

From: Lance Christie
Sent: 27 October 2016 06:15
To: Garth Christie; Roger Edwards; Chris Stutterheim
Cc: David Smith
Subject: "Sheffield" Matter

Dear Brothers,

It struck me, after listening to Phil Fulcher's comments, fresh from BDH, in the reading last night, that the matter from the then Sheffield brethren that went to BDH at Boston in October '14, need not have gone to him at all!!

Garth has often said that we were dragged into this matter against our own will so this gives us an opportunity to put the matter firmly back in the Doncaster court!

If Phil and Mike can be helped to accept this, it both helps to explain the confusion that has come in and also gives an opportunity for us all to join in apologising to Mr Hales for the unnecessary pressure that we've brought on him.

This now presents a real opportunity for us to be agreed and reconciled together, put the past behind us and go on in the truth as unified together.

I've copied David Smith in because I know that he was concerned about the scriptural basis for the action at that time.

If he looks into the matter and confirms what I'm saying, it lets Leeds "off the hook", so to speak and all the brethren will understand that the matter should never have come up in the first place.

Let's wait to see what David says.

In the meantime, I'm looking forward to a private interview with Garth so that we can join together in answering a challenging email that I've received from my brother Cedric.

Have a good day,

Your brother,

Lance

From: Lance Christie
Date: 18/11/2016 08:48
To: Garth Christie; Roger Edwards; Chris Stutterheim
Cc: David Smith
Subject: RE: "Sheffield" Matter

Garth,

We've still not had our meeting nor have I had any response to the below!

So I suggest sending the reply to Cedric that I outlined to you on 3rd Oct. – he's been chasing.

One point that I'm fudging is his question re "Brethren Hierarchy".

Clearly BDH is clear of this – even Cedric would know that. Indeed, he is the embodiment of divine favour!

But don't you think that there must have been a hierarchy in Sheffield in Oct. '14 for them to go straight to BDH with that personal report about me? They should have, at least, told me about it!

You know how much of a shock it was for me to receive BDH's subsequent letter after having such a good time with him at Boston.

As I understand it, a hierarchy is a body of persons in authority, each ranked according to relative status so that each level is subordinate to the one above. The control from the top is final!

Clearly Phil and Mike felt that they had the authority to make a statement to BDH and to Leeds about me – on behalf of the brethren in Sheffield.

Just last week, 2 of my subdivisional brothers told me that "I could lose, not only my place in the universal fellowship, but EVERYTHING, and I mean EVERYTHING, if I didn't do what they say".

Whilst we all need to submit to authority – as JSH used to say, it's attractive and as accepted, in our favour – this is actually the language of persons wielding a frightening amount of power. Yet I love those 2 brothers so very much!

That's the conundrum. What's hierarchical can produce sides which leads to division in our places because protection of status can override the greater good of the whole.

Of course, BDH will never take sides anyway!

So I simply ask that the truth is out in the open and assembly principles carry so that we all enjoy the benefits that that will bring.

With respect, Garth, it'd be really good if you can reply, stating where you stand.

Thank you

Your brother,

Lance