

001-1-818 - 7911323

Garth Wardrop  
734 East Mountain Street Apartment 12  
Pasadena, CA 91104  
December 18, 1986

Center for the Study of Origins of Nations  
P.o. Box 59 North Ryde 2113  
N.S.W., Australia

Dear Mr. White,

My formality is due to my neglect. When other people were reading me your letters, I forgot to have them spell your first name.

This is Garth. Bob--who did the computer logic on the print-out I sent you ~~XXXXXX~~ mentioned you to me. He said you thought you had been over charged, and since I played the exclusive role in charging you, so I've delayed in getting back to you by a few days to let you know that you're paid up as far as I'm concerned.

I got after Bob's friend, Chris, to print Bob's program after you wrote your letter wanting to know if a print-out was available. You helped me in that regard, because I needed Chris to run the program for my project, although I'm not doing the final study on the Hebrew calendar until I guess early 1988.

I over-charged you, because it was the first run, and I initially wasn't thinking about splitting with you the amount I offered Chris and Bob. Then I was hit by the twin disasters of ~~XXXXXX~~ cancer surgery and my Mother's illness followed by a happy event--a high school fifteenth-year reunion, but the three events together tied me up financially between September of 1985 and August of 1986.

Chris printed the project in the summer of 1986. By the time he got around to printing it, you--it stands to reason--were looking to other sources. I sent you my copy of The Comprehensive Hebrew Calendar by Spier. I have no need of it, but by the time I sent you my copy, after much delay on my part, you--naturally--had obtained a copy, so I never should have had you ~~KXX~~ refund me for it on account of my delay.

I'll tell you, old chap. That money you sent came in handy, not just because I was broke at the time. I had fun showing it to some Australian co-eds at Ambassador college. That was alone worth another ten bucks right there.

I've forgotten whether I told you that 3 and 4 Maccabees are at least partly if not entirely in The Old Testament Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha by R. H. Charles, Oxford, 1913. Also, there's a very comprehensive collection of the Pseudepigrapha just now being completed (and may be already on sale) by ~~some~~ some one named Charlesworth. Write me as to whether you have obtained it.

Another reason why I haven't gotten back with you is that I've been trying to figure out how to work out future correspondences on two counts. First, I don't want to receive much printed material, because my backlog of reading is great and other people have to read for me. If you could send tapes, that would be great. Secondly, I want to be more helpful than I've been. I live here in Pasadena where I know how to deal constructively with all the problems related to church members writing books. It's hard though for me to explain things to people in some of the outlying areas who are writing books.

I talked last year to a Canadian fellow who's doing work on the migrations of the lost ten tribes. I helped him as best I could by writing him up a whole outline of the chronology and methods of historical research related to dispersed Israelites. What made it difficult for me and for him is that my approach to historical investigation is a cruelly strict one. I probably ruined the poor guys day urging him to use rigorous discipline in his investigation, and that if he had to resort to hypotheses and preliminary speculations, some people might forgive him because he calls it speculation, but with some agonizing patience, if he wanted to pay the high price to be as truthful as ~~XXXX~~ possible, only then could he produce some really useful work. That's ~~XXXX~~ why it was important to me to provide for him a good outline from my material, because I didn't want to be hard on him without being constructive as well.

NO!

read my copy

Address

Address Please

Copy please

Do not write

Agreed!

Well, this gets back to why I haven't written to you. The Canadian fellow was visiting here, so I could chat with him awhile and figure out where I had done work on the specific areas we were interested in. You have only written to me in a form I cannot translate--I HAVE FUN WITH THE FACT THAT I WAS THE FIRST ILLITERATE AMBASSADOR-COLLEGE GRADUATE--I would not be helpful for you in areas where I haven't done much work, because I would not be able to produce documentation and a method of analysis which would be constructive.

what does? You are one of those historians who chronicles it the Church (outside that) Shupp + Stumm

If you could send me a tape and present to me some of the problem areas--especially dealing with the time period prior to the death of the apostles and after Abraham, as it strictly relates to God's people, I can be of help.

I don't want to debate over the merits of your research until you get to know me a bit. My approach is a cruelly strict one, and it wouldn't be fair for me and for you if you were to have me give my ~~XXXXX~~ approval or disapproval without us first comparing notes on what we've both studied.

What I'd like to do in a couple weeks or so is to send out to you a tape or two going through my whole background and approach to historical analysis, so that you would not only know what to expect from me, but it would then be obvious to you where I could be of help and where I would not be of help.

I've had some contact with Dr. Hoeh to ~~XXXXX~~ where I ~~XXXXX~~ know to some degree where he is ~~MM~~ heading regarding the ancient history of Egypt and Mesopotamia where the early Biblical events took place. What I can do is send you material specifically for your benefit which would not present a problem for anything I have which I intend to publish later.

I tell this following story to show the seriousness of what's involved for people doing writing in the church. When I say "seriousness", I don't mean that something is wrong, I mean that standards must be agonizingly disciplined. A former Ambassador-college ~~XXXXX~~ faculty member left the church at the time IX he was getting a book published, and I heard about it and immediately paid my pastor, ~~XXXXX~~ Robin Webber, a visit. I told him that I was concerned about what had just happened with this guy leaving the church, and I was aware of the unacceptable track record of writing among past church members around Pasadena--include Dr. Hoeh's Compendium in that--and I told him that I thought I'd pay him a visit since I was (at that time in January of 1985) two years into my Sources of Truth project. He said he wanted a copy. In October of 1985, a minister in Alberta, Canada wanted some of my work. I would have had no problem sending it to him, but I told him to request it from the A.C. library. My old friend, Dr. Walther, the library director, did what I wanted him to do. He passed on the minister's request to Mr. Tcoch's office. Mr. Tcoch's people asked for a copy of my work and had it sent to a fellow in correspondence--not Dr. Hoeh--to evaluate it. What they really were deciding was whether the minister could use the material publically, not whether I could continue the research.

By doing everything out in the open and following carefully the approaches taken by (1.) Dr. Hoeh, (2.) Mr. Paige when I get a chance, (3.) I have some recordings of Mr. Armstrong I can send you, (4.) to some extent Dr. Stavrinides, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ (5.) Mr. Blackwell, and (6.) Mr. Kaplin-(spelling is guesswork), I've seen something of the ways in which each one specializes in certain areas, and how certain dilemmas come up in how to set standards of accuracy.

I'm telling you all this, because because I am well aware of what it means to be faced with the problems of dealing with research as a church member. Over the past couple of years, I have only begun--however--to find a niche in order to deal with those problems in a helpful way. If you will exercise the will to suffer-long, old chap, I suspect I can be of help.

Send me a tape or two when you can package it. I won't wait long before contacting you again, but I won't be in touch within the next two weeks.

Until another day,

With a bit more love than on the day before,

Garth