

Church of God, The Eternal

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ANNOUNCEMENT LETTER
February 1987

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Dear Brethren:

Affectionate greetings to all. Our prayers and thoughts of love and kindness are with and for you daily. We trust you will always remember us and the needs of this spiritual charge. Without your prayers and kind support we cannot achieve what God requires of us all. Truly, we are a single entity with a broad spectrum of individual responsibilities — responsibilities tendered by God according to the level of faith initially given. From that point of beginning, growth is possible — as God inspires and directs.

Current Events

Tax laws have been simplified! Now we can spend twice as much time preparing our annual returns as required in the past. As with anything else man touches or alters, it only becomes more complex and fuzzy. However, make no mistake about it, within the structure of this new law are several features enabling "snoopers" to pry into the constitutional freedoms which our forefathers mandated and attempted to guarantee via official documents. These will be applied to the American public selectively and progressively, only. The powers and control of the full dimension of the new law must not be revealed dramatically. The result of such a revelation would be broad and general resistance.

The above are the warnings of many who have carefully studied and analyzed this new law. As with any form of control, it can be used either for good or for bad. For example, the Truth of God is a controlling factor. The Law of God is an absolute. Within the ultimate control of God's Law and Truth is found perfect peace — everything man has ever wanted for himself. Outside of it is found all the consequences being experienced by man today. Yet, the average man is aware of neither result. He seeks for greater freedom by turning against that which could produce that freedom.

In an attempt to insure peace and freedom, man legislates himself into tyranny. The very nature of deception. His wry fate — tyranny — will mock him at the time of reality. But, at least he will have come to the knowledge of the error of his ways.

Also, I want to encourage everyone to take note and watch daily the growth of the occult. It is everywhere — in religion, the health industry, economics, the military, all social involvements, the whole field of education, and in the political spectrum. The whole world is being and will be deceived. Surely, that time must be close at hand.

One cannot travel down the local road or street, watch the evening news, read a religious book, study economics, review the educational curriculum of the local area, or secure health advice without encountering the nefarious influence of this surging phenomenon. Truly, as Isaiah was prompted to write, "they be replenished from the east" (Isa. 2:6). It will require a most diligent, watchful eye, and a strong, faithful resolve to avoid the compromising influence of this powerful and appealing sway.

We all are well advised, Watch! To many people, the surfacing of this phenomenon is nothing but a curiosity and a situation warranting only a passing grin. With such an apathetic and indifferent reaction, it is no wonder those who seriously adhere to that philosophy are making such great gains in undermining the very "Christian" foundations of our society.

Articles

Work continues on the major article about Israel and the church. So much interesting and revealing information is coming to the surface. We feel you will be quite surprised once you receive this work — probably in sequenced parts. Before completing this work, however, we must have the optical character reader. Without that capability, the preparatory work for the actual writing of the "book" would be greatly time-consuming. Your prayers are seriously urged for the speedy development of this visual capability of our computers.

General Work

We have come to the time when we must begin some of the initial work for the building of an office and church complex. I have personally sustained the office operation in a garage (two-storied) completely refurbished for these office needs. It has worked well for over ten years. But we are now completely crowded out of that space. Something must be done soon. To rent appropriate space for the office and other departments would cost an astronomical figure — between \$1,500 and \$2,000 per month. I would much rather see that money put to the construction of acceptably designed facilities for the church. None of the present facilities can be restructured for use — legally. Please be praying about this need, too.

New Interest

Considerable interest in our work continually manifests itself. But, because of the past traumas, it seems to require much time for people to evaluate and make a new commitment. In fact, many may never again, this side of the tribulation, make such a commitment. We must be most patient and understanding. With our continued prayers, I am sure some of these people will eventually respond. Only God can bring them back to the anchor of absolute faith and purpose.

Prayer Requests

[Omitted for confidentiality]

General Requests

Please pray, daily, for one another. We must be people of deep and abiding interest and concern for one another. Also, as mentioned earlier, please pray about the needed office facility. Your prayers will mean everything.

The Feast of Tabernacles is months away. However, it is not too early to begin praying for the success of the 1987 Feast. We must improve on a very successful 1986. At the same time, remember the remainder of the Holy Days.

Times are frightening. Although I have never worried about our safety while flying from location to location throughout the year, I do feel it important to request your inspiration, help, and protection relevant to these demanding and presently precarious ventures.

Blessings of Brethren

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Feasts: Holy Days

The *Cantata for the Feast of Trumpets* was performed on Saturday evening — January 31, 1987. It was a very great success. The professionalism was obvious.

The spiritual purposes inherent in these presentations are being realized. For that we all should be elated. For the first time, a contact of a spiritual nature has been made. This contact was entirely possible only as a result of the cantatas. For these things I am grateful.

Of course, they are a service to all God's chosen. We want them to serve God's people. Our musical program is carried forth in the tradition established by our "mother." We can do no better than emulate her before she went astray.

Feast of Tabernacles

Trying to alleviate a problem generated in the church from the time we were forced to accept two sites, it was decided to have all board members fly to the West Coast site for the Board Meeting. By properly arranging the Feast schedule we believe we can have the members only fly out and return to their own sites following the meeting. All these details have not been finalized. When they are, we will directly communicate with those involved.

Trips

Because of other arrangements, the scheduled trip of Mr. John Mitchell to Vancouver, B.C., from April 17 to 19, will be cancelled. Another time will be scheduled later. On the Sabbath of March 7, Mr. John Mitchell will be in Portland for services.

I will be in Florida and Tennessee for the Sabbaths of February 7 and 14, 1987. I am looking forward to seeing God's people in these areas.

Being now free to serve God's people, Mr. and Mrs. George Leeman will be in Springfield, Missouri, for the Sabbath of February 7. On Sabbath, February 14, they will be in the Dallas, Texas, area; then on to Austin, Texas, for the Sabbath of February 21. In addition to those local areas they will also make contact with the brethren en route. Let us all pray for their safety and the success of these serving trips. In addition, Mr-s. Leeman will be in Sacramento, California, for the Sabbath service of March 21. They will then be in Eugene for the Sabbath of March 28.

Mr. Bryce Clark will be in Youngstown, Ohio, for the Sabbath of March 7; then he will fly on to be in Austin, Texas, for the Sabbath of March 14. All arrangements may be made for these meetings.

Schedules for April and the Spring Holy Days will be given in the *March Announcement Letter*.

Because of our desire to be of service in all areas where there are sufficient to warrant trips, we are considering establishing an occasional meeting in Amarillo, Texas.

Special notes: Due to factors, we will be using cars less and doing more flying to service areas. As long as ticket prices remain reasonable, it costs less to fly than to drive.

Office — Programs — Needs

We are considering the possibility of writing an occasional letter to all lead men in local church areas. By this means we can keep them informed of plans, thoughts, and programs. Please pray about this added responsibility.

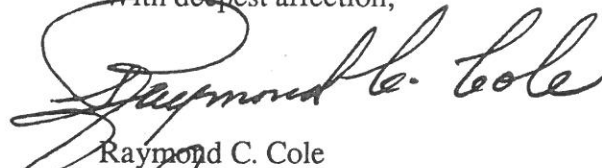
No tapes need be returned. Yet, if you are not using them and would be desirous of getting them back to us, they can be used to great advantage here. Thank you for your help. It will be greatly appreciated.

Conclusion

Our sermons are getting stronger and more pointed. We so much want all prepared for the coming of Christ. This thrust is proof of deep love and regard. We speak about issues — not specific people. Our material is taken directly from the Bible. Those instructions are requisite for entrance into the Kingdom of God. Let us all be thankful and respond. Remember, you are the ones able to receive the blessing — the salvation of your own souls.

As always, much love. If we did not care, we would not trouble you. But, we do care — very much.

With deepest affection,



Raymond C. Cole



Bryce G. Clark