

Aspen, Colorado  
June 12, 1978

U.S. Post Office  
Pasadena, California, 91109

Attn: Postmaster,  
Mrs. K. Wilson

Dear Mrs. Wilson:

Thanks very much for your prompt attention to the matter I raised over the telephone today, concerning my personal mail. I spoke with Mr. Bob Gillis at length, and, hopefully, a solution seems easily possible.

Would you please ask that all my personal mail be held in care of general delivery; and that Mrs. Benjamin (Lois) Chapman, Mrs. Shirley Armstrong, Mr. Mark Armstrong, or Mr. Bill Evans be authorized to call for same?

This would include all mail marked "Personal", "Confidential" "Private" whether the envelopes are color keyed, addressed to various of our box numbers, or printed by ourselves.

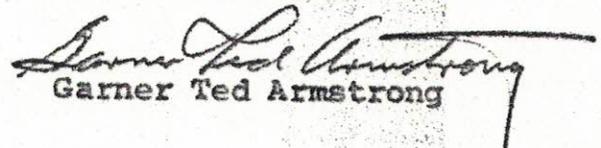
For example; envelopes addressed to "YOU (Youth Opportunities United)" may come to me personally; those which come in response to Member or Co-Worker letters, and are ~~framed~~ framed and printed by ourselves; or those of any description whatsoever, so long as they are marked "Personal" or "Confidential" should be sent in care of General Delivery. This would include parcels or packages sent parcel post.

Many times, during my frequent visits to our major church areas, and my addresses before thousands of our members (I recently spoke in Rochester, N.Y., and Milwaukee, Wisc., before about 2 to 3 thousand in each place) I am asked how our members can get a letter to me personally, without having it opened and read by a secretary. I always tell them to simply mark it "Personal" and I receive it. Or, I ask that they address their letter in care of Jim Thornhill or Randy Dick, two very close personal aides.

From time to time, a personal letter comes requesting a return receipt. Please allow Mrs. Lois Chapman to sign for such letters, if this is according to procedures.

Thank you very much, again. Please forgive the poor typing---it's been years since I typed my own letters, but, as I explained, my secretary has been fired for no cause, and I am required to type my own, it seems.

Very sincerely yours,

  
Garner Ted Armstrong

cc: file



# WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG  
PRESIDENT and PASTOR

June 26, 1978

Garner Ted Armstrong  
312 Waverly Drive  
Pasadena, California 91105

Dear Ted:

Need I say it is with heavy heart and in deepest regret that you have forced me to send you this letter.

In spite of your continual disagreement with the way the Living Jesus Christ has been building and conducting God's Work through His chosen apostle, I have at all times done my best to hold up and protect your name.

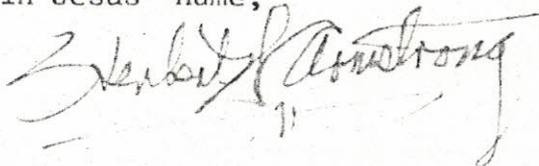
But you no longer permit me to shield you. You have 1) disobeyed my directive by going to Orr, Minnesota, 2) contacted members you were forbidden to contact, 3) contacted United States Postal authorities in the unethical and unscrupulous effort to intercept corporate mail and thus divert corporate funds illegally into your private, personal hands, and 4) finally giving the Los Angeles Times (and perhaps other media) distorted and false accusations against your father, God's apostle.

You have dishonored your human father and the Living Christ, the Head of God's Church.

You have caused divisions and offenses in the Church of God and now you force me, reluctantly, according to Romans 16:17 to MARK YOU before the Church and to inform you that you are forthwith disfellowshipped from the Church and terminated from all authority in and employment by the Worldwide Church of God and its affiliate operations.

In deepest sorrow and,

In Jesus' name,



HWA:vak

cc: C. Wayne Cole  
Stanley R. Rader  
Raymond L. Wright  
Raymond McNair



# WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91123

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG  
President and Pastor

July 30, 1978

Dear Brethren and Fellow Ministers,

It is with deepest disappointment that I regret that I am forced, once again, by hostile actions by my son, Garner Ted, to bring you up to date with the PLAIN TRUTH.

Diametrically contrary to what he has always said he would never do, he has, not only "raised a hand against his father," in the public press, but as the Apostle Paul warned the elders of the church at Ephesus, "For I know this that after my departing ...of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after themselves" (Acts 20:29,30).

Paul did not say or mean, to draw people closer to God, but to draw away those already IN THE CHURCH, after themselves--to follow a MAN instead of Jesus Christ!

It has happened before. Paul knew it would happen again--and again--and again!

The Lord Jesus Christ, and the God after whom His Church is named were, under Ted's leadership little by little, being subtly pushed out of God's Church and of Ambassador College. It was becoming apparent to several.

One of several such letters just recently received says, "Thank God you are back where Christ wants you. Never before have we been so inspired by sermons or Bible Studies. For the past ten years, so many people, including myself, have noticed that something was wrong.... We noticed that for some reason we were not as inspired as we had been in the past. We felt there was something missing.... In fact, all of the doctrines of God were treated as if they were not important...we were sincere, but did not accomplish much because we lacked so much of the knowledge and faith that we once knew...we were spinning our wheels and sliding backwards. To say the least, Mr. Armstrong, ...Christ has finally shown you plainly where we, the Church, were heading.... I am glad that Christ has put you back in the pulpit to teach us...we can actually understand it when you expound on it."

In my very painfully written letter, notifying you of the

disfellowshipment of Garner Ted, I wrote you: "Now I come to something I have felt I had to withhold from you, brethren. During these past few years, when I sensed a CONSPIRACY to bring about a complete takeover of the entire Church's work--virtually to put JESUS CHRIST out...I attributed it entirely to Satan. ...to protect my son's name and reputation, I have 'covered up' for him--because I have said to him I love him above all people on earth.... When Garner Ted maneuvered to shut off communication of what really was going on--when he shut off all authority above him, he not only shut off God's Apostle, but also he shut off CHRIST AND GOD ALMIGHTY.

"Finally, a year ago the men next in authority under Ted came to me, begging me to TAKE ACTION. 'Your son, Mr. Armstrong,' they said, 'has been trying to DESTROY everything Christ has built through you, and build something for Garner Ted Armstrong.' "

His TV and radio programs were becoming secular, dealing in worldly politics, with sponsorship announced, not as Worldwide Church of God, who paid his salary, all production costs, and the cost of air-time, but as that of "Garner Ted Armstrong Productions." Everything was focused on featuring the name Garner Ted Armstrong--instead of the name of the Church.

On follow-up outgoing mail to those responding to the programs, he abolished the "WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD" letterhead--and instead, the letterhead was printed, "GARNER TED ARMSTRONG." With his picture beside it!

For more than a year those now in top administrative offices have implored me to step in and once again take over complete control, UNDER CHRIST--as it was until some ten years ago.

Again I repeat, as I wrote you then, "I say, this Church and its work was built by the LIVING CHRIST! It was HIS SPIRIT that inspired, motivated this entire work--but, He was being put out!"

Fellow ministers and brethren, Jesus Christ has been moving dynamically, these past weeks, to once again ENTHRONE THE GREAT MAJESTIC GOD within this Church and its Work!

Until recently all was CONFUSION at Pasadena Headquarters. WHO was in charge--was it Garner Ted, or was it God's Apostle? Well, I'll tell you emphatically who is in charge--JESUS CHRIST!! It's time we all come to realize this is not the work of a man--or of which man to follow--it is THE CHURCH AND WORK OF ALMIGHTY GOD, with the living Jesus Christ at its HEAD, on His Father's throne!

A few years ago, one of the Church's ministers had inherited some money. He left the Church to draw away our members after him

saying he and his wife were about the age of God's Apostle when God started His Work through His Apostle. But this man was not God's Apostle-- God was not IN what he tried to build for himself --and his efforts failed completely!

In 1974, some 35 ministers left. They incorporated themselves as the "Associated Churches of God." But GOD was not in it--and it fell flat on its face! Tragically, a few thousand brethren followed after these men, who were seeking to draw away those already in the Church to follow them! Where are they today? I know many of those former ministers have had to take jobs working with their hands to earn a living. That is JUSTICE! But, the tragic part of it is that those brethren, who followed them, as sheep without a shepherd, going to the slaughter, have been probably lost from God!

And now Garner Ted has incorporated himself with his wife and his brother-in-law--and this GARNER TED ARMSTRONG CHURCH has now started a campaign to draw away both whatever sheep and shepherds he can now entice to follow him--to follow a man instead of the Living God!

I say to you, ministers and brethren, Christ is on GOD'S THRONE. He did build His Church! No MAN built the Worldwide Church of God of today--and Jesus Christ promised that the gates of the grave shall never prevail against it! Human MEN, with selfish motives, may try to start a church after a MAN! But it is those in the true CHURCH OF GOD that shall inherit, IN GLORY, the soon-coming KINGDOM OF GOD!

Satan is the real source of human nature. It is ever the same! In the days of King David, whom God had selected as king, two of his sons, one at a time, attempted to take over the throne, and make themselves king, Absalom and Adonijah. But GOD PROTECTED His people of that day, and David, whom HE had chosen!

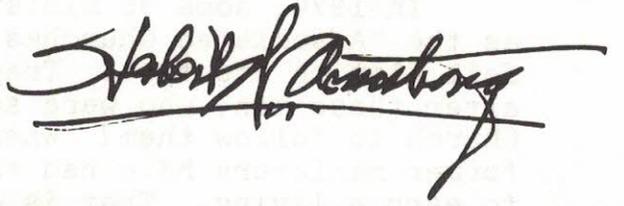
God called MOSES to lead His people, long before David. Once Moses' brother Aaron and sister Miriam, challenged Moses' leadership. They claimed equal right to lead. God sternly rebuked them! "Wherefore," said God, "were ye NOT AFRAID to speak against my servant Moses?" "And the anger of the Eternal was kindled against them" (Numbers 12:1-9). Miriam was seized with leprosy, for seven days.

But, have we become so detached from God in His Church today, that we think perhaps God has CHANGED?--are we today NOT AFRAID to speak against God's anointed?

Then of another time Korah gathered a group against Moses' leadership. Again God was stirred to ANGER! Korah and those with him were simply swallowed up by the earth!

I simply plead with you, ministers and brethren, HELP ME as I put myself in GOD'S HANDS, to follow Christ in His Church--that we may carry on following Christ (not a man) in once again ENTHRONING THE GREAT MAJESTIC GOD AT THE HELM OF HIS CHURCH!

With deep love, in Jesus' name,



# WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91123

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG  
President and Pastor

July 31, 1978

Dear Brethren of God's Church:

Last night, I had been reading a telex I had sent to my son about a year and a half ago from South Africa and I was thinking of his condition now, trying to launch a new Garner Ted Armstrong church of his own, without the facilities to do so. I thought of what a lovable little fellow Ted had been as a young boy. I was unable to sleep for a long time.

This morning I felt I should relieve my own mind by sending a letter to my son, showing just how I feel. I had no intention of letting anyone see this letter except my son. However, I feel now, before sending it I should make it an open letter available to the entire membership. It shows how I feel from the depths of my heart.

Following then is the letter dated July 31, 1978, Tucson:

Dear Ted:

The last two letters you sent me via Bill Evans were very friendly in tone. The last one, dated July 12, told me you were having great difficulty finding a place to live--the homes you might be able to afford were too tiny. You hardly had enough for a down-payment on a place. You asked about the place on Lake Tahoe--for approximately nine years you had been trying to arrange to purchase it--but something always put us off.

You did not know when you wrote this, that already I had arranged a contract--the only way I knew that would be okay with IRS, to turn over to you life tenancy, rent free, with the Church taking care of all taxes, insurance, etc.,--leaving only utilities for you to pay.

Also, I had arranged to offer you retirement pay of \$50,000 per year--the same as you have done in the past for others at a percentage of their annual salary. Also, as I'm sure I have written you, I had offered--within the scope of IRS allowances--to supply you with a home of comparable quality and size as the one built for you in Pasadena. It seems the only way we could legally do this would be a company purchase, giving you no-cost tenancy, like the Lake Tahoe property.

Then, suddenly word came to me that you had incorporated yourself as a church--and the very next morning--yesterday, Sunday,

July 30, another story from you was published in the L.A. Times saying you rejected the \$50,000 retirement pay--that never again would any man be in position of authority over you--and that you were going on the air to build your own church.

Naturally, it is incumbent on me as God's Apostle, to protect His "sheepfold" He has placed under my care. As I told you in the letter offering to provide you with living facilities equal to what you have enjoyed these past eleven years, that God's Work could not pay you to fight it, take away members, or seek to destroy the Works that was paying you. I have not seen the L.A. Times story--but it seems you construed this \$50,000 offer as a bribe. Nothing could have been farther from my mind or intention. Perhaps you so construed it because I let Stan Rader write the letter for me, but it was my idea, and I tell you truthfully my only thought and motive was your own welfare--and the fact that of approximately 25 years service, the first 15 had been good years, and warranted that recognition. Certainly the only thought or motive in my heart was right.

Last night, I ran across a very lengthy telex I had sent you from South Africa, March 11, 1977. You had always complained that you wanted to please Shirl and me above all others, and that we never do appreciate it, or show confidence in you--and especially that I had not valued your input, counsel or recommendations. I was trying, in this telex, to show that kind of confidence in you and appreciation of your counsel.

In this telex I said, "This is the Work of the Living God, totally unlike all other human-devised institutions, organizations or activities. Let me say, 1) I do have and entrust to you implicit confidence. I do not only consider your advice and counsel, I need and must have it, and always when I agree--which is nearly always--I act on it, as in this instance"--mentioning a recommendation from you that I had followed at once.

I tried, Ted, to stand "back-to-back" with you. I had mentioned that, since, the entire universe is headed by a Father and Son combination--God and Christ--it would seem to ensure this as being truly God's Work, if it could be headed the same way--but when I mentioned how Christ has always been of the same mind and in all points of one accord, under His Father, you immediately changed the subject.

You completely overstepped the authority I delegated to you. You have recently stated publicly in the public press that you never did agree with me in matters of procedures. All friction between you and me, Ted, came from two sources--you did not agree with the manner of procedures that God had started me out on long before you grew up to maturity, and you felt a sense of resentment over the fact that, in the natural order of the growth of the Work, God had placed YOU under my authority. You remarked, one time, some two or more

years ago, "You've never had to work under anyone, Dad." You said, you meant under a MAN. Before you were born, Ted, I had to learn to work under other MEN. I agreed with what I had read from Elbert Hubbard, who said, "If I worked for a man I would work for him!" I worked under a man in the Des Moines Daily Capital, from age 18 to 19. I performed that work, under authority, so well that it opened to me a bigger job. I worked under authority as timekeeper and paymaster of the Finkbine Lumber Mill outside of Wiggins, Mississippi, at age 19. There I did the job it had taken three men to do before they turned it over to me. It was not my kind of work. I was like a fish out of water--but I worked as diligently and faithfully as I could--I worked myself into the hospital with typhoid fever. To keep up with the job--one I was unfitted for--I worked alternately till 10:00 one night and midnight the next--and up at 5:30 every morning! I took criticism--I took orders--and I did my very utmost to take them in good spirit!

I worked under authority for three years on the country's largest trade journal, and then for a summer as assistant secretary of the Chamber of Commerce at South Bend, Indiana.

All this, of course, was before you were born--but I had been required by the Living Christ who was afterward to call me to His service--or I might say was preparing me for His service--to work hard, diligently, faithfully and loyally--and WILLINGLY--to the very utmost of my ability!

The Living Christ is not going to set anyone to rule under Him, in the Kingdom of God, who has been unwilling to work in that willing and faithful attitude under authority. This may be a hard lesson for you to learn, Ted my son, but a father's inbred and real LOVE for his son, causes me to remind you once again of this fact. It may be your hardest obstacle to overcome.

In deepest love, in Jesus' Name,



years ago? You've never had to work under anyone, has he? You said, you work under a MAN, before you were born, Ted, I had to learn to work under other MEN. I agreed with what I had read about Edward Hubbard, who said, "If I worked for a man I would work for him." I worked under a man in the Des Moines Daily Capital, from age 18 to 22. I performed that work, under authority, so well that it opened to me a higher job. I worked under authority as a newspaper editor, in the printing plant of the Des Moines Daily Capital, from age 22 to age 25. There I did the job I had taken there was to do before they turned it over to me. It was not my kind of work. I was like a fish out of water, but I worked as diligently and faithfully as I could. I worked myself into the hospital with a stroke, to keep up with the job--one I was unqualified for--I worked strenuously till I could no longer do the work--and up at 5:30--very much exhausted--I took orders--and I did my very best to take them in good spirit!

I worked under authority for three years on the country's largest trade journal, and then for a summer as assistant secretary of the Chamber of Commerce at South Bend, Indiana.

All this, of course, was before you were born--but I had been prepared by the living Christ who was allowed to call me to his service--on I might say was preparing me for his service--to work hard, diligently, faithfully and loyally--and WILLING--to the very utmost of my ability!

The living Christ is not going to set anyone to work under him, in the Kingdom of God, who has been unwilling to work in that Kingdom and faithful attitude under authority. This may be a hard lesson for you to learn, Ted, but a father's lesson and love is not to be despised, unless he is willing you shall learn of this fact. It may be your patient attitude is overcome.

In deepest love, in Jesus' name,

*Charles H. [Signature]*