

Dear Mr Meredith

We are writing with a few questions on your concept of loyalty, to seek your explanation of the huge difference between your teachings on loyalty and your own example and a few other things that are worrying us.

Since you reassumed your present office, you have talked a lot about loyalty. You have called on the ministry to be loyal to you. You have reminded us that 'Christ is in charge' and that 'rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft.' Then in the next breath you tell us how you sat thru four administrations, disagreeing with their policies! Many of us have actually had to listen to you badmouthing previous administrations and disagreeing with headquarter's policy! We have listened to you openly contradicting those doctrines you didn't believe, even tho as far as we were concerned, they had been approved by Mr Armstrong.

We would like to know to what extent you believe your own teachings! You say that God has now put the administration 'back on the right track.' What do you believe, that God had put it on the wrong track before, or that He had lost control of Mr Armstrong? If it is the first, then every time you accuse previous administrations of going astray you are actually accusing God. If the second, you are accusing Mr Armstrong of resisting God! You are also being inconsistent, choosing to believe that God is, or is not, on His throne to suit your own ends! When you are in charge God is on His throne, when you aren't, He isn't. How convenient for you!

When you preach to the ministry about loyalty Mr Meredith, what kind do you have in mind? Your kind: openly disagreeing with headquarter's policy, deliberately whiteanting the administration at every opportunity, stabbing your leaders in the back while pretending to support them, making false accusations of disloyalty against your leaders and showing a hostile attitude to those church doctrines you disagree with? As you must know better than the rest of us, this is the example of 'loyalty' you have set over the years.

Christ commanded His followers to judge people by their fruits. What are the 'fruits' of your administration? Hatred, bitterness, false accusations, fear, suspicions, spying, intimidation, betrayal of brother by brother, bugging of rooms, tapping phones, racism, physical violence, demonstrations, sitins, vindictiveness, unproved accusations against brethren, illegal disfellowshippings, firing of longtime, faithful employes who didn't get the right to explain themselves, hysteria, ruthlessness and every kind of confusion.

Are these the fruits of God's Spirit? Not according to the Scriptures!

What about the frequently repeated rumors that you used to 'borrow' third tithe to buy silver coins and gold bullion, and that you would pocket any profits made from their sale? If they are true you should resign immediately. What about your previous practice of spying on the field ministers and keeping files on them? What about your using these files to intimidate individual ministers? Are you going to do that again? It's more in keeping with the tricks used by the CIA, the FBI and the KGB than the Church of God! What about your strong racist statements from the pulpit, claiming that the election of negro mayors is a fulfillment of the prophecy that 'the stranger shall rise up against you?' Are you going to impose your personal prejudices on the whole church?

These questions are not asked to provoke you into a witchhunt or to harm you, but in a sincere attempt to bring them out into the open. We hope you will accept that our intentions are good.

SOME VERY CONCERNED MINISTERS