

Dear Dad:

This letter is extremely important---and extremely private, and personal. I believe you may not realize, Dad, that what you have said concerning the issue of Pentecost (that is, that even if ALL the Church left, and you alone were remaining) falls fairly close to the current conditions within the church.

It is quite possible, that, UNLESS we are able to produce an article, much like the one which was the combined work of our research staff and yourself on the "sacred names" issue, we could see anywhere from one full third (or about 20,000) to a half of the church eventually split off into another group, or fragment into splinter groups to be gobbled up by various dissident ministers.

I am solidly WITH you, Dad---as I have said repeatedly. We're right now standing back to back (as you said---then our backs are protected) and we're TOGETHER. But, though together, WHERE ARE WE, NOW?

Power is limited, sometimes. I simply COULD NOT, at the time of the recent regional director's meeting, shout, threaten, order, or exert pressure or authority! I could no more have won that battle by those tactics than YOU could have won over the Evangelists during that nightmarish week preceding and including our meeting in Acapulco, over two years ago.

Frankly, It is not ~~###~~ at all inconceivable to me that, unless we can either PROVE, and PROVE LOGICALLY, BY POINT BY POINT BIBLE ANSWERS TO EACH OF MORE THAN TWENTY VERY STRONG AND PLAINLY EVIDENT ARGUMENTS FOR A SUNDAY PENTECOST, we just can't keep the church together on that issue. Saying it is "for the CHURCH to decide" won't work with these people. Too many thousands HAVE truly looked up words, read papers, studied among themselves, and heard some of the most difficult arguments (i.e. that "Shabbat" is NEVER translated "weeks" in the KJ version, etc.).

I am willing to go to whatever lengths you want me to---even if it means losing one or two of the college campuses; closing down schools, canceling many radio and TV stations, and "starting all over again" by intensive evangelism, writing, and radio broadcasting on a smaller scale. But UNLESS we face this issue with ALL OUR GUNS LOADED, NOT RELYING ON JUST ONE mind, but on ALL THE BEST MINDS WE HAVE, COLLECTIVELY, then my feeling is we will see a traumatic division throughout the church, including perhaps 20 or 30 or more ministers. This WON'T happen if we either PROVE, PLAINLY, a Monday Pentecost, or CHANGE. But if we DO NOT PROVE PLAINLY, but rely on Herman's scholarship (I can lay out before you many, many patent ERRORS of his---and I SIMPLY REFUSE, DAD TO EVER PREACH AND TEACH WHAT HERMAN TELLS ME ANY FURTHER! For YOUR OWN SAKE, I called an all-evangelist's meeting back in 1969 when I wanted Herman and Ernest Martin to come FACE TO FACE with ALL OTHERS PRESENT, and thrash out what I knew were deadly differences in doctrine, chronology, cycles, and so-on. Herman SAT there, THROUGHOUT that lengthy meeting, and DID NOT EVEN OPEN HIS MOUTH! I wanted BROTHERS in Christ, together, to roll up their sleeves, get out the books and bibles, and STUDY together so as to AVERT impending doctrinal disasters for the Church. As you may well know, I NEVER preached anything about cycles for perhaps five years prior to 1972! I REFUSED to say ANYTHING in either radio or television about DATES, or about CYCLES. I would not depend further on Herman's ideas about Babylonian Chronology, and I sincerely and imploringly tell you I DO LOVE HERMAN HOEH! I LOVE Him, Dad, but I DO NOT TRUST HIS SCHOLARSHIP!

PROOF? I have many, many points I could lay out before you. But ONE that is MOST recent follows:

Bob Kuhn tells me Herman gave you a note recently, saying Mike Heiss (former Mike Levy---an odd, unbalanced, strange Jewish lad who has absolutely no claims

to scholarship of any kind) had stated the words "Mi-maharat" DO equal out to MONDAY! But Dad, here we are again! Either Herman MISUNDERSTOOD, TOTALLY, what MIKE ADMITS HE, MIKE, SAID, or ~~else~~ he simply twisted it. MIKE SAID, and I am getting a MEMO from HIM, over HIS SIGNATURE to ADMIT he said, ~~h~~hat "Mi-maharat, mi yom, a shabbat" equals FROM THE MORROW THE DAY AFTER THE SABBATH". HE ADDED THE WORDS, "mi YOM" for ONE EXTRA DAY. Though Herman KNEW this---He omitted it when giving you the note.

Dad, YOU CANNOT, YOU DARE NOT, MAKE PROFOUND DECISIONS AFFECTING THE ~~\$\$\$\$~~ GIGANTIC SIZE OF THIS CHURCH AND ITS GLOBAL WORK BASED ON THE DEFECTIVE SCHOLARSHIP OF THIS ONE MAN! He has a track record of being right about one half the time---and very, very WRONG, the rest of the time! ~~###~~

Had I been ALLOWED, Dad, to FORCE Herman to ~~spea~~ak his mind, and to COME OUT IN THE OPEN with what he believes on this and other issues, LONG AGO, which I TRIED to do, I could have AVERTED this whole thing, and, frankly, I probably would have been able to have averted my own personal problems.

But my desperate attempts to get all our scholarly minds TOGETHER, in Christian brotherhood, with LOVE for one another, and patience, kindness, meekness, and understanding, was view~~ed~~ as an insidious attempt to UNDERMINE what YOU had "ALWAYS TAUGHT". Unfortunately, Herman has succeeded in placing that label on things which HERMAN has "always taught" and which, in some cases, YOU HAVE NEVER taught!

Now, as we look into the VITALLY important issue of Pentecost, when I see Herman resorting to the same old tactics; NOT speaking out openly, freely, in a loving, sharing, objective manner during all the meetings I conducted; REJECTING the plain, simple, straightforward questions in favor of totally erroneous quotes of totally unqualified people (WHO IN THE WORLD IS MICHAEL HEISS---? HOW WILL WE LOOK IF HE, WHO HAS NO~~W~~ MORE CLAIM TO BEING A HEBREW SCHOLAR THAN YOU OR ME, OR ANYONE ELSE, IS THE "FINAL AUTHORITY" ~~a~~ HEBREW?) it is very disturbing. He COULD have given ME any such information, when, after all, I was ASKING FOR EVERY POSSIBLE HELP FROM HIM TO PROVE A MONDAY PENTECOST! HE GAVE ME NO HELP WHATSOEVER! He lectured that one time, in a confusing, obscure manner about some alleged calendar change in 160 AD ~~which~~ supposedly proved the "JEWS ALWAYS KNEW" that Pentecost was on a Monday! This CONTRADICTS EVERY SHRE~~D~~ OF HISTORY FROM EVERY SOURCE WHATEVER. There IS NOT ONE SHRED OF PROOF ANY JEWS EVER KEPT PENTECOST ON A MONDAY, and HERMAN KNOWS IT!

I implore you, Dad, grant to your own son enoug~~h~~ of a rational mind to admit that I can read the same books, look up the same words, and investigate the same evidence as Herman can, and CAN COME TO RIGHT CONCLUSIONS FROM IT! He does NOT have any "secret" sources of knowledge! Those scholars we have in college have looked into the SAME sources, and men like Gunar Freid~~bergs~~, Orlin Gr~~abe~~ and the like ARE SCHOLARS, AND THEY ARE BALANCED!

Had I been able to corral Herman Hoeh on some of these issues LONGAGO, I could have SAVED this terrible thing happening with Ernest Martin! ~~But~~ Herman, for some strange reason, is allowed to live and work in a sacrosanct ~~osition~~, as a very SPECIAL CASE! I love him, I admire ~~h~~im, and I respect him. I just don't believe him about half the time!

POWER IS LIMITED, Dad, by conditions and circumstances. For example, though I really NEED to make some additional top-level changes (perhaps Dave Antion, as I have told you) it is IMPOSSIBLE TO DO SO RIGHT NOW because of CIRCUMSTANCES. The WAY it is handled will have to be very delicate. I feel you MUST BE INFORMED that this issue of Pentecost, and other doctrinal issues, may be in the exact same situation.

GIVE ME THE AMMUNITION, and I can SHOOT DOWN THE ENEMY. BUT RIGHT NOW, THOUGH I AM STANDING AT YOUR SIDE, AND WE ARE BACK TO BACK, DAD, MY GUNS ARE EMPTY, AND THE ENEMY HAS ALL THE AMUNITION!

I thought I had better WRITE OUT some vitally important thoughts, so you can take the time to really think everything through!

FIRST: I hope you really realize 'Dad, that I have constantly striven to find PROOFS for a Monday Pentecost. Never did I permit myself to become emotionally polarized around any issue; never did I decide some new idea was my "baby" and cling to it till death do us part. At all times, during the wide-scale meetings held in Pasadena, I lectured all the ministry on ATTITUDE.

I had never studied that thoroughly into the subject before; had never laid eyes on Earnest's paper; had never read anything written by O'Biern, Jacob Meyer, or anyone else. Some of your own earlier articles, written clear back in the 30's or 40's, I had never read previously.

I have seen one major argument (and perhaps that is the best # term to use) after another presented which I was totally UNABLE, and UNEQUIPPED, to knock down. AT NO TIME did any person in the meetings indicate his mind was made up, or that he would "make a decision" regarding church membership, remaining in the ministry, or employ of the college, or any such thing. Everyone was completely objective, honest, and open, I thought.

When I found many scriptures which showed the ENGLISH word "~~from~~" could be used EITHER inclusively or ex~~clus~~ively, it naturally carried weight.

When I found the major english language authorities say "from" can be used either inclusively or exclusively, even when "counting time" it certainly carried weight.

But the Bible was written ~~and~~ inspired in HEBREW. Being a student of foreign language; knowing something about the ~~total~~ grave difficulties of TRANS-LITERATION as opposed to "translation" I am, however, somewhat wary of taking only ONE meaning of an ENGLISH word which is capable of several meanings, and is, after all, a preposition, as final proof.

The question is what did the HEBREW ORIGINALLY SAY? And even this is only ONE POINT of a doctrine that has MORE THAN A DOZEN MAJOR POINTS.

I Believe, Dad, that I have found some totally NEW things in my studies into the subject.

1) For years, I wondered why there seemed to be no celebration, ~~total~~ or commemoration, or notice given in God's Holy Days of Christ's resurrection ~~total~~ and ascension. I have certainly preached, many times, that there is NO command to celebrate the resurrection. Still, the cutting of the wave ~~leaf~~ is symbolic of the resurrection; and, as you have stressed, the symbol of the "RISEN CHRIST" (who already ROSE, late Saturday afternoon the preceding day) who had NOT YET ~~ascended~~ to His Father in Heaven. Events of that week are conclusive, and incontrovertible! Christ appeared to several; including the women on the way to Emmaus, by late in the afternoon---wouldn't let them touch Him because He had "not yet ascended". and then later appeared when they were behind closed doors and said, "behold ~~it~~ is I, see my hands and my feet" and even made Thomas put his hand into His side. This PROVES Christ ASCENDED TO HEAVEN ON A SUNDAY! ~~It's a fact~~

Now, even though what I am about to say does not present total PROOF--- it might nevertheless shed light on the MEANING of the day! Pentecost is the FEAST OF THE FIRSTFRUITS! Christ is the FIRST # of the Firstfruits; the FIRSTBORN from the dead. There is no other day in the sacred Calendar which any more clearly points out the FACT of Christ being the FIRST OF THE ~~first~~ FIRSTFRUITS, AND THAT WE ARE, IN CHRIST, ALSO A PART OF THE "FIRSTFRUITS" THAN THE "FIFTIETH" DAY, OR PENTECOST.

Next, it is logical to see the analogy between the fact that Sunday is the first day of the week, and therefore the FIRST DAY OF THE HARVEST during the first WEEK of harvest!

Paul gave instructions for the Saints to "lay by themselves in store" on the "First day of the week", showing that would be the FIRST opportunity to go out and harvest foodstuffs for those in Jerusalem who had need.

While we are not given any information on what CEREMONY took place in heaven on the day Christ rose---we can know and understand there MUST HAVE BEEN A MOVING, IMPORTANT CEREMONY! With God the Father on His throne; millions of angels rejoicing, singing, shouting; the twenty four elders smiling; Cherubim and Seraphim there; the dazzling beauty and splendor that would blind our human eyes; add Christ actually walking up to that throne, his wounds plainly visible,---\$ being received and approved by His Father--- it is a "vision" or a concept; but nevertheless, something I believe REALLY HAPPENED! It happened when it was SUNDAY in Jerusalem!

2) ~~12000000~~ Certainly there is NO OTHER HOLY DAY that any more clearly points out Christ as the "FIRSTFRUITS from the dead: "The FIRSTborn among many brethren, THE "FIRST of the FIRSTFRUITS; the "FIRST human being in all history to be completely HUMAN, then DEAD, then RESURRECTED, and then MADE VERY GOD! Did this just happen in rather peremptory fashion, and then the FOLLOWING DAY become the day to take note of it?

If so, then why observe the PASSOVER ON THE SAME MOMENT....EVEN "BETWEEN THE TWO EVENINGS" when the event HAPPENED? In our explanations about an ANNUAL Passover (so very clear to me), we stress time and again that a MEMORIAL is commemorative of an EVENT. That it is celebrated on the SAME DAY AS THAT EVENT!

ALL the Holy Days are BOTH commemorative AND anticipative...looking forward toward the Kingdom.

The PASSOVER COMMEMORATES Christ's DEATH, and looks toward the time when His blood would be applied over the sins of ALL mankind.

Why, then, would the VERY DAY ON WHICH CHRIST BECAME THE FIRST OF THE FIRSTFRUITS be celebrated a day LATER than the exact moment in HISTORY when the EVENT OCCURRED??