

Church of God, The Eternal

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Announcement Letter June 1988

Greetings, Brethren:

Five months of 1988 have come and gone. The election for the presidency of the United States is not far away.

In many respects we are facing challenging times. There have been many harbingers of disturbing events for the last part of 1988 and the early part of 1989. Obviously we will not need to wait long to see just what does happen.

One thing is for sure. With every crisis situation, the prophetic implications of a Babylonian control system become more real and fearful. In the last few years we have lost so many of our once-cherished freedoms. The day of total servitude cannot be far removed. It is happening to people around the world. But with a controlled media we are not getting the true picture of what is happening. What you are hearing is what specific influential people or organizations want you to hear and accept. The ultimate noose of total servitude will be a great surprise to the vast majority.

Man's inhumanity to man is beyond the capability of the average carnal mind to comprehend. Yet it ought not be when we consider how calloused and indifferent federal, state, and local authorities can become. They are, at times, an indication of what the future taskmasters will be like once they owe no responsibility to the public.

Indeed, we should pray diligently and remain faithful so that we may be granted the privilege of escape from the worst of the trials which are indicated for these last days.

Current Events

Everyone seems to be so blinded by the summit meetings—between the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. But anyone who reads and believes the Bible knows that there is going to be no peace on this earth until Jesus Christ returns and enforces it. Man by nature is divisive, hateful, and wrathful. How can he ever expect to live at peace with others until he, through the power of God's Holy Spirit, brings that nature under control? Many in the church find it almost impossible to live up to these high standards, let alone those who are not called and do not will to live by those spiritual principles.

The big question: Is each one of us a peacemaker? It is only those who will inherit the Kingdom of God.

Articles

Shortly you will be receiving your copy of the new article on Israel. We hope you will find it everything we have purposed and labored to give to you. Happy and rewarding reading.

At the present time, an article on Babylon, strictly from the Biblical perspective, is being prepared. We feel quite sure it will fulfill a significant need in the church.

Prayer Requests

[Omitted for confidentiality]

General Requests

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Blessings of Brethren

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Trips

Mr. George Leeman will visit Baltimore for Sabbath services of June 4 and will be in the Ohio/Pennsylvania area for Sabbath, June 11.

Mr. John Mitchell will be in Austin, Texas, for Sabbath, June 4. He will be in Vancouver, British Columbia, for the Sabbath services of June 18.

Mr. Raymond Cole will be in the New York/New Jersey/Pennsylvania area for the Sabbath of June 18; going on to the Amarillo, Texas, area for the Sabbath of June 25.

Mr. Bryce Clark will be in the Sacramento, California, area for the Sabbath of July 16. For Sabbath services on July 23, he will be in West Palm Beach, Florida, going on to Knoxville, Tennessee, for the Sabbath of July 30. **Please note that the previously scheduled Missouri trip has been cancelled, and Knoxville substituted.**

Mr. George Leeman will be in the Ohio/Pennsylvania area for July 9, in the Rochester, New York, area on July 16, and in Southbridge, Massachusetts, from July 21 to 25. From July 27 to 31 he will be in the New York/New Jersey/Pennsylvania area.

Comments—Letters

The South African trip was a great success. Good possibilities exist. Your prayers, of course, are not only needed, but will be much appreciated.

On the Sabbath, I was privileged to speak to around 20 people, including 3 children. Though there is diversity of opinion, it may be safely hoped that some will respond to the Truth which was originally delivered to us. Most are taking some of our literature. In time, if we are patient and considerate, the adverse circumstances prophetically indicated for the immediate future will jar loose those who are really sensitive to the Word of God (Heb. 12:22–29). Further, by setting a good example, some will be acceptably propelled by the severity of persecution and trial (Dan. 11:35). If we love God's Truth we will compel ourselves (II Thess. 2:10–12). However, if we have a wait-and-see attitude—not the evidence of faith—we will be required to pay the price of faithlessness. The choice will be ours—in South Africa or here at home.

Further, I had two very pleasant conversations with a known former Worldwide minister of that area. Our contact was convivial and refreshing. I will be working with him via letter. Your prayers are definitely needed in this case. For some reason, I believe God has a purpose for this contact.

The obvious stable, faithful, and determinedly dedicated leaders of the area are Burt and Lydia Bouwer. They so much reminded me of new people forty years ago. They are like little children in attitude and willingness. I am sure God has a real purpose for them. May God guide, inspire, and direct them always. I'll be working with Mr. Burt Bouwer.

In Lausanne, Switzerland, and Grenoble, France, all goes well. The people were most warm and receptive. What a joy to be with them. Following my stay in South Africa I spoke three times at Grenoble—for all the Swiss and French people. I spoke on the Sabbath preceding Pentecost, on Pentecost day, and on the Sabbath following Pentecost. I returned to the United States on May 29, 1988. Though tiring, the trip was a great inspiration. May God continue to bless and inspire all of His chosen children.

Conclusion

After a difficult beginning for the new tape mailing system, we hope all is now going well. Please be patient. But do inform us if there is something we need to know. We are counting on your help. Thank you.

Much love to all once again. Until next month we commend ourselves again into your hands as humble servants.

Love and respect,



Raymond C. Cole



Bryce G. Clark