

December 28, 2013

Dear Mr. Hulme,

I have been invited to an Acts. 15-style conference of ministers next week, and my wife and I plan to attend.

We pastors have repeatedly asked you to hold such a meeting, starting when we began 15 years ago, and you have consistently refused. I asked you again in our phone conversation of August 30 this year. Brian Orchard and Ted Budge report that they asked you again last Tuesday, and again you refused.

This organization is troubled. The doctrinal issues are growing.

Jesus Christ began His ministry by going to *all* Galilee preaching in *all* their synagogues and saying “repent, for the kingdom is near” (Matt. 4:17, 23-25). He told everyone who heard Him to repent, because the royal law of God, the 10 Commandments, was in effect for *all* mankind for *all* ages—even for those who were not going to be called in this lifetime. The entire Old Testament was written to people who were *not* going to be called in their lifetimes—and they were still responsible to obey. Those 10 Commandments are in effect for the whole world today.

You teach that there will be a Kingdom of God and that it will be good news. That part is correct, but you don’t explain what that kingdom is and you don’t warn people that they will suffer the plagues of the Day of the Lord if they don’t repent and keep the 10 commandments *now*.

That repentance is physical and has nothing to do with calling or salvation. Salvation and being called is a completely different matter, and for most it is for a different time.

God gave Ezekiel and the Church the responsibility to warn mankind to repent of breaking His commandments, or suffer the consequences, *now*. Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28 warned carnal and uncalled Israel to obey God’s laws or suffer great punishment, then and in the future. Jesus warned the people of His day, who were not going to be called at that time. We must warn Jacob first, before the time of Jacob’s trouble (Matt. 10:6-7; Jer.30), and then warn the rest of the world.

Jesus Christ didn’t only tell Peter that *he* was to preach the gospel, He told *all* the disciples that *they* were to preach the gospel to all the world. Ezekiel 33 says that if we don’t warn we bring the penalty for their sins on ourselves. This organization is not preaching a clear, plain, bold gospel message and warning the world to repent—therefore I share in the guilt for that failure.

In the Feast film, the media team told us that we must find words that the world will like so they will listen to us. Jesus said that the world would hate us and not listen to our word, just as it hated Him and did not hear His word—but that was the commission He gave His disciples (Jn.15:18-20). Seeking to be accepted by the world is seeking to become friends with the world, and scripture says that makes us God's enemy (James 4:4).

In August I mentioned to you that the fruit of this organization is bad. Our membership has declined, not grown. After 15 years and an estimated expense for Vision of \$3+ million dollars for salaries, advertising, publishing, design, shipping, PR, video, travel and whatever, there has been *no fruit* from Vision or the Vision website. The only new members, other than children of members, have come because of a personal relationship with a member—not because of Vision.

The Church has known all of my lifetime that only God could call someone. That has not been in question, except in the Tkach years. Since we have not peached the gospel clearly and boldly, God has not been able to build on our efforts to call people. We have not done our part—the gospel is to be preached first, then God calls whom He wills. That is the message and the example of the book of Acts.

Jesus said that the fields were white with harvest, now (Jn. 4:34-38)

The Bible is Israel's book. It only mentions other nations when they come in contact with or relate to Israel. If we, in the end-time, don't know who Israel is we can't understand the end-time prophecies, because they pertain mainly to Israel. The 3 ½ year period covering the Tribulation and the Day of the Lord is the time of Jacob's trouble (Jer. 30). Who is Jacob? Without this understanding the prophetic books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and all the minor prophets make no clear sense.

God gave His end-time Church this revelation almost 90 years ago. Why is it being questioned and discounted as not really important now?

When I, and other ministers, have asked you about these doctrines and other problems in the church, you deflect the question and don't answer directly. In your recent sermons you stated that the ministry has brought up issues, but you don't answer them. Instead you set up a "straw man fallacy" and blast that. Then you read scriptures that don't apply to the questions at hand and blame the ministers who have doctrinal concerns of being rebels who are attacking you and wanting your job.

As I told you in our phone conversation August 30 this year, nobody wants your job. But, the senior and most experienced ministers in this organization have been bringing you serious doctrinal issues that need addressing. Since we have been serving faithfully as pastors for three to four decades, these are not frivolous concerns. You have refused to consider these scriptural issues, but instead told me twice, "It's all about government."

You are right—it is all about government. But there are two governments: the government of God, coming from the “tree of life” and Jesus’ instructions to his disciples in John 13-17—and the government of Satan, coming from the “tree of the knowledge of good and evil.” The world uses emotion and manipulative words to maintain its arbitrary and autocratic power. God’s government would never do that.

Mr. Hulme, quite a few people around the world are hurting. The flock has not been fed and nurtured in the way Jesus instructed His disciples. Since WCG broke up in 1995 members have scattered everywhere. It is time for us to go after the lost sheep (Matt. 18:12-14) in a ministry of reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:18-19).

I will be meeting with like-minded ministers next week to begin affecting that reconciliation. Won’t you join us?

Sincerely,

Stephen Paul Elliott – a minister of Jesus Christ