



the CHURCH OF GOD

PREPARING for the KINGDOM of GOD

P.O. Box 713, Toledo, OH 43697 or theCofG@aol.com

February 14, 2000

Dear Brethren,

We have had an interruption in tapes being sent to you because of some very serious problems here in Toledo and Detroit over the past three weeks. It is a grievous thing to have to inform you of more problems in the Body of Christ and this time a little closer to home.

We are sending you two taped sermons ("Am I Following Jesus Christ?" given on 1/29/00 and "For Unity, Nothing Will Remain Hidden" given on 2/5/00) that will explain what has been going on locally. At no time can any of us come to a point where we feel over confident about ourselves and the time in which we live. We can never let down our guard and we must always be spiritually alert, understanding our own weaknesses and the daily need of God our Father and Jesus Christ to be with us and dwelling in us.

There has been an attempt by some to take control of the corporation under which we are functioning. There was an effort underway that was working to thwart or even stop our ability to be able to continue serving scattered brethren. Thankfully we have been informed that all parties will cease their actions against the corporation. As a result of all that has happened, we are making some immediate changes to help safeguard against future threats.

The By-laws under which we function here locally were written in some haste when things came to a head in the Worldwide Church of God. These things are explained in the sermon tapes. Some members of the Board (a majority of three) and members of the congregation were seeking to take control of the corporation I had set up back in 1995.

I had to take actions that I did not want to do, but felt compelled to do in order to protect the best interest of all scattered brethren I am blessed to serve. God has had mercy on us, even though this has been an extremely difficult time. Nearly half of the Toledo congregation has chosen to separate themselves from our fellowship. Thankfully everyone in Detroit has determined to remain together with us.

As a result of all these events, I am taking immediate action to insure that there will be no more threats on ourselves or on any scattered brethren we are serving. Thankfully some things had already been put in place to help simplify and streamline our efforts to more effectively reach out to serve the scattered Church.

We will now be fully organized under the name of *the* Church of God - PKG, which is the name we were starting to use as a means to better describe our efforts. The slogan of "Preparing for the Kingdom of God" had already been added to our letterhead and to *News Watch*. That slogan will remain as part of a new corporate name, since it describes our focus here at this end time.

Please note that it has also been deemed necessary to once again change our address to a new Post Office box number. This is being done to insure that everyone on our mailing list will be able to clearly identify that all literature and tapes, that you are receiving, are indeed from us. The new P.O. Box in Toledo is **P.O. Box 713**. Please do not send any correspondence to the old Temperance, MI address, nor to the one we have only had for about a month now at P.O. Box 567 in Toledo. All correspondence may be sent to: **the Church of God - PKG, P.O. Box 713, Toledo, OH 43697.**

We will be making a complete change in the By-laws of the corporation. There will be no members of the new corporation; not one! No member of the Church should feel that they should have to join a corporation. All brethren who have received the impregnation of God's spirit are members of the Body of Christ, and as members of the Church of God we do not need to confuse brethren with the belief that they must also be members of a corporation. By now we should all very well understand that a corporation is not the Church.

Our new By-laws are written in such a way that there will never be another incident like the one we have just experienced. We are establishing things upon a truer pattern. Not even the Board of Directors are corporate members. The Board will consist of elders in the Church who will function as an advisory counsel. Prayerfully, after discussing all matters with one another, we will all be in harmony and agreement in the decisions we make. Never-the-less, the By-laws will clearly state that only one person will have complete control for making final decisions.

This is just another example of becoming more deeply convicted of what God did through Mr. Armstrong. Whether it be a family, a company, an organization, etc., it is necessary that one individual have the ability to make final decisions, or confusion and conflict will eventually be the result. I was not alert to the By-laws I had set up five years ago. My foolishness has caused a lot of pain. Hopefully everyone will forgive me for not holding more true to what God had already revealed to us. There are laws that regulate every facet of life and we must ever be alert to obey them all.

As always, there are never any guarantees of what man might do, and that includes everyone of us. Rules, written regulations, and laws are only as useful to the degree that people truthfully, honestly, and morally choose to live by them. Integrity can not be legislated. It must be chosen, through development of righteous character. More so than ever, within the Church today, we must follow the admonition discussed in the sermon ("Am I Following Jesus Christ?") that we are to follow others only AS they follow Jesus Christ.

In God's love,


Ron Weinland

P.S. As a final note, I am attaching a letter that was sent to all brethren, in the Detroit and Toledo area, that revoked some letters of "member in good standing" that is referred to in the last sermon of 2/5/00. You will understand this letter after you have heard that last sermon.