PASTOR GENERAL'S



REPORT TO THE MINISTRY OF THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

VOL.5, NO.8

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

FEBRUARY 25, 1983

FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

Guidelines for the Night to Be Much Observed

As a reminder, the "Night to Be Much Observed" should be held in family groups in private homes. Proper planning and preparation should be made to see to it that everyone, including all elderly and singles, will have a place to go to be with the brethren on this very important occasion. We reprint once again the following quote from a pastoral letter of April 8, 1970 giving Mr. Armstrong's last official statement on the subject:

Mr. Herbert Armstrong had intended to write you all a note regarding how to conduct the "Night to Be Much Observed." However ...he has been extremely busy and unable to....So he told me to go ahead and tell you that he has now decided that there should not be <u>any</u> type of service or Bible study on that evening with the new format we will now be using.

He said to simply tell the brethren to have two or three families eat and fellowship together on that evening in an attitude of thankfulness and rejoicing for the deliverance from sin which we as New Testament Christians experience. The host or leading man should ask God's blessing on the meal and the occasion but no further "sermonizing" will be necessary or helpful since the brethren will be meeting, for the most part, without an ordained minister present.

You ministers be sure to explain carefully the Sabbath before the meaning of this night of rejoicing and then tell the brethren to bear that in mind as the background and focus of the spiritual fellowship through that particular evening. But we feel it is better NOT to give them an outline of some kind of service...they will all get to hear from God's ministers twice on the very next day, the Holy Day, anyway. So, no Bible study or sermonizing is necessary on the previous evening. It will merely be your responsibility to appoint elders and deacons to check with the brethren and be sure that the widows and other single people are included in the dinner and fellowship with one or more families so that no one is left out of the fine feast and fellowship on this night which pictures Israel's thankfulness and rejoicing in coming out of Egypt and our deliverance from sin.

In addition, be sure to remind the brethren to plan well in advance for this entire Holy Day season so that they won't have last-minute hardships due to unforeseen meal needs on the first Holy Day. There should be two services on that day as on all Holy Days except Atonement.

Caribbean Feast Transfers Announcement (North America Only)

Last year we experienced some difficulties with Caribbean transfers that could be minimized this year if ministers will carefully check to see that