

Speaking in the Flesh

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Around the year 1985 in Island Pond I stood before the assembly and gave a certain teaching that has been judged as wrong and needs correction in the minds of those who heard it. Correction was brought to me at that time, but for some reason I didn't make a public repentance about it. Perhaps I was too proud to do so, or maybe I didn't sense the need, but at any rate what I said has resurfaced several times. It's therefore necessary to not only explain what I said and the error of it, but also how and why this whole situation happened.

Some days before the assembly in which I spoke, I read some footnotes in a certain Bible with commentaries from a Christian pastor. I thought they sounded good and explained some questions that I had about certain spiritual issues. But they were strong ideas that could possibly steer the whole Body in the wrong direction if not from our Father. So without taking counsel beforehand to have these things judged, I went ahead and spoke them as if they were the truth of the Gospel, as if they were revelation from the anointing.

Basically what I said was that at some point in the process of creation, the archangel "Lucifer" came to understand the mind of our God, that God intended to create man as His highest thought and man as head over all creation. This caused "Lucifer" to become jealous because prior to this time he had functioned as the created head; and so, he rebelled with great fury, causing the great destruction implied in Gen 1:1-2 (Tohu & Bohu).

There are several things wrong here, the most important being that a word of so great a weight as this was brought apart from apostolic covering. I sought no one out, but spoke because it sounded good to me. I spoke as if prophetically, but I was speaking in the flesh, and what struck me as "revelation" was really only speculation. There is nothing revealed through the anointing that would give cause to think that the motive of the evil one was jealousy. Whether or not there is any truth at all to it, the point is that for me to proclaim it in such an authoritative way was lawless and carnal, coming from my puffed-up mind rather than my submitted heart. I simply was not in fellowship, and was not prompted by the Holy Spirit to speak.

So not only did I lawlessly introduce a novel idea that went beyond what is written in the Scriptures, but what I said took away from what has already been revealed to us through the anointing. We have been taught that God created man for the purpose of ruling over creation, as it says in Gen 1:26-28, and especially ruling over all creeping things, namely Satan; and that Satan rebelled because of his pride over his own glory. We have even published such things in our pamphlet "Simply the Truth." So what I said undermined and even contradicted the anointing, the very anointing that has brought unity, love, life and peace to us. So I see this as a very serious act, an act for which I am very sorry and never want to repeat. I hope this letter clears up the confusion that I brought, and that the matter can be laid to rest. I ask that you would please forgive me.

Yonah