

## Ministerial Letter extracts

NB: various policies and approaches were rescinded by the late 1960s/early 1970s by Herbert W Armstrong and other WCG executives. Many of the men behind heavy handedness repented. Keeping a record of this history of the Church's policies and evolution in our this or that was handled is important. Especially because there are those who wish to go back to the 1960s or wish to ignore or rewrite the history of the Church.

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### **Ministerial Letter**

24 Dec 1965, pp. 2-3

"Enclosed is a supply of the new Visiting Cards.... Ideally, the cards should be filled out *immediately* after the visit in your car. Perhaps down the street and around the corner.... Think carefully and describe the *highlights* of the visit, the *problems* and *attitudes*.... If *deep problems* and *complications* arise, you may wish to *type* an additional 'Problem Report' on any one person or family occasionally.... Normally two *carbons* of these should be made and sent to Headquarters- one for us and one for the District Superintendent..."

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### **Ministerial Letter**

26 February 1968

Local pastors advised that they could check the private tithing records of members

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### **Ministerial Letter**

1 March 1968

By Rod C Meredith

Tithing and donation records could be checked via the new data processing centre

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### **Ministerial Letter**

28 January 1969, p. 69

"Also, we are beginning to look into the tithing situation. Up until we had our computer, it was very slow and difficult to check the tithing record of brethren. We still don't intend to do this all the time and try to 'catch' people as some denominations apparently do. But, we are going to make spot-checks in certain church areas from time to time."

Also, statement was included in the Letter for ministers to check with HQ to find out if members were disloyal.

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### **Ministerial Letter**

24 April 1969

The ministry were admonished for not questioning a teaching that may need correction.

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## **Ministerial Letter**

Late 1960s

By Rod C Meredith

"On another matter, it recently came to my attention that in at least one Church area, an official "Church nurse" had been appointed. This should never be done! While it is fine for deaconesses and other Church ladies to help out from time to time when individuals in a local church are sick, we do not want to appoint an official Church nurse or even intimate that the Church provides any kind of medical assistance or advice. In matters of healing and medicine, our only responsibility is to inform our members what the Bible says with regard to faith and healing. **It is strictly up to them then, before God, what they do about their physical infirmities or sicknesses, and it is strictly up to them to seek medical counselor advice if they so choose.** Mr. Herbert Armstrong has recently made it clear that this is an area in which we must be very careful in order to avoid problems that could affect the entire Work.

"Although we continue to receive reports of many healings and miracles which God is performing, I would like to remind you in closing to pray fervently for a number of our brethren who appear to be dying of cancer and other maladies. Mrs. Curtis Cowan, Sr. appeared to be healed of one ailment, yet now we find that she has cancer of the colon and liver. She is in very bad shape and suffering considerable pain from time to time.

"Also, Mrs. Dennis Luker's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Livengood, are both suffering from cancer. Unless God intervenes, she could lose both her parents a few weeks or a few months apart.

"In addition, Mrs. Jack Francis—the wife of our fire marshal here at the College—is in extremely critical condition with cancer through much of her body. She has suffered considerable pain and those in attendance thought more than once that she was dying over a period of a few weeks now.

"Many, many others have serious cases of cancer or are afflicted with other serious ailments. And, as I mentioned recently this seems to be a growing trend in the Church. Although the booklet on healing in its present form has been canceled, we should continue to preach this doctrine to the converted members of God's Church with earnestness and fervency! **Remember to tell them what God says—not giving personal advice as to what they "have to do" in any particular case.**

"But we must remember that Jesus' commission was to: 1) Preach the gospel; 2) Heal the sick, and 3) Cast out demons. See Matthew 4:23-24, Matthew 10:7-8 and Mark 3:14-15, etc. More of us need to study and meditate on these examples—and to pray fervently that God will restore the fullness of the gifts of healing to His Church."

[emphasis added]