





## \* \* \* 1969 HOLIDAY GREETINGS - FROM THE THINDS \*

Never have I been so unprepared for Christmas. This past year has been a challenging one for this family—for most American families—indeed for the earth's population in general. We will always remember 1969 for the spectacular moon trips made by our astronauts. If mankind would only move as swiftly and travel as far in a spiritual direction!

Our greatest challenge, perhaps, was the home David built on the lot adjacent to ours. The land has been a major part of our garden, and for 28 years, the "garden folk" were a source of joy for Doctor when he was home between lecture commitments. The six months it took to complete David's two-bedroom Spanish-modern home included set-backs and disappointments. But he finally moved in on August 15<sup>th</sup>, and is enjoying his lovely home. In January, David won a trip to the Virgin Isles for being top sales representative in Los Angeles in 1968. While there he was informed that he was first in sales in the entire western Xerox region.

Rosalind also had a promotion this year, and is now in complete charge of the copy staff of Time-Life Books. She had an unforgettable trip to East Africa this past summer, which she certainly deserved.

A personal challenge for me was taking care of Julie Wu's apartment house business during her visit to Taiwan for 41 days. I have been helping my neighbor with her bookkeeping, three hours a day since September 1968, in what was to be a temporary job, but I am still at it. My life has always been centered on my family, home and beloved husband. This year I faced many problems foreign to my past.

It was for my good, but I'm afraid my friends and correspondence were neglected.

In May we decided we had sufficient money in the Book Fund to ready the manuscript of Volume III of "Jesus the Christ" series for publication. Complications were abundant, but it finally was completed. As most of you know, it is now available; announcements were sent out in September, informing you of the publication date. If any contributors to the Book Fund have not received their donor's copy, please let me know. It was gratifying to hear that so many of you are pleased with the edition. We are so grateful for your financial help and encouragement.



On July 11<sup>th</sup>, Mother fell and fractured her right shoulder. This was a trying period for her too, with her arm in a sling for five weeks. But she was very patient and is recovering well.

Dad is always busy around our home—a man of all trades, and for all seasons! In spite of her accident this summer, Mother helps me endlessly in this big house and keeps up her music as well. Bless them both, and David also, who is so thoughtful of his mother and grandparents.

The letters I receive from my grandchildren about their school work and sports activities are priceless. They love swimming and are good at it. Bless them. John became a teenager in June, and Laurie is only fifteen months behind him.

I attended the 40th reunion of my High School class in San Francisco in May, and 54 of the original class were present. On the way home I spent some time with Doctor's San Jose class who meet regularly under the able leadership of Floyd Wastlund. I am always uplifted and inspired when able to be with these devotees in Sat Sang.

Through the request and generosity of Jean Bailey and her class, I flew to Salt Lake City in June for a weekend. Jean was made a Teacher by Doctor in the summer of 1967. Her students know Doctor only through her, and his writings. She is completely dedicated to her Guru and I know he must be proud of his devotee. I am grateful for the opportunity at being present at three of her classes.

The Detroit class is sponsoring the Doctor Thind Scholarship Fund. I mailed a check for \$100, the balance of the money left in the Book Fund after Volume III was paid for in full, to them. Another dream of Doctor's will be realized this Fall. A deserving student (who would otherwise not be able to receive higher education) will attend Khalsa College, Doctor's alma mater. The Scholarship Fund will be a continuing project, by God's Grace.

Thus the year ends, with challenges met. Several groups are holding regular meetings and continue to study Doctor's writings. I am grateful to the number of students who have helped in distributing Doctor's books, especially to the libraries. Next year more books will be sent to India. God alone knows how grateful I am for the assistance I have received from so many.

"There is only one way in which man can endure man's inhumanity to man, and that is to try in one's own life to exemplify man's humanity to man".

With these lines of Alan Paton, I close, sending special Greetings of the Season. May the New Year fulfill your highest hopes, and bring us all a little closer to peace and happiness.

With Love and Blessings, Vivian Thind and Family

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