

Church of God, The Eternal

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The late Raymond C. Cole
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Offices in:
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Announcement Letter February 2002

Dear Brethren:

Your devoted servants and brethren in Eugene, Oregon send greetings again to all of you—God's faithful children—at the beginning of yet another month in this winter season. May we never fail to keep you in our thoughts and prayers, and beseech God daily for your health, welfare, and merciful blessings.

Although we are yet in the midst of a darker part of the year, the days are slowly getting longer, and we know the arrival of Spring and God's new year are only weeks away. The times in which we live are also comparable to that dark season, as we wait with anticipation for the revelation of Jesus Christ and the light of His glorious arrival. What a blessing it is to have that hope which the world does not yet know. What a joy to have the vision of God's perfect plan of salvation, and to know that He is even now accomplishing His perfect work, even while the physical signs all around are ominous and foreboding. But just as we are sure the new spring season will come again and bring new life physically, we have just as much faith in the spiritual promises of God and all that is portrayed by the annual Holy Days, beginning with the Passover and culminating in the return of Jesus Christ and His Millennial reign. No matter how difficult circumstances become in our lives in these last days, if we remain focused on that singular goal and the promises God has offered to His selected children, we can keep that light of hope shining within us through His Holy Spirit, and weather any storms that are looming on the horizon.

Because of the scattered nature of this small remnant group around the globe, many do not have the privilege of regular fellowship with brethren of like mind. That in itself can be one of the greatest spiritual challenges we face. It can be so lonely trying to keep the Sabbath and many Holy Days by ourselves. How much we value and are inspired by interaction with others who share our love of the truths of God through that singular Spirit. How much we miss the feeling that a weekly congregational service provides. How difficult it is to be surrounded only by those in this world who do not yet have the gift of God's truth. Is it any wonder part of God's benevolent command is to convoke before Him on those holy

occasions? When we are near enough to comply, those Sabbath assemblies are certainly an opportunity for incredible spiritual enrichment.

Knowing from the many calls and letters we receive each week how many of you live with the trial of being isolated geographically, we are also reminded how much you rely on these monthly mailings and the sermon tape program to provide needed spiritual support in these difficult times. We know God will one day bring His sheep together into one fold (John 10:16). In the meantime, we are still suffering the effects of the breakup of that parent body many of us were once part of, which provided such comfort for so many years. Even though we recognize God's will is being done, and see the fulfillment of His prophecies by the end-time apostasy, it still does not lessen the burden for many in continuing on alone, day-to-day in this world.

With that in mind, it seems appropriate to mention how blessed we all are to have the dedicated staff members of the church office here in Eugene, whose mission it is to serve and support God's scattered faithful in many countries. They understand the work they do is a vital lifeline for each one of you. God has blessed us with ones who are truly capable and devoted in that responsibility, and we are grateful for their conscientious service. From the recording, mastering, and duplicating of sermons, to the formatting and preparation of our monthly mailings, many hands work in concert to provide the services you have come to depend upon. Day-to-day services include special requests for tapes and literature and providing telephone support to members and other callers. Then there are all of the unseen administrative tasks; accounting functions, website development and upkeep, special music coordination, ministerial research support, and myriad office facility responsibilities.

It is a joy to work with a staff who derives such satisfaction from service to God's people, and as long as God continues to bless, we intend to continue those important services with efficiency and professionalism. Please continue to let us know how we may best serve you. We are your devoted friends and brethren, and we will always remember that you do not belong to us, but to God.

We pray you will continue to hold fast in these difficult times, and although scattered for now as the salt of the earth, that you may fulfill God's will to be a light for His way of life in the place where He has placed you.

Death

Mrs. Purificacion Cambil: We are saddened to report the death of Mrs. Purificacion Cambil of Cabanatuan City, Luzon, Philippines. She was a longtime member of the church and lived a long life, dying at 92 years of age. We send our condolences to Mr. Roque, his brothers and sister in the church, and all the Philippine brethren who knew and loved her.

Holy Days

Passover Tuesday, March 26
Night to be Much Observed Wednesday, March 27
1st Holy Day—Days of Unleavened Bread Thursday, March 28
2nd Holy Day—Days of Unleavened Bread. Wednesday, April 3

Trip Schedule

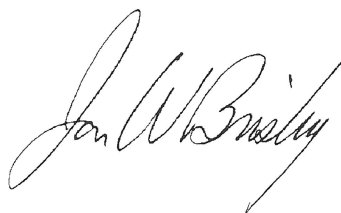
March 2 Knoxville, Tennessee

March 26, 27, 28, 30 Baltimore, Maryland

Tape Schedule

Tape Schedule	Mailed	Played	Title/Tape #
WSP-RC 5-3	01-10-01	02-02-02	Are We Stuck at Our Red Sea?
WSE-JB 22-36-16B	01-10-01	02-09-02	Fund. of Belief: The Sceptre and the Birthright
WSE-RC 3-1	01-24-02	02-16-02	A Panoramic Sketch of the Book of II Timothy
WSE-JB 40	01-24-02	02-23-02	Pre-Passover Evaluation 2002
WSE-RC 32-1	02-07-02	03-02-02	Create Peace or Strife?
WSE-RC 22-37-16C	02-07-02	03-09-02	Fund. of Belief: The Davidic Covenant and the Two Nations

In Christ's service,



Jon W. Brisby