

## **Intertribal Moves: Preventing Criticism**

Anytime anyone spends time in another tribe, he is there to help, to serve in whatever capacity he is needed. If by our Father's will, he becomes an integral part of the tribe, then he may stay on, becoming a part of that tribe.

If, however, he should be sent back to his own tribe, for whatever reason, he shall meet with the government of that tribe in which he has resided as a visitor for an evaluation and criticism meeting. This meeting is a time for the person and the elders to talk about how the person contributed to the tribe, how he was beneficial, how he built up his brothers and sisters. Then the person should be given a chance to contribute any criticism of the tribe or anything he would like to express about the tribe. This would act, then, as a preventive measure. Otherwise, he might return to his tribe and criticize the tribe he left. He would most likely do this, as experience has shown, so it would be better to express it all before leaving. In the same way, when a person returns to his own tribe he should not go about criticizing the differences or lacks, saying, "They don't do this in the other tribe," or, "I don't know why we can't do such-and-such; they do it in the other tribe." He should express his concerns to the government and let the concerns be judged. There will always be variations due to different household heads, elders, and apostolic workers. So there must be no criticism unless it is positively channeled.

*[A practical example of this kind of meeting is found in the notes of the Apostolic Meeting in Sus, June 8, 1989, pages 1-13. Although in this example the visitors themselves were not evaluated, they did give their impressions of the tribe of Reuben, expressing both the strengths and weaknesses they saw. Hakam, according to the grace he has, gave the government in Sus concrete positive suggestions on how to avoid problems that he saw potentials of, giving them the benefit of experience that the tribe of Judah had gone through. Yoneq even exercised judgment on some of the criticisms. As a result, everything was able to be used to build up.]*