

General Council of the Churches of God 7th day

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July 29, 1968

Dear Brethren:

"The harvest truly is great but the labourers are few," so spake our Saviour almost two thousand years ago, and so saying he sent them out in the field. Now again we see the harvest truly ripe, but the labourers few. Still the Saviour insists that "we teach all nations," "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you," but where do we find the labourers?

With all the chaos we see in the world today--people bewildered, not knowing which way to turn, being deceived, afraid of the future, disillusioned by their denominations, becoming involved with the World Council of Churches; Catholics becoming enlightened--can we doubt that the harvest is ripe? But still, where do we find the labourers?

Your General Council Board, with the sanction of the General Council in session, has decided to do something about it. First we have, with the help of volunteer labor, released several hundreds of dollars a month to put more evangelists in the field. Then we hope to instill in our brethren a sincere desire and willingness to help put still other ministers out this year.

But what about the future? Are there enough young men and women enlisting in the Lord's army? Are we doing all we can to train young people for the work ahead? Are we satisfied to always be the tail? Are we lulled to sleep by "fear not little flock for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom"? It is the concensus of your committee that we can, should and will grow larger, numerically and spiritually. It is our thinking the place to start is with our young people. To instill in them a zeal, loyalty and burden they have not had heretofore.

We have purchased a piece of land on which to build a training school. We intend to start building this fall. Already eight thousand has been raised and that in much less than an hour. Without your help we would be hopelessly helpless. We could accomplish nothing. The Heavenly Father even depends on you to get His work done. If it were possible to put a price on it, how much would you give to see someone-anyone-saved? You would not like to say, would you? How much would you take for your salvation that was brought to you free? Of course we realize that it is not done that way. Perhaps, though it will make us realize how important our help is needed and worth.

Yes, the harvest is ripe, very ripe, and the labourers few. Will you enlist? It is not too late to dig up that buried talent and put it to work. Can we depend on you? There are many, many, ways to help. Are you a carpenter, mason, electrician, plumber, etc. and would it be possible to donate some of your time? Are you a retired teacher, minister or writer who would help part time? Perhaps you could help us enlarge our mailing list. We would like to send the papers especially to those who might have once belonged and gone to church, but have become discouraged and drifted away.

Everyone of us is needed. Let us know how you can help, financially or otherwise. "And prove me now herewith saith the Lord of hosts, If I will not open you the windows of Heaven and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it." He has done that very thing for this great land of ours. Can we do any less, and not take the true gospel to them that they may realize where their blessing cometh? Yes, the harvest is ripe and let us reap a great harvest so that the last harvest spoken of in Revelations 14:15-20 will be smaller.

Please write, if nothing more, a word of encouragement.

Yours for Christian progress,

L. B. Palmer

L. B. Palmer, Chairman
General Council Board