

Church of God, The Eternal

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Announcement Letter

August 1987

Dear Brethren:

One half of Summer '87 is history. It has been a very different one to most of us. We can only hazardously guess at what the future may bring.

With the erratic weather has come a pest problem which is virtually uncontrollable. What does this forebode for the future? What we do know is this: Circumstances cannot improve before they become much worse—devastatingly so.

Current Events

America is in the midst of a serious epidemic. It should be called "gatitis," that is, "gate-itis" (Irangate/Contragate). In the political arena little constructive work is being done. Americans are paying the healthy salaries of far too many individuals who are doing virtually nothing but seeking ways to intimidate those who have opposing views and who have sought ways to implement those views. It is here that the above disease becomes most virulent. If anything has been learned from all the special prosecutions of the past, it is this: Hypocrisy is the name of the game. How many of those who were prosecuting the accused, lecturing in august terms about right and wrong, moralizing in ostentatious fashion, and creating public image for self or a particular party, are clean and honest? America's memory is so short. In past "gate" situations, it later becomes apparent many of those involved had blacker hearts and more tainted practices than those accused.

Do you ever get a sickening feeling in the pit of the stomach as you read the reports of the day's activities, or watch proceedings on the television set? Do you generally respond on the basis of past party or geographic inclinations? If you have feelings of indignation, could you really give good, profound reason? Are we reacting on the basis of slanted reporting? Remember, some men are incredibly capable of creating emotional reactions—but those reactions are foundationless and without acceptable purpose! That is, the emotional response is not based on absolute facts but a falsely created image. Further, the purpose is to control and manipulate the masses for some ulterior objective.

If the real purpose of these investigations were to uncover evil, wrongdoing, in high places in our government, then many whys need to be addressed. Why the calamitous disaster at Pearl Harbor? Why the fiasco at the Bay of Pigs? Why the creation of a no-win situation in Korea and Vietnam? Why the deliberate hiding of information regarding the death of John F. Kennedy? Why is America supplying food, materials, and technology to an archenemy, Russia? Why have we basically turned our backs on Taiwan and given preferential treatment to

China—an avowed enemy? Why the overt un-American activities which we are daily forced to face—organizations, causes, etc.? The list could go on and on ad nauseum.

Sufficient is said, in the context of this Letter, to give you the picture of hypocrisy. In the days of Jesus Christ, He was faced with the same ribald nature of man. Men have only degenerated from that day to the present. Should we expect them to be better today?

Now, as never before, is the time to pray: "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven" (Matt. 6:10). Conditions will never be any different until man is no longer allowed to rule. The real rulers will be the called who have come to see themselves for what they are and have done an acceptable job of mastering that nature. These will be born into the family of God, with the divine nature.

What a joy to anticipate!

New Interest

Regarding the contacts with some new people in the Sacramento, California, area, we are still awaiting specific promised information. Until we receive that info—we can do little about the matter. Please pray about it.

Prayer Requests

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Blessings of Brethren

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Holy Days

Information regarding Trumpets and Atonement will be given in the September issue. All lead men should submit information by August 25.

Feast of Tabernacles

If acceptable arrangements can be put together, it is our hope to have the 1988 Feast in the Bend, Oregon, area. Please be praying about this situation. Acceptable accommodations are very difficult to find.

Trips

- August 8, 1987, Sabbath: Raymond C. Cole, scheduled meeting in Florida.
- August 15, 1987, Sabbath: Raymond C. Cole, scheduled meeting in the Austin, Texas, area.
George H. Leeman, scheduled meeting in Vancouver, B.C., Canada.
- August 21-23, 1987, Conference in Eugene:
George Leeman and John Mitchell. The two will take the Eugene and Portland services on the Sabbath of August 22.
- September 5, 1987, Sabbath: Bryce G. Clark, scheduled meeting in Baltimore, Maryland.
- September 12, 1987, Sabbath: Bryce G. Clark, scheduled meeting in Springfield, Missouri.
George H. Leeman, scheduled meeting in the Ohio/Western Pennsylvania area.
- September 19, 1987, Sabbath: John H. Mitchell, scheduled meeting in the Austin, Texas, area.

September 24, 1987, Trumpets:

George H. Leeman, scheduled meeting in the New York/New Jersey/Pennsylvania area.

Office—Programs—Needs

Plans for the creation of an urgently needed office facility are under way. God willing, we may have the actual office established shortly after the Feast this year. The second stage of this project—the meeting auditorium—hopefully will be completed in a couple of years. The economic condition of the United States, and to some extent the world, will dictate our progress. Please be praying about this need. Our desire is to have these facilities to serve all the called worldwide.

There is an updated tape library list/order form available to any who would like a copy. It is current as of mid-May, 1987.

Comments—Letters

South Carolina Sabbath services: The times of the services have been changed. On the regular Sabbath days, the time of the service will be 1:00 P.M. On high day Sabbaths, the time of the service will be 11:00 A.M.

The little group had a good beginning. Let us pray for their continued success. Fellowship is greatly needed for us all.

Altoona, Pennsylvania: Once a month a scheduled Sabbath service will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Stringfellow, Sr. The contact for this area is Mr. Gary Layton. His address and phone number are Route 2, Box 118; Clearville, PA 15535; (814) 652-2476.

We are happy for these people. Our prayers will be with them.

Again, much love and affection to all. We do look forward to seeing you on the scheduled Sabbath meetings listed above and the upcoming Holy Days.

That God may bless and be with you all is our continual prayer.

In deep affection,


Raymond C. Cole


Bryce G. Clark