

July 13, 1978

Dear Dad:

I could scarcely believe my eyes when I read your "disfellowship" letter. In each case of the four paragraphs specifying alleged misconduct on my part, there were either distortions, misunderstandings, exaggerations, or, in the charge of "divorting corporate funds" for my "own personal use", an outright lie!

Dad, I would think obedience to Jesus Christ demands you give the benefit of the doubt; I would expect you to do so, even to the least member of the church, let alone your own Son, and the person who has done more to support you, protect you, uphold you and promote you before the Church than anyone else. Not only did you not give me the "benefit of the doubt" in making such a slanderous and defamatory false charge, but you did so after information to the contrary had been delivered to you.

I do not know who is lying to you, Dad; I have no information on what person led you to believe I would ever "unscrupulously" attempt to "divert corporate funds", but whoever said it is an unmitigated, bald-faced, corrupt, deliberate liar, and I will be delighted to tell that person, or persons so to their face!

When I discovered my secretary had been locked out of her office, and that Stan's secretary had taken over the fourth floor suite of offices; that my desk was being gone through by others, and that my personal, private mail was being denied me, I sought help of the Pasadena Post Office. I called the Postmaster, Mrs. Kathryn Wilson. She put me in touch with Bob Gillis, head of their customer services, and he suggested I formalize my request with a letter. That letter is enclosed. The original bears a U.S. postmark, mailed long prior to your disfellowship letter, and the contents are quite clear.

Obviously, then, I asked only for my PERSONAL mail; mail marked "Personal" "Private" "Confidential", or letters that would come to me in care of one of my closest personal aides, Jim Thornhill or Randy Dick. I doubt whether such mail amounts to more than twenty or thirty pieces a week---probably less! Now, because I tried to prevent the secretaries from diverting my own private mail, such as letters from old friends, bank statements, personal business letters, and the like; I have been "marked" as one who allegedly was "causing division contrary to the doctrines you have learned...", and, worse, have been slanderously branded as a thief, and a common criminal; a high corporate official who would betray his own trust by attempting to "divert corporate funds" for my own personal use!

Dad, you were told face to face by Mr. Bill Evans, PRIOR to your sending out this hideous false charge, that the charge was NOT TRUE! Bill told you I was only attempting to obtain that which was mine, my personal mail! But you persisted, in spite of this testimony, in slandering my name; terribly damaging my professional reputation; perhaps irreparably, and incurring untold and uncounted harm to my professional and personal future.

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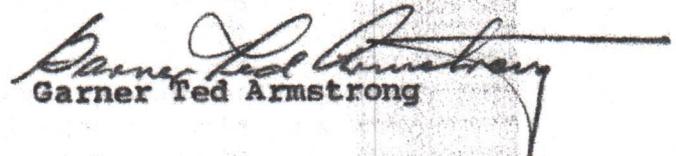
Now, I must insist on a written apology! Since Mr. C. Wayne Cole dared to include this slanderous charge in a letter sent out in the Pastor's report, and therefore paricipitated in its widespread circulation among my fellow ministers and former subordinates, I must insist that a sincere and appropriately contrite letter of apology be sent from him to all the ministry, and to all those of Church affiliation; including ~~26~~-workers, Donors, or members of any other group who may have received the letter.

I would hope the apology would not prove to be merely a springboard for further vituperation and accusations against me, since such would not only be further proof of a totally unChristian and uncharitable attitude, but further proof of an hostile and deliberate attempt to defame my character, and destroy my professional and private reputation.

Dad, you simply know better! I could address the other charges in your letter here, but they belong in another letter, at a later time. You KNOW, in your heart, that I would have never attempted to divert corporate funds into my own pockets---and you were told face-to-face that your charge was untrue, prior to sending it out.

Please send out a letter of contrite apology to all those affected immediately, and I would suggest that a copy of my own letter to the Postmaster be included, as written proof of the falsity of the charges levied against me.

Sincerely,

  
Garner Ted Armstrong

cc: Agapay & Levin,  
Attorneys at Law.  
Los Angeles Times  
Pasadena Star News  
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