

Announcement Letter March 2012

Dear Brethren:

Special greetings to the people of God, in every place around this globe where you are living, working, and striving day by day to achieve something of true value. As members of this particular little remnant group, you are well acquainted with our focus upon the necessity of personal overcoming. And for those of you who have truly come to "get it," you have been blessed to find *the hidden key* which reveals and opens *the hidden passage* to real happiness, peace and joy.

You are all very dear because you understand that our *true work* is not an attempt to make our lives in this physical world most satisfied and contented. When God allows a certain level of physical comfort and blessings today, that is an extra special benefit indeed. But that is not our goal. There are many of us who have taken to ourselves a very difficult life right now by virtue of choosing to walk in the footsteps of Jesus Christ. How much "easier" could many of you have it today if you were simply willing to compromise God's laws and set your sights on the comforts of the flesh? If not for your calling, many of you would be able to avoid serious divisions within your families and your marriages. You could set aside loneliness. You would find more acceptance in your communities, and you would have so many more opportunities for work and personal achievements of all kinds. But by making God your priority, you have amassed to yourselves, in many cases, great persecutions, inconveniences, and sorrows. Why do you do it?

It must be because what you truly value most is not of this temporary life. If our fleeting physical lives were most precious to us, then we should be doing everything possible *right now* to make them as enjoyable as we can; eating, drinking, marrying, giving in marriage (Matthew 24:38). But for those of us who recognize and have come *to believe earnestly* that those temporary pleasures are not to be compared with the greater glory which awaits us in the future (Romans 8:18), then we apply ourselves instead to becoming imbued with the power to bear any weight, deal positively with any difficulty, endure any persecution, and absorb any suffering (with good grace) which God may permit. That suffering seems most dreadful and acutely overwhelming to our natural minds, but it is still only for a very short season. And the reward awaiting those who persevere is beyond our ability to fathom, let alone to describe with words.

This is the time when we should all be focused upon preparing for the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread, now only a few short weeks away. The beginning of a new year is almost upon us, and it is a time which should be incredibly inspiring to us, reminding us of that glorious master plan of a loving Heavenly Father and the expectation of a fabulous reward in the Kingdom of His Holy Son, if we follow that course to completion.

There is great consolation—*even right now*—for those who have their eyes truly set upon that Kingdom as most precious and valuable.

And our hope of you is steadfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation (2 Corinthians 1:7).

Near the beginning of this remnant fellowship, Mr. Raymond Cole stated it well: "Our problems relate specifically to the degree by which we were physically oriented" (*Monthly Letter*, March 1976). The purpose of the Feast of Unleavened Bread is to help us come to recognize the extent of our physical vs. spiritual orientation and what is required to make that transition to become spiritually minded. It is the whole essence of what we call *conversion*.

Thank you for your examples of that conversion process at work in your lives. Thank you for proving by your very difficult choices that you do indeed have your true hope in the Kingdom to come, not in the pleasures and comforts of this temporary world.

New Moon

The new moon, Nisan (first month), will begin on the evening of March 23. The new moon day is March 24.

Birth

Mr-s. Jesse LeBleu are happy to announce the arrival of their first child, Stacie Mae. She was born Tuesday morning, February 14, at 7:45 a.m. She weighed eight pounds, one ounce and was twenty inches long. Mother (Angela) and baby are doing fine.

Trip Schedule

Mr. Brisby:

April 5, 6, 7 Mansfield, Massachusetts
April 13, 14 Elkhart, Indiana

Mr. Robert Litz:

April 5, 6, 7 Stephenville, Texas

Recorded Sermon Schedule

Sermon #	Mailed	Played	Title
WSE-RC 27-15	02-09-12	03-03-12	Resolve to Live the Faith: #15 Stay Close to God
WSE-RC 23-1	02-09-12	03-10-12	Hope: Its Purpose, Potential and Power #1
WSE-JB 136	03-01-12	03-17-12	Pre-Passover Exam: Are You Honest?
WSE-RC 23-2	03-01-12	03-24-12	Hope: Its Purpose, Potential and Power #2
WSE-JB 22-142-25I2	03-01-12	03-31-12	Fund. of Belief #25: Marriage and Divorce: Technicalities of Divorce #2
1st HD-UB	03-01-12	04-07-12	Unleavened Bread Sermons
WSE-RC 23-3	03-22-12	04-14-12	Hope: Its Purpose, Potential and Power #3

In Christ's service,



Jon W. Brisby