

Church of God, The Eternal

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Announcement Letter June 1999

Dear Brethren:

Trials and difficulties are often allowed by God for the growth and benefit of those undergoing them. Of course, no trial is enjoyable at the time of the experience. There is much anguish and pain which accompany them. And to those who seek to understand, there is eternal value. The object lessons learned are indelibly imprinted in mind and heart. They become a part of the responsive and faithful. As part of the character of the individual their value is seen in daily manifestation of changed lives. On the other hand, those who do not profit by the experiences, equally manifest a changed orientation. Tragically, however, those failing to respond positively will manifest no good results but the depths of resentment and contempt. These fruits will eat at the heart and core of the being.

Let us grow positively. Let us manifest the depth of purpose and character for which God allowed the trials in the first place. Paul explains the perfection and beauty of the principle. He says, "My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons . . . Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby" (Hebrews 12:5-8, 11).

This is a grievous time of trial. It is not over. Yet, let us heed the instruction of the Apostle Paul: "Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of

God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled" (Hebrews 12:12-15).

Though hard, the knowledgeable and understanding child of God can fulfil the command of God: "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience" (James 1:2-3).

Is it possible God is now testing the "nearly finished" products? The stakes are high. Let us fervently pray for one another.

Prayer Request

[Omitted for confidentiality]

General Request

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Births

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Bean would like to thank everyone for the prayers concerning the birth of their son, Eon Stewart. They were able to have an uncomplicated home birth. Eon was born May 24, weighing eight pounds, and twenty-one and one-half inches long. Both mother and baby are doing fine.

Deaths

Mrs. Jack (Vi) Larson: Mrs. Larson died May 10, at eighty-nine years of age. She was a faithful member for many years. She will be missed by all who knew her. Our sympathies are expressed to her family.

Music Program

Part of our preliminary work involves the music program for the two Feast sites. Any who plan to participate in the music program this year should notify Richard Meyn at the church office before the end of June. He is already working on this year's performance material. As always, everyone's participation and effort will be greatly appreciated.

Scheduling Emcees, Opening and Closing Prayers

In order that we may begin preparation of schedules for the Feast we need to know as soon as possible if any will be attending at a different Feast site than usual. We must soon begin work on the scheduling of emcees and those who give opening and closing prayers.

Trip Schedule

June	Portland, OR	R.C.C.
July 3	Eugene, OR	J.W.B.
August 7	Baltimore, MD	R.C.C.

Tape Schedule

<u>Tape Series</u>	<u>Sermon Date</u>	<u>Mailed</u>	<u>Title/Tape #</u>
WST-JB 8	12-26-98	05-12-99	Lessons from the Book of Jude.
WSE-RC 90-8	05-01-99	05-12-99	An Analysis of Jude #9.
WSP-RC B	05-26-99	05-26-99	What is the Hope for You?
WSE-RC 90-9	05-15-99	05-26-99	An Analysis of Jude #10.
WSE-RC 90-10	05-22-99	06-09-99	An Analysis of Jude #11.

In Christ's service,



Raymond C. Cole



Jon W. Brisby