

CALLING ALL DAVIDIANS, ADVENTISTS AND REFORMERS

Dear Brethren in Present Truth:

March 10, 1965

We rejoice to be able to report to you that though there has been very strong opposition, the Lord has seen fit to overrule and place the option to purchase New Mt. Carmel in our hands. Along with this option, He has made it possible for us to arrange to use the facilities there for Passover Services. This means that we are now in a position to press forward with definite plans for all present-Truth believers to celebrate the forthcoming Passover in that place. We cannot too strongly urge each one, as rapidly as possible, to lay plans to be there for Passover Services and days of unleavened bread; beginning April 16, 1965, at even, through April 24. See Luke 22:7-20; Exodus 12:14-20; Leviticus 23:4-7; and P.P. 537-539.

"But the communion service was not to be a season of sorrowing. This was not its purpose. As the Lord's disciples gather about His table, they are not to remember and lament their shortcomings. They are not to dwell upon their past religious experience, whether that experience has been elevating or depressing. They are not to recall the differences between them and their brethren. The preparatory service has embraced all this. The self-examination, the confession of sin, the reconciling of differences, has all been done. Now they come to meet with Christ." --D.A. 659.

There is another item which demands our attention before Passover. Jesus plainly said, "Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things." Matt. 17:11. Since "there have been... surprises all along from the dawn of history" 1 T.G.r 13:7:0, it is only to be expected that other surprises will come in the restoration of all things.

"Furthermore, no one seems to know when and how to observe the sacrament. Some observe it every Sunday or every Sabbath, some occasionally, some every quarter and so on. It seems logical to say that when God commands us to ordain it anew He will tell us also how and when to observe it properly." --1 T. G, r 3:6:2.

"Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets." Amos 3:7.

". . . the ordinance of the Lord's Supper was instituted as a memorial of the same event of which the Passover had been a type ." --P. P. 539:3 .

"Here is what Inspiration Itself has to say concerning the prophet's means of taking his message to the church: "Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows; for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off." Nah. 1:15" --General Conference Special, p. 34, 1954 ed, p, 37, 1950 ed.

"Now after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying, Moses my servant is dead; (for a delineation of Moses in antitype, see 1 S.R. pocket ed. p, 6) now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel." Josh. 1:1, 2. "Have not I commanded thee?"

Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest. Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, Pass through the host, and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals; . . . " Joshua 1:9,10, 11.

"And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go. According as we hearkened unto Moses in all things, so will we hearken unto thee: only the Lord thy God be with thee, as he was with Moses." Joshua 1:16,17.

"At that time the Lord said unto Joshua, take thee sharp knives, and circumcise again the children of Israel the second time. And this is the cause why Joshua did circumcise: All the people that came out of Egypt, that were males, even all the men of war, died in the wilderness by the way, after they came out of Egypt.... And their children, whom, he raised up in their stead, them Joshua circumcised: for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them by the way.... And the Lord said unto Joshua, This day have I rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off you. Wherefore the name of the place is called Gilgal unto this day." Joshua 5:2,7,9. Gilgal---Hebrew word for wheel rolling--"rolling away."

And the children of Israel encamped in Gilgal, and kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at even in the plains of Jericho. " Joshua 5:i0.

". . . ye have brought into my sanctuary strangers, uncircumcised in heart, and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in my sanctuary, to pollute it, even my house, when ye offer my bread, the fat and the blood, and they have broken my covenant because of all your abominations Thus saith the Lord God; No stranger, uncircumcised in heart, no: uncircumcised in flesh, shall enter into my sanctuary, of any stranger that is among the children of Israel." Ezekiel 44:7, 9.

Of our type (1 Cor. 10:11), we read, "The suspension of the rite of circumcision since the rebellion at Kadesh had been a constant witness to Israel that their covenant with God, of which it was the appointed symbol, had been broken. The discontinuance of the Passover, the memorial of their deliverance from Egypt, had been an evidence of the Lord's displeasure at their desire to return to the land of bondage. Now, however, over the years of rejection were ended. Once more God acknowledged Israel as His people, and the sign of the covenant was restored. The rite of circumcision was performed upon all the people who had been born in the wilderness. And the Lord declared to Joshua. "This day have I rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off you." – P.P. 435, 456.

As we study Joshua 5:2-10, we find that in the type the rite of circumcision was restored before the people celebrated the Passover. In doing this, they were obeying the law that says:

". . . when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the Passover to the Lord, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; ... for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof." Exodus 12:43. See also Eze. 44:5-9; Nah. 1:15; and 2 T.G. 37:25.

As we study the immediate history of the children of Israel after the restoration of the rite of circumcision and the Passover, of which we read in Joshua 5, our hearts should greatly rejoice. Why? Simply because it was immediately after this that the Lord started working for His people in a marvelous way. But, it was only as they explicitly obeyed the instructions which God gave them through Joshua, that He could thus work for them. How is it with you, dear reader? Have you come to the place that you are ready to quickly obey in all things?

May the Lord give each one of us the grace to be ready for the great things that lie ahead, that we may go through the gates without one Achan among us, with each one becoming a wonder in the hand of God. We have been looking forward to this hour for many years. God forbid that any should lose out now!

All should be in their places for worship on Mt. Carmel before sundown, Friday April 16, let no one disappoint the Master by being either absent or late.

Sincerely yours to keep the feasts and have the promised peace,

Benjamin Roden

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are most grateful to our heavenly Father, and to each one of you who have helped to make possible our securing the option, and the use of the Mt. Carmel facilities at this time.

However, there is still much to be done before the purchase of the property is completed. Therefore, we earnestly beseech the aid of everyone. `What can you do? The most important thing is something each one can do. That is, pray earnestly for the Holy Spirit to work out His will concerning it. Another very important thing you can do, is to search for any one whom you might influence to assign their second tithe credit at Mt. Carmel toward the purchase of the property, and then urge them to do so.

A plan has been worked out whereby all can help in a very substantial way. This plan is for each one to purchase a home at Mt. Carmel which can be lived in or used for the yearly Feasts and rented between times. This plan has been worked out so the houses can be purchased and paid out in monthly payments, and these payments will go toward the purchase of Carmel. There are now available in three different price ranges --\$5,000.00 for single units, \$10,000.00 for duplexes, and \$7,500.00 for 2-bedroom houses. We believe this makes it possible for everyone to find a house that will fit his needs as well as his pocketbook. There will also be parcels of land available for those who have a trailer house or a tent.

Those who have assigned, or will now assign their second tithe credit, can apply that credit toward the purchase of a home, or one of the parcels of land. Surely every present-Truth believer will earnestly pray for the Lord to remove all hindrances, and thus open the way for him to take advantage of this opportunity.

Can you think of a simpler means of hastening the day when we can all unite and keep the Feasts in one place, and receive the outpouring of God's Spirit as did the Church on the Day of Pentecost and thus be prepared to give the Loud Cry to the world?

Anyone who thinks he has a message for Adventists is invited to come and present his strong reasons in an atmosphere of freedom and courtesy.

Sleeping quarters will be available and some light house-keeping facilities: however, all should bring bedding and camping equipment along if possible: Also secure Passover matzos, unleavened bread, at your nearest kosher delicatessen; to bring along for the week of unleavened bread.

Until further notice please send all correspondence, names and addresses, and requests for literature, including additional copies of this letter to The Branch, ~~Box 3038, Odessa,~~ Texas.

Be sure to bring rainwear and hiking clothes. Recreation will be provided for young and old. Airmail your reservations for Passover facilities at once. Passover Services will be held in the following countries:

London, England	Pomeroon River, British Guiana
Victoria, Australia	Domingo City, Dominican Republic
Amirim, Israel	Port Elizabeth, South Africa
Kerala, South India	Leyte, Phillipines

(Note--All parentheses and emphases in quotations supplied.)