

January , 27 , 1983

Dear David and Sue ;

Receive my best wishes (in late!) for a new year of spiritual growth and service opportunities . Thank you for your letter of November , 26 and for the wonderful slides of Mount Hermon area .

I have received from Jeff some corrections on the text of The Quest For Perfection . After some polishing , the second phase is now the making of the sound track . As concerns the problem of the interviews , your idea of printing on the slides themselves the translation seems to be very good ; thereby the audience could feel better the testimony aspect of this part of the slide presentation . Anyways , I think we shall try various solutions and determine which one is adequate . I look forward to hear the tape with the music and the poem in french . We shall send you in turn our trial tapes .

I heard the Canadians have already made some french versions of American slide-shows . Do they have made a version of the Quest For Perfection ? In this event I should be interested to have a copy so as to see how they could have proceed .

Our trip to Mount Hermon . I bought the book "la vie quotidienne en Palestine au temps de Jésus Christ " , which is an excellent one . This is a good preparation for our trip . I have much thought to your suggestions and ideas you exposed . They are excellent , too ! Your relations with authorities in Jordan are a good card for such a trip in such troubled countries . Jordan seems to be indeed a good starting point ; we have however to check wether your formula of round trip is less expensive than : a round trip LONDON-TEL AVIV + a one-way ticket TEL AVIV-AMMAN . Therefore we have to see also wether starting from LONDON is cheaper than from PARIS or BRUXELLES (Charter facilities) . As I have a friend working in a travel agency , I can have all informations about all the possibilities . We could maybe visit the Louvre Museum rather than the British Museum ..?

Spending 3 or 4 weeks makes no problem . I think I can have the possibility to free myself during the month of August (as I have to present a thesis work in October) , and my two friends Patrice and Gilles Dessoubret are "O.K." .

One problem is the war evolution . As you know , many people have taken the bush ; they are precisely scattered in the concerned area . As Mount Hermon is a strategic vantage point , we might encounter many difficulties on our way on . We can be accused to be spies . Knowing some important persons working for legal governments is not sufficient to protect us against rebels... Please give up to get any documents from spyservices ; having there such informations is equivalent to a real suicide .. As you pointed it out , they are defense secrets ; you can't then invoke that you are simple tourists or students if you are arrested .

I guess you have already the map enclosed , printed by Bartholomew editions in England . As I have some experience with maps and orientation , I believe that this one is largely sufficient for the region ; the topography is clear , the lookout is wide , there are no forests ; we can plot our position with sightings by compass .

On place , we could inform us wether it is secure to climb the Mount from Lebanon or Syria . I have plotted with dotted lines some possible itineraries towards the top . Maybe the most exciting -but least easy- way would be to start from far enough so as to progress patiently and gain some spiritual insight on the way on (see Marvin , Reaching High p 81 !) . We can ask for the aid of a guide . A guide knows the tracks , the conditions , the climate , the people in villages we will have to cross . He does know the position of the outposts , the maquis . He could explain who we are , what we want to do here .

I think we have much interest to share with people on the spiritual field .
Rather than feeling that we are exporting our christianity , people can understand
our sincere desire to establish in the conversation a spiritual unity and to share
their profound spiritual motives . Our spiritual experience and goal in this trip
are our best assets . They are the key to the establishment of new and wonderful
relationships with these people of believers . We are not compelled to explain
the spiritual goal of our ascension on Mount Hermon . We can just express ourselves
in their frame of reference . We can realize interviews of ministers , of members
of various religions . We can make a wonderful slide presentation entitled :
"Religions in the Mount Hermon area " . What do you think of it ?

My two friends are 30 years old , both old students of the URANTIA Book . They
have a great experience of travelling around the world . They are both brothers and
single , and they work in computers . Gilles speaks fluently english , as Patrice
speaks fluently the spanish . I believe that they will be marvelous companions
for this trip and that you will appreciate them profoundly .

That I can do from my side , with Gilles and Patrice :

- obtain all informations as concerns the fees for the different itineraries
from LONDON , PARIS or BRUXELLES , and study which solution is cheaper for all
of us .
- obtain informations in embassies : access to Mount Hermon , etc ...
- see with The URANTIA Book which places we would be fond to discover together .
From this , we can establish a first draft of itinerary that we could discuss
afterwards with you .

I look forward to planning such a wonderful adventure with you !
Waiting for your news , I send you my brotherly love

E. DESURVIRE