

Church of God, The Eternal

P. O. Box 775
Eugene, Oregon 97440

Switzerland
Case Postale 2 701
CH 1002 Lausanne

Canada
P. O. Box 76946, Station "S"
Vancouver, B.C. V5R 5T3

ANNOUNCEMENT LETTER July 1988

Dear Brethren:

Satan is a roaring lion. His principle targets are members of the faith—in the body of Christ. The world belongs to him. He is the god of this world. As their god, he is faithfully served by the vast majority of mankind (Luke 4:5–7, Rev. 12:9; 20:3, II Cor. 4:4, Eph. 2:2). If he could unite all mankind against the purpose of God he could make his kingdom stand (Matt. 12:25–27). Principle in blocking his attempt at coalescence are the chosen people of God. They are frustrating the objective of his revolt against God.

Since we are the targets of every fiery dart of Satan, we must diligently safeguard our minds against the influences of defiance and rebellion. All too frequently we are taken captive by him—at will. How? The chief effort of his is in effecting contention and strife toward one another in the body. We can, therefore, hold Satan at bay by simply refusing to allow ourselves "the privilege" of evaluating, condemning, or judging one another. Judgment belongs to God. Mercy, at the present time, in no way condones sin. It simply affords the opportunity and time for each of us to effect the necessary mastery in our own individual lives.

Further, we are afforded the gracious privilege of helping to create the solidarity and oneness required by God (Matt. 12:30). We recognize our own station as sinners—for there is no man that sins not (Eccl. 7:20, I John 1:8–10). Even as sinners, however, we do not *practice* sin (I John 3:3–6; 5:4).

God wants to see manifested in His children the fruits of love, compassion, mercy, kindness, thoughtfulness—the fruits of the Holy Spirit. He does not want to see the manifestations of the flesh—hate, contention, strife, bickering, backbiting, argumentation, heresy, envy. How marvelous is the fruit of peace. It is obtained only by diligent effort on the part of men.

Only those who manifest the fruits of the Holy Spirit will enter into the Kingdom of God. *Now* is the time to acquire those traits or characteristics.

Current Events

Time inexorably marches on. We are another month closer to the imminent return of Jesus Christ. Too, we are one month closer to the dramatic fulfillment of last-day prophecies. At some comparable day—to those we have just experienced—the reality of prophecies which have mesmerized humanity for generations will suddenly befall humankind. Their occurrence is inevitable. Remember the parable of Christ? If the owner of a house knew at what hour the

thief would enter his home he would have made necessary protective arrangements. Since we cannot know the exact hour of the coming of Christ, it is necessary to employ requisite vision. We must grow in faith, in our relationship with God through prayer, Bible study, and fasting, and in personal mastery. How we weather the coming economic crisis, the political intrigue, worsening and chaotic human relationships, evil religious demands, and personal rejection will be determined by our personal relationship with God. Is He real to us? Can we have absolute confidence?

We are at the threshold of economic upheaval. No politician or government agency is even remotely attempting to correct the underlying causes of such chaos. At this point it is doubtful if a correction could be made. Only a thorough purging will set things aright. These dislocations are going to be traumatic. Are we spiritually equipped to handle these trials? If you will just believe, obey, and trust God, you can endure!

Prayer Requests

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Blessings of Brethren

Charles Seibel and Naomi Clark were married in Southbridge, Massachusetts, on June 12, 1988. They are now residing in Washington, D.C. We congratulate them and wish them the best.

Deaths

Hilda Lewis: Mrs. Lewis' husband died on June 12. We extend our sincere condolences to her in this time of sorrow.

Trips

My trip to New York/New Jersey/Pennsylvania and Amarillo, Texas, was a most rewarding one. What a great blessing to see all the brethren in those areas, and to spend considerable time with many. I am sorry that I was somewhat impeded by a very bad back. But God is merciful. I am much improved. Thanks for all the kindness tendered and the manifest loving concern.

We were blessed with the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Sloneker—of Virginia—at the Sabbath service of June 18; at Marshall's Creek, Pennsylvania. I first met them in 1963—at the Sabbath service in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Their son, Mr. Fred Sloneker, was with them. What a blessing to see them once again. May God richly bless them as they respond to the faith they were originally given.

Mr. Bryce Clark will be in Sacramento for the Sabbath of July 16. On the Sabbath of July 23 he will be in the West Palm Beach, Florida, area, then on to Knoxville for the Sabbath of July 30. He will not be in Missouri, as was originally scheduled.

Mr. Charles Lewis will be in the Austin, Texas, area for the Sabbath of July 23.

Mr. Raymond Cole will be in the and central Pennsylvania and Baltimore, Maryland, areas for the Sabbaths of August 6 and 13, respectively.

Mr. John Mitchell tentatively will be in Hawaii for the Sabbath of August 6, if acceptable flight arrangements can be made.

Mr. George Leeman will be in Vancouver, Canada, for the Sabbath of August 13.

Lead men should feel free to make all the necessary arrangements for the above visits.

Tape Schedule

Occasionally, some may not receive the sermon tapes. This has already happened. Unless we have some way of knowing which tapes you are missing, even though you call us about the missing tapes, we do not know which ones to send you. To correct the situation, we are going to indicate, monthly, the tape mailings.

Tape schedule:

| Tape # | Mailed on: | For: | Title: |
|-------------|------------|------|--------------------------------------|
| WSE-BC 114 | 4/28 | 5/07 | Do we see things as they really are? |
| WSE-BC 115 | 4/28 | 5/14 | Should we desire this world? |
| WSP-GL 1 | 5/10 | 5/21 | Signs, miracles, wonders |
| WSE-RC 37- | 5/10 | 5/28 | What is the natural body? #11 |
| WSE-BC 116- | 5/24 | 6/04 | Truth on the new healing doctrine #1 |
| WSE-RC 37- | 5/24 | 6/11 | What is the natural body #12 |
| WSE-BC 116- | 6/03 | 6/18 | Truth on the new healing doctrine #2 |
| WSE-RC 37- | 6/03 | 6/25 | What is the natural body? #13 |
| WSP-BC 11 | 6/17 | 7/02 | Why do we attend church? |
| WSE-RC 37- | 6/17 | 7/09 | What is the natural body? #14 |
| WSP-BC 12 | 7/01 | 7/16 | Why make it harder on yourself? |
| WSE-RC 37- | 7/01 | 7/23 | What is the natural body? #15 |
| WSE-BC 117 | 7/15 | 7/30 | What is a person of principle? |
| WSE-RC 37- | 7/15 | 8/06 | What is the natural body? #16 |
| WSE-BC 118 | 7/29 | 8/13 | Lessons from the life of Noah |
| WSE-RC 37- | 7/29 | 8/20 | What is the natural body? #17 |

From the information contained in the *Announcement Letter* you will be able to tell us which ones you are missing. Even if you do not know the tape numbers and dates, you will know what sermon title you have or have not received. Therefore, when calling or writing about missing tapes, if at all possible try to give us some pertinent information which will help us to determine what needs to be done. Future mailings are planned for a three-week lead time. The Post Office gives reasonable assurance of a two-week delivery, but please allow at least three weeks before contacting us.

Comments

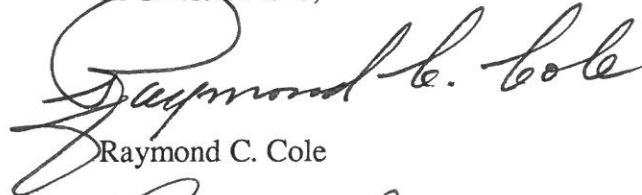
A ministerial conference is scheduled here in Eugene for the August 19-21 period. We hope all can attend, but some may not be able to do so due to jobs. Please pray about the situation.

This year, because of a need to conserve capital, we are bringing only the ministers to the conference. We are sorry we will not be able to bring wives, also. Hopefully, another year the economic situation will turn around so that we can afford to bring wives, too. We realize the need to have wives present at times, but circumstances must dictate this year.

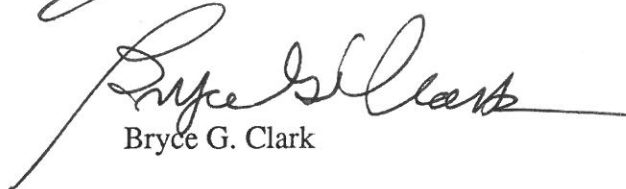
As indicated earlier, we realize that some ministers will not be able, due to jobs, to come to the conference. We understand. However, for those who can come, please let us know so that we can make necessary flight reservations. We will need to know by the 15th of July. Please call the office and give all necessary information.

We thank you very much.

In Christian love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Raymond C. Cole". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Raymond C. Cole

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bryce G. Clark". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Bryce G. Clark