Church of God, The Eternal

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Announcement Letter
March 1983

Warmest Greetings Brethren:

A ray of economic hope and encouragement seems to be filtering through to the United States populace. Let us pray and hope that the expectation is for real. A sudden turn for the worse would be most devastating for the people. For their hopes are greatly guarded and conditioned due to the long dry spell which they have just experienced.

The unemployment percentage has dropped most insignificantly. But, there are indications that a minor attrition may occur in this statistic before the conclusion of the year. We, ourselves, have seen some new activity manifested in the last few weeks. All this will be as God wills. Perhaps we do have a little time. Yet, if we are on the threshold of the cataclysmic events of the last days, the graph will tend downward, regardless of temporary interruptions.

Many times, I have written attempting to establish, under us all, the firm resolve to look not at the physical factors, but to look to God. In these days of change and trouble there is no other avenue of hope and encouragement. God has promised to care for His chosen children. He will not forget them. We may not prosper -- as the expanding number of economists promise clientele; but we will be sustained with the provision of all necessities for life; perhaps not our wants, however.

The just shall live by faith. How much more meaningful and significant will that expression become as the last days progress toward the ultimate? Let us use every opportunity afforded us for the growth and development of that faith. Faltering and failing in the ascent of the ladder of faith is just like attempting to climb a literal ladder when a number of rungs are missing. The climb is not difficult if we take each rung in successive steps. But when we miss a vital rung in that ascent of faith, the climb becomes increasingly difficult. If we miss sufficient rungs, the climb becomes virtually impossible. As always, the choices are ours. No one is judged on the basis of what some other person does or does not do. Each of us, individually, is accountable to God for our own behavior and obedience.

Faith is imperative. We cannot be successful without it. But, how does that all-important ingredient come? It comes by the hearing of the Word of God -- by reading and studying the Scriptures and applying the instruction to ourselves, individually (Rom. 10).

Let us all determine to be successful. Embarrassment and shame will be experienced by those who vacillate or succumb to the pulls of natural minds and hearts.

ARTICLES

Much more relevant information has been gathered in preparation for the writing of the article on <u>Healing</u>. We are not hurrying the article because we want it to be complete and exhaustive. We understand the need for clarifications and help. But to hurry its completion would be more injurious than having you wait patiently for a few months to receive what we know will be an acceptable article. Please continue to pray for God's guidance and help. We are doing our level best, but that is woefully deficient. We want to be sure that God is directing.

Other research will be commenced soon. Only one person can do the actual writing. Others will begin to do much needed work on subjects equally imperative. It is rewarding to do this work for you. But we do need your continued prayers. Energy and eyes do encounter problems.

GENERAL WORK

Since the March <u>Monthly Letter</u> is quite lengthy, the last segment of the Biblical Outline on the subject of Babylon will be held up until the month of April. Though there are other facets of this Biblical Outline, they will not be attempted for some time. There is only so much we can accomplish within a given period of time. Our studying, researching, and writing load is becoming heavier month by month.

Here is where I would like to make mention of personal correspondence. I have accumulated many letters which need answering. And they will be answered, God willing, I can only beg your patience. For such writing does take time, also. To do the job on them which I feel they warrant, I can do that writing only when time allows. Again, please be patient.

PRAYER REQUESTS

[Omitted for confidentiality]

[Omitted for confidentiality]

BLESSINGS OF BRETHREN

[Omitted for confidentiality]

FEASTS: HOLY DAYS

1. Dallas, Texas: For those who can travel, the centralized area for the Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread will be in the general area of Dallas. Mr. John Byrd will be basically responsible because of his past experience in handling such meetings. His assistant will be Mr. Wesley Winant. Together they can proceed to make whatever arrangements are necessary.

Tapes for the Passover service, Night To Be Much Observed, and both Holy Days will be sent to both men, just in case all the meetings are not centralized. Then both will need the tapes for those services held in their respective local areas. Even if some of the meetings are localized, both men should proceed to make complete arrangements for the brethren in the Texas area.

Once arrangements are complete, please send us a copy of the schedule. If need should arise, we can better serve all concerned with the above information.

- 2. Bedford, Pennsylvania: Mr. George Leeman will be there for Passover and the Night To Be Much Observed. For all planning to attend, please contact Mr. Gary Layton at (814) 652-2476.
- 3. Carlisle, Pennsylvania: First High Day of Unleavened Bread, AM and PM services. For those planning to attend, please contact Mr. Gary Layton. See telephone number above. This service is planned for all the people in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Washington, D.C., and other states. Mr. George Leeman and family will be present.
- 4. Baltimore, Maryland: For Passover and Night To Be Much Observed, please contact Mr. Bud Kidwell at (301) 477-2287 or Mr. Eugene Leeb at (301) 661-9470. They may mutually begin to arrange for all services required in that area.

- 5. New York, New Jersey, and Northeastern Pennsylvania: For all services required in that geographical sector, Mr. Arthur Meining may proceed to make necessary arrangements. His telephone number is (215) 681-4206.
- 6. Knoxville, Tennessee: Mr. Bill McCammon may proceed to make all necessary arrangements. For both the AM and PM services of the last High Day, Mr. George Leeman will be present. For those who need to make contact, please call Mr. McCammon. His telephone number is (615) 984-6585.
- 7. Nashville, Tennessee: Please contact Mr. Robert Jacobs for all arrangements necessitated in that area. His telephone number is (615) 868-9513.
- 8. Vancouver, B.C. (Canada): Mr. Rick Cartier and Mr. Tom Lawrence may proceed to make all necessary arrangements.
- 9. Southern California: Please contact Mr. Al Beyer for all Passover and Unleavened Bread arrangements for that area. His telephone number is (213) 355-6923.
- 10. Eugene and Portland, Oregon: Please contact the office here in Eugene. Since Mr. Bryce G. Clark will be responsible for the area, please refer your questions regarding arrangements to him.
- 11. Central California: Mr. John Mitchell will be in charge of all arrangements for that area. Assisting him will be Mr. Gary Arnebeck. Mr. Mitchell's telephone number is (916) 726-6251. Mr. Arnebeck's telephone number is (209) 521-2267.
- 12. Switzerland: I will be in Switzerland for both Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread. Of course, Mr. Jean Aviolat will make arrangements as he is accustomed to doing.
- All tapes and necessary material will be provided from Eugene, as usual. We surely hope and pray that all will experience a very marvelous Passover and Feast occasion.

Many will not be able to attend any one of the above centralized areas. For those who cannot gather together with others in one of those listed sites, please send information to us immediately so that we can send material to you — instructing you in observing the Passover in your own home.

FEAST OF TABERNACLES

Townsend, Tennessee: Due to the fact the various motels involved with us will need to begin booking other groups or individuals, it is extremely advisable that you book early. If you are not transferring, you can book now — at your earliest convenience.

Mr. Bill McCammon has contacted a number of other motel units — owners who are interested in working with us. Also, a number of very fine homes have become available. These would be very fine arrangements for couples who have families. Whatever the choice, please work through Mr. Bill McCammon. He knows the area and can advise you. It is imperative that we keep the Talley-Ho Motel filled. Mr. Talley has rendered a very fine service to us. We intend to honor him in like manner. By working through Mr. McCammon, assignments and

changes from this point forward can be accomplished with organization and purpose. He will give the options. You can still make your own choices.

Mr. Talley informs us that he has a very fine tennis court on the motel property. He hopes that many will come prepared to use it.

Again, please make reservations early. It is for your protection.

West Coast: We thought we had a place established for the Western area of the United States. It was the beautiful resort area of Sunriver -- near Bend, Oregon. But, after a careful review of availabilities by the management of the establishment, they were forced to conclude accommodating us, for this year, was an impossibility. They were not solidly booked; it is just that too many dates within our protracted period of time were already taken. Being locked into our particular dates, we could not move our meeting to an open time which would be available.

We will begin looking for something else in that general area. Surely, there will be some convenient and appropriate facility surfacing in the next few days. Mr. Clark and I will journey to Bend once again attempting to firm up definite reservations for this year. We do know of other possibilities. Just want to check them all out.

Please continue to pray about the need here. Acceptable facilities are not all that easy to find -- and even when found -- it is still not easy to make necessary arrangements. The prayers of God's people will make a very great difference.

For those transferring: Please send your names and all pertinent data (number of people, length of stay, etc.) to us as early as possible. Just as soon as we get the necessary information, we will begin to effect the switches so that you can proceed to make necessary arrangements in the area you wish to attend.

Being as small as we are, we cannot allow one of the sites to be neglected. A major swing in any one direction would ruin the other site. This would defeat the very purpose for creating the second location. Because of economics and inability on the part of many of our brothers and sisters to travel great distances, we felt God had indicated the need to establish locations closer to the people. Our attempt, through much prayer and study about the needs, has been to centralize the two locations in the areas of the greatest number of people.

As long as we do not neglect our spiritual responsibilities, God does not restrict our second tithe usage. The second tithe is His blessing to us. He wants us to rightly enjoy it. A part of that enjoyment is sharing with those who cannot labor in the same way we are privileged to labor. God says we must never forget them. Strategically locating the sites has made it possible for us to do a better job of serving <u>all</u> the brethren. Let us never forget what the Feast is all about. God says to first seek the Kingdom. The physical things will then be added.

Let us hear, soon, from all those who desire to transfer sites this year. We will process them as rapidly as we can. We will probably close the option in the next month to six weeks. We must begin the final preparations

required to have a successful Feast. It takes us much longer to handle the details due to many other duties incumbent upon us.

TRIPS

Mr. Bryce Clark is presently on an extended trip into the Northeastern part of the United States. Last Sabbath (February 26) he met with the brethren from New York, New Jersey, and Northeastern Pennsylvania — at the beautiful Delaware Water Gap. This week he will be visiting with a number of brethren in the area. Next Sabbath (March 5) he will conduct services in Baltimore, Maryland.

I am sure the brethren are overjoyed to have a "live" minister on this special occasion. Tapes are a marvelous invention, but they do not replace a living, animate being. We, too, are most grateful for the privilege of serving in this way. Though tiring and requiring sacrifice, these trips are inspirational to us.

Since the <u>Announcement Letter</u> will be written next month by Mr. Clark, I am sure he will give you some details about the trip. For this time, let it suffice to say, please continue to pray for us as we travel and undertake many duties designed to serve you. We do it because we love and respect you.

CONCLUSION

An occasional reminder concerning the tape return seems to suffice. You have done beautifully well in this respect. Our deepest thanks. A goodly return does effect an appreciable savings to us. We send out thousands of tapes throughout the year. Even with our reduced price, the cost of purchasing new tapes constantly mounts up fast. With a good return, we are able to hold down the number of new tapes which we must purchase annually.

Keep up the good work.

Our thoughts and love always. How genuinely we wish we could see you all weekly just as we do the local brethren. However, out of sight does not mean out of mind. Daily we are cognizant of you, your needs, and the situations which confront you. Our prayers are with you. We sincerely desire an interest in your supplications before God.

Again, thanks for all your love, steadfastness, and sincerity. May God richly bless you all daily as you yield more fully into His loving hands.

With warmest regards always,

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aymond C. Cole

Bryce G. Clark

P.S. We have not learned to use our computer perfectly, yet. But we are most grateful to be able to send both the <u>Monthly Letter</u> and <u>Announcement Letter</u> with major improvements this month. Soon, we hope to be as proficient on the computer as we felt we were on the typewriter. Thanks for your patience. R.C.C.