

June 8, 1978

Dear Ted:

In May I wrote to you as follows:

"I am hereby putting you once again on an obligatory leave of absence, to remain in effect until you have brought forth fruits meet for repentance. I am relieving you forthwith of your authority and title of executive vice president of the Church. For the time being your salary will continue and if you wish to go elsewhere for this period of time, as I would suggest, you will be entitled to a reasonable expense account.

"Ted, my son whom I love more than I think you realize, I have written this with a heavy heart and with the deepest regret.

(Signed) With love, in Jesus' name"

1) You did not obey this order, and as I said in that letter, "there is one vital, basic principle you seem not to have learned --that Jesus Christ will not choose anyone to rule under Him, in His Kingdom, who will not be ruled now."

2) You have come to me many times since, in person, by telephone, and by letter--but always in ~~an~~ a belligerent attitude. I could aptly paraphrase all these encounters, as ~~if~~ I experienced them, by saying they were like a prize fighter coming at me, forcing me to try to parry his blows without hitting him. Every such encounter was a traumatic experience--an ordeal I had to suffer--not the loving accord and submissive attitude you should have had toward your superior and God's only apostle for our time, let alone toward your human father.

3) Now, therefore, with an even heavier heart I have to say to you, that once again

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I am putting you on an obligatory leave of absence--this time until the end of this calendar year--with the stipulation that you must go elsewhere than Pasadena, Big Sandy, or in proximity of any of our local churches. And this time you are forbidden to to speak, telephone, write, or in any manner communicate with any church member outside of your own personal family. And if you disobey or delay any of the foregoing, you will leave me no choice but to ~~force~~ obey the inspired command: "...MARK THEM which cause divisions and offences ... and AVOID THEM, for they that are such SERVE NOT OUT LORD JESUS CHRIST."

Once again, I am trying to hold the door open for you to REPENT, and come back into the service of our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray with all my being that you will AWAKE to the eternal SERIOUSNESS of your present attitude before it is too late, turn to our God in REAL AND TRUE REPENTANCE--realizing fully that when you defy and seek to discredit God's apostle, you are defying and fighting against Jesus Christ, whose chosen servant I am.

With deep love in Jesus' name,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Garner Ted Armstrong". The signature is written in dark ink and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.