

OPEN LETTER

The Church of Judah in China solemnly declares its separation from the ministry of Elijah Thomas Chacko in accordance with the Holy Bible. The main reasons are as follow:

I. Chacko publicly supports Haziell to cause schism in the church, confusing truth and falsehood, without any fairness and justice.

In the 2018 China Conference, Elijah Thomas Chacko's preaching on Deuteronomy 32 brought great confusion and darkness to the China churches, during which he said: "If you are not happy with this group, go to another group; if you can't be happy with any group, you can stay at home and worship alone." These words are totally unbiblical in the light of the Doctrine of the Church (see Cambridge Platform chapter 13 article 1). Suchlike erroneous preaching of Chacko became the reason and basis for Haziell to split our church in Judah right away after the conference. He even brazenly gathered some members (most are Mongolians) to leave the church. Those who followed Haziell are mainly young people who are lacking in discernment, having a shallow doctrinal foundation and keeping contacts with him in private. How great and evil is the sin of schism in the Bible, this is tearing apart the body of Christ! We, the co-workers of Judah, wrote a letter to Chacko with respect and trust, reporting this matter to him, and expecting him to give a fair reply and an impartial judgment. Despite the gravity of the matter, Chacko declined to reply us immediately. He made an excuse that he would answer us upon returning to USA when he would have time. Naively, we believed in his words and waited for the reply indefinitely. During this waiting time, we were inclined to believe that the servant of God could discern and see through all things, that he knew the case but did not make any judgement

at the moment, awaiting further development; or perhaps he had been deceived and blinded by Haziél's words as well. It is inconceivable that, in reality, Chacko clearly knows that Haziél has caused division to the church but he has prejudicially favoured Haziél. As in the preaching on Deuteronomy 32, he announced that "he would not judge the problems in the China churches". However, in reality, he had made his conclusion. In his verdict in the same sermon, he condemned some people as being involved in a great confederacy and great conspiracy. Thus, it can be seen that Chacko asserts without any scruple and his speeches are entirely contradictory. He is being extremely irresponsible to the church; this is not at all due to old age or mental forgetfulness, but deceitfulness and improbity! The pulpit has become the chief source where lies are spread.

Chacko's actions behind our back confirmed his true position: for example, both in the 2017 December English Conference and in the 2018 February China Conference 2018, he told some young sisters (who lack discernment but trust him very much) in secret that whatever would happen to the China churches, they must stand on the side of Haziél... More and more similar evidences emerged testifying against Chacko. Consequently, our doubts increased. It was till the publishing of the New Jerusalem Times on 19 August that we thoroughly saw Chacko's true colour through his comments on Haziél in the Preface – he was the chief culprit in instigating Haziél to cause schism in our church! Chacko called evil good and good evil. He praised such a person who breaks up the church as an "extraordinary man of faith" and even absurdly extolled Haziél as "Genghis Khan for Christ"! As we all known, Genghis Khan is an idol of the Mongolians. Using such a heathenistic leader as our model, isn't Chacko rebuilding "the middle wall of partition" of ethnicity demolished by Jesus Christ and even destroying the unity of the church that Christ redeemed with his precious blood?

We are well acquainted with Haziél's person and demeanour over all these years, so we firmly object against such ridiculous comments of Chacko towards Haziél!

Haziel has no respect for the Congregational form of church government in the church of Judah; he neither discusses issues nor collaborates with co-workers amicably. He is full of suspicion and jealousy, and even surreptitiously spreads the rumors that the co-workers were against him and slandering him. Moreover, for more than two years, Haziel had vented unceasingly his envy and resentment against missionary pastor Chia to some co-workers furtively, to the extent of attacking his character maliciously. Towards the end of June 2017, however, during the visitation of Deborah and Elizabeth to our church in Judah, Haziel openly admitted his suspicion and jealousy of teacher Chia in the presence of these two sisters and the committee of co-workers. Acknowledging his deceitfulness, he said, “Teacher Chia really cares for the kingdom of God; on the contrary, my heart only cares about my own feelings and personal petty things. I have much deceit and guile within. I have only confessed half of it, I have concealed the other half to cover my shame.” Haziel also expressed that he was willing to repent of his sins. However, when Deborah advised him to apologize to the co-workers, he refused; neither did he apologize to teacher Chia and teacher Lim. In Naigaon Conference in November 2017, Haziel unexpectedly made a complaint against teacher Chia to Zephaniah. Chacko and Zephaniah stood on Haziel’s side without seeking for clarification from the two teachers. Therefore, this Naigaon conference was a turning point, from then on Haziel did a complete flip-flop – he no longer examined himself but pointed his finger unilaterally at teacher Chia. During the English Conference in December 2017, four brothers and sisters of Judah church presented faithfully the issues concerning Haziel to four missionary pastors, including Zephaniah, Eliezer, Zechariah and Phinehas; teacher Lim was present too. In 2018 China Conference, once again, three sisters of the church of Judah recounted Haziel’s problems within the church to Deborah, Rhoda and Zipporah. Haziel’s wife, Shema, was one of the representatives throughout these two conversations. Yet, Chacko still turned a blind eye to Haziel’s sins and impenitence.

We were further infuriated during the 2018 China Conference, in the response session of brothers on Deuteronomy 32. Haziël, instead of uprightly admitting his envy and attack against teacher Chia for these two years, accused teacher Chia ferociously while punching the wall violently. He testified madly and falsely without integrity. On the other hand, teacher Chia did not say a word but remained silent from the beginning to the end (all those who were present could attest to this fact). It is after this conference that Haziël left the church of Judah with his group, declaring against the co-workers that “presiding pastor and missionary pastor Zephaniah both support him... Anyone who opposes him is opposing presiding pastor and has the spirit of Antichrist.” Hereafter, Chacko denied having said so. Subsequently, in the 19 August NJT preface, Chacko highly praised Haziël which completely contradicted the remarks he said before that “he would not judge the problems in the China churches”. His words and deeds are totally inconsistent and hence unacceptable! Chacko has deliberately disregarded the facts and jumped to conclusion with unscrupulousness and arrogance; he is the real initiator of evil who disrupts and confuses the church of God!

II. Chacko trespasses the Congregational Church Polity and the principle of Tripartite System; he rules as a tyrant in the church of God.

In the China Conference, we had seen a number of occasions where the members in Chacko’s own church were like slaves serving a king with trembling. Chacko makes arbitrary decision on his own in most matters without searching out the facts. Should this be the manner the Congregational church in the New Testament function?

As far as Chacko’s treatment towards teacher Chia is concerned, it is neither fair nor just. Before those evil men crucified Jesus Christ, they had at least set up a

court proceeding with a pretentious formality. However, our so-called Reformed church did not give teacher Chia any opportunity to defend himself. “Doth our law judge any man, before it hear him, and know what he doeth?” (John 7:51) Chacko repudiated the aggregate witness of the co-workers of Judah. Based only on one-sided claims made by Haziel, Chacko concluded that teacher Chia was organizing a great confederacy and a great conspiracy to build his own kingdom, and condemned teacher Chia unreservedly. The way Chacko dealt with the matter opposes the injunction stipulated in the Bible – “against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses” (I Tim 5:19). Is this verdict of his fair or just? As a matter of fact, Chacko is the real mastermind behind the scene; as unveiled by the subsequent development of events. During the brothers’ response session after his preaching on Deuteronomy 32, it was witnessed by all that the session was not meant for giving responses but for personal attacks – whosoever tried to attack teacher Chia could express without restrain as much as he wanted, but whosoever tried to vindicate teacher Chia was silenced, intimidated, stopped and was even labelled “wrong spirit”. It was obvious to everyone that Zephaniah was an unjust chairperson during the whole response session!

In our eyes, faithful and diligent have our two missionary pastors been as they preach the Gospel everywhere. They themselves not only regarded Chacko as their spiritual father but taught us to do so, without any disrespect or rebellion. Every mission trip that they made was appointed and charged by Chacko. Chacko was very wroth that when he was holding the Naigaon conference, teacher Chia was holding a conference in Mamre at the same time. We are puzzled why Chacko insisted that teacher Chia was holding a conference against him. The churches in China being in great need at that moment, wrote two emails, urgently requesting Chacko to send teacher Chia over to help and strengthen us. The coming of teacher Chia was officially approved by Chacko. Teacher Chia’s itinerary started from Reuben to Asher, to Mamre, finally to Hebron.

However, Chacko used this as an excuse to slander and malign his own missionary pastors to get rid of non-conforming voices. To fulfill his hidden agenda that would not stand the light of day, he made a lie of “great confederacy and great conspiracy” at the risk of destroying the church and the souls of men. What horrendous wickedness this is! “Even a vicious tiger will not eat its cubs.” Chacko has neither the love of Christ nor the bowels of a pastor as he engages in church politics and plays games with the souls of men! We have unanimously decided to separate from such an evil man who destroys the house of God and wrecks havoc in the church. We have fixed up the jig-saw puzzle and proven the innocence of our missionary pastors! Chacko has concealed the news and distorted the truth of the whole matter so that all the members in Chacko’s churches are kept in the dark. There is no congregational discussion and the elders of the church are deprived of the right to ask. Chacko takes upon himself all the three offices of the king, priest and prophet. Concentrating the powers of the church upon himself, he is highly tyrannical. He has clearly trespassed the principle of the separation of powers in the tripartite system.

III. Chacko proclaims his identity as the Elijah of the last days, who is specially anointed for the special mandate committed to him. All such proclamation robs our Lord Jesus Christ of His glory.

The booklet “Our Special Mandate” exposed the wicked agenda of Chacko, exalting his own ministry through the responses in the NJTs. “Pastor had affirmed what he proclaims... is not novel but given to him by the clear and special illumination of the Holy Spirit to reassert and underscore what our Lord, Paul, the Apostle, the Church Fathers, the Protestant Reformers, the quintessential Puritans and the 18th century Calvinistic Revivalists had faithfully declared.” Quoted from page 2, lines 35-39 of Our Special Mandate. In the 2017 English conference and 2018 China conference, Chacko clearly proclaimed the following: (1) He is the Elijah who shall come; (2) He has a special mandate to restore all things; (3)

He is the specially anointed one for this special mandate; (4) His views are supported and advocated by all the faithful forefathers.

According to the interpretation of John Calvin the Reformer, the restoration of all things was begun by John the Baptist, who passed this work to Jesus Christ to complete. In the first advent of Jesus Christ, the redemptive work had already been fully accomplished and all things had been restored (Taken from John Calvin's Bible Commentary, on Mathew 17:11). Is there then any further need for another Elijah to come and restore all things? Chacko proclaims his special identity as the Elijah who shall come and restore all things, and that the "clear and special illumination" he has received even surpasses that of John the Baptist. He proclaims that John the Baptist had not restored all things, but he asserts that he has restored all things. In his preaching on the book of Revelation on the coordinates of time, he claims that he is the last prophet, the harbinger before the second advent of Christ. Those who listen to his preaching, inevitably perceive the implication that Christ shall come during or at the end of his ministry; such a concept is obviously contrary to the Bible (Mark 13:32).

The truth is none of the works of the Reformers or Puritans, not even any Reformed church today, ever mention such a thing as the "Special Mandate" or "the second Elijah that shall first come". They all emphasize consistently the Great Commission issued by our Lord Jesus Christ. Moreover, in recent centuries, those who claimed to be the Elijah of the last days are all cults, such as Ellen G White, David Berg, Herbert W. Armstrong and Elijah Hong. They all called themselves as the last prophet but are all ultimately proven to be cults. Therefore, it is futile to con us with old tricks! Chacko openly affirmed that, except for Jesus Christ and Paul the apostle, the illumination he receives even surpasses the apostles and all Reformers and Puritans. At the pulpit, he often despised Peter the apostle, "Of all those who listened to Peter's gospel, the males must be circumcised". He also said, "Do not put the Puritans on par with me!" Thus, the

ministry and the special identity he proclaims are not substantiated by the Bible at all and are obviously heretical. This special mandate which Chacko proclaims to have precedence over the Great Commission is an overt lie from Satan, the father of all liars.

Under the influence of such heretical doctrines and subtle brainwashing, many responses of the members are of the same tone and respected Chacko as “the anointed servant of God”, “Elijah, the prophet of the last days”, “the covenantal head of the church”, “the usher of the second advent of Jesus”. Thus, the people under his ministry worldwide are in fear and bondage, their conscience and rational faculty are suppressed – they believe that to leave his ministry means to apostatise and perish in hell fire. Unwittingly, they uphold that only through Chacko they could come to Christ. It is cultic to exalt a man to such an extent! In effect, Chacko is bringing people to himself. Chacko abuses the words of Paul, “Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.” (I Cor 11:1) In reality, Chacko is not of Christ; contrariwise, he is robbing the glory from Christ!

The three anointed offices in the Old Testament are fulfilled solely in Jesus Christ in the New Testament. He is the only Christ, the only Anointed One, the only Messiah Whom all the prophets prophesied of. In the New Testament, apart from the Lord Jesus, there isn't another “anointed” – there isn't another “Christ” (Matthew 24:23-27). The “Anointed One” refers only to the Lord Jesus in the New Testament. Chacko declares himself to be the special anointed one under such claims as “the special anointed servant of God” with “specially anointed preaching” and “specially anointed ministry”.

Chacko is glad only when the responses of the members acknowledge and exalt his name and his ministry whereas Paul rejoiced as long as the Gospel was preached. Chacko's religion is completely a man-centered religion that steals the glory of Christ. Eventually, he has forgotten that Jesus Christ is the Head of the

church, and Jesus Christ is still sitting and reigning as King when the raging waves of the floods of apostasy are lifted up. He will protect, preserve and take care of His church as the apple of His eyes. Though He suffers His people to go through fire and water, He will bring them out into a wealthy place.

IV. Chacko utilises the platform of NJT (also called The Jerusalem Times previously) as a means of propaganda and control of the church, to brainwash the congregations.

The New Jerusalem Times (NJT) has lost its original intention of nourishing the flock, but to a greater extent, it has become a platform for propaganda. There is no weekly Bible study in the churches under Chacko's ministry, but there are the meetings to discuss the NJT. The focus of the people is not the Bible but Chacko's comments. The purpose of the NJT is to use the responses of believers to instill the doctrines of Chacko and his special ministry, to bombard and brainwash the congregations, to promote self-worship and to fight against dissidents. True repentance must bring forth true change in life and behaviour. However, the responses in NJT are always singing the same tune: confessing sins day after day but there is barely any genuine repentance. There is no liberty that stems from the truth but only suppression and constraint. It is always reported that the Holy Spirit was very strong. Yet in all these years, we have hardly heard of anyone tasting the forgiveness of sins and being set free, nor being moved by the sweetness and warmth of the presence of Christ. NJT is flattering Chacko from the beginning to the end, exalting the importance and uniqueness of his ministry and anointing. These crafted responses are terribly insipid, the real impression given to us is a hypocritical and institutional religion. Even the closing prayer of Zephaniah, the veteran missionary, at the end of 2018 China conference, was a drama in itself; he sobbed, but it was only a pretentious expression without a drop of tear!

Chacko's comments published in the NJT on 19 August 2018 perverted the truth. This, and the followed-up responses, did not serve his aim to further confuse or divide the churches in China as he had hoped. On the contrary, it exposed his obnoxious true colour and his vicious plot to destroy teacher Chia, teacher Lim and the brethren who refuse to follow Haziell. The wicked Haman was hanged on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Prior to this, it was just a guess concerning Chacko's evil, but now the evidences are irrefutable. The 19 August NJT sent him directly to the gallows. "He made a pit, and digged it, and is fallen into the ditch which he made. His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate." (Psalm 7:15-16) This is the work of God! The people of God who are in protracted oppression and bondage under this wicked man should rejoice and be glad. It is God Who has turned again their captivity. The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad. All praises and glory to the Most High God and Jesus Christ Who sits on His right hand! Amen!

V. Apostasy brings about corrupted living and moral turpitude.

Chacko enjoys personalized service by numerous members of the church all standing around him at attention day and night. He is addicted to television watching. After the conference, in JB house, our young sisters saw him watch TV till the wee hours, including Saturday night. He does not keep the sabbath day holy... More shamefully, his intimacy with Damaris goes beyond the relationship between a pastor and a sister under his pastoral care. In JB house, Damaris' room is next to Chacko's bedroom. More than one person saw that Damaris went into Chacko's bedroom alone for a long time on several occasions. This does not conform to the biblical pastoral principle. Chacko preaches the law, but he himself does not keep the law! "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

The Head of the Church in the New Testament is Jesus Christ. We should not be controlled nor be bounded by anyone, neither let anyone be an obstacle in our seeking for Jesus Christ. God is not the author of confusion, but of peace (1Cor 14:33a). All the divisions and strives come from the wicked one. True faith unites the people of God in harmony, peace and love. To all the churches pastored by Chacko, we hereby state our official stand and position. We would also like to warn everyone to re-examine our faith. Do not be swept away by this flood of apostasy under the facade of “the purest Reformed Church”, lest our souls be deceived into hell by this great delusion!

**Church of Judah
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