

Announcement Letter February 2019

Dear Brethren:

This month marks the forty-fourth anniversary of the founding of Church of God, The Eternal. Yes, it was February 1975 when Raymond Cole first organized a small scattered people into a legal entity, incorporating it within the State of Oregon as a non-profit church. He did so to make the physical administration easier, even as Mr. Armstrong had registered the Radio Church of God from the beginning.

But Mr. Cole was very concerned about avoiding the wrong impression by forming "a church." He in no way wanted it to appear that he was setting up a competitive organization to the Worldwide Church of God. He was not! He was providing a haven for those who had been thrust out because of changes in God's revealed doctrine. Here are a few excerpts from our article, *Church of God, The Eternal—Who We Are*, which provide the words of Mr. Raymond Cole himself to certify why this remnant group was formed in 1975:

Based on my understanding that a remnant only would continue to exist until the return of Christ, I was adamant about the fact we were not a separate group—only estranged brethren. Our lawyer was informed of this concept at the time of incorporation. He personally told me he understood exactly what I was saying. . . . Being very fearful of going contrary to the will of God, I made every effort to see His hand and direction before proceeding. I was convinced God gave His approval. I, therefore, was willing to step out in faith. If God sent the "sheep," I would serve them. I had come to the conclusion no one was authorized to do a traditional "work." But, I felt comfortable doing that work mentioned by John (John 6:29). I wanted to shore up the belief and faith of those who had been called but were shattered by their recent experiences. . . .

Who are we? We are estranged members—a remnant (Romans 9:27–33; 11:1–5, Isaiah 1:8–9, Revelation 12:13–17)—from the apostate body (2 Thessalonians 2:1–3) who sincerely love God's revealed Truth from the heart (2 Thessalonians 2:10), willing to remain faithful to the end (Matthew 24:13). That Truth which was taught by Christ (John 14:6; 12:48–50), that Truth which Christ commissioned the Twelve Apostles to teach (Matthew 28:20). Which was the same message taught by the Apostle Paul (Galatians 1:6–16, 1 Thessalonians 2:12–14). Which was the same message taught by an

end-time servant (Matthew 28:19–20). Which had significant beginning with Moses (Hebrews 4:1–3). The Truth which is now obeyed from a spiritual premise (2 Corinthians 3:1–11).

These are the people that God's true ministry desires to serve. It is our purpose to give you our energy and our love.

Dear friends and brethren of today, whether you are ones who lived through those tumultuous events of the 1970s in God's church, or whether you are among the growing category of ones who have been called into the Faith more recently, you are all part of the continuation of that very same body—a remnant that is still focused upon preserving the original doctrines that Raymond Cole called *the faith once delivered*. Even forty-four years after our beginning, your servants today are just as determined to defend that Way of Life that was revealed by Jesus Christ. God helping us, we will continue to be a haven for those whom God sends—those who find value in a body of doctrines that were inspired through our great High Priest and soon-coming King.

Update—Book Project

As mentioned to you in the December *Announcement Letter*, the church office staff is working aggressively to make *A Peculiar Treasure: The Enduring Legacy of Herbert & Loma Armstrong* ready for press. Since the first of December, progress has been more rapid than we could have ever imagined. Since then, all of those final chapters which were lacking have been written, so the entire manuscript is now complete. We are now working on the laborious editing process to put it into book layout, and to make it free of textual errors as much as possible. The book already has ISBN registration numbers for hardcover, paperback, and ebook editions. We have a Library of Congress number assigned as well. If any of you would care to find the book description online, you can go to www.bookwire.com, and search for the book title. You will notice that the scheduled release date is June 11, 2019. This launch date may be too aggressive for us to actually meet—we can always back it up a bit—but there is a very good chance that we might achieve it. June 11 happens to be the first work day following Pentecost this year. Would it not be apropos to be able to release this new book just after the Holy Day that we believe is so significant to God's Church in this era? Stay tuned.

New Moon

The new moon, Adar II (thirteenth month), begins Thursday evening, March 7. The new moon day is Friday, March 8.

Holy Days

Passover. Thursday, April 18
Night to Be Much Observed. Friday, April 19
First Holy Day—Days of Unleavened Bread. Sabbath, April 20
Second Holy Day—Days of Unleavened Bread. Friday, April 26

Trip Schedule

Mr. Jon Brisby

March 23. Tasmania, Australia
April 18, 19, 20 Stephenville, Texas
April 26, 27. Knoxville, Tennessee

Mr. Robert Litz

April 18, 19, 20 Stephenville, Texas

Recorded Sermon Schedule

Sermon #	Mailed	Played	Title
WSE-RC 90-1	01-17-19	02-02-19	An Analysis of Jude #1
WSE-JWB 222-6	01-17-19	02-09-19	Is Seeing Believing? #6
WSE-RC 90-2	01-17-19	02-16-19	An Analysis of Jude #2
WSE-JWB 222-7	02-07-19	02-23-19	Is Seeing Believing? #7
WSE-RC 90-3	02-07-19	03-02-19	An Analysis of Jude #3
WSE-JWB 225-1	02-07-19	03-09-19	Just What Do You Mean—Faith Once Delivered? #1
WSE-RC 90-4	02-28-19	03-16-19	An Analysis of Jude #4

In Christ's service,



Jon W. Brisby