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Announcement Letter November 1982

The Feast of 1982 is over. All have safely returned to their respective homes. How greatly blessed we are! God is most concerned with His children — ever watchful for their best interest.

Winter has made its appearance in most areas. Even though it is technically only Fall, the winter type of weather — experienced in many areas — has made itself felt. According to long-range predictions, this particular year will be noted for unusual cold and storm conditions. Even so, God knows His own and will be on guard for the health and welfare of His beloved sons and daughters.

CURRENT EVENTS:

Can anyone deny the existence of major international problems? Conflict! Exploitation! Double standards! The usual round of half-truths spoken by politicians in this election year! Unemployment! Street crime! Crime in high places! Increase of immorality! Entertainment which is absolutely the worst! Terrorism! Yet, we have barely seen the beginning. Much time has elapsed but the rapid acceleration of evil has just begun to appear. The next few months (1982-1984) should be dramatic ones.

In these times, it is imperative that we keep cool, balanced, and with an eye on the ultimate objective — the Life to which we have been called.

Find your solace, comfort, and assurance in consistent and constant contact with God. Prayer must become a way of life.

ARTICLES:

Research is progressing on the healing article and new information is beginning to come to light. Most people are probably not aware that the various approaches used to "make people well" are based on philosophies of one type or another. These philosophies generally go back to Greek or ancient ideas. We hope to be able to put this altogether so that we can present a complete picture showing why the Bible approach to healing is the only one that is based on revealed Truth. Among other things, we will also be able to demonstrate why there is so much sickness in modern civilization in spite of the achievements of medical science. This article should be most revealing.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

[Omitted for confidentiality]

GENERAL REQUESTS:

Please keep in mind the serious economic state of the nation and the world. Many brethren are facing job and related financial difficulties. A number are unemployed and in some cases have been for a considerable period of time. Please pray that these brethren can secure work and have the ability to provide for their families. Remember, the effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much (Jas. 5:16). Then too, remember this is the time of year for flu to take its toll. Please pray for the health of the brethren as the flu incidence begins to dramatically increase.

FEAST OF TABERNACLES:

By way of appreciation, the brethren who were given second tithe assistance in order to attend the Feast of Tabernacles wish to convey their gratitude to those brethren who were willing to share their tithes and homes with them during the Feast. For these acts of kindness and concern, they are deeply thankful.

Also, Nimal Fernando recently wrote to send his greetings and love to the brethren. He was able to keep the Feast in Sri Lanka with his fiancee—listening to the tapes and benefiting spiritually as a result.

From all reports the Feast held by the Texas brethren at Lone Oak, Texas, near Dallas, was a resounding success. The brethren were able to hear several sermons by Mr. John Mitchell as well as to listen to pre-selected tapes. The Texas brethren will be looking forward to a full Feast next year.

This is the time to send in your suggestions regarding any likely Feast sites in the general areas we have selected for the Feast of 1983. Please keep in mind we are looking for the best private-type accommodations for the most reasonable price. Your suggestions should include a sufficient amount of research to give us some definite figures regarding prices, accommodations, and general atmosphere of the suggested area.

TRIPS:

Mr. Cole will be visiting the Baltimore area on the weekend of November 6, and the Southern California area for the weekend of November 13. Arrangements have been made for fellowship in these areas. The meeting in Southern California will be in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Schaer. Please pray for a successful, safe journey and for good weather conditions so that as many as possible may be able to attend.

In the latter part of December Mr. Cole will be visiting in the Dallas area. The exact time will be given in the December Announcement Letter. Please keep in mind the same request made above for success and good weather.

CONCLUSION:

Please refer to previous letters, brethren, regarding individual prayer requests. We try to inform you of those where needs have been resolved. Otherwise, we must assume the needs are still there. The general needs are health and financial problems brought on by the present economic situation. Will this economic situation improve or will it get worse? This depends upon what God has in mind for the near future. But certainly, what happens to us as individuals depends a great deal upon our personal relationships with God and our concern for one another and for mankind in general. Let us never underestimate the power and love of God as He listens to the fervent prayers of His children.

With an our love, prayers, and affection,

Raymond C. Cole

Bryce G. Clark

P.S. Leon Whitaker — A large bidding contractual dispute: Now before an arbitration board. Pray for a favorable resolve.