

# Church of God, The Eternal

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## Announcement Letter April 2000

Dear Brethren:

Greetings once again from the church in Eugene, and from the office staff and ministry who are continually dedicated to your service. Those who have passed the tests of faith to this date, having remained faithful to their calling with legitimate respect for the foundation of revealed doctrine, are ever priceless in our eyes.

God has allowed His Church of the last days to be tested, to prove which ones of us will really cling to our first love. More than twenty-five years after the first blatant act of apostasy, we have seen the effects of individualized testing—ordained of God—as the majority of His children have allowed offenses, emotionalism, and the failures of men to turn their heads from the Truth. The majority stumbled at the very beginning of that apostasy in the early 1970s when they accepted the corruption of Pentecost and the perversion of marriage. Yet, we have also witnessed the failure of many friends since then who endured for a time—even some for many years—only to fall eventually when a hidden weakness of faith was exposed through progressive trial. It might become incredibly discouraging to us if we overlook the perfect work of our Heavenly Father in preparing His people for the return of Christ. Bible prophecies tell us plainly that many will be forced to make their robes white through tribulation just prior to that final trumpet. The elect of God will not exist in the confidence of great numbers. It is a small remnant indeed who will press forward in absolute continuity of purpose through each wave of trial.

Many of our former brethren are clamoring for reunification—trying to capture the lost glory of that once cohesive and influential Church. Yet, they are all attempting to achieve that unity through the compromise of originally revealed doctrine. They fail to recognize that it was divine revelation which acted as the glue. Until God's people—spiritual Israel of the last days—recognize their folly in corrupting the divine oracles of the living God, there will be no recovery of glory for that Body. We will not deny Christ—the Word—to appease any human being. Our confidence is in the perfection of that

revealed Way, and God helping us we will walk confidently into the jaws of future trial, without doubt or misgiving, waiting for the divine activity of God to miraculously recover His people out of sin.

In the meantime, our thoughts and prayers remain for you—the scattered brethren who already recognize the value of your original calling, and have already resolved to allow no future crisis to cause offense. Those are the ones we delight to serve. May God grant you the faith to hold on, even unto the end.

## **Holyday**

The Spring Holydays are almost here and most have already begun to make appropriate preparations. Once again, if any of you need information on how to keep Passover in your own home, please inform us.

The Spring Holydays are as follows:

Passover: Wednesday, April 19 (observed the previous evening, Tuesday, April 18).  
Night to be Much Observed: Wednesday, April 19  
First High Day of Unleavened Bread: Thursday, April 20  
Last High Day of Unleavened Bread: Wednesday, April 26

## **Deaths**

Mrs. Frieda Bartel: We were saddened by the death of Frieda Bartel of Cuba, Missouri. She died Wednesday, March 8, of age-related causes. She was 86 years of age. We extend our condolences to her family.

## **Trip Schedule**

April 22	Knoxville	R.C.C.
May 13	Austin	J.W.B.
May 20	Baltimore	R.C.C.

## **Re-released Sermon Series**

Many have expressed continuing interest in the sermon series entitled, "Persecution, Trial, and Tribulation," from our tape library. Therefore, we have decided to release the entire series once again to those currently on the sermon tape program. Several have commented that this series, although recorded by Mr. Cole more than twenty years ago, seems more relevant today than ever before. This thirty-one tape series will be mailed in small increments as a supplement to the new tapes designated for Sabbath services. We hope many of you will find them inspirational and encouraging in these increasingly perilous times.

## **New E-Mail Address**

Along with our new Internet web page <[www.cogeternal.org](http://www.cogeternal.org)>, the church office also has a new E-Mail account. For those of you who correspond with us electronically, please note our new address:

[cogeternal@uswest.net](mailto:cogeternal@uswest.net)

We intend to maintain the previous E-Mail account for a few months, until the new address becomes more familiar. However, since the old address will eventually be discontinued, updating your address books will eliminate the potential of any missed communications.

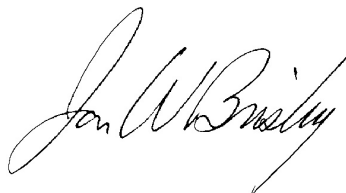
## Tape Schedule

<u>Tape Series</u>	<u>Mailed</u>	<u>Played</u>	<u>Title/Tape #</u>
WSE-JB 17-6-3B	03-15-00	04-15-00	Fund. of Belief #3: Attributes of the Holy Spirit.
WSE-RC 92-9	03-15-00	04-22-00	What is Essential for Eternal Life?
WSE-RC 90-26	03-29-00	04-29-00	An Analysis of Jude #26
WSE-RC 92-10	03-29-00	05-06-00	What is Essential for Eternal Life?

In Christ's service,



Raymond C. Cole



Jon W. Brisby