

Tribute to Mr. McNair

When I received the news of Mr. McNair's death [see "[Longtime COG Elder Raymond McNair Dies](#)," *The Journal*, July 31, 2008], I was rather distressed and felt an inner emptiness. Gradually pioneers of the church are passing away. These were stalwarts who were anchors for our faith in a sense, and many do not realize the jewels we no longer have among us.

I read their writings, had some contact with them and attentively listened to their sermons. In Mr. McNair's case I met him only ever once, and we exchanged letters some years ago. We also exchanged E-mails over the years. I certainly admired his staunch adherence to proclaiming the "lost tribes" truth regardless of political correctness.

The understanding of God's Word by the pioneers is unbeatable, and there are few around who can replace them. Few seem to have that depth or breadth of understanding anymore.

Over the period I received Mr. McNair's regular letters in the mail, always looking forward to them, I found them among the most uplifting and encouraging pieces of reading material that I received on a regular basis.

It was not a publication full of this and that social issue. Rather, the content--the message--was always so gripping, interesting and personally applicable. The Kingdom of God and our part in it were central to Mr. McNair, and he obviously yearned to see that day when the Kingdom is set up on the earth.

I got so much out of those letters and am eager to tell him so when I meet him in the resurrection. Most people "out there" want magazines and newsletters filled with information and interesting, dynamic articles--like those that Messrs. McNair, Hoeh, HWA, Meredith, etc., wrote.

His articles made you think. You wanted to do more reading on the subject. He caused you to want to look into the Bible. That is his legacy.

I recall vividly when I came into the Truth. I recall devouring the articles by Messrs. HWA, Hoeh, McNair, Meredith, Neff, GTA, Elliott, Herrmann, etc., in the then-current and old publications. I instantly recognized that these were men of understanding on the subject matters that they wrote on. Their articles led you on--sort of urged you--to want to undertake further studies. Few are like that nowadays.

Finally, I am very grateful to Mr. McNair for granting me the task to oversee the retyping of his very important thesis *Key to Northwest European Origins*, which is available (along with all his key works) at www.originofnations.org/key.htm.

The thesis was available only in hard copy, and it was essential to preserve it in soft copy for all to be able to download it and enjoy wherever they might reside around the world. Mr. McNair knew this and gave his nod to this important task as a result.

Whilst I did retype parts of it, the overwhelming majority of the text was retyped and checked by brethren in Australia and the United States. The entire task took more than two years to complete, and this precious knowledge is now preserved for all to enjoy.

Mr. McNair will always be remembered as a WCG pioneer and one of the great British-Israel teachers over the past few decades. He will be sorely missed (like all the pioneers) no doubt by his family but by all those of us who were touched by his service to the brethren and to the world.

I do look forward to meeting him and other Christians in the resurrection!

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