

Dear Mr Rader

Because the matters in this letter involving the Tucson Conference concern you directly, we decided to write you personally. A copy has been sent to Mr Meredith. We are writing anonymously because we believe that in the present atmosphere of fear, suspicion, intimidation and hysteria, to do otherwise would be suicidal.

While we are apprehensive about many of the recent developments in the church, more than anything else about the incredible treatment Mr Cole has received and the evident disintegration of the Work and Church that has taken place since his unjustified disfellowshipping, we are also concerned about Mr Meredith's motivation in 'clearing' you of allegations of homosexual conduct with Mr Cornwall. We are concerned for several reasons: These allegations were not only not an issue in our areas, few of the guys had even heard of them before. By bringing them up at the conference Mr Meredith made sure that every minister in the world would know that such allegations have been made about you. They have now become talking (or whispering) points with many guys. Mr Meredith has succeeded in placing a question mark over your personal standard of conduct. By linking you and Mr Cornwall in this way he has guys wondering whether this is the real reason for your close personal and business relationships (did Mr Cornwall's name have to be mentioned?). Guys are putting Mr Meredith's denial together with the Goto allegations and asking if this is another case of 'Where there's smoke there's fire.' They are remembering the rumors about Ted and how strongly they used to be denied until they were tacitly admitted when he left the church. They are worried that this might happen again.

Which brings us back to Mr Meredith's motivations. Those of us who were in the field during Mr Meredith's first administration remember how he would use identical tactics to those he seems to be using now against you. To discredit his competition he would leak a rumor and then take every opportunity to publicly 'deny' it, knowing that each denial eventually tended to give the rumor substance.

Is Mr Meredith out to discredit you in the same way he has sought to discredit others?

The rumor is also going around that Mr Meredith has confided to a few friends that he has 'stacked' the Boards so that should Mr Armstrong die he can easily fire you. We hope that these power plays and threatened power plays will soon come to an end for Christ's, as well as the church's, sake.

A GROUP OF VERY CONCERNED MINISTERS