

## An Open Response to the Blended Brothers' "Warning Letter" Quarantining Titus Chu by Wade Stuart Willett

Brothers and sisters I am writing in response to the "Warning to all the saints" (Oct 1, 2006) "quarantining of Titus Chu and those who publicly promote and defend his divisive activities." This Quarantine Letter was presented by the "blended brothers" at LSM's International Elders Training held in Whistler, Canada, on October 7, 2006.

### My Personal History

I came into the church in Houston, moved to Irving, Texas to work on the Living Stream Ministry building (and served there full time for a year and a half). From Irving I moved to Odessa, Texas. Later I moved back to New York, and a year later was sent to the Full Time Training in Taipei from the church in New York (August 1987 to June 1988). I served the Living Stream Ministry in Taipei up until the time I left Taipei in the fall of 1995. I moved back to New York and lived in Dunton House [a hospitality house operated by the church in NYC] until Witness Lee died. During this time I came to feel that we (in the local church and in the Living Stream Ministry) had perverted the teaching of the ground of the church from being inclusive of all Christians in a city, to being divisive and sectarian.

### My Response

I wish to respond to some of the points contained in the "blended brothers'" Warning Letter quarantining Titus Chu and certain of his co-workers. (All quotes are from the "blended brothers'" Letter of Warning, Oct. 1, 2006 unless otherwise noted)

1. The "blended brothers" allege that Titus Chu & his co-workers are "separating themselves from the vast majority of the churches, saints, leading brothers, and coworkers throughout the whole earth who are seeking to be faithful to the entire ministry of Watchman Nee and Witness Lee, which is the New Testament Ministry".

It seems to me that we should seek to be faithful to the Lord Jesus, to God the Father, to the Spirit, to the Anointing, to our conscience and to the Word. It bothers me that the writers would even put being "faithful to the entire ministry of Watchman Nee and Witness Lee" in this list. It bothers me even more that they would omit being faithful to the Lord. It also bothers me that they denominate churches and saints by whether or not they are seeking to be faithful to the ministry of Witness Lee. What is the difference between that kind of denomination and being called a Lutheran? The ground of the church is that all genuine Christians in a city are part of the church. How could you possibly require all genuine Christians in any city to "seek to be faithful to the entire ministry of Watchman Nee and Witness Lee"? This teaching is as sectarian as any denomination.

2. Point 2a -Titus & some of his co-workers are allegedly "challenging and rejecting the teaching of Watchman Nee and Witness Lee".

As far as I can tell that is not a basis for excommunication [or quarantine] except from a denomination. Unless you can show that someone is challenging and rejecting the teaching of the New Testament I cannot see how this is the basis for excommunication [or quarantine].

3. Titus & co. are accused of "slandering Living Stream Ministry...declaring that Living Stream Ministry is a headquarters exercising control over the churches throughout the earth." [Point 2b]

I served in the Living Stream Ministry for years. Obviously the ministry exercises control throughout the earth. Even Peter said "to whom shall we go, you have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68). Paul clearly exercised authority over churches in other cities. How have the leaders of the LSM become so thin skinned?

4. The "blended brothers" assert that Titus is "claiming that the publications of Living Stream Ministry have replaced the Bible as the source in some churches and are emphasized above the Bible." [Point 2c]

Isn't that what you [the "blended brothers"] have done? After all, this "Warning Letter" points out that you represent all the saints who seek to be faithful to the entire ministry of Watchman Nee and Witness Lee. Why not just refer to the saints who seek to be faithful to the Bible? Why do you emphasize your LSM publications over the Bible?

5. Allegedly, Titus is discouraging people from attending "the seven annual international gatherings, saying that these gatherings are unscriptural and a means of controlling the churches." [Point 2d]

They are indeed unscriptural! I have read the New Testament over 100 times; I have read the entire Life-Study of the Bible (both Old and New Testament) and I was present for the ministry of Witness Lee from 1978 until his death. There is no scriptural basis for the church in the New Testament to hold "seven feasts," seven annual international gatherings. Also, Witness Lee himself said that the annual feasts in the Old Testament were a means of controlling the children of Israel. This is why Jeroboam set up a golden calf in Bethel and Dan (I Kings 12: 25-30).

6. Supposedly Titus is hindering saints from attending the FTTA. [Point 2e]

How is this a basis to excommunicate [quarantine] someone? Are you kidding? You set up a training and then excommunicate anyone that doesn't want to attend? And then you have the audacity to say that he slanders you by saying the LSM exercises control over the churches? This accusation is perverted and condemns you!

7. The "Warning Letter" says Titus opposes the practice of "One Publication," which is not an item of the common faith, but a matter of "one trumpet sound of the ministry." [Point 2f]

If the "one trumpet sound of the ministry" is not a matter of the common faith, then we should be general and not contentious. This is like excommunicating a sister because she doesn't wear a head covering.

8. Titus & his co-workers are condemned for "promoting their own publications" [Point 2g.]

What hypocrisy! You, "blended brothers," condemn Titus for what you yourselves do! In Houston I helped with the printing and publication of the Living Stream Ministry materials. I also assisted in Irving. I helped promote this ministry as a full-time trainee and later as a trainer in Taipei. There was never an agreement to excommunicate other Christians who were doing the same thing, but didn't follow the LSM. This is contrary to the Lord's inclusive attitude concerning workers—"For he that is not against us is for us." The Scriptural context of this saying is: "And John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followed not us: and we forbade him, because he follows not us. But Jesus said, forbid him not, for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me. **For he that is not against us is for us.** For whoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because you belong to Christ, verily I say unto you he shall not lose his reward. And whoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea." (Mark 9:38-42).

9. The "Warning Letter" asserts Titus & co. are "Accusing the blending co-workers of being intolerant toward interpretational differences" [Point 2h.]

It is you, the "blended brothers," who are intolerant, (see points 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8, above). You accuse Titus & co of seeking "to divert the saints' attention from the fact that they teach differently from the New Testament Ministry." You, the "blended brothers," teach differently. Where in the New Testament does it say that the church should seek to be "faithful to the entire ministry of Watchman Nee and Witness Lee"? Where does the New

Testament teach about 7 annual feasts to be held internationally? How about the "one trumpet sound of the ministry"? Where is it that not attending your training is a basis for excommunication [quarantine]? Where in the New Testament does it say that "challenging the teaching of Watchman Nee or Witness Lee" is the basis for excommunication? Because if it does indeed say that which one will you excommunicate--Watchman Nee or Witness Lee? Did you forget that W. Nee and W. Lee had a very clear, well established, disagreement on one point concerning the two witnesses in Revelation? Witness Lee said that he kept quiet until Watchman Nee's death. However, once he did speak out his disagreement and challenged Watchman Nee's teaching did the "followers of Watchman Nee" try to excommunicate Witness Lee? Did Witness Lee try to excommunicate Watchman Nee at that point?

10. According to the "blended brothers," Titus is "Accusing the blending co-workers of promoting conformity and uniformity" [Point 2i.]  
Is this a basis for excommunication [quarantine]? How thin skinned can you get?

11. Titus & co. are accused of "Asserting that there is no speaking of the Lord through the ministry to all the churches". [Point 2j]  
Let the Lord answer this. (See prayer below.)

12. Allegedly they are "Claiming that there is no authority in the Body of Christ beyond the boundary of locality". [Point 2k]  
Let the Lord demonstrate who has the authority in the Body of Christ. (See prayer.)

13. Titus & co. are accused of "promoting the isolation of churches". [Point 2l]  
Isn't that what you, the "blended brothers," are doing in this "Warning Letter" of quarantine? What hypocrisy!

14. According to the "Warning Letter," Titus is "contending that the churches that seek to follow the general ministry in the Lord's recovery are no longer local churches but 'ministry churches'." [Point 2m]  
If by this he [Titus Chu,] is saying that these churches are becoming a denomination then that is a strong accusation and very serious. However if you look at points 1, 2 and 4 (above) there is clearly a basis from this "Warning Letter" to say that the churches following LSM's "blended brothers" have indeed become a denomination. Let the Lord judge. (See prayer.)

15. Titus & co. conduct "their own conferences, trainings, and publications". [Point 2n]  
Why do you, "the blended brothers," condemn others for the very thing that you are doing? Hypocrites! (See points 8 and 13, above.)

16. The "Warning Letter's," Point 3 alleges Titus "criticizes the emphasis on the up-to-date speaking of the high peak truths" and "he demeans those who stress these truths".  
Your logic on this point is false! Criticizing the "emphasis" doesn't criticize the truth. The Apostle Paul, himself said that there was a truth related to head covering, yet he made it clear not to emphasize this truth. That doesn't demean the truth or Witness Lee who may have shared these particular truths.

17. The quarantine Letter's Point 4 claims Titus accuses the blending brothers of establishing a worldwide organization to oversee the work and centralize control of the Body.  
Yet, doesn't this "Warning Letter" demonstrate that this is exactly what you, the "blended brothers," are doing?

18. The "Warning Letter" states that Titus distorted Brother Lee's final speaking about repenting for the churches failure to receive believers. [Point 5]

Sorry, my two children speak Chinese fluently; your English translation of Witness Lee's speaking in Chinese is mistaken. I have been touched deeply by Brother Lee's repentance. There are many brothers and sisters in Christianity who love the Lord sincerely and understand they need to be one with all saints regardless of denomination. The saints I meet with have renounced their affiliation with the Baptists and have rejected any denominational name. They clearly and regularly state that the Lord's table is open to all genuine believers. I believe that Brother Lee's repentance was clearly concerning the twisting of the truth concerning the ground of the church. This truth condemns all denominations, divisions and sects. And yet you, the "blended brothers," use it as the cornerstone of the most sectarian teaching. You separate yourselves from all Christians but your own little group. If the saints would throw down the divisive slant to this truth then we might truly bring in a great revival to the Body of Christ.

19. Point 6 of the "Warning Letter" alleges "Titus Chu and certain of his co-workers lead many young believers into pride, ambition, and corruption, supporting their use of worldly and fleshly means to preach the gospel and gain increase."

Can you be more specific? The Bible is very detailed in discussing the works of the flesh. At this point you do not have any credibility and I am not willing to take your word.

20. In Point 7 of their "Warning Letter," the "blended brothers" assert that Brother Lee was "fully aware of the damaging nature of Titus Chu's work."

To this I respond that if Witness Lee felt Titus should be excommunicated he was fully capable of seeing that it was done. Have you forgotten Max Rappaport? The fact is that Witness Lee did not quarantine Titus, despite being "fully aware of [its] damaging nature." Why then are you, the "blended brothers," doing what Witness Lee did not do? Your own logic undermines your rationale for Titus' quarantine!

21. In point. 8 of the "Warning Letter," the "blended brothers" assert that their efforts to "blend" with Titus and his co-workers were met by escalating criticism.

I assume you are referring to Matthew 18:17 -- "If he neglects to hear them, tell it unto the church". At this point I also am not willing to listen to you!

22. The "Warning Letter" appeals to Romans 16:17 as a Scriptural basis, saying "Paul exhorted us to mark those who make divisions and cause of stumbling contrary to the teaching which we have learned, and turn away from them." (Rom. 16:17).

At this point, without further clarification, I would have to say that this verse refers to the Living Stream Ministry and the so-called "blended brothers".

23. The "Warning Letter" also refers to Titus 3:10 -- A factious man, heretical (heresy refers to a school of thought, it could refer to Socrates or Plato, or in this case the blended brothers' emphasis on the "up-to-date speaking of the high peak truths of the divine revelation") a sectarian man who causes divisions (this is what you, the "blended brothers," are doing by denominating the church as those who seek to be "faithful to the entire ministry of Watchman Nee and Witness Lee") by forming parties (again this is what you have done by creating so called "ministry churches") should be refused, rejected.

24. Finally you, the "blended brothers," refer to yourselves as "but little and unprofitable servants" -- true. But, you are also thin skinned, hypocritical and intolerant of the Lord's servants. I was touched by something that Witness Lee said, (which I read off the A Faithful Word website). He said that it is impossible to be divisive without self exaltation. I think the thin-skinned aspects of this "Warning Letter" are symptomatic of self exaltation.

## Conclusion

I would like to hear a detailed clarification of point 19 (above). This is a very serious charge, if it is true. If it is false, it is libellous and the most heinous of all abominations -- trying to separate brothers with false testimony.

Prayer -- Lord Jesus, I would ask You to make it known to all that You do speak to Your Body and that You are the Head of the Body, with all authority. We have fellowshiped and are all in agreement that You would judge and "quarantine" all those responsible for causing division in Your Body. Not that they would die and be condemned, but so that they could repent and be healed and welcomed back into the fellowship of Your body through the laying on of hands of the elders, according to Your word. Amen.

Your brother in Christ,

Wade Stuart Willett

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