

Church of God, The Eternal

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Announcement Letter January, 1983

Warmest greetings brethren. According to the Romans, another year has passed. We are now in a new block of time.

We may have passed an arbitrary demarcation of time, but I fear there has been no change in the downward thrust of man. Year by year, instead of learning the lessons of our experiences, we consistently explain them away. What was experienced in the past somehow has no relevancy to the present. Explanations of trials and difficulties have always pushed these problems into neat little time configurations. They are never viewed in the longer context of man's nature and inherent weaknesses.

Therefore, the year 1983 will not change the basic trend of degradation regardless of mythical explanations. Changes will occur only in the few who recognize the lessons of the past, the cause of those difficulties and the necessity of volition and determination in the production of those desired changes.

CURRENT EVENTS

Global economy seems to be uppermost in the minds of all people. Each one is looking for a scapegoat on which to lay the blame for all the monetary ills. Democrats blame Republicans. Republicans blame Democrats. Many people of Europe are now blaming the United States for their wars. But the real reasons seldom surface and become observable and really understood. Such is the nature of deception.

How soon we forget the past. People are like a pendulum in a giant grandfather clock. They merely move back and forth in a predetermined path of motion. All the while they are acting only in the limit of some determined constraint. Few have ever attempted to stop this wild vacillation in their thinking and behavior pattern and ask down-to-earth basic questions.

What you are seeing is NOT the cause of any of the troubles encountered. The god of this world has made sure that the average man of the street does not see nor understand what is happening. In this way he can be fed whatever philosophy is needed for the time. This principle applies in all areas of

man's endeavor: economics, government, religion, social customs, and other. If we blindly accept what society offers, we are easily led in the paths of controlled behavior.

There will be no resolve to the economy of this world until man returns to cardinal economic principles enunciated by God. For the present, those principles must guide the Christian. Tomorrow he will teach them to the world.

Little needs to be said about the advances of Humanism. It is a universal religion today. People are going to live according to the dictates of self.

The two principles mentioned above affect every other division of man's endeavor today. Business! Manufacturing! Religion! Law! It makes little difference.

ARTICLES

Work is progressing rapidly on the initial parts of the Healing Article. You are going to find this article thorough and comprehensive. To make a work exhaustive requires time. The basic inherent questions in the subject must be answered. Sometimes those questions demand much research to uncover the answers.

Now much reason is being generated for the development of the subject of Israel. This subject itself interrelates to many other cardinal doctrinal issues. For instance, "What Is The Church?"

In all our studies, we keep uppermost in our minds the "doctrine once revealed." That concept is our guide through all troubled waters of doubt, fear, and rejection so rampant today. We will not depart from the doctrine as it was originally revealed!

Again, let me state: We do hope to do some basic articles for the new and those lacking solid foundation. But all must come in its time.

NEW INTEREST

We are blessed to receive responses from those yet troubled by events which have and are yet occurring in the Church. I am sorry I cannot respond as quickly as I would like. Please continue to pray for health and the ability to accomplish that which needs to be done.

PRAYER REQUESTS

[Omitted for confidentiality]

[Omitted for confidentiality]

GENERAL REQUESTS

Feast of Tabernacles: Please continue to pray about the sites for the Feast of Tabernacles this Fall. We want only the will of God.

U.S.A. and World Economy: We are facing a devastating potential around the world. As stated in the past, the signals are mixed. But, all seem to agree, the ultimate result is the same — total economic chaos. Pray for the safety, protection, and blessing of the brethren.

[Omitted for confidentiality]

BLESSINGS OF THE BRETHREN

[Omitted for confidentiality]

[Omitted for confidentiality]

FEAST OF TABERNACLES

No pertinent information to give in this letter. Probably there will be nothing too significant for several months. Will let you know about developments as they arise.

TRIPS

Even though too late to be effective, I'll still give the details of my first trip in 1983. Would appreciate your prayers, as always.

I am leaving Eugene on January 7 for Knoxville, Tennessee. Will spend the Sabbath of the 8th in that area. I anticipate a very wonderful meeting.

In mid-week I'll fly on to Nashville, Tennessee. Will have a Sabbath service on the 15th.

I am looking forward to seeing all of my brothers and sisters once again. Please pray for good weather, good health for all, and acceptable conditions for wonderful services.

CONCLUSION

Have not specifically heard from others for whom we are praying. We must assume the need still exists. In general, the need to pray for economic solvency for all of God's beloved children prevails.

As I am informed about healing or other ways God has intervened in the lives of His people, I'll let you know.

Please pray for one another. All need the abiding love and prayers of the faithful.

Until next time, again our deepest love, thoughts, and prayers. We hope the Roman year, 1983, will see many fine blessings from God upon you all.

In heartfelt love and respect,


Raymond C. Cole


Bryce G. Clark

P. S. Due to size of January Monthly Letter, and the urgency of other matters, the Babylon Outline will not be submitted until the February Monthly Letter. The basic work is completed. It is now just a matter of putting the material into final outline form.

P. P. S. Mrs. Mildred Kalvig: Requests prayer for lungs and allergies.