

## Announcement Letter December 2014

Dear Brethren:

It is a blessing to have the chance to address all of you in this letter and to reaffirm our commitment to you as friends and beloved brethren of the faith. You are our focus, and all of us here in the Eugene office are reminded that the scattered brethren of God holding firm to that revealed way of life today are rare and therefore quite precious. You deserve our best efforts to serve you, and we are most blessed to have the opportunity to devote our personal energies to providing that spiritual support and inspiration.

We are nearing the end of another calendar year, and this particular year is distinctive historically in relationship to God's church. Throughout this year, we have been pointing out to you the fortieth anniversary of significant events which transpired within our parent organization, the Worldwide Church of God, including the *announcement* of the planned change in Pentecost from Monday to Sunday in February 1974, the perversion in the teaching on divorce and remarriage in May 1974, and then the actual corruption of Pentecost in June 1974. There is another significant event which took place forty years ago at this particular season. That was when the Worldwide Church of God officially put Raymond Cole out of the church and revoked his ministerial credentials with them.

Recall from Mr. Cole's own account of that history (from our article, *Church of God, The Eternal—Who We Are*) that he had been sent out on sabbatic leave in mid-1973 because of his disapproval of the actions of the Pasadena doctrinal committee that was bent on changing major church doctrines. Raymond Cole would have nothing to do with it, and Mr. Armstrong sent him on sabbatic leave to avoid having to make any definitive decision at the time. Mr. Cole often wrote and spoke about this sabbatic leave lasting eighteen months during which he was still a member in good standing of the church, still being paid as a minister, but not speaking or serving actively in a ministerial capacity. It was during this time that he devoted himself to personal study, seeking to understand what was happening in the church that he still believed strongly was the true Church of God.

The intent of the Worldwide ministry was to give time for Raymond Cole to "come to his senses" and to embrace the new *party line*, doctrinally. But even after the doctrines were officially changed in early 1974, Mr. Cole had not changed his position one iota by the end of that same year. He still held firmly that God had *revealed* His Truth on these doctrines through

Mr. Armstrong, and therefore those teachings were divinely inspired and could never change. In hope, Mr. Cole still expected that Mr. Armstrong would stiffen his resolve to rebuke these perverted changes and to reconfirm the original teachings. Eighteen months of sabbatic leave did not change his position at all, and neither did it change the new track that the WCG had set itself upon. It was at the end of calendar year 1974—precisely forty years ago—that the Worldwide Church of God concluded that it was hopeless to wait any longer for Mr. Cole to come around. Raymond Cole never resigned, either from the ministry or from the church. But forty years ago he was sent a letter revoking his ministerial credentials and putting him out of the fellowship.

That very action would set into motion the formation of this little remnant group, but that will be a topic for the first quarter, 2015.

## **New Moon**

The new moon, Tebeth (tenth month), begins Monday, December 22. The new moon day is Tuesday, December 23.

## **Trip Schedule**

### **Mr. Jon Brisby**

December 20..... Don Carlos, Mindanao, Philippines

December 27..... Patar, Luzon, Philippines

## Recorded Sermon Schedule

Sermon #	Mailed	Played	Title
WSE-RC 59-41	11-13-14	11-29-14	Despair or Glory, Which? #41 Habakkuk Chapter 3 #11
WSE-RC 59-42	11-13-14	12-06-14	Despair or Glory, Which? #42 Habakkuk Chapter 3 #12
WSE-JB 138-24	11-13-14	12-13-14	The Family Handbook #24
WSE-JB 138-25	12-04-14	12-20-14	The Family Handbook #25
WSE-RC 59-43	12-04-14	12-27-14	Despair or Glory, Which? #43 Habakkuk Chapter 3 #13
WSE-RC 59-44	12-04-14	01-03-15	Despair or Glory, Which? #44 Habakkuk Chapter 3 #14
WSE-JB 159-1	12-24-14	01-10-15	Who Was First Begotten of the Spirit? #1
WSE-RC 59-45	12-24-14	01-17-15	Despair or Glory, Which? #45 Habakkuk Chapter 3 #15

In Christ's service,



Jon W. Brisby