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Dear Family & Friends,

Blessings to you in the powerful Name of Jesus our Lord! Immediately after mailing our April newsletter, northern part of Chile was inundated with a rainfall that caused widespread mudslides destroying cities & towns north of Ovalle. Atacama is one of the driest deserts in the world. If the rains would have been spanned over a few days, this catastrophe might have been avoided. Coming out of a 17 year drought, the two days rainfall was equivalent to that of 7 years.

Much speculation has been made on the amount of lives lost, since many are missing. But the destruction is unimaginable, the country highway system is severed preventing vehicles from traveling through the 3rd Region of Atacama to the 1st & 2nd Regions. This brutal reality has people with no drinking water, nor food nor homes.



Mar 24- People in Copiapo waiting with anticipation to see the river with water after 17 yrs of it being dry, not realizing it would be in their houses too!



Mar 26 - Copiapo River becomes a raging monster, overflowing its bank with water, mud & rocks, washing away lives, buildings, & vehicles.



An elderly finds refuge on her mattress in the street



Mudslide flood rushing downhill thru the cities and towns of the 3rd Region.



Cars bobbing in the flood waters of the Chilean "Aluvion"



Holding on for dear life in the rapidly moving muddy waters



muddy waters. Mountain view.



to be part of the ocean.



mud dries like cement.

Pastor Marcos & Jaqui, in Antofagasta also experienced flooding as the wild & sudden waters rushed thru the streets on its way from the mountains to the ocean. They were blessed to have had only 1 ft enter into the building, possibly causing some damage but they were spared.

Anyone interested in sending disaster relief for those in the flooded areas, your gifts will be directed to the purchase/delivery of desperately needs items. With the winter already bearing down on them, blankets/bedding are a great need. Thank you for your kindness in Jesus to Chile!

In His vineyard together for His honor and glory,

Sid & Kathy Luke