

Church of God, The Eternal

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Announcement Letter

April 1981

March 1981 will soon be history. In these few remaining days of the month another Announcement Letter is being written, edited, typed, printed and mailed to you. So here it is once again, hopefully serving as a vehicle of inspiration, information and encouragement. Thank you for the privilege of serving you.

May I once again encourage you to keep the comments about the "letter" coming to us. From these comments we are able to select the information which will be most helpful for any given particular issue. If room and time afforded, everything sent could be included. But, since this is not possible, we will need to select and attempt to keep these letters reasonably short and precise.

ARTICLES

I cannot encourage you too greatly to send in ideas and suggestions concerning articles, or types of articles, which you feel are essential and would greatly help the majority of readers. As soon as the book on the various Gnostic connections and relevancy to today's world is completed we will be addressing other types of articles.

Based on our present configuration — estranged children from the body — it is necessary to fulfill the Biblical requirement to watch and to keep you apprised of events happening which are bound to affect that body. These articles and letters so directed will cover not only the reality of such actions but their meaning to us in these troublous times. Castigating, derisive material will have no place in this approach. Such actions are strongly condemned by God. Exposés are not of God. But to understand what is happening to the body which once taught the truth and to comprehend such actions in relation to our responsibilities is imperative.

We will always attempt to be objective and fair. Who is helped in his spiritual endeavor by detailing the sins of others? To reveal the sins of another is an announcement, in fact, that the sins of the one doing the exposing will be revealed ultimately. I do not think any of us would really want our past sins completely exposed. Those who deserve such punishment will be subjected to it by God at the appropriate time.

For the present, we want your suggestions about articles which will help you and other readers to become more successful Christians. We need information which will help us to grow spiritually. Merely understanding the problems of other human beings does not make us a better Christian. The Bible requires us to turn the mirror around and look at ourselves.

With this issue of the Announcement Letter comes another installment of The Gnostic Connection. May it prove to be helpful and informative to you. We are greatly pleased that God has blessed us with the insight and ability to make this matter plain to those who desire understanding. The April issue will contain a little over one-third of chapter six. The remainder of that chapter will accompany the May Monthly Letter, Announcement Letter, etc.

As soon as possible the total Biblical overview (a study paper) will be commenced. It will form the final chapter to the book.

No further subjects have been selected at the present time. It will require several months to complete the above book. Even so, we must begin compiling a list of subject material from which future articles will be selected. Again, your help is appreciated.

NEW INTEREST

God is very much concerned with His people. In several areas of the country people are responding to the influence of the Holy Spirit. They are very deeply concerned about the changes in doctrine, the relaxation of morals, as well as the overall liberal philosophy which prevails in the church today.

In Texas, Tennessee, Pennsylvania and other areas there is heart-warming response. What a joy to see the old enthusiasm, joy and excitement return to the countenance of their faces. "By their fruits you shall know them" is a living testimony to the resurfacing of God's Holy Spirit. For out of fear, trouble and confusion many brethren still within the apostate body have suppressed the Spirit. Such is a grief both to themselves and God.

For several reasons, I will not mention by name any of the above people. However, I do ask that all diligently pray for them. They need our help and encouragement. It is not easy to disentangle oneself from the web which has been created in the physical body — the church in which we all had such confidence and hope in the past.

INTERNATIONAL: There is no new overseas activity to mention in this letter. But unusual things are happening in many areas of the world. From this I am sure some will begin to question the integrity of the church. As God wills, some will respond to the "faith once delivered." As of the present, we know of no specific individuals. As stated previously, they

may be waiting upon our prayers. We should diligently and fervently continue daily prayers for those of God's people who are troubled, confused and uncertain due to happenings within the church. Such is our responsibility toward all people around the world.

PRAYER REQUESTS

[Omitted for confidentiality]

GENERAL: Another variety of the flu seems to be sweeping the country. Pray for God's protection upon His own people.

Continue to pray for those people whom I have listed before. In some cases God has begun to intervene, but they still need our prayers.

We are living in times when it is vitally imperative that we remember our brothers and sisters in their economic needs. Due to an economic "recession" several of our people are without jobs. Please pray for them. God will bless His own. He hears the prayers of the faithful.

With carnal activity, violent and hateful human responses manifesting themselves with greater regularity today, we must diligently pray

[Omitted for confidentiality]

DEATHS:

[Omitted for confidentiality]

FEAST OF TABERNACLES

The favorable response for a Eugene convocation site has been absolutely overwhelming. Let me personally thank you all for the magnificent manner in which you received and responded to the site selection. Truly God's Holy Spirit does work. We are so grateful for its power and influence.

Little will be said concerning the Fall feast in this letter. At a later time, the complete details will be written.

The Bus: From San Francisco Airport to Eugene. We have received some comment about this possibility. To make it effective, there must be early planning. If there is sufficient need, we will make the arrangements. In order to smoothly accomplish this task, we must have early and definite knowledge. The cost will vary according to how many people elect to use this service. If there are not sufficient numbers, we cannot justify this form of transportation. In this connection, it might be worthy of specific mention here, you can secure direct flights into Eugene from the east and south. Several airlines; United, Frontier and Republic; have flights from Denver. Few airlines fly non-stop to west-coast cities anymore. For your advantage, consider the possibility of a flight which takes you through Denver and on to Eugene direct.

Flights: Prices and conditions vary dramatically from week to week. Please continue to watch these changes. God will bless His people. I am sure He will bless those who sincerely desire to attend the Feast in faithful obedience with an excellent price break. He has already done this for several. He is no respecter of persons. If there is any way we can help please let us know.

CURRENT EVENTS

Once again, we must postpone any comments about the conditions of this world which are moving forward at an ever-accelerating pace. The latter part of this particular letter must form the Spring Holy Day Letter.

BLESSINGS OF BRETHREN

We have received several letters in the past month indicating how greatly God has intervened in their lives. We are so thankful and grateful. For the results of prayers which they received are just what we expected — by faith.

[Omitted for confidentiality]

So many times in earlier years, we were asked to pray for specific people but we never received follow-up information to indicate what happened. In some cases people died, had been healed or experienced conditions altering the need of prayer. Yet those who were asked to pray never knew the facts. We want to avoid this same condition. Please, please, give us information of God's intervention in your lives. We will be sure to convey the information to those who voluntarily and willingly pray for you — where the needs are specific.

TRIPS

[Omitted for confidentiality]

The Switzerland trip this year will be from June 9 to July 7. Myra and I will be privileged to see all the French-speaking brethren in Lausanne, Switzerland on the day of Pentecost. Also, we will be able to serve the individual groups both in Lausanne and Grenoble. What a blessing it will be once again to see and serve those people.

HOLY DAYS

This year Passover will be observed on the eve of April 17. Passover day is the 18th. The Night To Be Much Observed is April the 18th. The first High Day is April 19. And the final High Day is April 25, a Sabbath.

Each family or individual should select the area where he intends to observe these commanded Holy Days. So that appropriate selections can

be made, the following information will be given. These are our contact personnel in their respective areas. You may feel free to call or write to them with respect to particulars for observing these convocations in their areas.

Eugene - Portland: Please contact the office here in Eugene.

Vancouver, B.C. (Canada): Please contact Mr. Rick Cartier: 6853 Elwell Street; Burnaby, B.C. Canada V5E 1K2. Phone: (604) 525-1113. Or, Mr. Tom Lawrence: 6120 Canim Place; Richmond, B.C. Canada V7C 2N2. Phone: (604) 274-8796.

Central California (Sacramento): Mr. John Mitchell: 8269 Conover Drive; Citrus Heights, California 95610. Phone: (916) 726-6251.

West Central Texas (Austin): Mr. John Byrd: Bend Route; Lometa, Texas 76853. Phone: (915) 628-3257. Or, Mr. Archie Murray: Route 1, Box 297; Lampasas, Texas 76550. Phone: (512) 556-2079.

Dallas - Fort Worth, Texas: Mr. Wesley Winant: Rte. 2, Box 274, Lot #37; McKinney, Texas 75069. Phone: (214) 442-3456.

Knoxville - Nashville, Tennessee: Mr. Bill McCammon: Rte. 13, Box 234; Maryville, Tennessee 37801. Phone: (615) 984-6585. Or, Mr. Robert Jacobs: 729 Yowell Avenue; Madison, Tennessee 37115. Phone: (615) 868-9513.

Ohio and Western Pennsylvania: Mr. George Leeman: R.D. #3, Box 161-B; Leechburg, Pennsylvania 15656. Phone: (412) 337-8941.

Baltimore — Washington D.C.: Mr. Bernard Kidwell: 221 Lodge Forest Drive; Baltimore, Maryland 21219. Phone: (301) 477-2287. Or, Mr. Eugene Leeb: 615 Meadow Road; Baltimore, Maryland 21206. Phone: (301) 661-9470.

N.Y./N.J. — N.E. Pennsylvania: Mr. Arthur Meining: R.D. #1; Kunkletown, Pennsylvania 18058. Phone: (215) 681-4206.

Boston, Massachusetts: Those from that area will contact personnel in the New York/New Jersey — Pennsylvania area for this year.

Southern California (Los Angeles - San Diego): Mr. Al Beyer: 710 Ramona Avenue; Sierra Madre, California 91024. Phone: (213) 355-6923.

All scattered brethren may contact us here at the office and we will assist you in whatever way we can.

April 1981

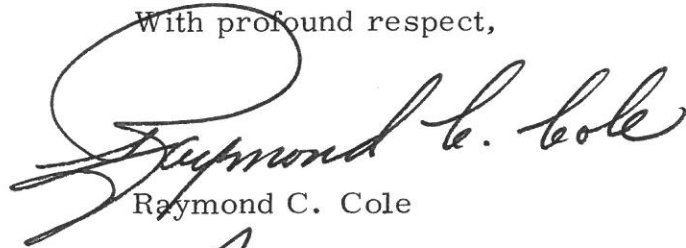
Since we like to leave responsibility at the local level, the decisions with respect to location of meetings, the times, etc., can best be ascertained by contacting the above contact personnel. They can help you determine all information necessary for you to make your plans.

CONCLUSION

Thank you for all the kind comments regarding the Announcement Letters. It is always a privilege to serve those who truly appreciate the effort expended.

Until next time, we take this opportunity to convey our love and respect. We truly hope you have a rich, meaningful and inspirational Pass-over and Unleavened Bread observance. I personally look forward to seeing many of you during my travels. Again, all our love.

With profound respect,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Raymond C. Cole". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Raymond C. Cole

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bryce G. Clark". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Bryce G. Clark