

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 April 1989

Dear Brethren:

Passover and Unleavened Bread are once again upon us. It is the time of year for a personal evaluation. Without this judicious and purposeful evaluation we cannot acceptably partake of Passover. To deceive oneself is to invite many difficulties (I Cor. 11:29-31).

We must be hard on the self; never should we attempt to judge others. In order to evaluate the self effectively, let us present a couple of standards by which anyone who will aggressively pursue this spiritual responsibility can perform a meritorious service to himself. The following is the basis of sermons I will have given at Portland and Eugene. We would like all of you to have the basic information.

First, you must evaluate your faith (II Cor. 13:5). Since faith (regardless of its objective) is always a personalized response, it involves your personal faith at the time in which you live. For this reason the instruction of the Apostle Paul relates to your own call and the faith initially given you. What was the faith which you initially manifested? If we do not continue in that call and faith we are called reprobate.

Second, since the call of God is to afford us the privilege of destroying the way of flesh and putting on the way of the Spirit, it is imperative that we carefully evaluate the self and then carefully compare our progress to the spiritual standard given by God.

What is the way of the flesh? How effective are we in destroying these traits?

1. Argumentation: Titus 3:8-11, Rom. 16:17-18
2. Lifestyle of the faithless in these last days: Rom. 1:19-32
3. Orientation: Rom. 8:1-14, 35-39; 13:10-14
4. Fictious (a party-spirit): I Cor. 3:1-5; 12:25
5. Imperiousness (arrogant assurance): I Cor. 5:1-7; 11:13-22
6. Compromise: II Cor. 6:14-18
7. Hypocrisy: Gal. 6:7-16

Do not slip over the above textual material too quickly. Read these verses and think on them. The value is in relating them to the self. Of what value are the instructions of God if we do not apply them to ourselves?

On the flip side of the above is the matter of spiritual growth. How well are we doing in putting on Christ and the divine nature? Evaluate yourselves. Here are a couple of texts to give you a good start: Gal. 5:22-26, I Cor. 13:1-10.

Job had done pretty well for himself. God recognized his character. But what happened to him when he really saw? See Job 42:5-6. Can we emulate Job in recognizing the self, and at the same time walk in the footsteps of Christ's character?

What will Passover mean to you?

Current Events

One of the most disturbing realities of these volatile days in which we live is the almost total lack of "great" thinking and highly capable public servants—including men and women. This has become a crisis of major significance. It cannot be glossed over, excused, or lightly regarded.

Is this condition the result of some inherent defect in the system of self-government which we have chosen? Or is it the end product of some sinister, calculated, evil devisement of mysterious forces?

One thing for sure, we are plainly told by God there is a mystery of iniquity which will surface into recognition at some appointed time (II Thess. 2:7). It is called the mystery of Babylon (Rev. 17:5, 7). A mystery can be used either for good or evil. The Kingdom of God is called a mystery. Even the gospel is called a mystery which must be revealed. However, the mystery of iniquity implies some sinister plot using the element of deception to impress upon the world a way not good for mankind. It is a conspiracy. Some elemental forces are engaged in plans to subjugate the masses to a controlled society designed for their personal benefit. The real author, of course, is Satan the Devil. But he uses willing servants of the human race. These willing servants, since the whole sinister plot is a conspiracy and mystery, are not naturally recognizable. They operate behind a façade—probably acceptable to the very masses who are being progressively enslaved. At the appointed time they will surface. In the meantime, they use willing "lackeys" to bring these nefarious plans to fulfillment.

Three things are imperative to bring about the willing enslavement of mankind. (1) There must be an evil, diabolical elite which is heartless. Those who for the sake of greed and power are willing to sacrifice the whole of humanity. (2) This elite must act in a clandestine fashion. That is, they must not be recognizable as part of the unfolding scene. (3) To bring to pass surface changes necessary for the ultimate realization of the mystery, the "plotters" must have a willing and cooperative front echelon which is willing to suffer ignominy, shame, deprecation, ridicule, and outright verbal abuse. At the same time, they must be socially acceptable to the people and must be cooperative and trustworthy to their benefactors.

As we have seen from the conduct of the various facets of government for the past several years, few—if any—statesmen and principled men have surfaced, which cannot be controlled. The principle avenue by which this mental orientation has been achieved is that of religion. The whole fabric of religion has dramatically changed in the past 25 to 50 years. Absolutes have been denigrated. Morality has been compromised. Real love and affection have been reduced to mere emotions.

The thrust of the above is seen in the frantic action of the powers-that-be to replace, quickly, any man of character who makes it to Washington, or to a state capital, or is an appointee or a high-level government individual. Millions and millions of dollars have been readily spent in overt efforts to ostracize senators or members of the House of Representatives, or other office-holders who stand on principle and integrity. Why? The conspirators want them replaced by those who are more willing to play ball according to "their" rules.

In the final analysis, if—because of circumstances—you cannot be at the helm yourself, it appears imperative to use easily malleable and cooperative front personnel to

do the dirty work. Only when sufficient power has been gained can the elite surface from the conspiracy. At that time, the real leaders will be visible. The people will be slaves. Only by the intervention of an outside force—in this case, Christ—will the people again be liberated.

In the meantime, watch for the destruction or elimination of all men of power in all countries: kings, dictators, etc. What happened to Marcos, Batista, the Shah of Iran, Pinochet, others? Watch for dramatic changes in leadership in Southeast Asia. Watch for changes in Central and South America.

Articles

Work is completed on the new article on the holy days. This one is written from the vantage point of newly called individuals. Out of necessity, much of our past work was devoted to rebuilding the faith of those shattered by events occurring within the church.

We hope to have this new article out within the next couple of months. After the article on the holy days has been mailed, we will commence a comparable article on the Sabbath.

Prayer Requests

[Omitted for confidentiality]

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Blessings of Brethren

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Feasts: Holy Days

All necessary arrangements have been made regarding Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. I do look forward to spending time with those who can attend in the Eastern Pennsylvania, Baltimore, and Florida areas.

It is our hope and prayer all will enjoy the meetings, fellowship, and opportunity to renew the compact with God and Christ. Passover is the beginning of the great plan of salvation which God has in mind for human beings. What a privilege to rehearse that plan once again through the annual feast days!

If there are any last-minute questions, please call the office here in Eugene, or preferably the lead men in the area in question.

Trips

April 18 (Passover)	Raymond Cole, Baltimore, Maryland George Leeman, Ohio/Western Pennsylvania
April 20 (First D.U.B.)	Raymond Cole & George Leeman, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
April 26 (Last D.U.B.)	Raymond Cole, Tampa/St. Petersburg, Florida George Leeman, Nashville, Tennessee
April 29	George Leeman, Dallas, Texas
May 6	George Leeman, Austin, Texas Raymond Cole, Vancouver, Canada
May 12-14	George Leeman, Eugene, Oregon. He will be in the area from May 12 to June 12.

May 20

Raymond Cole, Sacramento, California

May 27

Bryce Clark, Dallas, Texas

May 30-June 14

Raymond Cole, Switzerland. **Please note that the dates have been changed.**

June 3

Bryce Clark, San Antonio, Texas

Note: The economy is soft. Despite the surface appearance of strength, unemployment and other economic factors are problematic. Major shifts are occurring. Because of this, it may be necessary to revise the 1989 budget. We simply will not allow ourselves to become indebted. God wants us to operate within the parameters of income. Immoderate changes are not necessary. The purpose of this note is to make all aware some trips and other functions may be cancelled or altered. We cannot operate on what we do not have.

At this point, I ask everyone to pray seriously about the situation. It is God's business. What He wants is exactly what we should want.

Tape Schedule

Tape series:	Mailed on:	For:	Title/tape #:
WSE-RC 39	3/16	4/01	Confrontations and responses of Christ #4
WSE-BC 122	3/16	4/08	Great men of the O.T. #9
WSE-RC 39	3/30	4/15	Confrontations and responses of Christ #5
WSE-BC 122	3/30	4/22	Great men of the O.T. #10
WSE-RC 39	4/13	4/29	Confrontations and responses of Christ #6
WSE-BC 122	4/13	5/06	Great men of the O.T. #11
WSE-RC 39	4/27	5/13	Confrontations and responses of Christ #7
WSE-BC 122	4/27	5/20	Great men of the O.T. #12

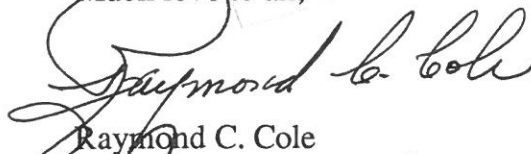
Programs and Needs

The tape department is being restructured; please be patient where back orders are concerned. They will be sent soon. Thanks for your understanding.

Comments

God continues to work. Many interesting things will soon surface. Let us be patient and faithful. Hopefully none of us will miss, because of negative responses, any of the great blessings which God has in mind for us.

Much love to all,



Raymond C. Cole



Bryce G. Clark