

Art. 2-B

5667 Stover Ave.,
Arlington, Calif.
Dec. 29, 1960.

Mr. R.L. Odom,
6611 Westmoreland Ave.,
Takoma Park 12, Maryland.

Dear Elder Odom:

I was just preparing another letter to you when yours of the 20th came to hand. My reason for so doing was for the very purpose of answering the questions which you have propounded. We want you to have the facts as they are - the exact truth.

Concerning Brother Bingham's dismissal before Brother Houteff's death: that is quite true. He was also reinstated by Brother Houteff and he and I traveled many thousands of miles together in the work under Brother Houteff's directions in the early fifties.

Concerning Brother Roden's interpretations of Rev. 11 all I can say is that he has made dozens of interpretations and all I have looked into prove false; no doubt this one is the same. Occasionally he might make a good guess.

Session 12/25-30/1960 (see letter)

Of course you have learned that the projected meetings of Davidian's at Mt. Carmel with Brother Warden and Brother Bingham have been canceled. We had hopes of getting together and thereby bring unity into our ranks by studying the teachings of The Shepherd's Rod, for it is evident that one or the other of us is out of harmony with the doctrine.

And you may have heard that Mt. Carmel is now planning a program to take The Rod Message to the other churches, that they consider the work has been done in Laodicea; that they have fully presented the truth to them. This might be said to be the crux of the whole matter.

The Rod tells us that in the event of a great change in our midst that a Constitutional Government of God must be established and the voice of God through the Association must be heard. This instruction has not been followed, and this is the real cause of the controversy. We are convinced that the reason the meetings were canceled was because they feared to have the facts presented, for we are certain that if the sheep knew the facts they would no longer have confidence in the leadership at Waco.

But we wish to tell you that this Association is an assured fact for without it there can never be unity and without unity there can be no power, as you well know. And we anticipate that this Association will become a reality some time in 1961.

When this Association is formed the work will go forward in the church as the Lord (the Bible) says it must (until the 144,000 are sealed - marked). Our love for Laodicea has not waned in the least; in fact after rereading of late much that the The Rod says along this line we are convinced anew that the church is the one object on earth on which HE bestows His supreme regard; that HE must save Laodicea before HE saves the world.

As we studied we learned anew that Satan has set a trap for Lao-

dicea and that the Lord's compassion is so great HE would have us put forth every effort to save her from it. This trap, or snare, is set forth in Isaiah 8:9-15. Sr. White comments on this confederacy, as you well know. But The Rod makes plain that this federation is already forming in Europe - the Six and the Seven trade blocks of which you have doubtless read much. This federation when once formed will quickly spread to the U.S., and then all S.D.A.'s will be brought to a supreme test. It will then be shown how familiar they are with their own doctrine and of whether their loyalty to God or to their government comes first. It is at that time that Great Controversy page 608 will be fulfilled that "A large class who have professed faith in the third angel's message, ... abandoned their position, and join the ranks of the opposition." It will be a snare "to both the houses of Israel", verse 14 - meaning the same as Ezekiel 9:9 - the church of today composed of descendants of the twelve tribes - Judah and Israel. This must be correct for the Spirit of the Lord in Vol. 5, page 211, says, "Here we see the church... was the first to feel the stroke of the wrath of God."

As we said above when this confederacy becomes a reality all S.D.A.'s will then prove their true position as stated in Vol. I, page 100, and also in Malachi 3:18, and at that time the 144,000 will be sealed. The others are snared and taken.

The Lord does not want this to happen and in HIS great love HE pleads that you men of understanding, men of real intelligence should devote some of your talents to learning these things before the trap is sprung. We know you look forward to the Sunday Law and to Armageddon, and what not, even as we have all done. But this precedes them and many will not see the danger until too late.

After the Association is formed we will carry on to save our beloved brethren; not to make trouble for them, but to save them from much trouble. Our love for them will compel us to do so.

As much as you have poured through the Testimonies you must have learned that the Lord must have a perfect - a purified church to give the Loud Cry. One hundred and forty-four thousand servants without guile in their mouths - they speak the truth and they live the truth. This you know is spoken of many times and we could quote them until weary. A perfect people with a perfect doctrine is the least the Lord will accept. Malachi speaks of it in the third chapter and the fourth verse. After telling us in the previous verses that His messengers would prepare the way before HIM and that as a result the sons of Levi (the priesthood) would be purified. Then it states: "Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, as in the former years." Anything less than this would be an injustice on the Lord's part, for the knowledge of the Lord must cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.

We greatly appreciate the pains you have gone to in writing us this good letter, but we are sure you misunderstood some things we quoted in our previous one. We had no intention whatever of giving the impression that we thought the condition in the church was hopeless and that they were an entirely lost people. Certain it is that in Revelation Three the Lord rebukes the Laodiceans for their lack of zeal and because of their satisfied condition and then distinctly states that HE will spue them out of HIS mouth. And since Volume three, page two sixty six says the 144,000 are sealed as the work closes it is evident that those who are not sealed are spued out.

There are an unlimited number of statements in which the Lord's servant speaks of the church collectively but most certainly not meaning every individual in it. As a sample we quote from T.M. page 93: "For years the church has been looking to man, and expecting much from man, but not looking to Jesus, in whom our hopes of eternal life are centered." Certainly these multiplied statements can only mean that the great majority are on the wrong track. In fact there are places where the Spirit of God is even more specific than this. We quote: "What greater deception can come upon human minds than a confidence that they are right, when they are all wrong! The message of the True Witness finds the people of God in a sad deception,..." 3T252-253. Certainly here the people of God means the entire church. If it were not so the prophet Elijah would not have been sent for the Lord only works in a great crisis where there is a great need. And this chapter in Volume Three clearly pictures the special message coming to a special people at a special time. It has been greatly neglected and no doubt will be until too late.

We note very carefully the quotations speaking of the outpouring of the Spirit at and after the meeting of 1888. We agree with you that the quotations are perfectly correct but in order to understand them fully we need to put some others along with them. On page 90, 91 of T.M. speaking of the same time and events, the Lord's servant said that the message "presented justification through faith in the Surety; it invited the people to receive the righteousness of Christ, which is made manifest in obedience to all the commandments of God." This clearly says that had the message been received God's people would have become perfect commandment keepers, which we all know has never come to pass. And on page 468 speaking of the very same time and event again the Lord says: "The true religion, the only religion of the Bible, ... has been slighted, spoken against, ridiculed, and rejected."

Speaking again directly to the ministry the Lord brings us down to 1897 on page 413. There we are told what was done under similar circumstances when the Lord wanted His servants to act. It says: "You sat still and did nothing. You left the word of the Lord to fall unheeded to the ground:..." Most certainly this is what happened in 1888. While it is true that God poured HIS Spirit upon three of the leading brethren it is the most certain thing known that very few laymen profited by it. Every one knows that no great change came into the denomination after 1888, but the Lord did continue to work with individuals and in many meetings. But the body as a whole received little or nothing. It is clearly written and many, many times that God depends upon the S.D.A. church to save the world but Vol. 8 page 148 says not one in 100 are doing anything towards that end. Many other statements prove that the Lord is not pleased with the church today but on the contrary HE is thoroughly angered with it. Thus HE sends Elijah with a message which is rejected but which will accomplish its purpose and seal 144,000. We pray, dear brother Odom, that you might take heed unto yourself and to the doctrine and be one of the elect, for you know full well that Vol. 5, page 80 tells how and why all were deceived but that elect number which the Lord speaks of saying we shall then be better able to measure the strength of Israel. Thus it is evident that the 144,000 become God's servants and they will finish the gospel work. We plead with you to lay it to heart.

Yours to escape the fast coming ruin,

H.G. Warden
H.G. Warden.