

The Church of God

ELD. C. D. DODD, Sec. - Treas.
SALEM, W. VA.

THE ONLY CHURCH IN THE WORLD WHO HAS
TOLD ORGANIZATION, GOVERNMENT, JUSTICE,
AND WISE OF LIFE.

HWA 3138 5/24

June 10, 1934.

Dear Brother Armstrong:

Greetings in the name of Jesus. -Col. 3:17.

I should have written you a few days ago, but have been swamped with such work that I could not get to the writing until now, but will endeavor to write you about the work that you may be better able to understand the position of the Church in the work.

During the Pentecost Meeting, the twelve, who have the oversight of the granting of license and credential certificates to ministers, took up a great many of those who were still pending, and also reconsidered some which had been previously passed upon. Among these still pending was your application. Your letters of explanation were before the board, and your stand I think was perfectly understood as to your position upon the law of the unclean, and also concerning baptism of candidates. After careful decision was made, it was decided by the board of the Twelve that they did not care to reject your application, for they felt that you were a valuable man, and very conscientious in your work for the Master. However, they did not feel justified in granting you credentials as long as you could not accept the articles of faith wholeheartedly. The ministers at the meeting were very enthusiastic about the matter of not baptising candidates until they were thoroughly acquainted with the truth of the Church of God, for we have been having in the past much trouble with such things. So many ministers are out for numbers instead of converted Christians that the ministers were on record that they would all be fair with one another and not baptise until they were sure that the candidate was really converted, or as sure as one can be in such circumstances, and that they would not baptise a candidate who used tobacco, or at least had given up the use of the weed, and also one that still used the unclean meats.

As you are very sincere in your work for the Lord they thought that after you had studied the matter further, and was enabled to see the pitfalls that we have had to contend with in the past, that you would also come to the same decision that the ministers who have already applied for credentials have made, and thus we will all be the better able to work together without friction.

Now, I do not want you to get the impression, Brother Armstrong, that the brethren thought you would not conduct everything in a wholehearted manner; but they wish to safeguard themselves. No license, nor credential certificate has been issued to any minister that has taken any exception to any article. If such has been made known to the twelve they have just placed the matter as still pending, as in your case, and I have been notified to get in touch with them so that they will understand and no cause of a misunderstanding arise over the matter.

I hope the above explanation of the action of the board in your case is satisfactory, and that you will understand that it is the great desire of the board, as well as myself, and the other ministers, that you be a worker with us in Christ Jesus, and that soon you will be able to see eye to eye with us in all things pertaining to the Christian warfare.

I suppose that you have talked with Brother Haeber since his return and have learned of the change in the work; how that the state lines are to be disregarded in the work of the Lord, but that the whole U.S. is to be as one unit that fields where the message has not gone may more easily be entered and the work pushed forward more easily. We feel this is a great improvement, for the Bible sets no state lines, and brings in no sectional divisions as state conferences.

We had indeed a most wonderful camp meeting, and the Lord did meet with us and bless us. We felt the Scriptures truly did foretell the meeting, when it states that the Lord will draw near to them that draw near to him. As we fasted, prayed, supplicated, and tarried before the Lord we felt the foretase to a greater power than that of man, for which we praise the dear Lord of heaven. May he continually keep us humble before his that power in its fullness may come we pray.

I trust the work that you are engaged in there will be blessed still more of the Lord, and that many precious souls will be the harvest for the Easter.

May the Lord bless you in all things to his glory, and keep you steadfast in the hope and labor of the gospel.

Your fellow-servant,

Brother

C. C. Reed