

## David Rebelo – Submission to the Toronto Review Panel re: Quarantine

October 24, 2006

Dear brothers,

I have been in the church life in Toronto for about 16 years thanks to the grace and mercy of God and the fellowship of the saints. I have been in intimate relationship with God for a longer period of time. Perhaps that is why I have been sustained and nourished by the ministries of all the brothers and sisters who have fellowshiped with me over the years. The times have not been smooth both for the church in Toronto and for me personally. The one constant thing in my life continues to be my love for God. This has not changed.

I read this unwarranted "letter of quarantine" which the "blended brothers" wrote against another brother. My first reaction was, "what nonsense!" The ministry of Brother Titus Chu has been public and open for a very long time. Titus' respect and esteem amongst Christians in the Lord's recovery has been well known. There was never a hidden agenda instead there has always been an open and public ministry based on the open and public revelation of the Lord Jesus in the Gospel. The history of Brother Titus is simply too well known. Thus when I read some of the comments in the so-called "letter of quarantine" I was alarmed on how wrong this letter was.

For instance, on the very first page it says: "...his [Titus's] letter confuses, misleads and deceives the uninformed..." First, I and my wife, and all the brothers and sisters in the church life are not uninformed and to even presume to project to other people that we are uninformed and confused is self-serving. It presumes that only they (the quarantine letter writers) are informed. Whenever, I hear that expression, I bristle because it only presumes that true knowledge belongs with the exclusive few, like lawyers, doctors, or even self-declared ministers of the Gospel. I would remind brothers or whoever makes these statements that Christians have been informed with the person of our Lord Jesus. Second, to make this statement presents to me the obvious fallacy of projection. Projection means, as the Lord Jesus says in the Gospel, that the Christian hasn't looked at "the beam in their eyes". You say about others what you are yourself. Indeed what is clear to me and to most others, who the letter of quarantine is directed, is that it is you who is both misleading, and confusing. It is as obvious as a clear blue sky. Think before you write. Write dialectally in order that some semblance of self-critique is being demonstrated and in order that the mistake of projection does not occur. Third, to say that something is confusing hides something from other people. Whenever people say, I am confused, it does not mean that they are confused or that it is confusing, it usually means that they have already made up their mind and that what they believe does coincide with their exclusive worldview.

On the other hand, when I read Titus' letter, I read a letter from a shepherd. A person who loves the brothers, yes, even dissenting comments from brothers who opposed him. Brother Titus was responding to a letter from brothers who were taking issue with him about "the ministry". Brother Titus' response was one of love and openness to the brothers. The letter he was responding to looked and read like a letter formulated by a committee. Frankly any letter that lacks compassion and love, lacks the compassion and love of the Lord Jesus. Our attitude towards other brothers and sisters should be the same as Paul's letter to the Philippians: "...I love you all in the inward parts of Christ Jesus." This Biblical principle should serve as an example of not only of how to respond to other people but also on how to be with other people.

I am clear about what I believe and contrary to these brothers who wrote this letter of quarantine, I have some understanding of the Lord Jesus' compassion and love.

Yours truly,

David Rebelo