

## To the brothers and sisters who follow pastor ETC

Dear brothers and sisters:

Peace be to you. The recent events have brought great impact upon the church. Many brothers and sisters have published their open letters, everyone from their respective positions. In this battle, I stood on the side of the Gospel inherited from the Puritans and Reformers and my dear teachers Chia and Lim because they had preached the Gospel in China not to bring us to themselves but to bring us to Jesus Christ. I believe that they are faithful to God even till death. I have personally made my choice and would like to voice some of my personal views to my brothers and sisters over pastor ETC's side:

### 1. Concerning the doctrine of anointing

You all believe that pastor is the second Elijah before the second coming of Jesus Christ. He is the special anointed servant with the special mandate. However, throughout the Old Testament, all anointing ultimately pointed to the greatest Anointed One, that is, Jesus Christ. Moses, Jacob, Joseph, and David in the Old Testament were types of Jesus Christ. They all pointed to Jesus Christ, not Elijah Christ. When Jesus Christ came, there would be no more special anointed ones.

1 John 2:20 "But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things."  
1 John 2:27: "But the anointing which ye have received of Him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him." It is obvious that this anointing is received from the "Holy One". Who is the Holy One? It refers to God. Moreover, the book of 1 John is not written to a special anointed one. It is written to the people of God, the church. His people receive the anointing from the Holy One, and need not any man to teach them. This selfsame anointing teaches us all things. The anointing refers to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit teaches His people all things, and even in this debacle, He teaches us to distinguish the reality of truth and facts.

The antichrist, written in 1 John 2:22, refers to he who denies Jesus as Christ and who denies the Father and the Son. It does not refer to the two teachers, Chia and Lim, for I can bear witness, they are not denying Jesus as Christ and denying the Father and

the Son. What they deny is Elijah Christ because in the New Testament, besides Jesus Christ, there is no second special anointed.

## 2. Concerning the doctrine on the second Elijah

Malachi 4:2 “But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.” Here, the “Sun of righteousness” refers to Jesus Christ. He shall arise with “healing in His wings” refers to the first coming of Jesus Christ where His mission was to heal. At that time, he healed many who were sick, the blind, the lame, those with leprosy and the woman with the issue of blood. He had also completed the work of redemption and healed the diseases of our souls.

Malachi 4:4 “Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.” What is clearly said here is “the law of Moses my servant”, but ETC says that he is Mr Law, and it is through his application of the law on us that we could repent and be saved. Malachi 4:5-6 “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.” This refers to the period from Malachi’s time to the first coming of Jesus Christ. It is a period of 400 years. Malachi exhorted the Israelites to remember the law of Moses, that is, the Old Testament Bible, until the coming of Jesus Christ; and Elijah would be sent before the coming of Jesus Christ. Luke 1:17 The angel came to Zechariah and told him that his wife would give birth to a son, John, saying, “And he shall go before Him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.” This corresponds exactly to and interprets Malachi 4:5-6. Therefore, Luke 1:17 testifies that Malachi 4 refers to the first coming of Jesus Christ, and also directly points out that the Elijah of Malachi 4 refers to John the Baptist.

From Matthew 17:10-13, anyone who knows the usage of English language can deduce that this Elias in verses 11 and 12 both refer to one and the same person, John the Baptist. Matthew 17:10-13 “And his disciples asked Him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed.

Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them. Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist.” The word “shall” in verse 11 has the meaning of “must” in the Webster's dictionary. Jesus said that Elias must first come and restore all things. ETC spoke of the Elijah here as himself. However, looking at the meaning of the whole sentence, Jesus Christ was answering a question posed by his disciples, Why Elijah must first come? Jesus replied that Elias truly shall first come... but I say unto you that Elias is come already. The use of “is come” here is in the general present tense. At the time of Jesus Christ was the present tense, for us now, it is already the past, it had been fulfilled. The passage does not at all refer to two Eliases, but one Elias. Mark 9:11-13 records the exact event with the same context when the disciples asked the question, “Why say the scribes that Elias must first come?” Mark 9:12 “And He answered and told them, Elias verily cometh first, and restoreth all things; and how it is written of the Son of man, that He must suffer many things, and be set at nought.” This clearly indicates that this Elias had to come before the first coming of Jesus Christ. Mark 9:12 corresponds to Matthew 17:11. Matthew 17:11 “Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things” therefore relates to the first coming of Jesus Christ. Interpreting Matthew 17:11 as relating to the second coming of Jesus Christ is therefore wresting the verse out of context. Mark 9:13 further reinforced that Elias is “indeed” come and they have done unto him whatever they listed. There is therefore no second Elias after the time of John the Baptist and it is not right to say that ETC is the Elias before Christ returns again.

### 3. Concerning the application of the law

The wrong usage of this doctrine provides pastor with legitimate reason and excuse to scold people at his whims and fancies. It also brings problems to the church as the leaders or co-workers could rebuke and humiliate others as they please. This leads to the estrangement of the relationship between some brothers and sisters and the loss of initiativeness and love for one another. Some people do not repent of their sins. They put up a good front in front of ETC or the brethren while others deliberately imitate the outward performance and apply the law on others to satisfy their self-righteousness. Some rebuke others in the flesh with vengeance but not with love.

#### 4. Concerning church governance

Regarding the matter on church governance, the Westminster Tradition claim that they are congregational and everyone participates in discussion on any matter. However, it seems to only stay put at the first level. The congregation is not involved in decision-making. It is no different from the governance of many churches which has many doctrinal errors. ETC does not follow the principle of the congregational system. He always criticises other churches as “institutional”, seeking excuses so that his actions will not be scrutinised. He does whatever he wants and suppresses anyone with differing views. It is just like a rule by the voice of one man alone, the congregation could only choose to leave or stay, and those who stay either keep silence, or toe his line. There is simply no justice. Not only there is no freedom of conscience, even to have some personal space requires spiritual reasons and “consent or approval” from ETC. It is a congregational system in name ONLY, but in reality, it is a dictatorship.

We often criticise and denounce other churches. Although false churches are rampant, it is undeniable that some Reformed churches are indeed better than us in terms of governance. They have a wholesome constitution, discipline and regulations. If the congregation has opinions about the leader, they can have their own channel of appeal. I know of a foreign brother who is from a Reformed church. The name of their church is Free Reformed Church Of North America. They also uphold the doctrine of the congregational polity. The pastor is counter-checked by the elders. When the pastor is wrong in his preaching, the elders or the congregation could perceive and pinpoint it and the pastor will also accept it humbly. Yet in our church, it seems that ETC is forever right, and not subjected to any restrictions. He hit the elders, missionary pastors, brothers and sisters with his hands without restraint. The brothers and sisters who follow ETC serve him like a king fearfully. Under such circumstances, the church has gradually formed a culture of flattering ETC and reporting everything in details to him. At the response session, the brothers and sisters are full of high praises and flattery towards ETC. The response in NJT are all setting ETC on the pedestal. At the same time, the elders report all kinds of things about the brothers and sisters to ETC. Some may do this out of concern but certainly there are people who report to please pastor. Many people are wondering why ETC knows everything.

Our situation in China is also very similar to that over there because we have a very strong culture in this aspect. Under the leadership of Haziell, the congregational system in Judah is not performing well. Haziell often applies the law on certain co-

workers during the co-workers' meeting. Under such ambience, it is difficult for everyone to speak and discuss issues on an equal footing. The reason behind the correction is probably to warn others and to have a final say. When the co-workers are gradually maturing in the doctrines, having different views on some issues and the decisions made were different from that of Haziél's. So when Haziél could no longer bear it, he brought a group of people with him and leave the church of Judah.

#### 5. Concerning Haziél's allegations against Teacher Chia

This year's turmoil in the China church was caused by Haziél's dissatisfaction with teacher Chia. Most of the things that he accused teacher Chia of before his co-workers, congregation and relatives were due to his own private affairs, his peevishness and jealousy. The person who understands Haziél most is his wife, Shema. She also knows Haziél's dissatisfaction and hatred towards teacher Chia is mainly due to Haziél's own problem, not the problem of teacher Chia. Due to Shema's idolizing ETC, Shema recanted on May 9 NJT that she should not have admitted those words previously. "But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil." (Matthew 5:37) Shema, who originally defended for teacher Chia, did not have respect to the facts and the struggle of her conscience and gradually compromised to standing on Haziél's side. The co-workers of Judah, out of their trust in Haziél, initially believed his accusations of teacher Chia. They began to doubt and were displeased with Teacher Chia. They could hardly believe the person of Chia and his preaching. However, after verifying, they discovered that many of the accusations were Haziél's surmises and lies. He was slandering teacher and taking away the trust of the co-workers towards teacher. In fact, regarding Haziél's accusations, teacher Lim, Deborah and Elizabeth had specially gone to Judah to address this problem. Subsequently, the brothers and sisters said Haziél admitted his wrongs that and these problems have indeed been resolved.

In this year's China conference, in response to the message on Deuteronomy 32, before the brothers from all over the world, Haziél accused teacher Chia crazily. There was no Christian tolerance and love. It was really horrifying! Teacher Chia did not defend himself in the whole process and Zephaniah did not take a fair stand. He let those who accused Chia said all that they wanted. Even in the secular courts, there must be both parties present in the trial, with witnesses and evidences. On the contrary, in the church, only one party was allowed to speak and the other party was

suppressed. Is this fair and just? Seeing so many people attacking his own father, Psalms replied with tears and said: “I envy you (referring to the China brethren) much that you all could speak your heart out. Everyone may think that I am a fool because others are attacking my father, yet I have to type these responses into the computer. I should not be in the conference today, but due to the help needed for this typing work, I am here. I am not a spiritual person. I used to think that my father is a fool. I know for sure that he obeys all the words of pastor in his whole life and only a fool will do so.” Pastor had promised teacher Chia that he would listen to his explanation, but until the time he left for the United States, pastor did not listen to teacher Chia’s defence. Such a grave matter had happened but the brothers and sisters in Singapore and Malaysia did not seek to know about the truth. ETC is unfair in this matter. In the publication of NJT on 19 August, he praised Haziell instead. He gave such a high appraisal to Haziell, who split the church and defamed teacher, and said Haziell “is an extraordinary man of faith. He has withstood the scandals and aspersions cast upon him by his adversaries. If it was not for him, many would not be in the canopy of pastor’s ministry. Let those who are intelligent follow Haziell, let the obtuse follow the Nabals and Barnabas.” ETC distorted the facts. It is obvious that the co-workers in Judah were innocent, but he said Haziell is innocent. The church in Judah came to ETC’s ministry mainly due to the preaching of the two teachers, but ETC gave the credit to Haziell. The teachers and the co-workers of Judah are not Nabals and Barnabases, but ETC said that they are the Barnabases and Nabals. ETC is slandering Chia and Lim, these two missionary pastors. Moreover, these are not only lies but they reveal the peevishness of ETC, there is no love and gratitude. “What shall be given unto thee? Or what shall be done unto thee, thou false tongue? Sharp arrows of the mighty, with coals of juniper.” (Psalm 120:3-4). Now, I suddenly realize that ETC and Haziell are the real Nabals and Barnabases.

In this debacle, I see that ETC is like some famous politicians, making use of his prestige and power to fight against those who oppose him. The person who engages in politics is exactly pastor himself. The church of Jesus Christ must be righteous, fair, and just, yet there is no righteousness, fairness, and justice in the church which self-proclaims to be the purest Reformed Church.

## 6. Concerning the preaching of Teacher Lim

This year, I participated in the conferences at Rongcheng, Kunming and Moriah. In Rongcheng, teacher Lim conveyed the messages from the India Conference concerning Justification by Faith. I am thankful that teacher's preaching had restored me and made me desire to be Jacob and Abel in the house of God and not to be Cain and Esau who did not seek after God but destroyed the house of God.

At the conference in Kunming, teacher Lim spoke on Leviticus. This is the conference where I am most blessed. I understood the meaning of 1 Peter 2:9. Every true believer is a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and a peculiar people. We are the representatives of Christ on earth, and we bear witness for the Lord on earth. This verse is a reminder to me whenever I am tempted to sin. Moreover, the book of Leviticus speaks about the biblical culture, the Regulative Principle, the sacrifice, and lastly about the Doctrine of Atonement. I felt a wonderful sense of cleansing as never before. God said, "Be ye holy for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:16). With these blessings, I went to Moriah. It is also very precious that the preaching was about the Songs of degrees. The Songs of degrees speaks about the church, helping me to perceive the various problems in the churches and the problems in the believers. When the church suffers, it is related to the spiritual condition of every believer. The church is built by God, not by the strength of man. Although God uses man to build his church, after having done all, I still need to say that I am an unprofitable servant. There should be no personal ambition in the church (Psalm 127). It is God who brought back our captivity and saved us from false doctrines, sins and the captivity of the Babylonian culture. When our captivity is turned again, our hearts are filled with great rejoicing (Psalm 126). In the church, we are being despised and attacked so that we have no strength to go on. God knows all these. We must always look to God and be focussed in waiting for Him to have mercy upon us (Psalm 123). There are two groups of people in the church. One group consists of godly people, such as David and the other group has the spirit of the Antichrist, like Absalom. However, God has caused David to escape and break away from Absalom's pursuit. It is like the bird that has escaped from the snare of the fowler, so David could say that the LORD is on our side (Psalm 124). The brothers and sisters present were all brought to tears of thankfulness so

they stood up to speak of what happened in their churches this year. They were very much set free because it is God who finally sits as King in His church!

Teacher Lim's preaching was not wrong. Which of the preachers would not address the current situation of the congregation in their preaching? If teacher Lim is a rebel involved in a big conspiracy, how can there be such a strong working of the Holy Spirit in these conferences? Why would God attend to the preaching of a person whom He is not pleased with?

#### 7. Concerning the issue of ETC's morality

In this matter, I feel that it is not impossible for these things to happen to pastor. The brothers and sisters who bear good conscience and integrity are in the know about this matter.

#### 8. My last words

Due to pastor's doctrines, some young brothers and sisters supporting Haziel have changed to the extent that they have no feelings for their loved ones. They have no gratitude and alienate themselves from the family which has raised them. One in particular, when pastor praised her with one sentence, she was so happy that she jumped for joy. However, when her own mother wanted to speak to her with heaviness of heart, she was extremely contemptuous. If your mother is not as good as you are in doctrines, you should have the love to guide her and bring understanding to her. If you can't love even your family, how could you love your brothers and sisters? Everyone is accountable, not to pastor, but to himself for his faith. Have we been persuaded by the truth? Has the Gospel produced fruits in our lives? This is not seen through the praise of the leader or pastor, or in the responses during the fellowship, but is seen in how we walk before God in our daily life and how we walk in relation to the people around us. Do we have the love of Christ in our lives and feel for the souls that are suffering and do we love the truth? Some people confess their sins before pastor. Can pastor forgive your sins? Only Jesus Christ can forgive our sins. We live before God, not before pastor and the leaders. Our conscience should be pure towards God, not towards pastor. Before the truth, the lofty head of every soul should be lowered. It is ultimately God who judges whether we can enter the eternal kingdom, not pastor and the leaders of the church.



I hope that brothers and sisters can communicate honestly on their respective differences and engage in constructive dialogue through reasoning and facts, not just mutually abusing, attacking, accusing and venting their resentment to no profit and edification. This is not what a Christian is. Everyone's conscience is free and should not be controlled by anyone.

I am very grateful to God for leading the teachers out of these heretical doctrines, and delivering me from such pitch darkness.

At first I thought that pastor is one who is saved. At the pulpit, pastor said that he is the only one who is saved, we are all not saved. Now I know that the pastor whom I respect is one who says one thing and does another. I do not want to see presiding pastor again, until the day when he would completely repent. Let those who bear false witness truly repent of their sins before the presence of the Most High God, and exonerate teachers Chia and Lim.

Lastly, may I quote a verse from the Bible for our mutual encouragement: "Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck." (I Timothy 1:19)

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21 October 2018