

**PREFACE**

*“Dear pastor, I deeply felt the anxiety that you expressed in your writing concerning “Our Special Mandate”. Sin and lust could turn the most fragrant ointment into stinking odour. I felt very thankful for your writing after ending the mission work in North East China. It is a timely spiritual hedge for my safety. Thank pastor for being a shepherd of my soul. You spoke openly of the motive of those who participate in this great work. Because of my depravity, I could possibly be the wicked described in Matthew 23:15. I need to question myself why I want to evangelize? What motivates me? Am I constrained by the love of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:14) or something else? I must honestly answer these questions. Or else in the great Judgment Day, Christ will expose me! Am I concerned for the glory of God (Acts 17:16)? May God use your writing to bring me to repentance. When I walk in the flesh, I really worry that the Holy Spirit will no longer strive within me (Genesis 6:3) but let me do what my ambition wants. That is indeed dreadful! The mission field is indeed the battlefield that is filled with the attacks of the evil spirits. There are the attacks of the evil trinity. If I am naïve and think that I can overcome by the arm of my flesh, then what awaits me will be failures and shame. My motive is so deep within my heart, even I myself am not able to detect it. I need a preacher like you who expose us no-holds-barred that I may return to the right path. After going to the various places to convey your doctrines, I felt the great temptation of being lifted in pride and covetousness due to the adoration by people. This temptation is enough to destroy any strong saint. I recalled John Bunyan coming down from the pulpit and someone told him enthusiastically that his preaching was very good. John Bunyan answered sorrowfully, ‘Satan had already told me.’ Bunyan noticed his pride immediately and hence he was sorrowful. My pride often surfaces and that tortures my heart. I violate your copyright and make your doctrines as my own. Is this not a sign of perdition? Although with my mouth, I emphasized that I am taught by my presiding pastor, the hearers continued to hang around me and rendered praises that I was an excellent servant of Christ. Actually I do not have the character of a true servant of God but I desire much for it. I am very ashamed! I preach the Gospel, yet I myself could be a castaway (1 Corinthians 9:27). What a great mockery! God, please save me; have pity upon me; my calling is not to preach, but to enjoy Christ and know Him.*

*Indeed, no one is indispensable. God could have killed Moses (Exodus 4:24-26). If Moses had died, God could raise up another preacher after His own heart. I saw the meekness of Moses (Numbers 12:3). Even when God made him a leader of a great nation, he proved the purity of his heart by rejecting God’s proposal to destroy those who opposed him (Exodus 32:10-14; Numbers 14:12-19). To truly repent amidst the complexities of the spiritual environment, and in the shortness of time in the last days is indeed very difficult. My sense of achievement promotes self-righteousness in me and my soul is ensnared and I am robbed of the ability to repent. I recall how my pride crept in when I was doing the outreach work in North East regions. I began to rely on the experience I have accumulated and forgot the work of the Holy Spirit, and soon judgments came upon my body and soul. The conceited Barnabas departed from Paul in the mission work. I am really afraid that my heart will depart from presiding pastor, then woe unto me! To promote personal ambition outside the vision of the servant of God caused Barnabas to be cut off from the mission field. I have underestimated the terrible judgments of God (Deuteronomy 29:19). To save my face, I refused to acknowledge the judgments of God that have already fallen upon my life, and I even danced at the cliff of hell fire. To be unfaithful and sin at mission field is scarier than all other sins because we are bringing souls to hell. Many times we are only able to convey the knowledge but not able to bring across the spirit. In our next outreach to North East China to convey pastor’s doctrines, I must first quieten myself and examine why I want to do mission work (Lamentations 3:40). May God grant me the spirit of Lamentations for the sake of my soul and that of others!” Response of Hazieli Qi to presiding pastor’s writing on “Our Special Mandate” (translated by Zipporah Lee), Inner Mongolia, China; 2 August 2018 AD. As an editor and publisher, I receive an unceasing flux of drafts for consideration. One of my challenges is to distinguish and sieve out the better ones. It is not easy to select the more spiritual and discerning ones from a spate of better than mediocre submissions. Even when we grant some the privilege of publishing their missives in the forum we could afford, given the scarcity of space in the New Jerusalem Times, almost always I am tad disappointed with the end product. There is an effusion of shortcomings and foibles even in the best. Recently, there has been an unusually high volume of good ones. The foregoing response by Hazieli Qi is excellent for its content, relevance of the theme and manner of expression; it has the eloquence of faith! Words alone are not sufficient. Excellency of speech may not convey the wisdom nor power of God (1 Corinthians 2:1,4). We have to beware of the enticing words of man’s wisdom! There are glaring deficiencies in the modern Western culture. It is a degenerating culture. During the time of the Puritans and Oliver Cromwell, the Western culture was at its zenith and purest. The venom of the Antichrist and Babylon has alloyed the Protestant culture since to a deadly cocktail. When the focus is on the sophistication of forms, content, concepts and doctrine often suffer. In the time of apostasy, every man does that which is right in his own eyes (Judges 17:6; 21:25). Those groomed in Western culture and educational process today tend to use coercion, guile and craftiness to assert their godless and liberal views. They fabricate to distort the sifting out of facts. They are inclined to blow certain events and points out of proportion. They also overlook and avoid giving attention to matters that they cannot agree with. Today the word “fake news” have gained global currency. The so called elitists of this world frown upon Scriptural wisdom. “For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness” (1 Corinthians 1:18a). “Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.” (Romans 1:22) Nothing could substitute Scriptural adducing and corroboration. Our logic and reasoning should be of the wisdom of faith. “But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before*

*the world unto our glory: which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.” (I Corinthians 2:7,8) Haziel, surprisingly, manifests spiritual maturity and deep insight to identify one of the most lethal problems that may plague those engaged in the forefront of the battles in our worldwide ministry. Pseudo-education and erroneous philosophies afford many in the Western world a lethally wrong sense of erudition and elevation. Fools avail themselves readily to utter their bloody folly and rubbish. The liberal education system of this world cannot produce truly intelligent and sound men. Haziel is an extraordinary man of faith. He is a Genghis Khan for Christ. He has withstood the scandals and aspersions cast upon him by his adversaries, many of whom are conspicuously incoherent and pretty blunt. Many of these should have been rather commending him. Instead, out of jealousy and ungratefulness, they vilify him. If it was not for him, many would not be in the canopy of our ministry. Yet they rather choose a Barabbas! It is my delight and pleasure to commend his faith, purity, wisdom and sagacity. Haziel brooks no nonsense for Christ’s Kingdom sake. Let the obtuse follow the Nabals but let those who are intelligent follow the upright, discerning and sharp.*