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Seventh-day Adventists

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NEVADA, IOWA

Oct. 21, 1934

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M. L. Holt
 706 South 20th St.
 Fort Dodge, Iowa

Dear Brother Holt:

Your letter has just been read. You are wondering why I did not write you and send you some literature etc. or Bible study. I think you are rather critical in your attitude, Brother Holt. We went over to see you and invited you over to the meeting. We gave our Bible Study in the Fort Dodge church, of which you are a member. I do not fear to meet you or Ballenger or anyone else. We invited you to come and study the word of God with us. You told us plainly at our visit that you pitied us and knew that we had no truth. What more can a man do then to show a friendly spirit and make a personal call on you, and in a kind christian way invite you to come and study with us.

You claim to know it all. Your whole attitude is that nobody knows anything but you. You claimed that you would not listen to me because you knew I was in error. Had you come you would have been satisfied, as others were, that this Ballenger business cannot hold water. I do not have time, with my busy activities, to spend another day with you when you refuse to listen to anything I say. When I entered your home you railed on me and the other ministers and then you write that you expected me to take my Bible and come and visit you. How about it when I told you to take your Bible and study with us and told you that the question box would be there and the questions would be answered, and you refused to even come near the place.

I do not think it is necessary to make a special trip up there to listen to your railings against Seventh-day Adventists. You insist that your proof is so overwhelmingly great but you refuse to listen to anything else but Ballenger. We discussed freely and openly everything in the matter on the Spirit of Prophecy and Sister White. You seem to think that we are blinded to facts and the only thing you can do is to criticise and make up scandal and bring charges and to do Satan's work of accusing the Brethren. If you would show a spirit of cooperation or sit down in a gentlemanly way and listen to a few things instead of railing, it might be possible to reach you, but I am afraid the enemy has blinded you so much that it is impossible for you to do anything but rail. Your whole attitude is unchristian in the way you bring accusations and false charges. You have left the Adventist truth, you have gone to the darkness and delusions of Ballengerism.

I hope that you are at peace with God, perfectly happy in your railing against everybody but yourself. I do not know as we can get anywehre by continually corresponding, Brother Holt. I know very well, if we went to your home with our Bible, all we would hear would be charges and accusations and you would want to do all the talking and not listen to a thing that might be said, so as far as I am concerned, I have done everything I know of to present to you the Bible truth. You refuse to come out and told me frankly, and write me plainly, that you do not care to have any devil around. Why then ask me to come and bring my Bible, and as you say, devil around.

X I know as well as you do that all you do is to simply bring Ballenger charges and you do all the talking. It would be you trying to convince me that Ballenger is right and on that point it can never be done. I have studied Ballenger for some years. I have met the man personally and I know him for what he is, a deciver and one accuated by Saten to do the devils work. I say this frankly from a study of his history of the past and of his activities ever since.

We pray the Lord will open your blinded eyes to the truth, but I am afraid you are so deeply involved that nothing along the line of a Bible study, can ever change you. However, I will do this. If you desire it, when I get back from the Fall Council, I will send you a Bible Study on the Sanctuary question and let you pick it to pieces if you can. I think I can show you from the Word of God that Christ did not, and could not, enter the second apartment after His resurrection, that it had to be the first apartment of the Sanctuary. If you desire to do this and are willing to stick to the Word of God, I will very gladly send you a Bible Study along this line. However, as far as a debate over this question, I do not care to waste the time.

We are very sorry that you have taken the stand you have. I am afraid that the spirit of Lucifer of dominating, leading out and dictating to others, has been your downfall. When you found out you could not have the preeminence in the Fort Dodge church, immediately you were disgruntled and did not show the right spirit, and brought in conditions in the church as one lady put it, "At last we have peace, Brother Holt is not here to criticize everything."

If you desire to have a Bible Study you can drop me a card and let me know and I will send it to you when I return from the Fall Council. As a brother I hold no enemy or feeling against you but only sorrow of heart that you decided to turn away from the truth of the living God.

Sincerely your brother,
IOWA CONFERENCE S.D.A.

R. S. Fries

R. S. Fries, President