

November 7, 2006

To “The Blended Brothers,”

This letter is a rejection of the quarantine that you have placed upon Brother Titus Chu and his co-workers. We do not recognize your right to quarantine servants of the Lord in this area, especially when you were not instrumental in raising up the church here. Neither do we find compelling your attitude that the extended ministry of Witness Lee has authoritative rights over all local churches on the globe. Our practical church life was established through the efforts of laboring coworkers such as Brother Titus, and not primarily through books, videos and ministry activities. In our estimation, it does not follow that just because a church somehow benefited from Witness Lee’s ministry then it must obey workers who knew him or organizations set up by him.

Your quarantine letter contained a number of grievances that have been more than adequately discussed over time. These points were answered clearly in correspondences to you, but your responses in turn were typically delivered in strong doses of your style of rhetoric. Such responses would, no doubt, impress devotees of your organization, but not us. Ultimately, we felt that you did not provide any sound objective reasoning for your concerns about Titus Chu or any of his coworkers. The end product is your present quarantine letter, containing all these same points as though they had never been talked about at all.

As to your chief point against Titus—different teachings—you have utterly failed to demonstrate anything worthy of a warning to genuine New Testament local churches. Apparently what you find threatening is not a departure from core teachings of the faith but whether Titus and others have expressed themselves in your officially approved terminology. That hardly constitutes different teaching.

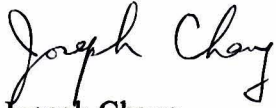
Furthermore, we must remark upon your concerns about divisive and/or disruptive influences emanating from Titus Chu. It is followers of the Living Stream Ministry here locally who have formed a party in the church, refused church discipline, staged walk-in’s, made disruptive public statements in our meetings, and have now begun to use legal action against the church. This is the result of an influence (and we suspect, coaching) from your ministry. If quarantine is needed to prevent any further division, perhaps it should be placed where it truly belongs—upon you and not upon Brother Titus.

Embedded in your approach to the things of God is a strong motivation to prescribe a worldwide oneness and then enforce it in the manner in which you are now doing—through quarantines and purges. Such a “oneness” which federates churches under one man’s ministry (regardless of how glorious or remarkable that ministry was), is actually sectarianism calling itself ‘recovery.’ This error, which is condemned by the Bible, has been evident among you for some time. In fact it has lately been fortified with your prohibitions against reading any other materials except your own. We can no longer justify these beliefs and practices in front of fellow Christians. Neither, in light of your


organizational attitudes, can we find an adequate defense toward those who believe we are a cult.

In writing this, we do not wish to open a forum of debate with you such as we have witnessed in recent times. Neither will we engage in back and forth correspondences with any rebuttals, accusations, or slanderous remarks from your followers.

The elders of the church in Columbus,



Joseph Chang



Bill Gilbert



John Myer



Mike Puskas



Lih-Chyun Wang