

Letter from Germany

18 February 1927

Dear Mr. Proske,

I have received 4 publications of your newspaper even though I did not request them and have not paid for them. Thank you very much.

I read that you have to make numerous efforts to receive monies from your subscribers at the beginning of the year. Reading all the correspondence which is sent to you and preparing it for printing alone demand much attention from you. Then there are occasional visitors to your printing shop which takes your attention away from the all-important work that needs to get done. But I read between the lines that you handle all situations with humor and compassion and get the job done.

May you continue to be successful in your business and may the Lord continue to give you needed strength.

We have almost had no snow in Lusatia this winter but lots of unhealthy wet weather. Today it is very cold outside and we have to heat the stove.

I read with great interest what you write about in your newspaper and I ask you to please forward the paper to my son.

I did read with regret that a relative of yours, Ida Proske, took her life. This is very difficult for the relatives to deal with but people like that will ultimately kill themselves. My daughter is in a sanatorium for the fifth time and the worries about her take no end. How do you ask the Lord to save your child without anticipating its fate:

Gott lasse nach dem Leid der Erden	God, after the suffering on this earth
Der Armen leicht die Erde werden	Let her rest in peace
Im stillen Grabeskammerlein	in the stillness of the grave.
Die Seele, die hier war umdunkelt	The darkened soul which was here
Lässt er vom Himmelglanz umfunkelt	May the Lord in his glory
Daheim bei ihrem Heiland sein	Embrace her in heaven.

We don't know our own end of life yet but hope to always keep open a window to Zion and ask that God through the death of his son will save us.

As Mr. Wurm wrote he can walk well with his crutches. His wife of many years and the people of Giddings helped him over his most difficult times in his suffering so that he can thank his Lord.

Here you often read about accidents with cars which speed through the barrier at the train tracks. I don't envy the people for their car. I thank the Lord that I can walk. This week I read in the newspaper that a maid had inherited 5 million dollars in America. People envy her and beg her for financial support. I would not want to inherit so much money. I would give one half of it away to the poor people. Let us continue to walk the path of life which has been given us and be thankful. As the saying goes:

Die Ewigkeit machts einmal klein	Eternity will make appear small
Wie herzlich Jesu Werk hier war,	how wonderful Jesu deeds were
Wie herrlich euch der Weg gewesen!	How great your walk was,

Den er für mich hat auserlesen!
Und nun Gott befohlen!

Which he had planned for me
And guided by the Lord!

Mr. Proske, I hope the wife of Pastor Kilian and their baby are doing well. Please, give them my regards. I often think of her. Many thanks to you again,
From an anonymous female friend in Germany.