

Church of God, The Eternal

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ANNOUNCEMENT LETTER JULY 1985

Dear Brethren:

Warmest and fond greetings to all. Though you may not hear from us directly, we do think of you very often. In these times, what would we have if we did not cherish the love of one another?

The past couple of months have been extremely hard and difficult for us here in the office. Time seems to be at a greater premium than ever. Yet we have all the time God allocated. It simply requires better usage of that which God has given. Your prayers will be most appreciated.

Because of this press of time, this month's Announcement Letter will not contain much information regarding current events. Monumental events are beginning to take place, but time is needed to cover the material properly.

CURRENT EVENTS

Suffice it to say the problem of terrorism will be a growing one. If half of what we read actually comes to pass, this country will be a frightful place to live. Could these actions be a part of what God warned us about in Psalm 91? Without the protection of God, any one of us could be in the wrong place at the time of a major detonation, some criminal activity, or on board a plane destined for hijacking. What a frightful and sobering world. Human life has become so cheap. Ordinary concern, compassion, feeling, non-existent. As these dark, evil days progress we are going to be driven to trust God more and more. Accepted decency of man will no longer prevail.

ARTICLES

Research continues on the subject of Israel and the Church. Since the subject dictates the necessity of the Bible forming the basic foundation for future evaluation, it has become imperative to commence the broad analytical study of all the textual material. Since time is a

premium to me, we have decided to use Mr. Tim Beasley to do much of the preliminary work in this textual study. With his initial assist, Mr. Clark and I will be able to do, at an earlier date, the required analysis. Be patient. We told you from the beginning we were dealing with a subject which would require much time.

GENERAL WORK

Mr. John Akpan, from Nigeria, has spent the time from June 25 to July 2 here in Eugene. Before Mr. Clark left on his present trip, we had a very fine meeting with Mr. Akpan. Major changes are occurring spiritually with the brethren in Nigeria.

Due to better acquaintance, and evidence of good growth, Mr. Clark and I decided to make Mr. Akpan the leader of our operations in Nigeria. For organizational reasons, we must have some ONE individual with whom we can maintain contact and through whom we can convey messages which will affect all groups in that country.

PRAYER REQUESTS

[Omitted for confidentiality]

[Omitted for confidentiality]

GENERAL REQUESTS

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Several people have asked us to compile a list of those who want all future cantata tapes without the necessity of making a request each time one is available. If you would like to be placed on such a list, please let us hear from you via return mail. Thank you. We will put no one on this list who does not specifically request it.

BLESSINGS OF BRETHREN

[Omitted for confidentiality]

[Omitted for confidentiality]

FEASTS: HOLY DAYS

All reports received indicate that God greatly blessed the people during this holy time. What an inspiration we all receive from these occasions!

Mr. and Mrs. Leeman were thrilled with the results of their trip. I am sure that the occasion was enjoyed by both the Leemans and the people of France and Switzerland.

Also with our brethren in Switzerland and France for Pentecost were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Schaer and Mr. Walter Stoudt. We are thankful that they had the privilege of this marvelous experience.

FEAST OF TABERNACLES

Any final instructions or specific information will be given next month. This is the latest date that such information can be given and still be effective.

TRIPS

Mr. Bryce Clark is presently on his trip to Nashville and Dallas. As you will recall, this trip had to be postponed due to the United Airlines strike. We are happy that he could yet make up this particular trip.

My next trip will take me to Nashville and Baltimore. It is too bad that the delays have forced back-to-back visits to Nashville. But, I guess it is better to get two quick visits than not get any at all.

By the dictate of the schedule, I plan to spend the Sabbath, July 27, in Nashville. The wedding of Keven McCammon and Miss Melanie Roberts is set for July 28 in Maryville. On the 30th of July I will fly on to Baltimore where I will, God willing, conduct the Sabbath service of August 3. Appropriate arrangements can be made for these two meetings. I take this early opportunity to thank those who undertake the task of arranging the meetings. We are most grateful for your assistance.

OFFICE--PROGRAMS, NEEDS

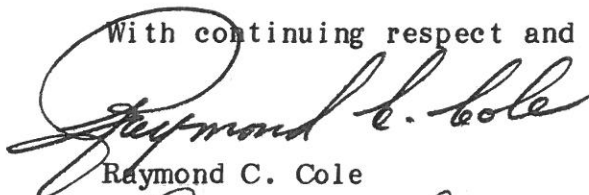
A strange request. But, we do ask you to remember a very serious problem with the computer network. We are able to use the computers individually; but at this point some hidden quirk keeps us from employing the network system which connects all the computers to one another. It has the experts baffled. I am sure prayers of the saints will be much more effective. We would appreciate the use of the full potential -- in fact, that capability is necessary for many of our current programs.

CONCLUSION

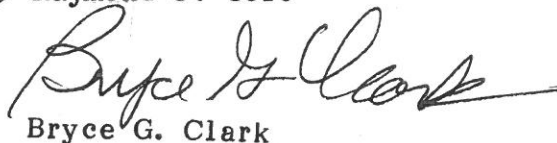
How abundantly we see the hand of God in so many of the lives of the faithful. By comparison, it is obvious how greatly some are paying the price of their rebellion. One is forced to wonder just how much some will have to endure before turning back to God and renewing the faith which they once believed. The next few years will reveal much to those whose eyes are open to the purpose of God. We must remain close to God and be aware of the changes which we must make personally in our own lives.

Hopefully, as we streamline our work, we will be afforded the time and opportunity of making the Announcement Letter even more effective. From the comments, most have found the Letter beneficial and helpful. I personally believe there is much that we can do to make it better. Your prayers regarding this matter will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

With continuing respect and love,



Raymond C. Cole



Bryce G. Clark