

Church of God, The Eternal

P. O. Box 775
Eugene, Oregon 97440

Raymond C. Cole
Director
Bryce G. Clark
Asst. Director

Offices in:
Canada
Philippines
Switzerland

Announcement Letter March 1995

Dear Brethren,

Major tragedy has struck our former affiliation. Though we knew this was destined to happen, little satisfaction is realized by those who were so shabbily treated. God finds no pleasure in the suffering of those who deserve it. Neither should we gloat. In fact, our roots are shaken. We can never forget the beauty of God's Church in its early days. Now time only will reveal where it will all lead.

Spiritual Principle: An imperative obligation long rejected and ultimately forgotten

Humanly speaking, what is in all probability the most auspicious and imperative duty incumbent upon the shoulders of humanity? Integral in both the question and its answer is a more troubling question, what causes nations and societies to degenerate? Why do they not improve with the passing of generations? What has happened to national integrity? Though ever increasing in technical knowledge, why such a great observable lack of moral fibre and the ensuing character? Based on the emphatic practicality of diverse and costly experience why has the world not seen a measurable increase in that character and moral fibre? Nothing just happens. There are always causes. Let us understand some of those basic causes.

God is the Creator of all things—heaven and earth (Gen. 1:1). He reserved heaven for Himself. But the earth He gave to the sons of men (Psa. 115:16). At the very time of his creation man was given specific instructions regarding that gift of God (Gen. 2:15-17). To fulfill the responsibility contained in that gift, man was accordingly empowered (Gen. 1:26). True to the natural nature and mind of man he immediately, though under the influence of an unknown and unseen enemy, turned to the powers and convictions of his own mind (Gen. 3:17-24). What followed is Biblically called the way of Cain (Gen. 4:1-15, Jude 10-11). Cain's way is that which seems right to the natural mind. The resolve to issues and conditions on the basis of that which he has thought out for himself. How does this affect the subject at hand?

As seen Biblically, coming from the very mind of God, what is the basis of national, family, and personal strength and success? (Deut. 6:1–15; 11:18–21; 29:29, Prov. 4:1–13) Note carefully, success involves: a faithful ministry teaching the ways of God; a people responding acceptably to that teaching, determinedly engraving those commands into hearts and minds—one's daily consciousness; parents daily teaching their children those commands and then talking about them routinely, even placing conspicuous placards as reminders of duty and obligation; and finally a genuine fear to subscribe to natural, alien, concepts. Even though men cannot of themselves obey the spiritual intent of the ways of God, physical obedience was/is possible.

So imperative and essential was the charge of the above obligations that they were made commands by God. Yet, man, on the basis of a host of justifications, has rejected as applicable these commands, thereby setting the stage for the moral and social degeneration observable today.

Why is the teaching and instruction of our children so essential? (Deut. 4:9–10; 31:11–13, Psa. 78:1–8). First, there is a natural inclination for anyone to turn to the dictates of the flesh and natural mind. Second, reading the texts carefully we are left with one conclusion only—degeneration of body, social structure, and national orientation are inevitable short of faithful obedience to that way of life given. The preservation of an acceptable fabric of society is of such essentiality that God imposed upon parents a primary duty—the teaching of their children. The tragic and worrisome element of human experience is only the second best avenue by which to learn. However, since men learn by virtually no other means, historical experience has been recorded—a major portion of the recorded Bible.

To perpetuate a perfect way of life, whether from the perspective of the physical or the spiritual, God was greatly concerned with the choice of leaders. He laid down very specific commands (Lev. 10:9–11, Deut. 17:14–20). Yet all history reveals that few wise men have ruled. Has there been a conspiracy from the beginning? Has there been any effort on the part of men to hide, alter, and pervert this magnificent purpose of God?

How one generation handles this commanded responsibility given by God most directly affects future generations (Deut. 4:10). Can you imagine the consequence of failure compounded from generation to generation? Oh, if only we completely understood how what we do today affects others tomorrow!

Now, let us become a little more specific. Why is God so very concerned with His physical people located in the U.S.A., Britain, Canada, Australia, S. Africa, and N.W. Europe? (Please remember what happens in Israel will in turn affect the rest of the world—Deuteronomy 4:1–8). Why God's concern? (Deut. 14:1–2) From a spiritual perspective, the children of Israel are members of the Body of Christ (Gal. 6:16). Can you

grasp the enormity of the duty and obligation imposed upon them? They, as God required of physical Israel, must be the lights and examples to the rest of the world.

Despite the severity of the commands of God, He, looking down the corridors of history, prognosticated a continual generational degradation of His chosen people—obviously resulting from a surrender and failure of parental responsibility (Deut. 4:25–26; 5:29). Without judicious and careful discharge of duty, leaders and parents must take careful note of an inevitable future (Pro. 5:3–14). How can one emphasize sufficiently the obligation and duty of parents and the consequence for any failure?

In a nutshell, why are we experiencing a terrible educational morass today? (Deut. 32:1–9, 15–20, 29, Pro. 17:6) Israel, as the physical people of God, have sorely corrupted themselves. They are a crooked and perverse generation. They forsook the way of God—the counsel of the Almighty One. They have forgotten Him. The result is that God has turned His face from the nations. If only they were endowed with vision.

How many children grow up with no real father and at best a part-time mother? So-called fathers are reprehensible. Failing their awesome obligation they have forced far too many mothers into the workaday world. Yet, at the same time, how many unfit mothers exist? In today's morass of decay there is sufficient guilt to go around.

What has this failure of fathers and mothers produced? The monthly Current Events part of this *Announcement Letter* should make the answer quite plain.

Current Events: The goal of modern public education (part one of two parts)

Public education is such a norm that few people give the exercise of that duty a second thought. Maybe it is time for some of us to awaken.

Many authors and speakers have given considerable analytical time to the subject. Their comments are interesting, revealing, and at the same time frightening. Let us succinctly consider the broad mosaic of the issue.

Shockingly, Dr. Samuel L. Blumenfeld, editor of the *Blumenfeld Education Letter*, reveals: ". . . the original intent of government schooling was to get God out of education and turn the schools into secular instruments for the promotion of a pagan-socialist culture." And Dr. Rushdoony adds: "The first and basic premise of paganism, socialism, and Molech worship is its claim that the state owns the child . . . It is the essence of paganism to claim first the lives of the children, then the properties of the people." He concludes: "The family is God's basic institution . . . Nations which work to destroy the family succeed thereby in destroying themselves."

An OBE project manual reveals: The project will use an outcome-based education model that focuses on the knowledge, skill, and *attitudes* that students should possess when they graduate. And according to C. Bennet, the goal of "Comprehensive Multicultural Education" is not to teach factual history but to propagandize students towards an "emotional commitment to the fundamental unity of all humans." Mental and behavior modification? Since fruits are always revealing, perhaps we can come to know by considering statements made and observable actions.

What are some of the fruits being borne today? How can objectives such as indicated above be realized?

John Dumphy, in the *Humanist* magazine, wrote: "The battle for humankind must be waged in the public school classroom between the rotting corpse of Christianity and the new faith of humanism . . ." How confident are they of success? He continues: ". . . humanism will emerge triumphant." Now for the better part of this century the educational establishment has steadily replaced tried and true methods of teaching for methods designed to gain their ends. A report about a Spokane, Washington School District says regarding classrooms, "the Bible has been banned and books on witchcraft and Satanism are acceptable, nine year old boys are taught how to have anal sex, condoms are freely passed out . . . and Jr. High schoolers are taught how to have sex with beasts." How much worse can it get?

From the *Catechism of the Revolutionist*, "Mankind must be divided into two unequal parts. One tenth receives personal liberty and unlimited rights over the other nine tenths. The latter must . . . become a kind of herd." This is precisely the goal of public schools. Of the OBE project its manual reveals: "The curriculum will emphasize *critical thinking* and problem solving, and students will examine *relevant ethical issues* and learn how to make *sound choices*." So "critical thinking" is an important goal of OBE. Dr. Blumenfeld says that: "Critical thinking was the primary method the philosophers . . . used to destroy faith in Christianity in eighteenth-century Europe."

Is the picture beginning to emerge? Since the subject is so relevant for the day, and the space constraints pressured for this issue, I will hold considerable material for the next *Announcement Letter*.

Deaths

We are sorry to hear of the death of Mildred Bruner of Kingsport, Tennessee. She suffered from various health problems. Our condolences are extended to her family.

Trip Schedule

March 13	Saskatoon	R.C.C.
March 18	Modesto	R.C.C.
April 13, 14, 15	Knoxville	R.C.C.
April 21, 22	Austin	R.C.C.

Comments

All recycled tapes are checked before mailing. Damage to the sound quality is occurring during transit. Please return all damaged tapes, *marked*, so that we can ascertain what is happening in transit and correct the problem. Recently, we received some new tapes that were defective. If you received one please return it so that we can replace it for you.

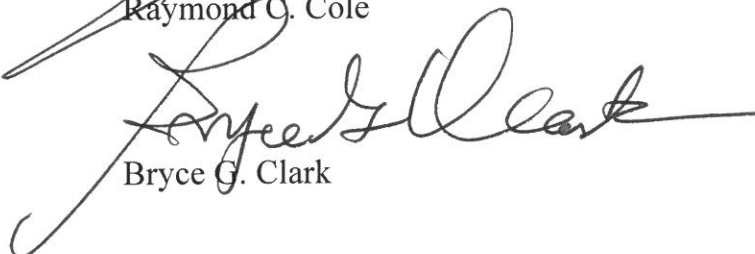
Tape Schedule

Tape Series	Mailed	For	Title/tape #
WSE-RC 59-15	01/11	03/11	Despair or Glory, Which? #15
WSE-BC 147-1	01/25	03/18	Mighty Acts and Miracles of God #1 (Creation)
WSE-RC 59-16	01/25	03/25	Despair or Glory, Which? #16
WSE-BC 147-2	02/08	04/01	Mighty Acts and Miracles of God #2 (Flood)
WSE-RC 59-17	02/08	04/08	Despair or Glory, Which? #16
Passover	03/22	04/13	
NTBO	03/22	04/14	
First day of UB	03/22	04/15	A.M. & P.M. (two tapes)
Second day of UB	03/29	04/21	A.M. & P.M. (two tapes)
WSE-BC 147-3	02/22	04/22	Mighty Acts and Miracles of God #3 (Babel)
WSE-RC 59-18	02/22	04/29	Despair or Glory, Which #18

In Christ's service,



Raymond C. Cole



Bryce G. Clark