

# RADIO CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG  
PRESIDENT and PASTOR

April 20, 1967

OFFICE OF  
RODERICK C. MEREDITH, Minister

Dear Fellow Ministers:

Greetings again from Pasadena! You should have all heard, by now, from Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Ted Armstrong about the details of Mrs. Armstrong's death, our understanding of why God permitted it and the lessons we can learn, and the BIG NEWS of Radio Jerusalem and the tremendous growth God is beginning to grant His Work.

Mr. Armstrong is probably in Jerusalem right now with Mr. McNair and Mr. Hunting. He will, no doubt, be meeting a number of top officials in the Jordanian Government -- possibly even the King on this trip, if not later -- and make arrangements to make the first broadcast "live" from Radio Jerusalem! Be praying for his safety, and for God's blessing and favor and this tremendous opportunity to preach His Word from Jerusalem again!

Mr. Armstrong has taken his wife's death extremely well -- as would be expected -- and has simply rededicated himself more than ever to God's Work. He intends to go driving on even harder, if possible, toward the goal of Christ's coming and the resurrection. Certainly all of us should be inspired by this and want to do the same. I will not try, here, to give you a "pep talk" about the meaning of these events as I think the letters from the two Armstrongs have sufficiently taken care of this at the present time.

However, be sure you keep on praying -- and encourage the brethren to do the same -- for Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. White, the Lichtenstein children and others in God's Church who are severely afflicted. As Mr. Armstrong said, everyone else is not yet seventy-five and one-half years old, has not lived a long, full and fascinating life of productive service in God's Work. I would like to ask your prayers, especially, for the new Lichtenstein baby at this time. This is Thursday evening, and I will be boarding a plane early tomorrow morning for Atlanta. But Mr. Lichtenstein just called and informed us that their baby's head has already swollen with this hydrocephalic condition to 50% larger than its normal size! This certainly means, obviously, that unless God supernaturally intervenes their little baby will soon be taken. So remember the Lichtensteins and ask God to perform a Divine MIRACLE to spare this child's life and GLORIFY His Name. And let's pray in FAITH for this little boy -- and for all of the others in God's Work. Certainly, I think we all understand that Mrs. Armstrong herself was

healed many, many times -- and if she were still alive she would certainly want to remind us of that fact and that we should not "give up" on the matter of healing simply because God let one die after such a long and productive life. Let's really BURN that lesson into our own minds and hearts -- and into the hearts of the brethren -- not just talking and thinking about it and yet negatively "wondering" or doubting at the same time! For this Church, fellow ministers, must have FAR MORE FAITH in the years to come than it has already had thus far. And, if we yield to do our parts we will see FAR MORE mighty miracles performed through our hands than have ever been accomplished up to this point! Now I would like to give you some GOOD NEWS about a number of very happy announcements we were able to make in the Forum here in Pasadena the other day. They are the student transfers from Pasadena to Bricket Wood, and the field assignments for a number of our graduating seniors, Elders and summer assignments for junior men being sent out for training. You will be getting some of these, I understand, in the Portfolio within a few days. But I wanted you to get them first officially from us -- and want to remind you also that others will be made soon after the Passover. There are a few of our Elders still unassigned, and a number of assignments, of course, to be made from the Colleges at Big Sandy and Bricket Wood. So some of you may still be getting help beyond what is mentioned here, and we will try to finalize these plans by the middle of May if at all possible.

First of all, I am most happy to announce that Mr. Bill Swanson -- who will be graduating May 26 -- is being assigned to take over as Pastor of the Knoxville, Tennessee Church and will raise up with it a new congregation in Chattanooga! Mr. Arvidson and Mr. Bryce Clark have advocated this type of arrangement already, and this will enable Mr. Arvidson to raise up another congregation by turning the Columbia, South Carolina Bible study into a full-fledged Church!

Also, Mr. Don Lawson is our "Edward Smith" for this year! He will be given the opportunity to become Pastor of the Amarillo and Liberal Churches. This will free Mr. Edward Smith to raise up a new congregation in Abilene, Texas to be a circuit with his congregation in Odessa, and then Mr. Kenneth Westby will turn the Salina, Kansas Bible study into a full-fledged Church.

In addition, Mr. Armstrong has given us permission to establish a second Dallas congregation soon after the Passover Season! This will relieve a very crowded hall situation and will enable Mr. Ken Martin to have more opportunities for preaching since Mr. Kelly and the other men from the College do most of the speaking to the afternoon congregation.

Therefore, with the above moves, we will be raising up five new Churches -- plus a number of others which will begin later in the summer!

Mr. Edwin Marrs, our Negro Elder, will be going to Greensboro, North Carolina to replace Mr. Maceo Hampton in that area. Mr. Hampton, then, will come out to Pasadena for a year of college which he has not yet had the opportunity to have.

Mr. Tullio Panella, Elder from Phoenix here for training, will journey back to Nashville to be the "back-up man" for Mr. Bryce Clark -- District Superintendent in that area. Mr. James Jenkins, Elder from Wichita here for training, will journey to the New Orleans-Jackson area to become the Associate Pastor there under Mr. Vernon Hargrove. And Mr. John Halford, a graduate from Ambassador last year -- will be sent to Melbourne, Australia, to assist Mr. Bob Fahey in that large and growing area!

Now, I will just briefly list the second men and assistants who will be sent out full-time into the field -- having graduated from Ambassador in Pasadena:

PERMANENT FIELD ASSIGNMENTS:

Bob Boyce to Danville-Peoria  
Fred Brogaard to Seattle-Tacoma  
Durrel Brown to Mobile  
Keith Crouch to Australia  
Nelson Haas to Wheeling-  
Charleston  
Ben Leonard to Omaha-Des Moines  
Harold Lester to Lexington-  
Louisville  
Jeff Barness to Los Angeles

John Mitchell to Oklahoma City-Tulsa  
Harold Williams to Odessa-Abilene  
Joel Gerstman to Toledo  
Rand Millich to Eugene-Medford  
Bob Jones to Fayetteville-  
Greensboro  
Keith Hoyt to Wichita-Salina  
Gary Alexander to San Diego for  
the summer  
John Karlson to Germany

STUDENT SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS:

Jerry Aust to Portland  
Larry Bathurst to Springfield-  
Joplin  
Barry Chase to Bismarck-Fargo  
Felix Heimberg to Kansas City  
Carl Koellner to Salt Lake City-  
Boise  
Jim Peoples to Dayton-Columbus  
Wayne Shiflet to Atlanta-Macon  
Mike Swagerty to Chicago  
Mr. James Chapman to  
Glendale

David Carley to Denver-Pueblo  
Lyle Greaves to Canada for late  
summer tour  
Tom Fish to Philadelphia-Harrisburg  
Patrick O'Neal to Cape Girardeau  
Charles F. Scott to San Francisco-  
Oakland  
Gail Roberts to Fresno-Modesto  
Keith Walden to Albuquerque  
Mr. Charles Oehlman to Long  
Beach

In addition to the above assignments, we were very happy to be able to announce the names of six Ambassador students who will be transferred from Pasadena to Bricket Wood for a year or two of college there! The men are Steve Smith, Greg Albrecht and Ron Dick. The girls are Susan Hilding, Rita Nutt and Marjie Kissinger.

Certainly there was a lot of screaming, laughing, giggling and terrific applause during the assembly when all these announcements were made.

Many said it was the most exciting assembly that they had ever attended -- and it certainly was the largest list of assignments we have ever been able to make at one time! God is blessing us in being able to send so many fine men into His Work and, also, these student transfers certainly look like good candidates and should represent Ambassador well. Even after this, we still have another happy assembly or two left with announcing the students to go to Texas, plus others to go for various assignments in the field or to be placed in top positions here in Pasadena or elsewhere.

Another bit of happy news is that we now have exactly 150 Churches around the world, our latest, the Cleveland Church which started March 25, began with 294 in attendance! I believe that is about the largest any "outlying" congregation ever started and God is blessing us in that way as well!

Now for some brief INSTRUCTIONS before closing:

Many seem to still have difficulty over who to invite to Church -- even after my very detailed explanation about what the Church is all about and who to invite and why. Because of this, and to help you get the picture, please be sure to always tell us WHY you invited a prospective member to Church on the visit slip in question. Then, we will know specifically why you invited them -- and this will at least eliminate any confusion as to your understanding of my directive. And, when in doubt, be sure you reread and STUDY my last Ministerial Letter where this important explanation was given!

Also, let's all attempt to be very positive and ENCOURAGING during this Feast of Unleavened Bread! As I am sure most of you realize, some of the weaker brethren may tend to take Mrs. Armstrong's death as a setback or failure in some way for the Church -- which it certainly IS NOT -- so be sure that you do everything in your sermons, your counseling and your entire manner to alleviate this situation. If anything, through the extra fasting, through spiritual examination and closeness to God we have sought through this trial, we should have more of His faith and POWER than ever before. So let's all pray earnestly for one another -- and for God's Flock EVERYWHERE -- that He will POUR OUT His Spirit upon His people in a special way during this Festival of Unleavened Bread and enable us to glorify His Name, reaffirm His promises, and send His people back to their respective homes with surging ZEAL for His Work and His purpose more than ever before!

I know that God will help each one of you to do this, so let's all carry on and pray for one another. Please pray for me, pray especially for Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong and for all of the ministers who are making these extended trips around the world at this time. God will be with us as we continue

to preach His only true message, to do His Work which He will not stop, and to grow in grace and in knowledge, personally, as His own begotten sons.

With sincere love, in Jesus' service,

*Roderick C. Meredith*

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P.S. Because of the rush to get this in the mail we are again having to Xerox this letter instead of printing it!

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