

Church of God, The Eternal

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Announcement Letter
November 1990

Dear Brethren:

Spiritual Principle: A Manifestation of the Mind of Satan

In the world of jurisprudence there are basically two legal orientations. One is that anyone charged with a crime is innocent until proven guilty. The other is the exact opposite. A person charged with a crime is guilty until proven innocent. Generally, the geographic limitations of these two orientations is as follows. The Western (Israelitish) world pursues the first of the above. Whereas, the Eastern (Gentile) world pursues the latter.

How do the above concepts relate to living an acceptable Christian life? A life that is pleasing and honorable to God? Once we really understand, it will become apparent that these two concepts are in essence a manifestation of our orientation in life. The one is a natural, carnal, and Satanic orientation—an orientation which holds others contemptuously guilty of bad conduct and will invariably seek first opportunities to castigate, create evil impressions, malign character, and generate rebellion. On the other hand, the right orientation refuses to hold another party guilty on the basis of rumor, the impulsiveness of one to initiate contention, or because someone in haste attempts to convey an interpretation of perceived wrongs in his life. The righteous refuse to believe the worst in anyone. They will cover sins and wrongs out of a sense of love and concern. They always hope for the best and pray to that end regardless of what they may actually see or know about others. For these reasons, those whose spirits and attitudes are right in the sight of God will not be found initiating turmoil or strife.

Despite the above facts, it is characteristic for human beings, in their natural carnal weaknesses, to believe that which they first hear. They will usually accept the smooth and alluring pronouncements which they are being fed by those employing perverseness to gain the ear of others. Satan comes as an angel of light. Is it any wonder that those who employ the same mind will come in like manner? They will always appear so righteous and good.

Remember, in all probability those seeking to pervert and destroy will attempt to gain your ear first. It is the classic history of the human race as revealed in God's Word. The righteous will be attempting to cover wrongs—not their own, but the mistakes of others. Such is an act of love—love manifested in a hope for future change and correction of the problem. Love covers sins.

If you want to avoid being troubled by the turmoil and contention which are prophesied for the last days, just keep your eyes fixed upon the doctrine which was initially taught. That which you accepted from the beginning. Changes and any compromising of

the truth cannot be hidden. The ministers are making tapes, speaking at weekly services, and writing articles and letters constantly. If you are doing your part, studying regularly, you cannot possibly miss any such changes if they were to occur. Why should the members be so anxious and concerned about some deception being pulled on them? As stated earlier, you would know within days. Since doctrinal change is the only justification for departure from the body, you have no grounds for fear or concern. Anyone leaving the body or espousing contention regarding others with respect to personal problems is categorically wrong. Such are condemned of God and themselves know they are wrong. For, those possessing the Spirit of God and the mind of Christ manifest no such traits or characteristics.

Brethren, we can live confidently. We need not live in fear and turmoil. We can have all the peace of mind and joy of salvation promised by God. As Christ taught, and the apostles taught and wrote, look to the doctrine which you were taught. That doctrine is unchanging, unalterable. It is the enduring Word, Truth, of God. With implicit trust in that Word, we can confidently avoid all "vain jangling" about spiritual matters. Walk confidently in the truth which you received from the beginning.

Articles

Work is progressing on the article covering the subject of marriage and separation. This article will be a compilation of the five tapes Mr. Cole did on the subject.

Prayer Requests

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Blessings of Brethren

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Births

Tracy Gibson, daughter of the Burdettes, gave birth to a son on August 31 at 9:10 P.M. She had a hard, long labor, but all is well. The son was named Cody Wayne Gibson. The Burdettes wish to thank the brethren for their prayers.

Feast of Tabernacles

All have returned home safely from the Feast and have expressed their appreciation for the sermons and fellowship. It was a time of great spiritual regeneration in preparation for the long Winter months

Trips

November 17	Bryce Clark, Sacramento
December 1	Raymond Cole, Lakeland, Florida
December 8	Raymond Cole, Central Pennsylvania
December 15	Raymond Cole, Vancouver, B.C.

Tape Schedule

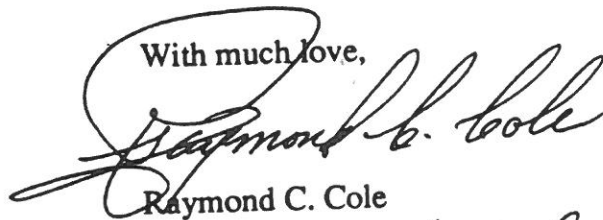
Tape series:	Mailed on:	For:	Title/tape #:
WSE-RC 46	10/3	11/3	Marriage and separation #4
WSE-RS 5	10/17	11/10	The book of Jude #2
WSE-RC 46	10/17	11/17	Marriage and separation #5
WSE-BC 122	10/31	11/24	Great men of the Old Testament #36
WSE-GL 8	10/31	12/1	How to have faith toward God #1
WSE-RC 47	11/14	12/8	Is the ministry today correctly administering their responsibility?
WSE-BC 122	11/14	12/15	Great men of the Old Testament #37

Comments

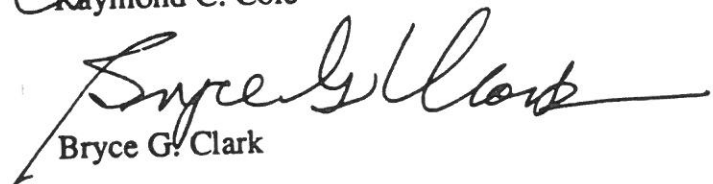
[Omitted for confidentiality]

Those on the tape list would aid us in the Tape Production Department immeasurably by regularly (every two or three tapes) cleaning the heads of your tape recorders. If you do not do this, the residue not only affects your quality of reproduction, but also adds more residue to the tapes returned. Use plain rubbing alcohol with Q-tips. Thank you for your kind consideration.

With much love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Raymond C. Cole". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the phrase "With much love,".

Raymond C. Cole

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bryce G. Clark". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the signature of Raymond C. Cole.

Bryce G. Clark