

# Church of God, The Eternal

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## Announcement Letter December 2000

Dear Brethren:

Our special greetings go out once again to all of you who have continued steadfast in the faith of Jesus Christ. We express sincere love and regards to each one of you scattered about the face of this earth, from your devoted friends and servants here in Eugene, Oregon. We pray continually that all of you who are part of this faithful remnant are being blessed and protected through the mercy and love of our Heavenly Father.

The darkest season of the year is now upon us once again—that time after the conclusion of God's fall festivals but before the beginning of a new spring season. For those of us who understand and love God's truths, it is especially trying as we become inundated once again with the trappings of pagan festivals of fall and winter, packaged as the worship of the true God. But if God has separated Himself from them for reason, how can any of their offerings be acceptable? But the deceived peoples of this world continue anyway to hope for happiness, contentment, and joy from this new holiday season, clamoring once again for a sense of peace and harmony with their fellow man. They speak in platitudes about love, unity, and sacrifice for others. They belie the commercialism that dominates their traditions, yet seem to remain shackled to them all the more. While chasing an illusion of happiness, they endure instead the reality of depression, emptiness, and despair that comes from unfulfilled expectations.

How hollow is Satan's counterfeit compared to the commanded festivals of God, for those of us who have been called to understand their true purpose and value. If we really appreciate what we have been given, we relish the commands of God and recognize that this Way of Life provides true contentment, real peace, and the opportunity for a legitimate feeling of fulfillment. Our unconverted families and friends feel sorry that our children are "deprived" of these pagan holidays, not recognizing that our children are blessed above all others as they participate instead in God's glorious festivals.

Friends and brethren, in spite of the burden we may feel at this time of year from the heathen practices of the world in which we live, if we truly appreciate the incredible blessing we have received—having been called out from the deception of empty pagan rituals—we can take comfort and offer praises to God for giving us His pearl of great price. That is a blessing we can relish in this and every season of the year.

## Office

Tithes: The cutoff date for 2000 tithes will be January 5, 2001—all 2000 tithes must be received at the office by this date. Please keep this in mind for those contributions you wish to have included in your 2000 statement. Remember, they must be dated 2000.

E-mail address: This is just another reminder that our Internet service provider changed its domain name from uswest.net to qwest.net. Consequently, our e-mail address is automatically changing. Our new e-mail address is <cogeternal@qwest.net>. The old address will still work for the next eighteen months, but the sooner we begin using the new address, the better.

Personal correspondence to Mr. Cole: I want to take advantage of this opportunity to thank all who have written. Every letter and card is deeply appreciated. Do not ever think they are ignored. I desperately want to respond. God giving me the needed help and strength all will eventually hear from me. Thanks so much for understanding.

Updated article: As stated last month, we have updated the article, *The Hebrew Calendar, Part II*. It is now complete through the year 2010. Anyone wishing to have an updated version should feel free to request it from the office.

## General Request

Mrs. Shirley Arthur would like to express her love, regards and deep thanks for prayers, cards, and calls for the past seven years during Bill Arthur's long illness. They were all greatly appreciated. At the same time we extend our love, prayers, and respect to Shirley and those Bill left behind.

## Trip Schedule

December 16, 23	Philippines	J.W.B.
February 10	Baltimore	R.C.C.

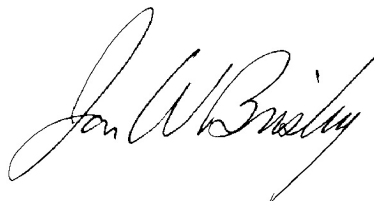
## Tape Correction

Mr. Cole completed four sermons during the Feast on "The Continuing Body of Christ." He was not able to finish the series at the Feast so he continued it with another tape November 4 in Eugene. That tape has already been sent out. It was numbered incorrectly as #2 in the series. It should have been numbered #5. Please make note of that needed change so it will not be a cause of confusion as you listen to the series.

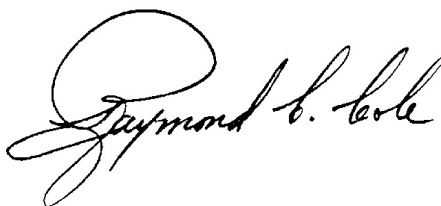
## Tape Schedule

Tape Series	Mailed	Played	Title/Tape #
WSE-JB 26-4	11-22-00	12-16-00	The Testimony of Jesus Christ #4
WSE-RC 94-1	11-22-00	12-23-00	The Faith Once Delivered #1
WSE-RC 94-2	12-06-00	12-30-00	The Faith Once Delivered #2
WSE-JB 22-19-11B	12-06-00	01-06-00	Fund. of Belief 11B (The Ordinance of Passover)

In Christ's service,



Jon W. Brisby



Raymond C. Cole