

Why, Mike Wallace, on *60 Minutes* did you not tell the plain truth?

IN *60 Minutes* (CBS, June 8) you took a second swat at the WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD.

You attempted a second "under-the-belt smear" by using the term, "God and Mammon." You covered and misrepresented only part of the financial picture—only that which would defame and discredit the Church of Almighty GOD. You called us a "wealthy church." We are not. You made us look wealthy by saying our financial income is greater than that of Billy Graham or Oral Roberts combined. Whether true or false, I respectfully point out that we are a CHURCH. They are merely evangelistic and broadcasting crusades—though the latter also operates a minor university.

Why did you not tell the No. 1 TV-viewing audience in America that we are a CHURCH of long standing? That the No. 1 allocation on our annual budget is the ministerial payroll supporting ordained ministers on all continents of the earth? And that the devoutness of our membership is attested to by the fact that more than 95 percent of all members of our hundreds of local churches faithfully attend services with their children every week?

Why did you falsely represent us as having only a financial operation—IGNORING our primary motivation, which is SPIRITUAL, proclaiming the TRUE Gospel message of Jesus Christ to the world and to our baptized members? Why did you deliberately avoid mentioning that our primary interest, purpose, and



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activity, is devoutly SPIRITUAL, and that the financial area is only a minor means to that end?

Why did you not tell America that this present nearly half-century-old succession of the true Church of God was raised up and has grown on *living faith* in God and in Jesus Christ our Savior *alone*—that we never solicit money from the public?—that although our members believe in the Christ-taught doctrine of tithing, the second tithe does not come to the Church, but is saved by members for their own expenses and spiritual enjoyment attending our biblical annual festivals?—that the third tithe is contributed only every third year and goes not into Church operations, but for the support of our widows, orphans and poor, thus taking that burden off the public tax rolls?

You know well that a half-truth, or a partial truth, can be manipulated to utterly MISLEAD your audience! Even more than an outrageous direct lie. Our attorneys have urged me to sue you for a misleading, defaming and slanderous attack on a sincere, devout, upstanding Christian citizenry. But I prefer to simply tell the public THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH and NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH, at our own expense. We do not

attack or strive to harm anyone!

In the massive lawsuit brought against GOD'S Church by the office of the California attorney general, such church bodies as the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States, the Catholic League, the Board of Church and Society of the United Methodist Church, the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs and others, representing 83 million American citizens, have come to our aid.

These large church bodies do not believe all our doctrines, even as they do not believe one another's, nor we theirs. But they do believe in the First Amendment of the Constitution, guaranteeing the right of freedom of religion.

When you subtly back up this lawsuit and attack the Worldwide Church of God on the most-viewed program on national television, you indirectly attacked all other churches. In defending ourselves from this corrupt political attack we defend all other churches in California, and by extension, in America.

We are comparatively small, yet we fight to uphold the rights of all churches in this land of the free and home of the brave.

If you want more information, write to us: The Worldwide Church of God, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif., 91123, or call our toll-free number: (800) 423-4444. In California, call collect (213) 577-5225.

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