

Dear Brother Kiesz:

In Jesus' name, Greetings. Surely was glad to hear from you. I have certainly had a heavy heart the past two or three months. It is only during this time that I have had my eyes completely opened to Dugger, and my faith in him completely shattered, and it is hard to be disillusioned and come to realize that some men are not what they had pretended and what you had thought, especially men you had come to know and love. Of course, I have known some things for many years. As long as ten years ago, I had submitted some things to Dugger which he wrote and acknowledged to be TRUTH---acknowledging he was preaching error, and yet refusing to change it and accept the truth and confess the error to the brethren, on the grounds they would not all accept the truth, and the truth might split the church, and so we had better go along with a stand he admitted to be false, "speaking the same thing"---which he admitted to be ~~is~~ false. I still have these letters over his signature, but have never shown them to anyone.

Then last year at Camp Meeting he came to me and deliberately asked me to not look for any more new light, but stay just where we are---keep silent on any light I might have received further, or beyond, the 40 points or what he consented to be preached, and not accept any more light from the Lord and from the Bible. Then when he and Young were here in January, we had a very limited discussion on one phase of the holydays, and I had to look him in the eye and tell him to his face he was not honest with God's Word, and he colored, and looked ashamed, but could not answer. Still, I somehow overlooked a lot of this, realizing he had an obsession for UNITY, and feeling he merely was mis-guided in his conception of what is the Bible basis for unity. But now I have become convinced that he is deliberately dishonest, set on RULING with the power of a pope or czar, and that he actually CONTROLS most of the ministers, and has power to shut off their allowance suddenly, without notice or warning, leaving their wives and children to starve unless the ministers can get help of some kind quickly. I have seen evidence of how he has sent ministers to a foreign territory, and then suddenly cut them off. I have seen a copy of a letter from him giving very harsh and dictatorial orders to chop off certain ministers from the treasury, if they were found to believe in the holydays---and that, as you say, while he still has been permitting my reports to be honored, KNOWING that I believe as strongly in these days as Brother Dodd. He certainly has shown respect of persons, and I understand your attitude on this, and agree with you. The reason he has not chopped me off is that he knows the brethren of Oregon all stand together in perfect unity now, and believe exactly as I do on this ~~is~~ issue, and he knows they will stand with me. He was AFRAID to chop me off. He knows, too, that our work here will go ahead just the same regardless of any action he can possibly take---it is financed on its own feet, and he has no power to stop it. The Lord is blessing it, and providing for it, and men cannot stop the Lord's work.

During the past six weeks or so, Dugger has been trying to lay a plot to put me out. He has sent Alexander out here to "take charge." At the same time, he wrote me a letter, designed to put me in a bad light falsely, then sent a copy of it to all the brethren out here, together with a general letter from him to them. Then he wrote off an agreement for me to sign agreeing to BE SILENT on all POINTS he and the other ministers do not see alike with me on---an absolute muzzle, bidding me to preach what I am told and no more, which he knew well I would not and could not sign. This he sent, together with a letter he wrote me, to Adams, for Adams to sign pretending it was from him, and send to me by registered mail with return receipt demanded. It was all timed so that if I did not sign it, he would then write all the brethren telling them how heavy his heart was that I was not loyal, and was unwilling to work with the other ministers in LOVE toward peace and UNITY, but ~~insisted~~ insisted in trying to split up the church, and therefore it would be his painful duty to "MARK me in all the churches and communities," as he has done with Dodd, putting me out, and announcing that Alexander was in charge here.

But his trick did not work. I immediately mimeographed this muzzle he demanded I sign, together with a letter from me to all the brethren stating the case, asking each of them to give me advice and counsel as to what to do---1st, whether to sign this, 2nd, whether they knew of any split or division I had ever caused in our ranks that would be just cause for putting me out of the church, and 3rd, whether they wanted to see the doors of the Church CLOSED to advancing light and truth. The brethren of the state were UNANIMOUS in answering NO to all three questions. So then I wrote both Dugger and Adams, telling them how the brethren unanimously advised me about signing that muzzle and assuring them there is no division in Oregon---WE ARE ALL TOGETHER here, in perfect harmony and unity. At the same time I sent in a two month's report with a small balance due me, telling them the brethren were anxiously waiting to see whether these reports would be honored. I have had a reply from Dugger, again trying to put me in the wrong light, and passing the buck over to Alexander, sidestepping any decision himself.

I have been helping Alexander to get located in a tent effort in Harrisburg in every way I could, giving him every help and co-operation I possibly can, and shall continue to do so as long as he do not show himself to be an out and out open enemy, which I hope and pray he will not do. I realize, however, that he was sent here by Dugger for a purpose, and so do all the brethren here, and I think he is beginning to have a different idea of the Oregon situation than he did have. I have not heard from Salem yet, and do not know whether my report will be honored or not. There has hardly been time for a reply, however.

Now Brother Kiesz, I am, truly, just heartsick over the situation in general. It HURTS to have your faith shattered in men

I have felt several times recently that I would rather resign from the Salem organization altogether. Certainly it would be a lot more pleasant for me personally. All have ever had is opposition and persecution. I have always been treated as an outsider. I have been loyal, I have been wholeheartedly WITH the organization, I have always upheld the 40 points. All the opposition has been because of JEALOUSY, because the Lord has prospered my efforts and blessed them with a harvest of precious souls and actual results, and because I have insisted on being free to be led of the Spirit into light and truth from God's Word, and, where He so leads, going on beyond the 40 points. But I have never gone contrary to them, and have upheld them all. You remember there used to be opposition against me on the pork question---yet I have taught and induced every convert to give up the unclean meats, and there is not a member in Oregon, so far as I know, who uses them. And what further truth I have preached has been in such a way as never to cause strife or division, but only harmony and LOVE and unity. I have never, for instance, made an issue of the holydays. I have voluntarily kept silent since it has become a national issue, and still am doing so, tho I do not bind myself. I will continue to do so as long as the Holy Spirit leads me to believe it is best for the Church as a whole, as I feel it is now. I do not need, as I wrote Dugger, to be bound and gagged and muzzled---I can be trusted voluntarily to remain SILENT where that is best for the peace and harmony and unity of the church as a whole. I have always tried to co-operate, and work with the other ministers. But all who have labored permanently at all in Oregon have opposed and fought me and misrepresented me behind my back falsely. So, as I say, it would be far more pleasant to me personally to withdraw altogether. But several members have pointed out that I am not free to do that. I owe something to the brethren, and if I pull out it would, in spite of anything I could do, cause a division. Some months ago I felt like doing it. I told a certain prominent member at Jefferson how I felt, saying I would ask the Jefferson church to accept another minister, and remain loyal to the organization, and not follow me. This member said it would not do---that many there would drop out, especially among some of the younger folks and young married people. That I was more or less responsible for their eternal fate, and if I dropped out they would be discouraged, give up and quit, and souls would be lost for eternity. She said several would also go out of the organization with me, in spite of anything I could do, and pleaded with me, FOR THE SALES, to stay in and suffer opposition and persecution for Christ's sake.

Now Brother Kiesz, I gather from your letter you may feel somewhat the same way---but I believe it is the same with us both and all the honest ministers who want to be led of God's Holy Spirit and love the Church and the brethren---we owe them the duty to remain steadfast in the organization, and to do all we can IN it, to purge it of the influence of Satan, and to cleanse it, and to help, as God leads, to bring the Church into the condition of purity and cleanliness and true holiness it MUST be found in, when

But now comes the question, WHAT CAN WE DO? What would God want us, and lead us to do? We need to pray much, to be careful, and not get ahead of the Lord, and be sure that whatever we do is done under His guidance and in a right spirit---in the power of HIS Spirit.

What I could do, I do not know. I have never taken any part in the work outside Oregon, nor even aspired to do so. I am not known, and have no influence outside of Oregon. And, worse still, I am still pretty much in the dark as to the true situation of affairs in the Church in general, for I do not know what really has gone on, or who is who. You of course know all these things.

It seems to me that two steps would solve the whole difficulty and cleanse the Church of its present difficulty, and safe-guard it, so far as we can now anticipate, against a re-occurrence of ambitious and willful and selfish men playing politics for personal gain in God's church. I thought our present organization eliminated all chance for playing politics, but it didn't---it put Dugger in power where he wanted to be, more than he ever had before, and for life. Now the office of a head boss overseer, with the power Dugger wields is NOT A BIBLE OFFICE. The first thing to be done is ELIMINATE THE OFFICE. The board of seven, also, should be in some manner re-organized so it is impossible for ONE MAN to dominate it and run it, tho I do not know how. Then the second great fundamental change needed is to alter the basis for unity from "ALL SPEAKING THE SAME THING," applying that down to every little detail and minor point, as voted by men whipped into line and dictated to by one who can shut off their means of providing food and shelter for their wives and children, to the basis of LOVE---which includes CHARITY for the other brother who may not see all the little details exactly as we do, leaving ministers FREE outside the 40 points, retaining them, however, or their equivlants, as the only doctrinal basis for unity. Of course we must all speak the same thing, fundamentally. We cannot accept ministers who observe Sunday and preach against the Sabbath, but on the other hand, no two can HONESTLY see every little point exactly alike. You and I don't, but I love you just the same, and believe you do me, and am sure we can work together in peace and harmony and in LOVE, each having charity for the other in these minor matters, and in this way, if we do not become offended and let bitterness and strife enter in over such points, the one who is not right, having the spirit of love, who along guides into Truth, will in time come to see it right. My wife - I do not see every little point alike. Yet we live and work together in harmony and peace and unity---because, first of all, we LOVE one another, and second, we are agreed fundamentally. The 40 points provide an ample fundamental basis for doctrinal unity. We are to GROW in KNOWLEDGE, and all do not see a new truth at the same time. Those who do see something new before others must retain tolerance and love for the others who do not, as yet. And those who do not must have the same charity, and not

---many scriptures on speaking the same thing, and seeing eye to eye, etc. have been wrongly applied, and so that they make a flat contradiction with many other Scriptures.

Now the question is, HOW MAY WE ACT to clean up this situation, and preserve PEACE and UNITY in the Church? Dugger has a false basis of unity that is SPLITTING the church. I find many, over the country, especially the younger people, are getting discouraged over this trouble that is now being stirred up by Dugger's vehement and determined campaign against God's holydays, and many are going to be lost and pull out unless this trouble is put down and the church cleansed of it.

I have never wanted to take an active part in the work in a general or national way, or outside Oregon. I do not want to now, but if I can HELP, or be of service to the Church as a whole, and its hundreds of dear brethren, most of whom I have never seen or met, then I am willing to do what I can if the Lord leads.

How many ministers are back of Dugger, and stand with him? I do not know who is who, or who can be trusted---and of course the Bible says trust no man, anyway. I do not know even about Brother Dodd. I know he is right on the Holydays, but that's just a doctrine, after all. I know he has shown a right spirit, one of love, so far in his paper---and I do not judge whether he was right or wrong in publishing it. But I have heard he is fanatical on some other issues that would unfit him, and that he might turn out wrong if put in a position of any power---yet others have HEARD many things about me that were grossly untrue, so I do not believe things I have not seen proved. I have heard only good things about such men as Barnes, Freeman, and Snow. But I do not know these men.

Now I have wondered if it would help, or injure the situation if the Oregon brethren as a whole took active steps to form a state organization, temporarily---inasmuch as the general national situation is so fraught with uncertainty, until it is clarified---organizing as the Churches of God in Oregon, not necessarily as a conference---putting in no worldly offices, but a board of seven deacons to be responsible for funds and business affairs, but with limited powers so far as giving orders to ministers is concerned---and stating a declaration of the cause of this move, and our stand for the above principles, ---abolishing an office that is abused as popism, and that we hold to the basis of unity as LOVE and CHARITY, with the 40 points as the only doctrinal basis---stating, too, that soon as this comes to be accepted by the church at large, and the church is purged of present evils and love and peace restored, this state organization will disband---using it as an instrument to help bring about this result in the entire church in general. Would such a move HELP? It would bring to bear a certain amount of pressure, set an example, and the brethren here would remain absolutely firm if they started it. We have peace and love and unity in Oregon, and all are determined to keep it that way. Of course, if we started something of this kind

would take a tour of the country, speaking before the brethren all over the country, and presenting these issues, and the basis of LOVE as the only way to unity and harmony, that it would help. But I have never been convinced that it would, or that the Lrd wanted me to take any active stand in this outside of Oregon. My work here is of a nature I simply cannot leave it without suffering great injury to a great work, so I have turned a deaf ear to suggestions I tour the country. What is your advice?

Brother Severson is bitter toward me, and has been since the feast days came up and he found all the brethren here keeping them. He has a different spirit now than two years ago. It hurts me to see this, and I really feel, in his case and Duggers and all such, that it is not THEM---not flesh and blood---but principalities and powers and wicked SPIRITS in high places---Satan the devil and his demons--- upon whom the blame really rests. I really and truly love these men, and I pray for them, and would do anything to help deliver them from this awful spirit that seems to deceive and grip them and make them harsh and bitter. It hurts me, and I do grieve for them, as if my own flesh brother went wrong. I am not offended at them or bitter toward them, although I am disgusted with what they are doing. Alexander came here with a distinct spirit of antagonism at first---went to Harrisburg, where Runcorns now live and they began to acquaint him with the true situation, and he began to change and was becoming real friendly toward me. Came down to the tent in Eugene, and preached for me one night, and I worked right with him getting seats ordered and built for his tent in Harrisburg and all plans made. Then Severson returned from Idaho, and since then I have felt a definite hostile spirit on Alexander's part. The brethren all sense it, both at Jefferson and Eugene, and such a spirit is only injuring him. I had hoped he would get his eyes opened, and show a good spirit, and work with us and let me work with him, even tho I know Dugger sent him here to oppose me and with the real purpose of getting me out of the work. How about Alexander? You know him better than I. My opinion is he will ultimately in any case go with the side he sees most popular with the majority. Is that right?

Now one thing more. The Lrd is wonderfully blessing our work here. We have the big tent pitched in Eugene, now entering the fourth week. Gave the first altar call last Sunday night, with one conversion. Had five conversions altogether thru the week, with three baptised far. I have signed a years' contract with KWJC in Portland, a much more powerful station than the station we were on, and are now waiting for them to get the wire hook-up completed. Now the Lrd is opening the way for the biggest work here ever accomplished by our people anywhere. You know this man Pope in Portland, the dean of the radio evangelists in the Northwest? He built quite a splendid permanent tabernacle in Portland about six or seven years ago. Holds probably from 600 to 1,000 people, in the very best location in the city for evangelistic purposes. He outgrew it and built a new one. His former tabernacle is now used for other purposes.

campaign there after Camp Meeting here. There is a private radio studio in the tabernacle. It would be absolutely ideal for a several month's campaign, carrying thru the winter, and then as a permanent home for a new Church in Portland. And, with the radio broadcast going out over KWJJ, we need this work to follow it up. We already have a few hundred names from Portland on our mailing list from the six months' broadcast we have had in Portland. We have received the most WONDERFUL letters---people telling us how DIFFERENT our broadcast and preaching is, and they are beginning to understand their Bibles for the first time. And Portland is a veritable babylon of religious confusion not far second to $\frac{1}{6}$ or $\frac{1}{8}$ Los Angeles---but many there are seeing the real truth and accepting it, over the radio. I am sure God has a great harvest to be reaped there.

Now Claude Ellis is coming along just wonderfully in the work. We have made him a local elder. He is developing as a song leader, and is preaching more all the time. Yesterday I went to Jeff. and he took charge here, and several told me this morning he gave a wonderful message and has improved a hundred percent since last time. But if we take over this big work in Portland, we must have at least one more seasoned and experienced evangelist to work with us---one whom we know is honest with the Lord, and who will work with us in love and peace and not in jealousy and bitterness and strife. And to be real frank, Brother Kiess, you are the only man I know that I have this much confidence in, and I feel you would fit admirably into this enlarged program here. Someone must be left in charge at Eugene and Jefferson whom the brethren like and trust, and who can hold the work here together. They all like and love you and Sister Kiess. We could trust you not to try to deceitfully work for our downfall behind our backs. The fact you and I do not see very little minor point in exactly the same way will make no difference. The brethren realize that. I have always preached they should not follow me, or any man, but BELIEVE GOD---prove all things, search the scriptures whether these things be so, and believe the BIBLE. If you come and preach some of these things a little different, they would like to hear it, and study it, and if they see you are right they will accept it, and I'll be glad to have them. And we LOVE one another at the same. Some a situation would cause no confusion, no division of any kind in Oregon, for our brethren have not been married to a man-made creed, but the BIBLE, always willing to be corrected. Many, including my wife, threw away wedding rings and jewelry as a result of our preaching here at Camp Meeting two years ago. The brethren here love you and Sister Kiess. Now with you, and Claude, and I, we could handle this whole situation. I could start the work in Portland, with you and Claude alternating in working with me, and the other remaining to look after things at Eugene and Jefferson. When Claude is there, he would lead the music, and

Now regarding Camp Meeting. It will be held at Eugene. We have a beautiful camp grounds engaged, in a lovely grove, at the city limits at Cabin City on the Highway north. It will be Aug. 20th to 29th. I expect Dugger to be here. Alexander is already here. They will try to dominate. Oregon is now their battleground, and they are determined, it seems to stamp out the holydays, and eliminate me at any cost. So we need you here if you can possibly make it. I see they are striving for mastery and control, and last week received a letter from Otto Haeber saying he had just learned he had been deposed as overseer months before, altho he had not been notified, and therefore since Alexander was one of the 12 he was the one to be in charge of the Camp Meeting. But the brethren here simply will not stand for that, under present conditions, and the way Alexander has been acting. So we quickly appointed a committee, with Claude Ellis chairman, Elder Dawson of Jefferson secy., and E.E. Fisher treasurer, to take charge. Alexander was at Jefferson yesterday, when I went to present this plan before the brethren there. They voted solidly for it, and he was quite peeved, apparently, and refused to preach, just saying a few things with a double meaning intended to hit me, but could do nothing but accept the verdict. Now we have a committee solidly in charge. They may try to change it, but will not be able. ~~Knox~~ Alexander said he had written back to Otto authorizing him to go ahead as before. So I said we would of course expect Otto to work with the committee, looking after details as always, but still we needed a committee to be in charge and to be responsible for everything. I am sure Otto will work in harmony with this arrangement. Frankly, your letter had a lot to do with this. You wrote they'd not permit Dugger to even speak at S.D. Camp Meeting. Perhaps the situation is, or will be, such that he should be restrained here, I do not know. We simply do not know what they have up their sleeves, or what they will try to do, and so as a safeguard and a protection, we have rushed this committee thru to be in charge, and they will TAKE CHARGE, too, if it becomes necessary. I hope no such action will be necessary, but we want this to be the most harmonious and spiritual feast we ever had, and expect it to be the largest attended, and fear Dugger will try to stir up strife for his own personal advantage, and we do not propose for him to be in position to control. Now I hope we can permit him to speak if he comes, but from your letter it seemed the situation may be such that the good of the meeting will require otherwise, so that precaution has been taken.

So here again, I hope you will advise me frankly. I know we can trust one another with such confidences. We are trying to keep all knowledge of this trouble, from now on, from all except officers in the churches here. And we shall just pray that God, who is able to overrule all for His glory, will point the way, and work everything out HIS way. Oh, it's a