

CHURCH OF THE
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"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all the nations; and then shall the end come." – Matthew 24:14

September 11, 2009

Dear Members, Co-Workers and Friends:

It is that season of the year once again! It is the one that we have been looking forward to since the last one ended. Naturally I am speaking of the Fall or Autumn Festivals that will soon be upon us. In many respects it seems like it has come around quickly, though I am sure no one will complain. The question is, are we ready for them?

As the main concentration of Holy Days approach, are we prepared? Have we made our reservations; sent in our tithe of the tithe and excess second tithe; double checked our travel plans; made sure we have everything that we need to pack; thought about the offerings that we are going to give; and so on and so forth?

We would never consider approaching these days without going through some sort of checklist to ensure that we did not leave out anything physical. The same and more should be said about our spiritual planning for the days ahead.

This is assuredly the most important aspect. We are not to leave the other things undone, but more significantly, we should be honing in on the spiritual. In order to profit the most from the Feast of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, the Feast of Tabernacles, and the Last Great Day, we need to begin preparations now, if we have not already done so.

If we welcome these holy convocations with the right frame of mind and attitude, we will no doubt be blessed more spiritually. If we pray and study and begin thinking on the time ahead, this time of the year will be more fulfilling and beneficial.

It is exciting to know that these days represent the Second Coming of Christ; the initial removal and binding of Satan and his influence upon the world; the setting up of the Government of God on this earth; and the opportunity for the salvation of all mankind. It does not get any better than this!

Our minds have been opened to the truth, and we have been given the opportunity NOW to learn of what our loving and merciful God has in store for mankind (1 Timothy 6:19). The true reality of what we are doing presently will not be fully realized and understood by most of humanity for a little while yet. But when it is, how marvelous it will be, coming face to face with more potential Family Members in the House of God.

They will have many questions for us. Perhaps they will ponder about how wonderful it must have been to: be a firstfruit; to experience a foretaste of the Kingdom of God to come; to have the knowledge of the Word and to be able to live it and profit from it immediately; to know what was coming and have hope; what it was like to live the right way when most everyone around us was not; and numerous more.

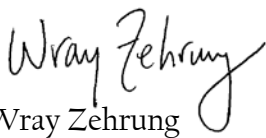
For example, we read about the Millennium in Isaiah 33:24: "And the inhabitant will not say, 'I am sick'; The people who dwell in it will be forgiven their iniquity." God has provided a way

for us TODAY to be pioneers in that regard, but we notice far too much sickness, even in the Church of God. We have prepared a Q&A, showing important biblical principles which explain the correct understanding of physical healing due to Christ's sacrifice (compare Isaiah 53:3-5), as well as our responsibility in the matter (compare, for example, James 5:14-16). We have enclosed this important Q&A with this member letter.

Let us make every effort to be in God's Kingdom so that we will be able to answer all the questions that will be posed. What an incredible prospect this is, that we can be a part of the upcoming Holy Days, as well as what they portend. Preparing now is preparing for that future and what God has already prepared for us (1 Corinthians 2:9).

We wish all of you a physically and spiritually rewarding Holy Day season.

With Christian love,


Wray Zehrung