

Church of God, The Eternal

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Announcement Letter
June 1989

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Dear Brethren:

Pentecost, being just around the corner, will have come and gone by the time you receive this Letter. We do hope and pray that all of you experienced a marvelous and rewarding holy day. This day is of special meaning to you. It represents that early harvest of which you are a part if you hold fast, endure, unto the end.

Spiritual Principle

What is character? It means different things to different people. Character is based on knowledge. Therefore, absolute character can be based on absolute knowledge only. That absolute knowledge of necessity must be the divinely revealed knowledge—revealed to each individual at his appointed time. It follows, then, that character is the divine nature—the nature or character of God.

By the law of absolutes, if there is a wrong, then there must be a right. Revealed knowledge is not the mere suppositions of men—the changeable concepts of man, no matter how brilliant—but the revealed concepts of what is absolutely right.

By self analysis, the evaluation required by God, man can see, understand, and appropriately evaluate his own nature—the source of defects and imperfections—and at the same time, based on the newly acquired knowledge—the revealed knowledge—he can comprehend the basic requirements of change. That change is the replacement of the old carnal manifestations with the new concepts of right—the absolute right. Hence, character is the ability and will to change. Frequently, humans know what they should do but they lack the character to make those changes. Even convictions are of little value until they are translated into action. James, as a servant of God, emphatically stated: Act on the Word. See James 1:24, Moffatt translation.

When all is going well with us, we often can lay claim to belief and conviction. Such behavior can be the depth of self-deception. But, how well do we do when peer pressure is against us? How about the pressure of locale, community, state? How about the pressure of government, at any level? Will we crumble in the presence of such frightening experiences? What about the pressure of employment—demands which may adversely affect our beliefs? And worse than all the above, what about the pressures of the self—fear of death, hunger, our own taste buds, weakness, and a host of troubling considerations?

Character, then, is the ability to make right decisions and the necessary follow-up action regardless of all adverse pulls. It is the will to make right decisions based on right knowledge.

God can read hearts and minds. He knows exactly where we stand. At times, God finds it necessary to try each one of us just so each can know his own level of conviction and faith. With real, genuine character, our faith and trust in God will never vacillate regardless of physical circumstances.

Real character is glorious. It is priceless. It is of greater value than all the value of precious gems. May we have the will always to manifest the glorious character of God!

Current Events

Too many people assume they know the specifics of prophetic fulfillment for our time. Beyond the general statements of the Bible, no one can know the specifics—time, identity, etc.—until they are specifically revealed or until they transpire. Let us stress once again the warning to avoid the natural temptation to feel that everything which occurs to our natural minds has to be the divine revelation of God. Surely no one of us wants to be added to the long list of embarrassed individuals who KNEW the specifics of prophecy.

With the above in mind, we would like to call to your attention another area of prophecy which needs to be carefully watched. By knowing what the Bible states and watching the unfolding of last day events we can see what is occurring.

Of the politico-religious system to surface in the last days, what is the possible manifestation of the religious aspect of this diabolical combine? From the Bible there are certain factors which we can know! What are they?

- A. The god of this world is Satan: II Cor. 4:4.
- B. He demands universal worship—even attempting to deceive Christ: Luke 4:5–6.
- C. He is at war with the true woman—the Church: Rev. 12:17.
- D. How is he warring? By two avenues: (1) political, (2) religious: Rev. 13:1–18.
- E. The religious is the orientation and strength of the political and economic: Rev. 13:11–18; 18:2–3, 9, 11, 15.
- F. Sadly, many called and chosen servants of God get caught, and are thereby tried and proven, in this politico-religious system: Rev. 18:4.

Many other points could be added. But the above is sufficient to serve our present purpose. Now let us take a look at the events—universal—taking shape before our very eyes.

- A. There is surfacing a New Age network composed of literally thousands of organizations.
- B. The avowed objective of this network is the creation of a worldwide New Age religion only, although feigning to be ecumenical at present.
- C. The moguls of industry and business are heavily involved in both the creation and usage of the principles of this religious concept.
- D. The present "new-agers" are profoundly laying at the feet of all present religious concepts the responsibility for the degraded state of affairs in the world. This includes all concepts of Christianity.
- E. Many institutions of higher education are actively espousing the concepts of this New Age religion.
- F. High government officials around the world are increasingly mesmerized by the concepts of this new religion.
- G. According to the writers of these new-agers, their members can be found in corporations, factories, universities, public schools, state and federal agencies,

hospitals, doctor's offices, staffs of the White House and legislatures, and all policy-making departments of government.

- H. The espoused concepts have filtered into churches, schools, and into the everyday thinking of millions of people around the world.
- I. Many of the well-known names in government are found on the active rosters of New Age activities.
- J. Many of the names under which this religion grows are "The Aquarian Conspiracy," human potential, humanism, new consciousness, the transcendental movement, "new thought" religion, among a host of others.

Could this be the surfacing of the old religion of Babylon? The literal fulfillment of the religious component of the evil force recorded in Revelation and elsewhere in the Bible? Just watch and beware of what is occurring!

Prayer Requests

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Blessings of Brethren

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Births

On Tuesday, May 23, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Leeman had a baby boy, Andrew Worth, weighing 6 lb. 10 oz. Both mother and son are doing fine.

Two days later, on Thursday, May 25, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Davidson, daughter and son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Pettyjohn, had a baby girl, Aireiel Elizabeth Ann. She weighed 7 lb. 10 oz. at birth. Daughter, parents, and grandparents are all doing well.

Feasts: Holy Days

Pentecost: Messrs. Clark and Leeman will be in the Eugene/Portland area. Mr. Cole will be in Switzerland as usual. All lead men in their respective areas should proceed to make whatever arrangements are necessary.

Trips

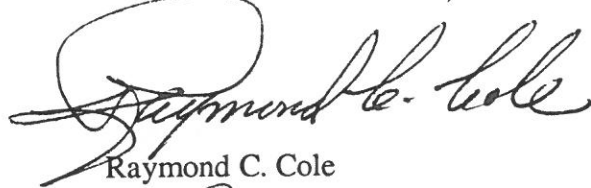
May 30–June 14

Raymond Cole, Switzerland.

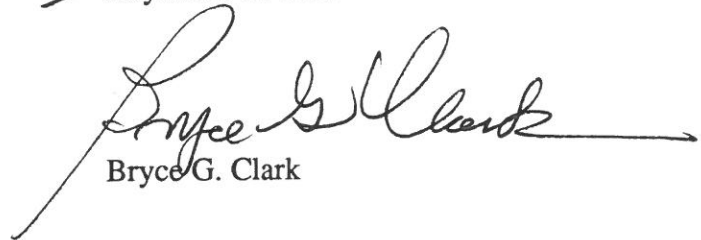
Tape Schedule

Tape series:	Mailed on:	For:	Title/tape #:
WSE-BC 122	5/11	6/03	Great men of the O.T. #13
WSE-RC 39	5/25	6/10	Confrontations and responses of Christ #9
WSE-BC 122	5/25	6/17	Great men of the O.T. #14
WSE-RC 39	6/08	6/24	Confrontations and responses of Christ #10
WSE-BC 122	6/08	7/01	Great men of the O.T. #15
WSE-RC 39	6/22	7/08	Confrontations and responses of Christ #11
WSE-BC 122	6/22	7/15	Great men of the O.T. #16

Much love in Jesus' name,



Raymond C. Cole



Bryce G. Clark