

Al and Helga Bonikowsky
Missionaries to Spain

April 22, 04

Dear Friends,

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints" Psalm 116:15

Tuesday evening, Feb. 10th. 2004, mom "fell asleep" and awoke in the presence of the Lord. Only the Lord knew that our brief visit home in August of 2003 would be the last time that I would see her this side of Heaven.

Being missionaries Helga and I have missed almost all family weddings and anniversaries and on that visit the decision was made to try and go back for Helga's brother and sister-in-law's 50th wedding anniversary on Feb. 13th. Little did we know that God would call my mother home a few days before. When I touched my mother's cold brow at the funeral home I knew that what I had preached and taught for so many years was true! Mom was no longer there! Doctrine was now reality. The frail body I touched was just her "earthly house," and she was now "clothed" with her "house which is from heaven" (2 Co. 5:1,2) How marvellous is our Christian faith!

Since mother's passing was really a celebration of victory over death, we were also able to enjoy a wonderful 50th wedding anniversary when all the family gets together. Helga and her brother Eddie are the only ones remaining of her immediate family and so it was a blessed time together. At the same time we enjoyed the fellowship of my family. Won't the reunion in Heaven be wonderful!

The Faith Mission's Conference at our Spanish church was a real blessing as our people promised, if the Lord so supplied, a little under \$13,000 U.S., for missions for 2004. We have been able to take on a couple more missionaries and thank the Lord for this step of faith. We request your prayers for this coming weekend as we will have evangelistic services with pastor Antonio Diez of Huesca, Spain. We trust that God will give us some souls.

The work continues on at the farmhouse and we are pouring the concrete floors in the remaining two stables so that a group that is coming from the States at the end of March can finish a pretty good sized project. Each of these two sections has two stories, all built inside the stone walls of this 300 year old farmhouse!

Thank you to each and every one of you who continue to support and pray for this ministry among the Basque people of northern Spain.

Sincerely in Christ,

Al & Helga Bonikowsky