

# 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 May 1982

Passover has come and gone. Again, what a meaningful occasion God allowed us to experience. Is there any yearly function, event, or activity which so thoroughly inspires, motivates, and gives a sense of confidence and purpose? How great to yearly accept the benevolent sacrifice of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

Also, the Days of Unleavened Bread were a source of encouragement. God allowed us the privilege of honoring Him another year. Loyal, implicit obedience seems to be most rare in these days of "change," perversion, and amelioration. Truly, absolute obedience will be observed as a brilliant beacon as the days become more evil. And, obedience, on the part of far too many will become token. How perverse is the natural nature of man. He wants to deceive himself that he is obeying God while pursuing all the natural desires and inclinations of the flesh. Self-deception is rampant; and will grow much worse in the days to come.

The keeping of Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread is an act of obedience. Anything worth doing is worth doing well. We must obey from the heart — wholehearted obedience. God will accept nothing less.

As the days of darkness encroach, it becomes more imperative to accent obedience — not to ameliorate. Thanks to God, we are afforded the privilege to go all the way without fear of reprisal, disdain, or outright persecution from within the body. From the world, we are told to anticipate such hateful manifestations. These manifestations we can accept because we know they do not understand. Even as Christ and Stephen said, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." But persecution from God's people of short-sighted vision is a problem of different dimension. The pain arises from a sense of knowing the condition of those involved, not from personal wounds. The deeper the hurt, the more intense the prayers of those who are spiritually motivated. The Christian has no room in heart or mind for contempt, anger, or self-aggrandizement. He manifests the revealed attitude of Christ — an attitude of sorrow and regret.

Everywhere, evidence of the last days is mounting. Plotting and scheming for outright war is universal. The occult is not only surfacing; it is brazen and bold in fostering its endeavors. Has there ever been a time when

Eastern culture has become more rampant and visible? Words and assurances of men are meaningless. Words are redefined and perverted for selfish and personal advantage. Covenants and agreements are broken with impunity. Religion is a farce. Laws, both spiritual and physical, are warped and outright broken for any and all sensual satisfaction.

Integrity is gone. Honesty is a thing of the past. Moral rectitude is decried, ridiculed, and in every way made to look puerile, unattractive, and of no value in our society. Our institutions of higher learning (?) have become saturated with perverts and others of demeaning character. Almost without exception, these institutions have been taken over by a band of individuals who espouse a different, and untried modus operandi of life. And yet, those who espouse this amoral concept believe themselves to be deeply religious. What a paradox!

Only the coming of Jesus Christ can save mankind from inherent destruction — politically, economically, religiously, socially, and educationally. What a day of rejoicing awaits man — rejoicing because he will be set upon a way of life which produces happiness, satisfaction, contentment, and the abundance of life.

Now is the time for us to develop the knowledge, expertise, and character requisite for entrance into that glorious state. If we cannot differentiate between darkness and light, how can we possibly be used to resolve the world's pressing problems? What a responsibility God has called us to assume — if we qualify. Make no mistake about it, there will be no cheating or fudging in the final evaluation. We will either make it on the merit of our endeavor or we will have failed. The decision must always rest with us, individually, NOW!

## ARTICLES

Progress is being made on the article: Sacred Names. At this point, we are not sure just what the title will be.

The rough draft is now 100% complete. Into this will be inserted any needed Biblical enhancement as we are editing the work. I have just completed a very thorough analysis of the Biblical material involved in the subject.

We do want to thank you for the suggestions which you have been sending regarding the next article on the subject of healing. They are much appreciated. Please keep them coming. We will attempt to include all the information we possibly can — that which fits into the framework of the overall article.

For this month, only the second half of the Monthly Letter subject commenced last time will be sent. The work load just does not permit either the writing of the material or the typing and printing. At times compromises have to be made. The presentation of the Sacred Names article will limit what

we can do in printing and in other areas. Economics will permit us to go only so far in any given month. As God wills and provides, we will submit the results of our studies in written form. The annual budget must be the ultimate indicator.

#### NEW INTEREST

Please continue to pray for the many new contacts which are manifesting an interest. We are presently receiving more new letters than at any other time in our history. With God's help some of these will find their way through the maze of confusion which exists today.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

[Omitted for confidentiality]

[Omitted for confidentiality]

### GENERAL REQUESTS

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Economics: There is considerable evidence that conditions will grow much worse before any turn around is experienced — if it will at all. Please remember all of God's chosen people. He has promised to see all who love Him through these dark and difficult times.

### BLESSINGS OF BRETHREN

[Omitted for confidentiality]

### FEASTS /HOLYDAYS

Pentecost: May 31, 1982 (Monday). Local services will be held in Eugene only. The times of the services will be 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. A covered-dish meal will be served at lunch time. All arrangements will be made locally. If there are questions, please ask locally.

All other areas throughout the United States: Lead men should make the arrangements on the basis of local need. Two tapes will be provided for the services from Eugene. If there are questions, please do not hesitate to call or write.

Myra and I will once again be in Switzerland. This annual Feast Day gives us a fitting occasion to be with the French-speaking brethren once a year. We would greatly appreciate your prayers. There will be many meetings and studies.

I have arranged our return from Switzerland so that we can spend the Sabbath of July 3, 1982, in New Jersey. Hopefully, it will not be

inconvenient for those in the immediate and surrounding areas to have a meeting arranged for that Sabbath. Please contact Mr. Arthur Meining.

### FEAST OF TABERNACLES

Last month we mentioned that Worldwide Church of God was planning to be in Eugene this fall. Further checking proves this to be a mistake. We were told directly they were planning to be here in 1982. Maybe God had something to do with the change!

As far as we know now, they are planning to keep the Feast here in the fall of 1983 — if God does not once again intervene. We are most happy to take conditions one year at a time.

Feel free to make your reservations wherever you would like. As indicated in the past, some of the downtown motels offer much better rates than do those in the more demanding and active areas.

If you do not get satisfaction from a particular motel, please feel free to consider other units. Sometimes, the managers of particular motels give us figures that they do not abide by when conversing with you. If they are attempting to exploit by this means, you need feel no compunction to reserve with them.

Now is the time to watch airline fares carefully. The attentive will be paid handsomely for this careful surveillance. If we can be of any assistance, please call upon us.

Considering all the alternatives and the needs of the majority of the people God has kept faithful to the truth, we have no other direction to go but to keep the Feast here in Eugene once again. We were able to help so many people because of that arrangement last year. I am sure it is the will of God. I would rather we have much less in the way of physical accoutrements and be recipients of the love and mercy of God than to have all the physical comforts and miss out on the great spiritual blessings of God. So many, yours truly included, felt that God gave us a truly beautiful occasion last year, despite the hall problems. I am sure we will experience another this fall. The physical is not the best but we can compensate with augmentation of the spiritual.

### TRIPS

Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread trip by Mr. Bryce Clark: The time was from April 2 to 18. Nine meetings were held in which 197 (cumulative) people attended. Severe weather conditions in Pennsylvania and the Northeast states did not seriously hinder any of the meetings as the roads were generally clear on the weekly Sabbaths and High Sabbath days. Temperature experienced during the trip varied from 15 degrees and blizzard conditions in the Northeast to 90 degrees in Texas. There was much enthusiasm and effort put forth by the brethren to attend the meetings and the love and

fellowship displayed were what Christians should manifest if they truly are the people of God.

Mr. Bryce Clark wishes to thank all the brethren in the areas he attended, which included Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland, Tennessee, and Texas, for their wonderful hospitality and the effort put forth to properly observe the Spring Festival. To the expressed wishes of Mr. Clark, may we all thank you — all the brethren, in all areas — for your part in making the spring Holydays another meaningful occasion. It is your spontaneous and enthusiastic obedience to the truth of God which makes spiritual service rewarding. May we take this opportunity to thank you for all your manifested concern and determination to be obedient to the faith once delivered. God is not unmindful. Being your Father, He will greatly reward. For, obedience is always rewarded in due time.

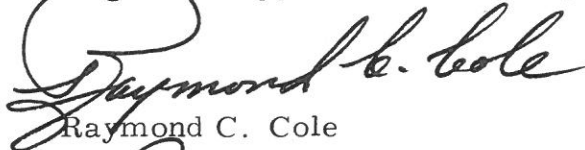
### CONCLUSION

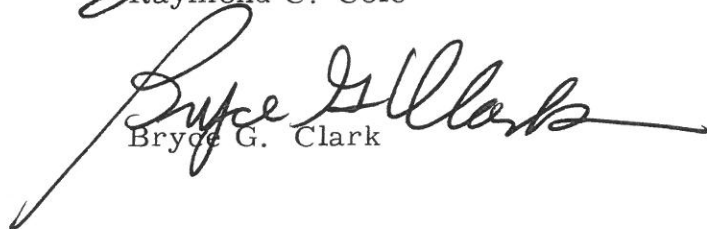
It is our desire to update the Prayer and General Requests sections of this Announcement Letter regularly. May we suggest that you keep us apprised of God's intervention and blessings in your lives. What a joy to share these with all the brethren. With your help we can make this letter most effective.

We are in the countdown to the day of Pentecost. Once again, Myra and I will be in Switzerland for this Holyday. May we petition an interest in your daily prayers? I know that God will reward all His children with a beautiful occasion.

Finally, I hope to see some of you later this summer. I plan to make another trip out before the Feast of Tabernacles. Must close for this time.

In grateful appreciation and deep love,

  
Raymond C. Cole

  
Bryce G. Clark