

Church of God, The Eternal

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ANNOUNCEMENT LETTER JULY 1984

Dear Brethren:

Warmest greetings to all. We certainly pray and hope that the very inclement weather has finally changed to a more acceptable type by now. These past few weeks have seen some of the most devastating weather patterns in memory. The question remains, however, will the wet weather change to an equally devastating dry period? We are all aware of the prophecies which relate to our times. There must be a beginning and end to these prophecies. Are we in some spectacular ways beginning to experience the tragedies of the last days?

Elements of control are taking place with great speed at the present time. Even in a general manner, it is most obvious how brazen the powers that be are in effecting "legal" avenues of control for the complete populace. Hardly a week passes that does not manifest another change or rule by which to manipulate and control.

Make no mistake about it, the mood of America is becoming volatile and extremely belligerent. It will not be surprising to see a number of "minor" skirmishes within the confines of the United States and Canada. There are whole organizations -- with considerable numbers of people -- which are organized for one purpose only: the purpose of resistance.

We have sunk to one of the lowest times of human debauchery experienced in all history. Yet, it seems that perverted minds only envision greater depravity. The sane mind, above all the converted mind, cannot conceive of such degradation. It takes an evil and degenerate mind to plot and institute such demeaning action.

The people of God will need to exercise greater determination to overcome and manifest the character demanded by God than ever before. The Christian life is now the major endeavor. We cannot, in any sense, peacefully coexist with the world. All principles of honesty, equity, fervency, and purpose seem to be lost. For the purposeful among the called, the present world conditions will only incite greater determination and mastery.

ARTICLES

Work is progressing on the subject of the new birth. This article is written to answer a plethora of questions created and generated by conditions prevailing in this age of change and faithlessness. We hope to have the article for you before the end of the year.

While major emphasis is placed on the research necessary for the above article, work is continuing on the subject of Israel. We are not even indicating an expected completion date for this article. Much work yet remains to be done.

NEW INTEREST

Considerable interest seems to have been generated in the African states. I cannot, at this time, give you many details. We can only hope that the interest is genuine and that their contacting us is not a mere matter of sending out letters to a number of organizations hoping for an answer from any or all of them.

I am in contact with the groups and will continue to write and attempt to secure information which will give some clue to intent and purpose. Please pray about this situation.

PRAYER REQUESTS

[Omitted for confidentiality]

GENERAL REQUESTS

[Omitted for confidentiality]

The economy in general: The need for your urgent prayers regarding the work status of several members continues. Please remember their serious needs. God will intervene if we will continue to beseech Him on the behalf of our brothers and sisters of the common faith.

BLESSINGS OF BRETHREN

[Omitted for confidentiality]

FEAST OF TABERNACLES

With the passing of the day of Pentecost, it seems but a very short time before the advent of the Feast of Tabernacles. In the last several weeks before the Feast much work must be done. We now have come to that crucial preparatory time for the Feast of 1984.

Townsend, Tennessee:

Registration for motels and housing is well underway. For those who have not yet made the necessary contact with motel owners, managers, or housing authorities, may we encourage you to complete this registration as early as possible. More facilities have been offered to us than last year, both motels and housing. You should have a very good selection.

Volunteers for work detail should send information to Mr. Bill McCammon at his Tennessee address: Route 13, Box 234; Maryville, Tennessee 37801. Your requests or offers to help will be handled by Mr. McCammon or an assistant whom he has designated to handle these responsibilities in his absence.

Responsibilities regarding taping and music will be handled from the Eugene office. If there are any suggestions or comments anyone wishes to convey to us, please send them to the Church office address in Eugene.

If there is need for information, please contact either Mr. McCammon or the Church office in Eugene. We will be most happy to assist anyone who has need of help.

Bend, Oregon:

Block registration cutoff date for rooms at The Inn of the Seventh Mountain is September 1, 1984. It is suggested that you make your

reservations as early as possible. After the first of September, selections will be reduced to what is available only.

Our agreed cost structure for motel rooms this year is dependent upon the number of rooms actually taken. If we satisfy the requirement of 75 or more rooms the cost will be less than if we should fall under that number. Both cost structures are maintained by service personnel in the office of the Inn. Please indicate that you are with the Church of God, The Eternal, when applying for a reservation. By so doing you will be given the arranged cost consideration as well as helping the whole group to gain the larger number of rooms required.

For reservations and information: In Oregon call 1-800-452-6810 and outside Oregon call 1-800-547-5668.

Applications for volunteers to work at the Bend Feast site will be processed here in the Eugene office. Please send information and offers of service to us here at the office.

General Information:

Regarding Feast costs, we have decided to continue our policy of the past. We simply do not want to become presently involved in policies used in the past, such as requiring a tithe of the second tithe.

We will make our decisions on the basis of what is available. If there is not sufficient to handle certain costs, we will simply eliminate them. In this present Letter I simply want to remind us all that there are costs to the conducting of a Feast. Those costs are a part of the keeping of the Feast. But each one of us knows what his tithe situation is. Some are struggling to have sufficient to make it to the Feast site. It would be tragic to impose any kind of charge upon such members.

As stated earlier, the contribution of excess second tithe for the purpose of paying operating costs will be voluntary. When those funds are not sufficient to handle all the costs (as is presently the case), we will pare down the operation to match the income. It is the only sensible way of handling this responsibility.

Based on the present level of income for the Feast, we are not sure what traveling will be possible. Since the scheduled August trip takes one of us into the Knoxville area, we are postponing that trip until October. We can use the budgeted money for the trip to facilitate an acceptable distribution of the ministry for the speaking responsibilities at the Feast.

If finances permit, Messrs. Leeman and Clark will switch sites during the middle of the Feast. Mr. Clark will be in Bend for the first half of the Feast. Mr. Leeman will be in Townsend for the first half. They will switch on Sunday, October 14. Mr. Cole will remain in Bend for the entire eight-day period.

If finances do not permit travel, Mr. Leeman will conduct the Feast in Townsend. Mr. Clark and I will remain in Bend. Let us all pray that God will sufficiently bless us so that our first option is feasible. Such an arrangement will make for a most interesting Feast in both locations.

After reviewing the requests for transfers from one site to another, we have decided to leave the options completely open. We will become involved only if it appears that one of the sites is being threatened by these transfers. Otherwise, we do not want to determine who goes where. As a general recommendation, we do urge those who reside in an appointed area to attend in that area. It is the very reason for the establishment of two sites. Those who plan to do otherwise, please let us know as soon as possible if you have not already done so.

By carefully using the transfer option, those well blessed for their endeavors will be able to change sites periodically so that they can spend it with friends at the other site. So many of you have commented about the loss experienced in not seeing others whom you have come to know and love. It is our purpose to see the Feast made a truly rewarding time for all.

TRIPS

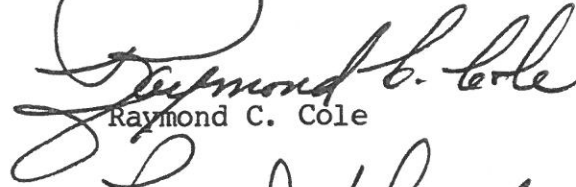
Dallas, Texas, and Southern California: When you receive this Letter I will be on my trip. I eagerly look forward to seeing all those residing in these two areas. May God make this a successful trip as all the others have been.

Please remember, there will be no trip to the Knoxville, Tennessee, area during the month of August. We are conserving the funds in hopes of effecting a better speaking balance during the Feast of Tabernacles.

Again, we convey all our love and affection. Our prayer and hope is that God continues to bless you all. We remember you fondly and hope that you are praying for us in the responsibilities borne.

Thank you for your past love and affection. Thank you for the fact we can have confidence in your love of the Truth. It has been and continues to be our pleasure to serve you.

With profound respect and love,


Raymond C. Cole


Bryce G. Clark