

Church of God, The Eternal

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Announcement Letter July 2006

Dear Brethren:

As always, it is an honor to address you again in this monthly mailing, and have a chance to express again great love and respect for the children of God who are keeping that Light of God's Way burning in their minds and hearts. Never forget who you are in God's plan, or underestimate the importance of your calling. It is sometimes hard to believe that we are really that unusual or special, out of all the billions of people upon this earth. In fact, it often seems arrogant to even consider it to be so. But the truth is, you *are* special, in that God *did* call you out to be part of His firstfruits harvest. We know that calling did not come because we were more worthy, but if anything, because God intends to manifest what a miracle He can work when He takes the dregs and turns them into Kings. That will certainly be no credit to us, but all will go to God, who has masterminded this glorious plan for human salvation.

With that in mind, it is important to remind all of you that Satan is very active at this time. While God has continued to give this remnant body a time of great peace and harmony as a collective group worldwide, there are nonetheless many wars being fought in the trenches of our individual minds, as members of that Body of Christ. One striking evidence is the way many families are being attacked ruthlessly by those demonic influences. Because the ministry is in a position to serve individuals and families in a very private and confidential way, we are privy to knowledge of some of these battles. Being able to assemble the collective picture of those individual battles into a broad canvas, it is evident that Satan's efforts to discourage and destroy are accelerating rapidly. Marriages are under attack. Relationships of parents and children are under attack. Minds are being assaulted as demons seek to harass and manipulate. In the wake of these heightened attacks, some individuals who have been longtime members of God's Church and have manifested many good fruits of conversion over the years are facing spiritual assaults that are causing them to stumble.

It is as if we are entering a new phase of God's educational process, and He is forcing us to step up our urgency to overcome by allowing us to become exposed to more vicious enemy assaults. If not, it is not clear how these manifestations can be explained. But if that is true, it means that the level of spiritual character you may have developed in the past may not be enough for the future. We have all suffered from spiritual slumber to one extent or another. When things go along as usual for a time, we easily settle into a comfortable routine, especially spiritually. We are seduced into spiritual apathy because *we think* we are able to "hold our current position" without any greater effort. But when a wave of new attacks comes which are more potent than any we have experienced before, that is when our weaknesses and vulnerabilities come to the fore.

Not a one of us is immune to being destroyed if we are not ever vigilant to guard those minds. Knowledge of our dear brethren who have succumbed (for the moment) to those influences should never make the rest of us judge them with disdain. Far from it. We need to pray for them mightily and beseech God to help them break the bonds of that destructive influence. Even more so, we need to recognize those events as warning signs for ourselves. If others who have manifested good fruits can be shaken, which ones of us are impervious to such subtle and deceitful attacks? Any one of us can become derailed if we are not very careful. The arrogant will be most vulnerable. Only those who are thoughtfully aware of their own weaknesses and checking and rechecking their thoughts, day by day, can be sure of avoiding deception.

Have you taken stock of your vulnerabilities? Have you truly assessed where Satan might most easily assail you? Is it a latent desire for the things of this world? Perhaps a tendency toward taking a spouse (or parent, or friend) for granted and permitting bitterness to enter in? Maybe resenting being a true, selfless servant, without expecting recompense in return? Or perhaps allowing the seeds of rebellion against authority to seduce us into wrong behavior? Maybe it is simply becoming weary in well-doing? How about a simple lack of faith to believe God will do what He promises? Whatever and wherever those weak points might exist in our minds, it behooves us to renew ourselves with urgency to resist that tempter and engage the enemy, starting with our own carnality.

There is no reason any of us should fail. God has promised to provide everything we need to be successful. He called us to succeed, not to fail. And there is no power or enemy that can wrest your salvation from you, if you truly love it enough to fight. May we all be renewed to open our eyes, to see the signs of the time, and to get to work to strengthen those weak places in our defenses. The need is now. Let us redeem the time while God is granting opportunity to prepare for those monumental events which can only be a short time away.

Excess Second Tithe

This is just a yearly reminder of the need for second tithe to cover administrative and facility costs for the Feast. We want to reserve adequate for an enjoyable and meaningful Feast. At the same time, we all must remember, to keep the Feast requires the rental of halls, transportation, aid to those who are deserving, etc. If we all contribute, the burden for each is relatively small. A huge thanks to those whose hearts and minds are willing. May God richly and abundantly bless you in all ways.

Second Tithe Requests

Please be reminded that requests for second tithe assistance for the Feast of Tabernacles need to be in by September 1. Any who need assistance should notify us in ample time.

Scheduling Emcees, Opening and Closing Prayers

We are beginning preparation of printed schedules for the Feast of Tabernacles, so 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. We thank you in advance for your help.

Camp Tejas

Camp Tejas begins on July 13 and we are asking you to keep it in your prayers so that it may be an enjoyable, successful experience for everyone involved, and that all have safe travel to, from, and during their time at camp.

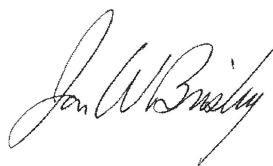
Trip Schedule

July 15	Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota
July 22	Providence, Rhode Island
August 26	Baltimore, Maryland

Tape Schedule

Tape #	Mailed	Played	Title
WSE-JB 80-12	06-08-06	07-08-06	A Survey of the Book of Job #12 Job Responds To Bildad
HFT-RC 78-5	06-22-06	07-15-06	Do We Know Our Archenemy—Satan? #2
HFT-RC 78-7	06-22-06	07-22-06	Do We Know Our Archenemy—Satan? #3
WSE-JB 80-13	07-06-06	07-29-06	A Survey of the Book of Job #13 Zophar's First Speech
HFT-RC 84-3	07-06-06	08-05-06	Are You a Proven Product? #1
WSE-JB 80-14	07-20-06	08-12-06	A Survey of the Book of Job #14 Job Replies to His Friends: Chapter 13
WSE-JB 80-15	07-20-06	08-19-06	A Survey of the Book of Job #15 Conclusion of Job's Reply: Chapter 14

In Christ's service,



Jon W. Brisby