

Church of God, The Eternal

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Announcement Letter
November 1983

Warm And Kind Greetings To All:

It is hard to believe that a month has passed since the Feast of Tabernacles concluded. Winter is fast approaching. Then, before we realize it, Spring will be upon us again. We surely wonder why time seemed to drag so slowly when we were young. With respect to time, it is amazing how greatly our minds are subject to varying emotional stimuli so that we often become unaware of its passing.

CURRENT EVENTS

It is a volatile world. Almost instantly nations become involved in some "limited" war. Human life is regarded so cheaply anymore. And yet few, if any, really know the "reasons" why we are involved in these skirmishes.

Today we are engaged in at least two confrontations which could lead to wider and ever-wider military activity -- the Lebanon crisis and now Grenada, almost on our door step. If we were truly fighting for territorial rights, the preservation of national sovereignty or national (public) interests abroad, the whole situation would be far more comprehensible. But, as indicated above, the general public of America does not know for what reasons these skirmishes even exist. If we are not going to be equally deceived, we had better make sure we are not merely swayed by popularized propaganda. To know is to understand -- to grasp the real reasons, not the "canned" information determined to allay all fears and restive quests of an aroused public.

How many killings, assassinations, kidnappings, and other atrocities have occurred in the past years and months by design? If our eyes are open, there are events which are beyond the category of coincidence. One certainly has to wonder.

From much of what I am reading at the present time, the economic recovery has sputtered to a virtual standstill. I am aware of many of the statistics which are presented, but there is too much of the real picture left out of these considerations. By carefully adjusting figures, statistics can be made to indicate just about anything one

desires. But, after all this manipulation, the true picture still exists. The real hard-core unemployment situation still prevails just about as it did previously. Here and there, there are glimmers of hope. But, in other areas, the situation does not seem improved at all. When one is out of work and unable to locate gainful employment whereby to care for a family, statistics of significant improvement are little reassuring. The facts are still quite real to him.

Earthquake news is heard from other places. In the past few days, the northern portion of Idaho was hit rather sharply. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Scherer, of Boise, are fine, although they felt the severity of the shock. Indeed, earthquakes in diverse places. Where next?

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS -- COMMENTS

1. We are most sorry that we cannot, yet, send out the Feast of Tabernacles tapes. One of the recording machines required to make the master tape to duplicate developed a problem just prior to the Feast. To repair it, a small part is needed. But, for some strange reason, no one in this country seems to carry that part in inventory. As a result, it has been on order from a foreign supplier for many weeks but without results at this time.

Please be patient, in due time some solution to the problem will occur. If it appears that we cannot get the part, we will attempt to go some other direction. A change of equipment may be in order.

2. Within a few days The Song of Moses albums should be here ready for distribution to those who are interested and indicate so by request. Anyone can request an album. Since we cannot sell them, due to union problems, we are making them available for a donation of your choosing.

3. This Thursday, November 3, Channel 11 (KOZY), a Eugene public access station, has agreed to air the entire production of The Song of Moses. They are very excited about it, promising to broadly advertise the production and time prior to its showing. Further, the Eugene classical music station -- a radio station -- has manifested a very real interest in airing it over their station.

4. The tape return has been absolutely phenomenal. Please accept our sincerest thanks. A return of this magnitude is a very great help and savings to us. Continuation of this kind consideration will be greatly appreciated.

5. Each year special cards have been signed by most of those attending the Feast of Tabernacles and then sent to those unable, for reason, to attend in person. We have received so many wonderful letters and cards of thanks and appreciation. These people have asked us to convey their special thanks to the brethren and to Mr. and Mrs. Myron Dressler, who undertook this labor of love for these isolated people. In this open letter, we take this opportunity to thank both of them for their kind love and to thank all of you for allowing us this privilege of service.

[Omitted for confidentiality]

7. Each year we have had some difficulty in closing our books for the month of December and for the entire year just passed. When we are late getting the books closed we cannot send the information to Board Members and others whose right it is to review these financial papers. This year I would like to see if we can more smoothly bridge the transition from 1983 to 1984. To do this, we need to indicate a closing date for receiving tithes and offerings which we will post to the year 1983. Since our mailing date for all the other months is the 5th, and if that date is not a major inconvenience to any of you, we would like to make the 5th of January the closing date for the preceding year for any who cannot arrange to send by the end of the year -- December 31. Naturally, unless you specifically request an extension to the 5th of January, the cutoff date will be the end of December. Please let us know how you feel -- if there are any problems or reasons why this should not be done.

8. Someone left a suit vest and a shirt at the meeting facility in Townsend, Tennessee. The vest is a medium blue. The shirt is blue and white. The one to whom these items belong may contact Mr. Kenneth Bowman. His address is: Route 2, Box 148; Clearville, PA 15535.

ARTICLES

1. The healing article: We are now editing the second half of the article. Hopefully, this part can be in your hands before the end of the year. As you read and ponder the material in this section of the article, the reasons for the historical part will become obvious. The fabric of "historical whys" had to be laid out.

2. Much work is being done on the Israel subject. But, do not count on receiving this information for a considerable period of time.

The real basics have never been written. These are the basics we would like to give to support that subject relevant to the understanding of almost every other concept in the Bible.

3. The calendar article is being written. One of the reasons for its delay is the continual flow of other concepts regarding the calendar. These, too, must be answered. Make no mistake about it, all of our works support "the faith once delivered." If we lose that orientation, there is absolutely nothing left. We just as well join the ranks of those who question everything and begin to turn to the prowess of their own minds. Truth is revealed. Once all the facts are in, this calendar subject will be verified just as all others have been. True fact and history will not be contrary to the absolutes of divine revelation.

WORK

In the interest of special music for the Holy Days of God, Mr. George King has begun to work on special cantatas tailored to these days. He is well along on the first one -- a cantata for Passover. Others will follow.

PRAYER REQUESTS

[Omitted for confidentiality]

[Omitted for confidentiality]

GENERAL REQUESTS

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Do not forget to remember the economic need of several in the Church. It is our Christian duty to bear part of the burden which they bear.

BLESSINGS OF BRETHREN

[Omitted for confidentiality]

[Omitted for confidentiality]

TRIPS

I will be leaving for Newark, New Jersey, on the 10th of November. A Sabbath meeting on November 12 is scheduled for the Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, area. The meeting will be held in the Quality Inn (formerly Holiday Inn). This motel is located at Exit 52 of I-80 (Marshall Creek Exit). The reservation is from noon to 5:00 PM. The time of the service will probably be at 1:00 PM. Our thanks to Mr. Meining for the above arrangements.

On the following Sabbath, November 19, I will be in the western Pennsylvania area. The location of the Sabbath service will be Breezewood, Pennsylvania. The Baltimore brethren are planning to attend. For information concerning times, please contact any of the following: Messrs. Leeman, Layton, Kidwell, or Leeb.

It will be a joyous occasion to see you all, in the above areas, once again. The round of trips, between now and the next Feast of Tabernacles, has already begun. Your prayers for safety and strength will be greatly appreciated.

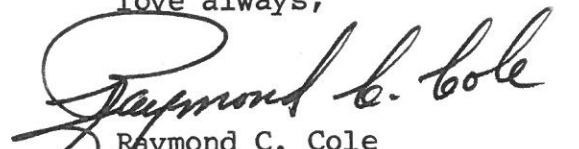
COMMENTS

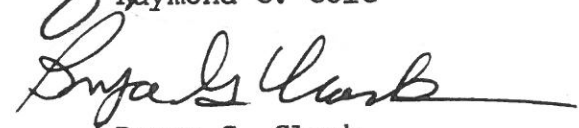
We are most grateful to God for the unusual growth in new interest since the Feast. As time goes on, I am sure many are going to begin asking more serious questions. The results of these questions will be seen in this new response. After all, these are the people who initially responded to a certain way of life before they were baptized. Even physically, people tend to migrate back to areas of their natural roots. We must be prepared to assist them in this quest. That, of course, is our urgent and meaningful prayer daily.

Our love and affection always. We do pray for you and trust that you will continue to remember us in these responsibilities of service laid upon us. We count it a joy and privilege to continue to serve you.

Please take care. Your lives are precious to your Father and to us, His servants. Where would we be without one another? Individualism has no appeal to us.

With profound respect and
love always,


Raymond C. Cole


Bryce G. Clark