

## Announcement Letter May 2013

Dear Brethren:

Very special greetings to the beloved children of God in every place where you live around this globe under the benevolence of His grace and lovingkindness.

How many of you realize that this may be a very significant moment in history? That is not so because there is a new Pope in Rome. It is not because of the escalating financial crisis in Europe. It is not because of the threats of wars in the Far East or the Middle East. It is not because of recent terrorist acts in the USA. All of these events certainly are prominent in the news headlines, and many are "watching" them with avid interest, including those who have been taught about God's salvation plan and believe truly that we are in the last days. But most of them do not appreciate remotely what is much more important by far. They are "watching" the wrong things.

In this very month, May 2013, the greater part of the physical church which Jesus Christ raised up in this age will celebrate a corrupted Pentecost *for the fortieth time* since 1974. Think about that. Forty years in which the true called of God—who saw such great miracles and power in His work through Herbert Armstrong—have thumbed their noses at Jesus Christ and bowed instead before their own corrupted wisdom. In the name of "growing in grace and knowledge," they have indeed spent the last forty years running to and fro and increasing their knowledge (Daniel 12:4). But what are the fruits of all of that energetic religious activity? Nothing but confusion, disappointment and ever-growing detachment from the foundation of real Truth. They simply refuse to acknowledge God's admonition to *hold fast to the faith once delivered*.

Forty is the number which God uses to signify a time of trial. That number has played prominently in the history of God's dealings with Israel. They wandered forty years in the wilderness before the last of that first rebel generation died out by God's decree. Many times subsequently they would pollute themselves and be cursed by wars and invasions forty years before God would deliver them. Jesus Christ was tempted after fasting forty days and forty nights. The list goes on. And so, repeating history, the Israel of God today—the true church—now likewise has polluted herself over a forty-year period by keeping a phony Pentecost which God despises.

Please do not jump to conclusions that we are prophesying some calamitous event immediately to occur. No, that too is part of the foolish thinking of the apostates, running from one failed prophecy to the next and never learning from their mistakes. We will not do that! God has not chosen to reveal His timeline of future events to anyone, including this ministry, and for reason. You and I are required to live by faith! So please take heed not to chase after signs.

It is, however, a *noteworthy moment* in our history, to think about the completion of *forty whole years* in which all but a very small remnant have turned their backs upon the Creator God who set them apart, and offered *strange fire* upon His altar (Leviticus 10:1). This benchmark will be completed no later than May 20, 2013, when once again the one-and-only divinely-revealed Feast of Pentecost will be besmirched and forsaken by the majority.

But, you may ask, how is it "forty years" when 1974 was only thirty-nine years ago? Is not the *fortieth anniversary* of the change in Pentecost (since 1974) going to be 2014? Yes, that is indeed correct. Pentecost was first polluted only thirty-nine years ago. But when you count *inclusively*—beginning to count by *including* the beginning point (in this case, Pentecost of 1974)—a count of forty annual Pentecosts is completed in 2013. By comparison, the fortieth anniversary of the 1974 change will be in 2014, which uses an *exclusive* rather than *inclusive* counting method. Is all of this confusing? That is not surprising, and was included here as a tongue-in-cheek reminder of the kind of convoluted knots God's apostate ministers tied themselves into in 1974 by using such argumentation to justify changing Pentecost from Monday to Sunday. What absurdity. *True scholarship* always confirms God's revelation. One must simply have *real wisdom* to verify it properly. The first corruption of Pentecost occurred thirty-nine years ago, but at the very same time, this will be the fortieth Pentecost polluted by the majority. Understanding *properly* how the mechanics of counting really works makes all of the pieces fit together perfectly. But God never required that His people become mathematicians or linguistic scholars. No, He simply commanded that we hold to that which was divinely inspired through chosen servants; that which was verified by spiritual fruits!

Those of you receiving this letter are among some of the very few on this earth right now who will be able to offer a proper sacrifice before God on Pentecost. That is not true because we are trying to be "the only ones." It will be true because we are some of the only ones, for now, who still accept the one-and-only day which God set apart. We are not preventing anyone else from doing likewise. If then we also make sure to honor God in every other way which He requires—making our sacrifices on the correct day *and in the correct way*—we will have the privilege of continuing under the single sign that He appointed between Him and His people; the sign of faithful Sabbath keeping (Exodus 31:13). Anyone not under that specific sign is cut off from Him, regardless of how well meaning!

May all of you be richly blessed for your fear and reverence of the One True God, and may your small but important example of obedience in keeping God's Feast of Pentecost on Monday, May 20, be inspiring and meaningful in these very significant and auspicious times.

## **Feast of Tabernacles Scheduling**

We are beginning preparation for the Feast of Tabernacles, so we need to know as soon as possible if any will be attending a different Feast site than usual. We soon must begin work on the scheduling of emcees, those who give opening and closing prayers, and the music programs at both sites. Knowing in advance how many attend each site enables us to print enough schedules, secure a music program, etc. It seems there will be a much larger group attending the Tennessee site this fall, so it is important that we get a reasonable head count to make sure all facets of the Feast run smoothly. If any of you have considered attending the Yachats site, this would be a good year to make the trip. We thank you in advance for your help.

## **Feast of Tabernacles Photo Album**

The Festival Photo Album 2012 has been completed and mailed out. In some cases, a batch was sent to the lead man in an area for distribution. The rest were mailed out individually to members. If you have not received a photo album and would like to have one, please do not hesitate to contact the church office. There is no cost for the albums.

## **New Moon**

The new moon, Sivan (third month), will begin on the evening of Thursday, May 9. The new moon day is Friday, May 10.

## **Birth**

Kevin and Ginger Knott of Maryville, TN, would like to announce the arrival of their daughter, Lilly May Nadia. She was born early Sabbath morning, April 20, and weighed 8 pounds, 14 ounces. She was 21 inches long. Her three older brothers, mother and father are all doing well.

## **Holy Day**

Pentecost..... Monday, May 20

[Omitted for confidentiality]

**Trip Schedule**

**Mr. Jon Brisby**

May 11. .... Mansfield, Massachusetts  
May 18, 20. .... Lausanne, Switzerland

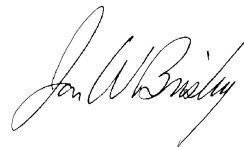
**Mr. David Brandenburg**

May 18, 20. .... Lausanne, Switzerland

## Recorded Sermon Schedule

Sermon #	Mailed	Played	Title
WSE-JB 138-12	03-28-13	04-27-13	The Family Handbook #12
Holy Day Sermons	04-11-13	—	Pentecost
CL-2 99	04-18-13	05-04-13	Faith #8
CL-2 100	04-18-13	05-11-13	Faith #9
WSE-JB 138-13	04-18-13	05-18-13	The Family Handbook #13
CL-2 101	05-09-13	05-25-13	Faith #10
WSE-JB 138-14	05-09-13	06-01-13	The Family Handbook #14
CL-2 102	05-09-13	06-08-13	Faith #11
WSE-JB 138-15	05-30-13	06-15-13	The Family Handbook #15

In Christ's service,



Jon W. Brisby