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Dear Brethren,

By now, everyone should have their copy (or copies) of the new Bible. We have had literally *hundreds* of letters, cards and e-mails from brethren commenting on the Bible. In fact, we are including 12 pages of such comments with this letter. Everyone is so enthused, impressed and happy with the new Bible that we are receiving hundreds of reorders. We are sending out 10-20 Bibles *every day*. For those who use the CBCG Web site and are not on our mailing list, we have provided a description of the Bible from the back of the presentation box, along with a coupon which can be used to order the Bible for a \$ 50 donation (per copy). We are already getting good number of Web -based orders.

At the present time, we have distributed over 4000 of the 7000 lambskin Bibles we had printed. The paperback version has the same page core as the leather version. However, we have only sent out a few of these so far. Nearly all of the paperback versions of *The New Testament In Its Original Order* have been sent free to individuals in prison. We will be able to do likewise with the paperback version of the new Bible as soon as we have exhausted our supply of New Testaments. We still have a few copies of *The New Testament In Its Original Order*—96 hard-cover and 320 soft-cover. If you would like additional copies, please feel free to request them, as long as the supply lasts. Please note that we will *not* be reprinting the New Testament, as it has been incorporated almost entirely into the new Bible (with the exception of a few of the commentaries).

New Series—What is the Government of God in the Church? By the time you receive this letter, you should have received sermons *six* and *seven* of this important series. I will be doing number *eight* soon—and it should be the final one.

Remember, Jesus Christ has been given “all authority in heaven and earth” (Matt. 28:18), and He is the “head over all things to the Church, which is His body” (Eph. 1:22 -23). Thus, the *true* government of God in the Church comes from God the Father, *through* Jesus Christ, to each individual by the power of the Holy Spirit. Consequently, when we assemble together, we have peace and are edified by the teachings of the Scriptures through the love of God: “[You] *are* fellow citizens with the saints, and *are* of the household of God. **You are being built up** on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being *the* chief Cornerstone, in Whom all the building, being conjointly fitted together, is increasing into a holy temple in *the* Lord; in Whom **you also are being built together for a habitation of God in the Spirit**.... [You must be] holding the truth in love, [that you] may in all things grow up into Him Who is the Head, *even* Christ, **from Whom all the body, fitly framed and compacted together by that which every joint supplies, according to its inner working in the measure of each individual part, is making the increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love**” (Eph. 2:19-22; 4:15-16).

This is the kind of *loving* government God the Father and Jesus Christ want in the Church—not one that is harsh and overbearing, suppressing the brethren. Repressive church government exalts the importance of individuals and their ministries; brethren are restricted, held in the grip of fear and intimidation. A member recently admitted that when he was under just such a government, he felt like he was in prison. He kept as king himself, “Where is the love of God and the freedom in Christ Jesus?” What he saw and experienced in that church was not what the Bible actually teaches. Some churches go so far as to *forbid* “their members” from having a relationship with even their own children, parents, grand parents and grand children—“because they do not belong to *our* church of God”! This has even caused some to

commit suicide! WHAT A SHAME! Such churches are in the grip of satanic governments, and are devoid of the love of God!

The truth is, the Bible teaches that the government of God in the Church *flows from the love of God*—as emphasized by these five fundamental commands from Scripture:

- 1) “ ‘You shall love *the* Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This *is the* first commandment.
- 2) “And *the* second *is* like this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself’ ” (Mark 12:30-31).
- 3) “A new commandment I give to you: that you love one another in the same way that I have loved you, that *is how* you are to love one another. By this shall everyone know that you are My disciples—if you love one another” (John 13:34-35).
- 4) As Jesus commanded Peter, the *basis* for every ministry and service to God and the brethren is this: “Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon, *son* of Jonas, do you love Me more than these?’ And he said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord. You know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Feed My lambs.’ He said to him again a second time, ‘Simon, *son* of Jonas, do you love Me?’ And he said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord. You know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Shepherd My sheep.’ He said to him the third time, ‘Simon, *son* of Jonas, do you love Me?’ Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, ‘Do you love Me?’ And he said to Him, ‘Lord, You know all things. You know that I love You.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed My sheep’ ” (John 21:15 -17).

Jesus instructed all the apostles in the same way: “As the Father has loved Me, I also have loved you; live in My love. If you keep My commandments, you shall live in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and live in His love. These things I have spoken to you, in order that My joy may dwell in you, and *that* your joy may be full. **This is My commandment: that you love one another, as I have loved you**” (John 15:15-17).

- 5) The apostle Paul wrote of it in this manner: “Put on then, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, deep inner affections, kindness, humility, meekness *and* longsuffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so also you *should forgive*. **And above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts**” (Col. 3:12-15). Christ is to rule *in your heart*. This is the true rule of God in your life. If Christ cannot rule in your *heart*, no man can rule you sufficiently to instill godly character for eternal life—because no man can impart eternal life.

Love is the cornerstone of the government of God in the Church—God the Father’s and Jesus Christ’s love to us, our love to God; our love of the brethren and the brethren’s love for each other and the ministry; and the minister’s love of the brethren. All of this is because we have God’s Holy Spirit to lead and guide us. We are His children—His sons and daughters. We belong to God—not to any man.

Notice how the love of God and the Spirit of God are to lead and guide us—brethren and ministers—in our conduct in the Church: “**Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, even as Christ also loved us**, and gave Himself for us *as* an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savor. But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, do not permit it even to be named among you, as is fitting for saints; nor filthiness, nor foolish talking or jesting, which are not becoming; but instead, thanksgiving. For this you know, that no fornicator, or unclean person, or covetous *person*, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. **Do not let anyone deceive you with vain words**; for because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore, do not be joint partakers with them. For you were once darkness; but now *you are* light in *the* Lord. **Walk as children of light** (because the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness and righteousness and truth), **proving what is well pleasing to the Lord**” (Eph. 5:1-10).

Recently, I received a very heartfelt letter from a man in Utah. I am including parts of his letter because it shows how the love of God really works between all of us as God the Father and Jesus Christ desire.

“My dear friend Fred,

I just thought I would drop you a line or two, just to talk with you. I wanted to let you know that I am enjoying the new Bible immensely. It was such a long wait, but now that I have received my own copy, it is that much more sweet. What a wonderful tool. One that I will put to good use.

I thank our Father and Jesus Christ that there are such men and women as you and your wife that care so much about us, the brethren. That includes all those who were involved in the ‘Bible Project.’

There is something that I must say because it keeps going through my mind and it doesn’t go away. When you came to Salt Lake City and visited our fellowship group at the Jacobson’s home, I was amazed when you greeted me as I entered. You said, ‘Bruce, my friend, come here and let’s talk!’ In all my history with the churches of God you are the only one who ever faced me as man to man, instead of minister to layman. For that I humbly thank you, Fred.

I also wanted to say ‘thank you’ for constantly reiterating over and over through the years that it is our own personal relationship with God the Father and Jesus Christ that gets us through the trials and problems we face in this life.

You did not try and run our lives, but you said that when we govern ourselves according to God’s way of life, God would lead and direct us. Over these many years, what you have said is true. It is only as I have become older that I can now say how true this is. It doesn’t mean that I still don’t fall down and come short, but it means that when I do, I know that our Father will forgive. What a fantastic comfort!

As I go through my battle in overcoming cancer, I just want to let you know that my prayers and love are toward you and your wife and all those who help you so diligently, and will be constant and ongoing.

Thank you so much again, Fred, for your love for us, the brethren—and for teaching us of our Father in heaven and Jesus Christ His Son.

With much love and affection, your brother in Christ, Bruce”

To receive such a letter is very humbling, indeed. But it is not *me* or *him*, of ourselves—it is *Christ in us*. The love of God the Father and Jesus Christ is the bond of perfection and the basis fellowship through the Spirit of God. This letter shows that church government really does work—but only when that government is based on the *love* of God.

The War in Georgia: Everyone is wondering what the war in Georgia—the small independent country south of Russia—will mean. Certainly, it is a big push by Russia to dominate as much of the world’s oil supply as possible, as well as to intimidate all the newly independent countries that formerly belonged to the Soviet Union. There is no question that Russia’s move was planned for this exact time—when Bush and Putin were together at the Olympics in China and the USA would be nearly helpless to intervene.

Additionally, it is clear that Russia wants to dominate all of Europe, politically and militarily. Since over 40% of all the natural gas and oil used by the European Union comes from Russia, the nation already has tremendous leverage against the EU—a near stranglehold. If Russia takes over Georgia’s oil fields, they will control the flow of even more oil being piped southward into Europe.

However, Russia’s move against Georgia may very well have unforeseen effects. It may stir the Europeans to realize that they had better take *control* of their oil situation—and may encourage them to begin exerting significant political *influence* in foreign affairs. As well, the invasion may be a “tipping point” for Europe, causing them to realize the need for their own *independent military power*—one that does not rely on the United States.

Coupled with this, the EU must also forcefully address its internal Islamic problems and terrorist threats. If they fail to do so, Europe could cease to exist as we now know it.

Recent events could also be a “tipping point” for the Vatican, causing it to push for a more “Catholic” Europe—with a return to its Catholic roots. Such a revitalized Catholic

Europe would include a push for political and military power as well—just as biblical prophecies reveal. Indeed, there is much prophecy to be fulfilled as end-time political and religious elements begin to fall into place.

Brethren, always remember that we have been called to save the world—to help bring the Kingdom of God and the love of God to all people after Jesus Christ returns. God has chosen us to develop eternal, godly character through the power of the Holy Spirit, so that we might qualify to rule with Jesus Christ. Paul wrote of this very thing: “For as many as are led by *the* Spirit of God, these are *the* sons of God. Now you have not received a spirit of bondage again unto fear, but you have received *the* Spirit of sonship, whereby we call out, ‘Abba, Father.’ The Spirit itself bears witness conjointly with our own spirit, *testifying* that we are *the* children of God. Now if *we are* children, *we are* also heirs—truly, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if indeed we suffer together with Him, so that we may also be glorified together with Him. For I reckon that the sufferings of the present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory that shall be revealed in us.

“For the earnest expectation of the creation itself is awaiting the manifestation of the sons of God; because the creation was subjected to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of Him who subjected *it* in hope, in order that **the creation itself might be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God**. For we know that all the creation is groaning together and travailing together until now. And not only *that*, but even we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, also groan within ourselves, awaiting the sonship—the redemption of our bodies” (Rom. 8:14-23).

Brethren, thank you for all your love and prayers. We know that God the Father and Jesus Christ are with all of us daily—working God’s spiritual work in us through His love, mercy and grace. Once again, thank you for your continued support through your tithes and offerings. May God continue to bless you with love, grace and blessings in everything.

With love in Christ Jesus,

Fred R. Coulter
FRC

Palm Springs, CA-additional information: Our contract is for two different sized rooms- the **studio suite** and the **one-bedroom suite**. The price for the Studio Suite is \$109/night + tax and for the One-bedroom Suite is \$119/night + tax. They do have a few two-bedroom suites, which they will discount as long as they are available.

In addition to the daily complimentary hot breakfast which is served M-F 6:30-9:30 and Sat & Sun 7:00-10:00 they also provide a Welcome Home Reception featuring a complimentary light meal and beverages served from 5:30 -7:30 Monday through Thursday evenings.

The Homewood Suites La Quinta Hotel is a little over one year old and very nice.

Tucson, Arizona, Feast Announcement : If no rooms are available at the *Windmill Suites*, the site for the 2008 Feast of Tabernacles in Arizona, a rate of \$79 per night has been negotiated with *Comfort Suites* at Tucson Mall, only three miles away from the Windmill. Please call *Comfort Suites* at 520-888-6676 and use the code “Feast of Tabernacles” to secure a reservation at that rate. *Comfort Suites* is located at 515 West Automall Drive. If you are still interested in lodging at the *Windmill*, please contact Todd or Rosa Dragger at 520-883-6211 on or about September 19, at which time additional *Windmill Suites* rooms are due to become available for us.

Feast of Trumpets Coloring Book : Don and Bonnie Burrows have just completed a new coloring book for the Feast of Trumpets. These are extremely well done and make the Bible lesson for the Feast of Trumpets easy to understand. To receive copies of the *Trumpets Coloring Book*, please call the office, e-mail or write us.