

Church of God, The Eternal

P. O. Box 775

Eugene, Oregon 97440

Switzerland

Case Postale 2 701

CH 1002 Lausanne

Canada

P. O. Box 76946, Station "S"

Vancouver, B.C. V5R 5T3

Announcement Letter

March 1981

Here, again, is an issue of the Announcement Letter. This one is important because of the Feast of Tabernacles site decision. In its proper category this matter will be discussed.

Your response to the first issue of the revised letter was most heartwarming. As long as you so kindly and helpfully respond, we will attempt to schedule time for our part.

May I take this opportunity to encourage you to consistently send information necessary to make this endeavor worthwhile. We want it to serve and inspire. Your thinking about the needs, praying for its direction and purpose, and contributing regularly the requisite material will make this project especially meaningful and inspirational to you all.

ARTICLES

The work, The Gnostic Connection, is progressing on schedule. It is our hope to see its completion by the end of the calendar year — if God provides. For all things do totally depend upon His approval and direct intervention. He is our principal Counsellor and help.

After much thought, we have decided to make the Biblical complement to The Gnostic Connection an exhaustive study paper. It will show the real beginning of Babylon, its insidious tentacles throughout human history and its last manifestations before the establishment of God's glorious kingdom at the return of Christ.

With limited personnel and income, we cannot produce the articles and other material as fast as situations and conditions of the world and Church warrant and require. We will try to prioritize correctly and then leave the rest up to God in total faith and trust. Your prayers are greatly needed and solicited.

Thank you for the suggestions you have already sent to us. They will be catalogued for future usage. Please keep the suggestions coming. Though we can write only so much material in any given month, the study required can be undertaken considerably in advance of the actual writing.

NEW INTEREST

U. S. A.: We have received a number of requests for literature and/or the tapes. These are coming from many parts of the country.

With your prayers eventually some of these will find new footing and rekindled confidence in the faith once delivered. Because of the vast amount of adverse literature and the total breakdown of those whom they once believed and trusted, so many exist in doubt, uncertainty, fear and misgiving.

Please pray for them. Once such people take a renewed stand for the Truth which they believed, the old joy of salvation and obedience returns.

INTERNATIONAL:

[Omitted for confidentiality]

PRAYER REQUESTS

[Omitted for confidentiality]

[Omitted for confidentiality]

FOREIGN:

[Omitted for confidentiality]

GENERAL: We need to remember the weather situation in this country. Unless a change occurs, the nationwide water requirements for the upcoming summer will not be met.

Even if the populace begins to receive that which is prophesied for these last days, we must remember the needs of God's own people. He will supernaturally intervene on their behalf. Most assuredly, God will make a difference between the Egyptian (those of the world) and the Israelite (the people of God today).

DEATHS: Mr. Oscar Fogelquist thanks you all for your many prayers and the outstanding outflow of affection, concern and regard to him after the death of his wife of nearly 70 years — Victoria. Your cards and notes of sympathy meant so much to him.

FEAST OF TABERNACLES

The site location for the Feast this year has been determined. Much study, thought and prayer went into the matter. I know God had a hand in it.

No decision was more difficult for me. Repeatedly I asked for your help. I know you gave it. I am grateful.

Considering all the feelings of the people, weighing the current economic situation today — and the probability of the future and evaluating the needs for a successful Feast of meaningful level, I had no alternative but to choose Eugene, Oregon as the site. Let me briefly explain why.

1) The largest number of people lives in this general area. Their homes will be available to receive a number of the people who must travel greater distances and consequently pay more of their second tithe for transportation.

2) A central location was not going to advantageously affect most of the people. Why? The following points will explain.

3) Coast to coast (called ocean to ocean) flights are the least expensive. Flights into the heartland of the U.S.A. are more expensive than certain selections offered for coast to coast travel.

4) Gasoline and related costs are scheduled to skyrocket prior to the Feast this fall. By my own very conservative calculation, travel costs would be prohibitive for most.

5) Being in the central portion of the U.S.A., many people would attempt to drive. The extra time consumption would be from four to six days — going to and returning from the Feast.

6) In all probability a central site would have been a resort area. These types of facilities are by far the most expensive.

7) Eugene not only affords the option of homes, but also a broad list of Motels that are not expensive but very neat and clean.

8) Eugene affords a number of cafeteria type eating establishments. An item virtually unheard of in resort areas.

9) By having the Feast in Eugene, a large number of people will have extra second tithe to aid others so that they too can attend. The people of this area look forward to helping their brothers and sisters attend. More will be written later.

10) To avoid the high cost of transportation from San Francisco (a major market area) to Eugene, we can arrange for a charter bus. All we would need to do is schedule carefully our times of arrival in San Francisco.

NOTE: At present time TWA and American are offering Night Coach flights to San Francisco, from New York, for \$149.00 one way. Other points of origin on the East Coast are comparable.

As a point of beginning, let me suggest, for any who wish to avail themselves of this phenomenal fare, make your reservation for Saturday night of October 10. The feast begins on the eve of October 13. It would require about 14 hours for the bus to travel from San Francisco to Eugene. If sufficient people need such a bus, we will arrange it.

Of course, for those who wish to schedule flights into Eugene, you may do so. We will arrange for pick up of any and all who need such help.

Also, although Portland is not considered a prime West Coast market, there are reduced ocean to ocean fares. We can easily assist you from that point of arrival, too.

As time does allow for substantial fare increases, may I suggest early action. For those in the Eastern part of the U.S.A., give principal consideration to the cost of transportation. We will be able to help in other areas of cost needs.

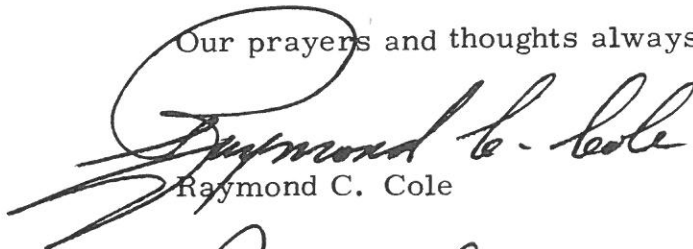
More will be written at a later time. The above is sufficient to explain the economic need. We sincerely want to help as many as possible. Locating the site in some geographically centralized area was not going to help the vast majority of the people.

Be optimistic. Pray for God's intervention. Be determined, in faith, to do the will of God. I am sure the obedient will be blessed of God. We will be given a great and glorious Feast this year. After all, we serve the Supreme Ruler of the universe. We can trust Him. He will not let us down if we desire to obey Him.

This letter is long. Will conclude with the thoughts on the Feast of Tabernacles. Other points will be covered in a subsequent issue.

May God's love be with you all.

Our prayers and thoughts always,



Raymond C. Cole



Bryce G. Clark