的醫生聯絡，略述我的情況後，那醫生說看來他們可以為我動手術，也說他看病的時間表已經排滿但我可以星期一看他，他會把我插進時間表內。看到主的恩手在帶領，我心中就更平安。

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八月三十一日，女兒與我二姊與我一同去聖路易（師母回加州看醫生），帶著所有就醫的記錄去看聖路易的醫生，他看了所有的資料以後，就對我說看來癌細胞並沒有影響血管，若真的有影響，他們也可以將那段血管切除再接回，他們經常作這類的手術，大概用四小時半（Columbia 醫院要用九小時）。他要我先把剩下的三次化療完成，休息六週後，再安排動手術的日期（看來會是在十一月中）。聽了這醫生所說的，也看到神的恩手在帶領著，讓我可以去更好的醫院和更有經驗的醫生處治療，實在是主的恩手在帶領，我的心就更平安，相信主開始祂的工，也會成全祂的作為，將一切交給主，主必工作，將自己放在主的手中，就可以享受從主而來的平安與喜樂。

再次感謝主！別人作化療，身體是一天比一天虛弱，越後期越痛苦；感謝主！我卻是身體一天比一天更好！師母這幾週在加州，Sarah 的公司讓她在家裡上班，這幾週回來，感謝主！十多年都沒有這樣長時間的住在一起。有些時候看來我吃東西比她還要多，體重也慢慢地恢復，精神與體力都比剛化療時更好，六月初，我講一堂的道要分三段去錄，現在一口氣就可以錄完，實在感謝主的恩典與醫治的大能。祂是我們的醫治，信靠祂的人是活在祂恩典中，如詩人所說：「我的心平穩安靜，好像斷過奶的孩子在他母親的懷中；我的心在我裡面真像斷過奶的孩子。」（詩 131:2）

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“Those who trust in the LORD are as Mount Zion, which cannot be moved but abides forever. As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds His people from this time forth and forever.” (Psalm 125:1-2)

Thank the Lord for constantly comforting and encouraging me with these verses. Thank him for filling my family with His peace and assuring guidance over the past week. On August 23, my daughter Sarah took me to see the oncologist to decide on the day of the operation. First I got a PET scan. Then I waited in the waiting room for a long time. Finally the doctor came in and explained to us that, according to the results of PET scan, the cancer cells had reached the blood veins leading to the liver and they are not able to perform a surgery. Mrs. Ko asked the doctor via the phone “How long is the survival time without the surgery?” The doctor said it could be two to three years. Sarah started crying when she heard this. I asked the doctor if he could recommend another doctor for a second opinion, and he recommended me to a specialist at St. Louis’ Washington University Hospital, the largest hospital in the Midwest with a department specialized to gastric cancer treatment. In my devotion the next day, the Lord used Psalm 125:1-2 to remind me again that His hand is constantly looking after His people. His words filled my heart with complete peace and rest. I truly thank the Lord for His presence with me. That day the brother from our church who is a physician contacted the doctor in Barnes-Jewish Hospital of Washington University on my behalf and briefed him on my condition. The doctor said it looked like they could operate on me, even though his schedule was full. He would make arrangements for me to see him on Monday. Seeing the Lord's gracious hands are upon this, my heart is more peaceful.

On August 31st, my daughter and my sister went to St. Louis with me. Mrs. Ko had returned to California for her doctor's appointments. We brought all the medical records. After reading all the information, the doctor told me that it didn't seem that cancer cells has affected the blood veins, and even if it did, he could have that section of blood vein removed. The approximate surgery time will be about four and a half hours. It would take nine and a half hours in Columbia. He advised me to finish the remaining three rounds of chemotherapy, take a six-week break, and then schedule a date for the surgery probably in mid-November. When I heard what this doctor said, and saw that God's gracious hands are leading me to go to a better hospital with more experienced doctors for treatment, I have great peace in my heart believing that what the Lord has begun, He will accomplish. When I commit my all to Him, He will accomplish His great work concerns me. How wonderful it is to enjoy the peace and joy from the Lord when we surrender ourselves to Him.

Thanks be to the Lord again! Chemotherapy for some people is associated with the body becoming weak and suffering various unpleasant side effects. But for me, my body is getting better day by day! Thank the Lord! These several weeks with Mrs. Ko back to California, Sarah's company allowing her work from home so she could come to take care of me. We haven't lived together for so long in more than ten years. I enjoyed the time with her very much. My appetite is better. Sometimes it seems that I eat more than Sarah, and my weight is slowly recovering, my energy level and physical strength are better than at the beginning of chemotherapy. It did take me three separate times to record one message in early June, but now I can finish a message in one recording. I really thank the Lord for His grace and healing power. He is our healer (*Jehovah Rapha*), and those who believe in Him live in His grace. As the psalmist said: "Surely I have composed and quieted my soul; Like a weaned child against his mother, My soul is like a weaned child within me." (Psalm 131:2)