

THE CHURCH OF GOD, INTERNATIONAL

POST OFFICE BOX 2530  
TYLER, TEXAS 75710

GARNER TED ARMSTRONG  
PRESIDENT

NOVEMBER 18, 1995

TO THE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL, AND ALL MINISTERS, ELDERS AND HOSTS:

In view of the current situation, I have decided to step aside as President of the Church of God, International and from my position on the Ministerial Council.

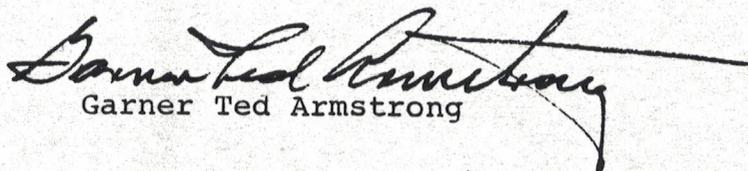
For years, I have emphasized multiplicity of leadership in God's church. For years, I have preached that we are but one of the "branches" of the Vine, which is Christ, who has ALL POWER, and Who has promised, "I will never leave you, nor forsake you," and said, "Lo, I am with you always."

This was an entirely voluntary decision. In lengthy discussion the other morning with Shirley, and later with members of the Board of Directors and of the Ministerial Council, I decided, even though some urged me not to, that this decision would be better for the church. At the same time, it will allow me to devote my entire time to doing the creative things God wants me to do; television, writing articles and booklets, reaching the world with an even stronger message. The work must go on!

I have fullest confidence in the men God has selected to lead His church, in the Ministerial Council, and all the ministry. I know your hearts are fully dedicated to God, to His church, and to the work.

I know Christ's ministry is a converted, dedicated ministry; I know you love the people. That is why I can now relax in the certain knowledge that you will care for the flock; that you will protect, preserve, encourage and settle the flock; that you are good shepherds.

Sincerely, and with love,

  
Garner Ted Armstrong